

International Federation of Societies for Electron Microscopy

President: E. Zeitler (Germany)
Gen. Secretary: A.B. Maunsbach (Denmark)
Vice President: G. Thomas (U.S.A.)

Department of Cell Biology
Institute of Anatomy
University of Aarhus
DK-8000 Aarhus C, Denmark

Committee

Members: D.J.H. Cockayne (Australia)
A. Csanády (Hungary)
R. Fisher (U.S.A.)
H.J. Geuze (The Netherlands)
A. Howie (UK)
K. Ogawa (Japan)

Tel. (DK) 86 12 88 08
(DK) 89 42 30 70
Fax: (DK) 86 19 86 64
Telex: AAUSCI 64767

Minutes of IFSEM General Assembly

Wednesday, July 20, 1994, in Paris
in connection with ICEM XIII

1. Opening remarks. Professor Elmar Zeitler, President of IFSEM, opened the meeting and welcomed the official delegates from the Member Societies as well as observers and representatives for societies applying for Associate Membership. He emphasized that one of the important points of the agenda was the discussion of the procedure for selecting coming international meetings and a need to introduce under item 15 on the agenda an addition to the IFSEM Constitution.
2. Minutes of Seattle Meeting. The minutes were accepted.
3. Report on 1994 International Congress. Professor Bernard Jouffrey, President of ICEM XIII, informed about the ongoing Congress. Initially there were close to 4,000 pre-registrations and at the start of the congress the actual number of registrations was 1,733 from 51 countries. Almost 300 participants had received free registration, including the MSA-MAS-IFSEM awardees. The economic situation was not clear at the moment. Support from the French government had been received but was less than expected and a large number of pre-registrants were eventually unable to attend. There were only about 150 participants from the US, including several invited speakers with waived registration fees. The arrangements of the commercial exhibition had proceeded smoothly with no major complaints.
4. Appointment of Tellers for Voting Procedure. Professors Archie Howie and Kazuo Ogawa were appointed tellers. The list of official delegates was verified by the General Secretary. Official delegates representing 52 votes (out of 57 possible) were present.
5. Memberships.
 - a. Admission of Regional Organizations. An application from South America had been expected but the President informed that no application had been received.
 - b. Admission of Associate Members. Following a proposal by Professor Gareth Thomas in 1992 and after a subsequent change of the Constitution through a voting procedure by mail, IFSEM now has the possibility to accept Associate Members. Such societies are typically newly formed or small societies that do not pay annual fee but are equal to regular Member Societies in other respects, except for voting rights. Applications for Associate Membership were distributed before the General Assembly from the EM

Societies of Armenia, Bulgaria, Croatia, Latvia, Moldova, and Singapore. During ICEM XIII applications were also received from Romania and Slovenia. The General Assembly unanimously accepted these 8 societies as Associate Members, but with respect to Romania and Slovenia on the condition that they supplement their applications as requested in the By-Laws.

- c. Cessation of memberships. The General Secretary/Treasurer informed that the Societies of Greece and India had not paid annual dues to IFSEM for 1990-94, despite numerous reminders, and should be excluded from IFSEM by the General Assembly according to the By-Laws. The IFSEM General Assembly decided that these two societies are excluded as of January 1, 1995, unless they pay remaining fees before then.

6. Elections.

- a. President. Professor Arvid B. Maunsbach was elected IFSEM President 1995-1998. Nominations were initially received for David J.H. Cockayne, Arvid Maunsbach, and José Miguel Yacaman, but Cockayne and Yacaman had before the General Assembly withdrawn their nominations, which were submitted without their consent.
- b. General Secretary. Nominations were received for David J.H. Cockayne, Robert Fisher, Bernard Jouffrey, and Arvid B. Maunsbach. The latter had before the General Assembly informed that he did not want to be a candidate and had been nominated without his prior acceptance. After two votings according to the IFSEM By-Laws Professor David J.H. Cockayne was elected General Secretary/Treasurer for 1995-2002.
- c. New Committee Members. In addition to President, General Secretary and Vice President, the IFSEM Committee has 6 members, each elected for 8 years. Professors Agnes Csanády, Hungary, Robert Fisher, USA, Hans Geuze, The Netherlands, were all elected for 8 years in 1990 and will continue automatically in the Committee. For the remaining 3 places, 14 nominations were received from 11 countries. Before the election the Committee Members and the delegates commented on the nominations and the President emphasized the need to consider the total composition of the Committee, both with respect to fields of research and geographic origin. Elected to the Committee were: Professors Yoichi Ishida, Japan, Andreas Engel, Switzerland, and José Miguel Yacaman, Mexico.

7. Report on IFSEM activities. The President and General Secretary summarized IFSEM activities. Several members of the Executive Committee reported participation and assistance in organizing regional and national EM meetings. The General Secretary had regularly mailed information to the Member Societies regarding coming meetings etc. The venue for the 1998 ICEM was chosen through a ballot by mail in 1992 and likewise the Constitution changed to accommodate for Associate Members of the Federation. The MSA-MAS-IFSEM Fund had allocated USD 30,000 to help students and young scientists to participate in ICEM XIII. Half of this amount had been given to North American awardees selected by Professors Robert Fisher and Dale Johnson and the other half given to students from the rest of the world. The General Secretary had received 257 requests from 39 countries and selected 30 awardees in cooperation with the President and Bernard Jouffrey, Organizer of ICEM XIII. The congress had waived the registration fee for all awardees as well as for several other participants. In 1993 the President and the General Secretary had visited the organizers in Paris for detailed discussions and had continued close contact with the Organizing Committee up to the congress.

