



International Committee on Systematics of Prokaryotes

ICSP-EB Meeting 27th April 2023 – Redacted Minutes

Chair:

I. C. SUTCLIFFE
Northumbria University
U.K.

Vice-Chair:

E. R. B. MOORE
University of Gothenburg
Sweden

Executive Secretary:

A. OREN
Hebrew University of Jerusalem
Israel

Secretary for Subcommittees:

S. L. W. ON
Lincoln University
New Zealand

Treasurer:

P. NIELSEN
Novozymes, Copenhagen
Denmark

Members at Large:

R. HAHNKE
Leibniz Institute DSMZ
Germany

Y. SHOUCHE
National Centre for Microbial
Resource
India

**Members of the Judicial
Committee**

Chair:

D.R. ARAHAL
University of Valencia
Spain

Vice-Chair:

H. CHRISTENSEN
University of Copenhagen
Denmark

Secretary:

M. GÖKER
Leibniz Institute DSMZ
Germany

Minute 1. Call to order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 9.05 a.m. UK time.

Minute 2. Record of attendance

The following members of the Executive Board participated: I.C. Sutcliffe (Chair), E.R.B. Moore (Vice-Chair), A. Oren (Executive Secretary), S.L.W. On (Secretary of Subcommittees), Y. Shouche (Member-at-Large), D.R. Arahall (Chair JC), H. Christensen (Vice-Chair JC), and M. Göker (Secretary JC). I.C. Sutcliffe welcomed H. Christensen, who was appointed as the new Vice-Chair of the Judicial Commission to replace R. Rossello-Mora. Apologies were received from P. Nielsen (Treasurer) and R. Hahnke (Member-at-Large).

Minute 3. Minutes of the 30th March 2023 meeting of the Executive Board

The draft minutes of the 30th March 2023 meeting were approved with a minor correction. A. Oren will distribute the minutes to the members of the ICSP, the Judicial Commission, and chairs of the Subcommittees on Taxonomy, and he will send a copy to E.R.B. Moore to be posted on the ICSP website.

Minute 4. Matters Arising/Action points from previous meetings

- A. Oren has forwarded the redacted minutes of the 2nd March 2023 meeting to all members of the ICSP, the Judicial Commission and the chairs of the Subcommittees on Taxonomy.

- E.R.B. Moore has posted the minutes of the 2nd March 2023 meeting of the Executive Board on the ICSP website.

- E.R.B. Moore did not yet complete the posting of short CVs of deceased Life Members on the ICSP website. Ongoing.

- I.C. Sutcliffe, M. Göker and A. Oren are still working on the preparation of a draft revision of the ICSP statutes. Ongoing, see Minute 8.

- I.C. Sutcliffe did not yet send the draft revision of the ICSP statutes to R. Samson (IUMS) for comments. Ongoing.

- S.L.W. On has completed a near-final draft summary of the 25th October meeting of chairs and secretaries of Subcommittees on Taxonomy for publication in the IJSEM. Ongoing.

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- M. Göker and A. Oren will meet with J. Kelly of the Microbiology Society on May 3rd to discuss the proposal to set up a database management system for managing the Validation Lists, Notification Lists, and other relevant lists.
- I.C. Sutcliffe has contacted T. Woyke to check whether she would be willing to deliver the van Niel prize lecture during the VAAM meeting in Göttingen in September. No reply was yet received.
- I.C. Sutcliffe and R. Hahnke have discussed the format of an ICSP-sponsored session during the VAAM meeting in September. See Minute 5.
- E.R.B. Moore did not yet publish the minutes of the 24th January meeting of the Publications Committee on the ICSP website. Ongoing.
- E.R.B. Moore has convened a meeting of the Publications Committee, to take place on May 2nd.
- M. Göker did not yet liaise with P. Nielsen to coordinate payment of the honorarium to LPSN for 2023. Ongoing.
- The members of the Executive Board have sent to I.C. Sutcliffe their comments on the draft revisions to the process for nominating recipients of the van Niel Prize for consideration by the University of Queensland.
- I.C. Sutcliffe has sent the proposed revisions to the process for nominating recipients of the van Niel prize to the University of Queensland.
- Three nominations for candidates for the next van Niel prize were received from the members of the Executive Board. See Minute 6.
- A. Oren has set up a Zoom meeting for the current meeting of the Executive Board.
- I.C. Sutcliffe has welcomed all appointed full members of the ICSP to the new three-year term.
- I.C. Sutcliffe has thanked the outgoing full and co-opted members for their past service.
- A. Oren has forwarded the new list of ICSP members to E.R.B. Moore to be posted on the website.
- A. Oren did not yet forward the new list of ICSP members to R. Samson, Executive Secretary of IUMS. This will be done after the election of the new Executive Board.
- I.C. Sutcliffe and A. Oren started the preparation of a draft report summarizing the activities of the ICSP in the past three years, to be endorsed by the Executive Board, and to be forwarded to IUMS once details of the incoming Executive Board are known. Ongoing.

