**ICSP- International Committee on Systematics of Prokaryotes**

**Officers of ICSP**

Minutes of Internet-meeting 28 March 2019

Action points:

1. Forward 28 February 2019 minutes to ICSP members (LD).
2. Welcome incoming JC Chair and thank outgoing Chair [IS]
3. Finalize the text of the contest and organize a YouTube Channel and Twitter account (CB/LD).
4. Inform JC members about the miniplenary in Glasgow and send an update to the ICSP members (LD/IS).
5. Put the announcement of the Open ICSP meeting on the website (Venter).
6. Forward the previous report of ICSP (from da Costa) to the IUMS to Sutcliffe (LD)
7. Send a reminder to the ICSP members regarding the start of the voting periond (1 April) (LD).
8. Offer FEMS Glasgow meeting room for use in the morning by the Aerobic Bacteroidetes subcommittee [DB]

**Minute 1. Call to order.** The Chair Iain Sutcliffe called the meeting to order at 14:00 BST (London time).

**Minute 2. Record of attendance.** The Members that participated were I. Sutcliffe (Chair), F. Rainey (Vice-Chair), L. Dijkshoorn (Executive Secretary), B. Whitman (Treasurer), F. Venter (Member-at-Large), W.-J. Li (Member-at-Large), D. Brown (Secretary Subcommittees) and. R. Rosselló-Móra (Vice-Chair JC). C. T. Bull (Secretary JC) could not participate (with apologies). B. Tindall (Chair JC) did not participate and did not send apologies.

**Minute 3.** **Minutes of the 28 February 2019 meeting.** In principle, the minutes were approved, although minor comments from Whitman (i.e. edits that did not affect the content) still had to be implemented. This will be communicated between Dijkshoorn and Sutcliffe, and if agreed, the minutes will be approved and forwarded to the Members. See also Minute 5.

**Minute 4. Matters arising/Action points from previous (28 February) meeting:**

1. The 31 January minutes have been sent to the ICSP members.
2. The ICSP members have been informed about the extended deliberation and voting period.
3. The video contest is still ongoing (see also minute 8).
4. ICSP members have been informed about the mini-plenary in Glasgow (see also minute 9).

**Minute 5. Update on JC .**

Rosselló-Móra reported that B. Tindall had resigned as Chair two weeks ago but not from the JC. Elections for a new Chair are being conducted by Rosselló-Móra and Bull. There are two candidates. Results of the elections are expected in early April. Once the new Chair is known, I. Sutcliffe will send a letter to the Chair to welcome him to the EB and express the desire to move things forward. Sutcliffe will also send a letter to Tindall to thank him for his contribution as Chair of the JC over the past years.

**Minute 6. Update from IJSEM.** Rainey reported that IJSEM is doing well. The number of papers with genome sequence data is increasing, and the number of short descriptions is decreasing. A cause of concern is the large number of papers from a few authors proposing amendments to the Code. The handling of these (often very short) papers is time-consuming, and only a few editors wish to handle them. One solution to overcome this problem might be the combination of multiple proposals in one paper. In the long term, a new Editorial Board for the ICNP is needed. It will work on an extensive structural revision of the Code and consider the many requests to revise the Code. Because its composition depends upon the version of the statutes in force, this editorial board should be formed after the voting on the new statutes is completed.

**Minute 7. Update on subcommittees.** The Subcommittee on the taxonomy of Chlamydiae has submitted minutes of their most recent meeting for publication in IJSEM. Minutes of recent meetings of the Subcommittees on the taxonomy of *Bifidobacterium, Lactobacillus* and related organisms, on *Rhizobia* and *Agrobacteria*, and *Mollicutes* are published online. The Subcommittee on the taxonomy of Aerobic Bacteroidetes will convene a meeting during FEMS2019 in Glasgow.

**Minute 8. Update from the working group on Education & Outreach.** Dijkshoorn has, just before the EB meeting, sent an update of the video competition announcement to the EB members. Some things are still missing and will have to be added by Bull. The EB members were requested to send their comments in the coming week to Dijkshoorn and Bull.

**Minute 9. Update on the mini-plenary in Glasgow (2019) and/or possible venues for 2020.** The Chair has booked a room at the Crown Plaza hotel next to the conference center for the whole day (Wednesday, 10 July 2019) for a miniplenary meeting of members of the ICSP. This meeting will also be open to JC members and other interested individuals. An announcement will be placed on the ICSP website by Venter and forwarded to the JC by Dijkshoorn. A draft agenda was circulated for comments. Brown will inform the subcommittee on Aerobic Bacteroidetes regarding the possibility of using this room in the morning. It was decided that a call for candidates for the Van Niel prize will be on the agenda. Venter will not be able to attend FEMS and will send Marike Palmer as alternate to replace him at the miniplenary.

**Minute 10. Date of next meeting.** This will be 25 April 2019 2:00 p.m. London time.

**Minute 11. AOB**. Dijkshoorn mentioned that she will be invited to a meeting of the board of the Royal Netherlands Society for Microbiology to inform the board about ICSP and ask them to look for a new ICSP delegate to replace her as a member of the ICSP in 2020. This led to a discussion on the need to make a report for IUMS (and member societies) about the activities of ICSP. The last report was prepared by Milton da Costa in 2015. Dijkshoorn will forward the report to Sutcliffe.

The Chair informed the meeting regarding the death of Fergus (Gus) Priest, the well-known British microbiologist who greatly contributed to Microbiology in numerous aspects and was the Microbiology Society delegate to ICSP. An obituary is in IJSEM (DOI 10.1099/ijsem. 0.003.386), and Prof Priest’s many contributions acknowledged with appreciation.

**Minute 12. Adjournment.** The meeting was closed at 15:09 UK time.

*Lenie Dijkshoorn, Executive Secretary, 26 April /30 May 2019 with edits from Iain Sutcliffe and Barny Whitman.*