8. IFSEM Finances.

- a. The General Secretary's Financial Report. The General Secretary had distributed copies of his financial report dated July 5, 1994. The assets of IFSEM in Danish bank accounts were DKK 265,334 (USD 42,521). This represents an increase in total IFSEM assets of DKK 26,561 over the three-and-a-half-year period.

The President reported his approval of the General Secretary's financial report. The financial report had also been examined and accepted by the elected auditors, Professors A.W. Robards and J.R. Günter. The General Assembly had no further comments and approved the report.

- b. Projections 1995-1998 and Annual Dues. The General Secretary then presented his budget proposals for 1995-1998, which had been distributed to the Member Societies in advance. The budget included a proposal to increase annual dues by approximately 30% to balance the expected average annual expenses. The projected annual income from annual dues was US 6,900 and the proposed annual dues were: 1 vote USD 100; 2 votes USD 225; 3 votes USD 400, and 4 votes USD 600. The General Assembly unanimously approved the General Secretary's budget proposals.

9. Election of Two Auditors. The General Assembly reelected Professors A.W. Robards and J.R. Günter for the period 1995-98.

10. Reports on Coming Meetings.

ICEM XIV in 1998. Professor Yacaman reported that preparations for the 1998 ICEM in Cancun are in good progress and outlined the format of the meeting. In the subsequent discussion several items were pointed out:

- An international advisory board should be formed based on proposals from IFSEM, Member Societies as well as from Latin American scientists.
- It is important to clarify the arrangements for the commercial exhibition, in particular with respect to possible customs problems.
- Gareth Thomas and Robert Fisher will assist the Organizing Committee on behalf of IFSEM in these matters.
- MSA delegates informed that MSA intends to hold its annual meeting in Atlanta in 1998, although it had been hoped that it could be omitted since Cancun had been chosen for the International Meeting. This was regretted by several Committee Members and Delegates, who pointed out that the voting by mail ballot in 1992 for the congress in 1998, i.e. 6 years in advance, was carried out on the presumption that this would allow MSA to cancel its meeting in 1998, if the International Meeting went to Mexico. The MSA delegation responded by pointing out that Prof. Yacaman had been invited to the MSA Council meeting and he stated that he did not see a problem with the two meetings as the dates were quite well separated. Prof. Yacaman also confirmed this opinion during this discussion at the General Assembly. Nevertheless the President was instructed to formally approach MSA about foregoing their 1998 annual meeting.
- The European Congress in 1996. Professor Wolfgang Baumeister, Chairman of CESEM, reported that preparations for the European congress in Dublin 1996 are progressing, but there is still no international advisory board. This problem is now being actively dealt with by CESEM.

- The Asia-Pacific Congress in 1996. The Congress site in Hong Kong has been chosen, but Professor Gareth Thomas emphasized that there is need to speed up preparations and to contact manufacturers on a broad scale for the exhibition. Gareth Thomas and David Cockayne will help in these matters on behalf of IFSEM.
11. Procedure for selection of ICEM XV in 2002. The Executive Committee recommended to the General Assembly that voting for ICEM XV in 2002 takes place in Cancun during the next General Assembly. The General Assembly accepted this proposal.
 12. Reports from Member Societies. The question was raised whether or not IFSEM ought to announce in advance in which part of the world the next ICEM should be held. The arguments was that the preparations of proposals for an international congress are very expensive and time consuming and of no avail if the congress beforehand is expected to take place in another part of the world. However, the IFSEM General Assembly did not favour such a procedure, but emphasized that all proposals are wellcome and the best proposal should be accepted.
 13. Cooperation with Industry. In connection with the European Congress 1992 in Granada and early in the preparations for the Paris congress representatives from Industry emphasized in letters to IFSEM and CESEM that the costs for exhibitions were going up. This was discussed already in Granada between representatives for Industry and IFSEM as well as CESEM. A new meeting was therefore planned for July 21 during ICEM XIII.
 14. The IFSEM Book "Growth of Electron Microscopy". Professor Tom Mulvey, editor of the book in behalf of IFSEM, reported on the present situation. He had received a number of excellent chapters and regarded the collection of manuscripts essentially finished. The book will have a total of about 600 pages, including 150 illustrations, and will be published by Academic Press in the series of which Professor Peter Hawkes is the editor. The General Assembly unanimously agreed to proceed with the publication of the book and warmly thanked Tom Mulvey for his excellent contribution to this project.
 15. Any Other Business. Since some nominations for Committee Members had been received without prior approvals of the nominees, the President suggested an amendment to the Constitution requiring the nominee's confirmation of acceptance prior to the nomination. This amendment should be inserted in the By-Laws of IFSEM on page 10, III.2, Nomination for Executive Committee, where the second sentence should read: "Nominations shall be in writing and shall be accompanied by a short bibliography of each individual nominated as well as a letter from nominee stating that she/he accepts the nomination". The amendment was accepted by the General Assembly.
 16. Closing Remarks. Professor Zeitler on behalf of all congress participants expressed great appreciation to Prof. Bernard Jouffrey for the successful organization of ICEM XIII. He then thanked the participants of the General Assembly for constructive discussions and declared the meeting closed.

Aarhus, November 30, 1994.



Prof. Arvid B. Maunsbach
General Secretary, IFSEM