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- I.C. Sutcliffe and A. Oren have contacted all voting members of the ICSP in mid-April to invite nominations for officers on the Executive Board.
- I.C. Sutcliffe and A. Oren have contacted the larger membership of the ICSP (including current members of the JC and subcommittee chairs) to invite nominations for candidates to fill the vacancies on the JC.
- I.C. Sutcliffe has contacted J. Manning at the Microbiology Society regarding the honorarium owed to LPSN.
- I.C. Sutcliffe has contacted the treasurer of IUMS to check the tax exemption status of the funds to be paid to ICSP by Microbiology Society.
- M. Göker and E.R.B. Moore did not yet discuss with D. Cardew possible changes to be made in the way the ICSP website is operated, which should be further coordinated with R. Samson (IUMS). Ongoing.

Minute 5. ICSP participation in the VAAM meeting in Göttingen in September

The preliminary schedule of the planned ICSP-sponsored session consists of 30-minute presentations by T. Woyke (van Niel award lecture, if she confirms participation) and two other invited speakers, to be followed by a round-table discussion. I.C. Sutcliffe should liaise with R. Hahnke and contact T. Woyke again.

Minute 6. Candidates for the next van Niel Prize.

Three candidates were proposed. All members of the Executive Board are invited to propose additional candidates before our next meeting. Then we will send a list of no more than three nominees to the University of Queensland, indicating our proposed ranking.

Minute 7. Executive Board elections update

In mid-May, I.C. Sutcliffe will contact all full and co-opted members of the ICSP requesting candidate statements from those willing to stand for office in the new Executive Board. A few members have already expressed their willingness to serve on the board.

Minute 8. Update on Statutes revision

Preparation of the draft statutes by I.C. Sutcliffe, M. Göker and A. Oren is ongoing. The question was discussed as to how to interpret the statement in the current statutes that "No member of the EB-ICSP may serve on the Executive Board for more than two consecutive terms in any capacity". It is not clear whether a member who has served two terms may be elected again after having taken a term out. There was general consensus that this is indeed the case. This should be clarified in the new draft statutes.

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Minute 9. Update on Subcommittees

S.L.W. On reported that the summary of the 25th October meeting of chairs and secretaries of Subcommittees on Taxonomy is almost ready for publication in the IJSEM.

Proposed minimal standards for description of methanogenic archaea have been published (Prakash *et al.*, <https://doi.org/10.1099/ijsem.0.005500>).

The subcommittee on aerobic Bacteroidetes has recently met; I.C. Sutcliffe participated on behalf of the Executive Board.

Minute 10. Update from the Judicial Commission

D.R. Arahal and M. Göker reported that Judicial Opinion 128 has been published (Arahal *et al.* <https://doi.org/10.1099/ijsem.0.005797>).

The JC has elected H. Christensen as Vice-Chair, to replace R. Rossello-Mora, who has resigned from the JC, until autumn 2023.

A. Oren will prepare a ballot in the first week of May to elect the replacement for R. Rossello-Mora (26th class). Candidates are C. Dunlap, R.R. de la Haba, P. Švec, and J.P.W. Young. I.C. Sutcliffe and A. Oren will serve as tellers.

Minute 11. Update from the Publications Committee

A meeting of the Publications Committee has been scheduled for 2nd May.

