

Minutes ICBEN Business Meeting 25 July 2011, London

(1) Welcome and Apologies for Absence

absent: Soames Job

(2) Minutes of last meeting

The minutes of the last business meeting at Euronaise October 2009 were accepted with no changes.

(3) Matters arising from minutes

These matters have either already been addressed before this business meeting or were addressed at this business meeting.

(4) Election of officers

This was moderated by Larry Finegold. Stephen Stansfeld (Chair), Christian Giguere (Co-Chair), and Mathias Basner (Secretary) were re-elected for a second term without objections.

(5) Past congress proceedings

ICBEN officers have pursued the plan to publish the proceedings of all past ICBEN conferences on the ICBEN homepage. The proceedings were provided by Barbara Griefahn, scanned by Mathias Basner, and further processed by a student of Christian Giguere.

The plan to publish past proceedings was in general assessed favorably by the majority of participants. Copyright with past proceedings may lie with other entities, although it may be hard to track down the person that could grant ICBEN the rights to publish the specific proceedings. It was expressed that it may be harder to get permission than to retract the proceedings in the unlikely case that someone should object to the publication. It was therefore decided that the officers should proceed with publishing past conference proceedings on the ICBEN webpage.

For future meetings, ICBEN officers and the organizing committee should consider getting permission of each author to publish the proceedings paper on the ICBEN website, but some argued against this. The time lag between the conference and the publication of the proceedings on the Internet was also discussed, with suggestions ranging from "immediately", "after 1 year", and "after 3 years". The majority

of participants supported to publish the proceedings immediately after the congress, although IC BEN may lose the opportunity to collect some revenues associated with selling proceedings CDs. IC BEN officers will see that the conference proceedings will be published immediately after IC BEN 2011.

The issue that the conference proceedings may pose a problem for some to publish full papers on the topic was also discussed. However, all agreed that publishing the proceedings as a book or CD is de-facto a publication, and this does not have seemed to create many problems in the past. Acknowledging that parts of the work have been presented at IC BEN should be no problem for the majority of journals.

(6) Finances of 2011 Congress

According to Stephen Stansfeld and Bridget Shields, we will probably neither lose nor have a gain in money from IC BEN 2011. We will finally only know in October 2011. This raised the question of liability issues concerning IC BEN conferences. For this conference, a memorandum of understanding was signed by the chair of IC BEN and IOA, stating that IOA would cover a probable loss, and share some of the profits. This should be handled on a conference by conference basis by the organizing committee.

(7) Larry Finegold announced that he will be setting up a trust fund in the United States. He will donate some amount to fund travel to future IC BEN conferences for students or young professionals or researchers from developing countries to memorize and acknowledge Michiko So Finegold's contributions to IC BEN. Team chairs can nominate subjects for the travel grants. The transfer of money will probably be transferred to the local organizing committee each IC BEN. Stephen Stansfeld thanked Larry Finegold for this generous gesture on behalf of all IC BEN members.

(8) Publication of team summaries

Two possibilities were discussed: (1) One extensive paper covering all teams, and (2) several review papers for each of the teams. It was agreed that there will be both one extensive summary paper and (for those teams who want to do it and have enough material for the past three years to do it) review papers for individual noise teams, that should be published together in the same issue of Noise & Health (the editor of Noise & Health has already agreed to publish IC BEN summaries).

Lex Brown and Mathias Basner will coordinate the above mentioned publications.

(9) Prizes

Mathias Basner suggests to award more prizes than just the student poster award, as this may be helpful for the career of young researchers. In addition, he suggests introducing a lifetime achievement award.

This was generally assessed favorably. The prizes should be restricted to younger researchers. The number of prizes (one for each team?), whether posters and talks should be differentiated, who decides who gets the award (all conference participants, chairs of each team, all chairs for all teams) should be decided by the next organization committee.

(10) Website.

Barbara will continue to host and maintain the website. Stephen Stansfeld thanks her for all her work in the past in keeping up the website. People can make suggestions about a possible re-design of the website to IC BEN officers (although this will probably be associated with expenses).

(11) Future of the Team for Noise and Animals

This IC BEN team 7 only had 3 papers. Mardy Hastings stepped back as chair of team 7. Paul Lepper volunteered to continue the work for team 7. Mardi Hastings also suggested Dr. Slabbekoon to continue the work of team 7. He could be a possible Co-Chair. Stephen Stansfeld will ask both to take this forward.

(12) 2014 IC BEN meeting in Nara City, Japan

Takashi presented plans for IC BEN 2014. Population 370,000. Nearest airport Kansai International airport (60-90 min bus transfer). Kyoto, Osaka, Kobe very close. Tokyo 100 min away. Close to many world heritage sites. New conference hall opens October 2011. Banquet will probably be held in Nara National Museum.

INCE Japan and Japanese Acoustical Association may help organize the congress.

Time period: Takashi suggests September 2014 for the conference. He was asked to set the final conference date by the end of 2011.

(13) Applications for IC BEN 2017

Proposal: IC BEN 2017 will be organized by Thais Morata with support of CDC and NIOSH. Puerto Rico is the probable venue, which seems to be a good place for conferences (also for US federal employees). The decision was made to go ahead with this proposal.

(14) Other

ICBEN was approached to become an international affiliate of ICA. Access to scholarships and some conference organization functions of ICA were discussed as potential advantages. Larry Finegold cautions to clarify what exactly "international affiliate" means. Stephen Stansfeld will follow up.

Stephen Stansfeld thanks Barbara for doing a wonderful job with the conference proceedings.

Stephen Stansfeld closes the meeting

Keeper of the minutes: Mathias Basner