Minute 12. Update from the IJSEM

A. Oren reported that M. Kostovski, a young medical microbiologist from Skopje, North Macedonia, has expressed interest in joining the IJSEM nomenclature review team. He was granted access to the nomenclature review website, and he recently started a period of training. S. Ventura, who in the past served as a nomenclature reviewer, may become active again after a break of several years.

Minute 13. Update from the editor-in-chief of the ICNP

A Oren reported that a new version of the page proofs of the 2022 Revision of the ICNP was just received, and that nearly all the earlier problems with the page proofs were solved. He expects that it will be possible to return the document to the Microbiology Society for a few last minor corrections in the first week of May, and that the new version of the Code may become available soon after on the IJSEM website.

Minute 14. Update from the treasurer

I.C. Sutcliffe reported that P. Nielsen is currently working on the financial report for IUMS. E.R.B. Moore commented that it is difficult to work with NatWest Bank. The incoming Executive Board may consider changing bank.

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Minute 15. Update from the working group on type strain accessibility

There was nothing to report.

Minute 16. Update on the Singleton Deposit Initiative

M. Göker reported that a response was received from NCTC, but he is still waiting for responses from a number of other collections. He will send reminders. He plans to start the process of exchange of singleton strains between different collections soon.

Minute 17. Update from the working group on Education and Outreach

A. Oren reported a report of the bacteria-naming contest organized for Spanish high school students organized by M. del C. Montero Calasanz, and sponsored by the IJSEM with a cash prize, will be presented at the 29th congress of the Sociedad Española de Microbiología to be held in Burgos in June. The presentation is entitled 'La importancia y aplicabilidad de las lenguas clásicas en la asignación de los nombres científicos. Un caso práctico', and is authored by M. delC. Montero Calasanz, A. Oren, C. Lobato, and S. López.

Minute 18. Other business

There was no other business.

Date of next meeting: **May 25th 9 am UK time.**

Adjourned at 10.40

Minutes prepared by A. Oren – 28th April 2023

Action points:

- A. Oren, to forward the minutes of the 30th March 2023 meeting to all members of the ICSP, the Judicial Commission and the chairs of the Subcommittees on Taxonomy.
- E.R.B. Moore, to post the minutes of the 30th March 2023 meeting of the Executive Board on the ICSP website.
- E.R.B. Moore, to complete the posting of short CVs of deceased Life Members on the ICSP website.
- I.C. Sutcliffe, M. Göker and A. Oren, to finalize the preparation of a draft revision of the ICSP statutes.

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- I.C. Sutcliffe, to send the draft to revision of the ICSP statutes to R. Samson (IUMS) for comments.
- S.L.W. On, to finalize the summary of the 25th October meeting of chairs and secretaries of Subcommittees on Taxonomy for publication in the IJSEM.
- M. Göker and A. Oren, to further discuss the proposal to set up a database management system for managing the Validation Lists, Notification Lists, and other relevant lists.
- I.C. Sutcliffe, to liaise with R. Hahnke to finalize the program of the ICSP-sponsored session during the VAAM meeting in Göttingen in September, and to check with T. Woyke whether she would be willing to deliver the van Niel prize lecture during the meeting.
- All members of the Executive Board, to propose candidates to be nominated for the next van Niel Prize.
- I.C. Sutcliffe and A. Oren, to contact all full and co-opted ICSP members and invite candidate statements for functions in the new Executive Board.
- E.R.B. Moore, to publish the minutes of the 24th January meeting of the Publications Committee on the ICSP website.
- I.C. Sutcliffe and A. Oren, to start a ballot in the first week of May to elect a member of the Judicial Commission to replace R. Rossello-Mora (26th class) and to elect the members of the 28th class.
- M. Göker, to liaise with P. Nielsen to coordinate payment of the honorarium to LPSN for 2023.
- I.C. Sutcliffe and A. Oren, to prepare a draft report summarizing the activities of the ICSP in the past three years, to be endorsed by the Executive Board and to be forwarded to IUMS.
- P. Nielsen, to check whether the money owed by the Microbiology Society as honorarium to LPSN was received.
- P. Nielsen, to draft the financial report on the 2020-2023 term to submit to IUMS.
- M. Göker and E.R.B. Moore, to discuss with D. Cardew possible changes to be made in the way the ICSP website is operated, which should be further coordinated with R. Samson (IUMS).