



# International Committee on Systematics of Prokaryotes

## EB-ICSP Meeting October 26<sup>th</sup> 2023 - Minutes

### **Chair:**

E.R.B. MOORE  
University of Gothenburg  
Sweden

### **Vice-Chair:**

C.M. MANAIA  
Universidade Católica Portuguesa  
Portugal

### **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

M. SAKAMOTO  
RIKEN BioResource  
Research Center  
Japan

### **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 10.00 a.m. CET.

## **Minute 2. Record of attendance**

The following members of the Executive Board (EB) participated: E.R.B. Moore (Chair), C. Manaia (Vice-Chair), A. Oren (Executive Secretary), P. Nielsen (Treasurer), R. Hahnke (Member-at-Large), M. Sakamoto (Member-at-Large), H. Christensen (Vice-Chair JC), and M. Göker (Secretary JC). Apologies were received from D.R. Arahal (Chair JC) and S.L.W. On (Secretary of Subcommittees).

## **Minute 3. Minutes of the 31<sup>st</sup> August 2023 meeting of the Executive Board**

The draft minutes of the 28<sup>st</sup> September 2023 meeting were approved after correction of a few typos. A. Oren will distribute the redacted minutes to the members of the International Committee on Systematics of Prokaryotes (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 minutes of the 31<sup>st</sup> August 2023 meeting to all members of the ICSP, the Judicial Commission and the chairs of the Subcommittees on Taxonomy.

- E.R.B. Moore has not yet posted the minutes of the 31<sup>st</sup> August 2023 meeting on the ICSP website. Ongoing.

- Comments on the proposed revision of the ICSP statutes were received from D.R. Arahal, R. Hahnke, E.R.B. Moore, M. Göker and I.C. Sutcliffe.

- A. Oren has collated the received suggestions for emendation of the statutes and sent a new version to be discussed. See Minute 7.

- S.L.W. On did not yet send a letter to the chairs and secretaries of all Subcommittees on Taxonomy to make them aware of the rules of the ICSP statutes and rules concerning the mandate of the subcommittees as defined in Article 6 (5) of the statutes. Ongoing.

- E.R.B. Moore, in his e-mail of 02 October to all ICSP members, invited colleagues who may be interested to join the working group on Education and Outreach. See Minute 18.

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- A. Oren has sent reminders on October 1<sup>st</sup> to the ICSP members who did not yet vote on the proposal to appoint A. Nemeč as a co-opted member of the ICSP. See Minute 5.
- A. Oren has notified M. Kostovski, S. Ventura, and B. Schink that, after unanimous approval by the EB-ICSP, the nomenclature reviewers are entitled to an annual travel allowance of GBP 1000.
- P. Nielsen has notified M.E. Trujillo that the vote of the EB-ICSP decided in favour that nomenclature reviewers are entitled to an annual travel allowance of GBP 1000, similar to the handling editors and the list editors.
- E.R.B. Moore has convened a special meeting of the Executive Board on October 17 to discuss the possible contributions of ICSP officials during the BISMIS Conference in Guangzhou, to be held on November 06 - 08<sup>th</sup>. See Minute 9.
- E.R.B. Moore has asked candidates who were earlier nominated for membership in the Judicial Commission but were not elected, whether they are willing to be nominated to replace K. Konstantinidis who resigned from the 26<sup>th</sup> class of commissioners. All agreed. See Minute 6.
- C. Manaia and E.R.B. Moore did not yet convene a meeting of the Publications Committee, to be held before the end of the year. Ongoing.

## **Minute 5. Election of A. Nemeč as a co-opted member of the ICSP**

Of the 31 ICSP members eligible to vote, 21 were in favour of co-option of A. Nemeč to the ICSP, there were no votes against, and there was one abstention. A. Oren and C. Manaia served as the tellers. E.R.B. Moore has notified A. Nemeč of the appointment.

## **Minute 6. Ballot to replace K. Konstantinidis in 26<sup>th</sup> Class of the JC**

There are five candidates: C. Dunlap, M. Figge, R.R. de la Haba, P. Mattarelli and P. Sveč. The ballot started on 16<sup>th</sup> October and will close on 15<sup>th</sup> November. A. Oren and E.R.B. Moore serve as the tellers. On 1<sup>st</sup> November, A. Oren will send a reminder to the voting members of the ICSP who did not yet return the ballot form.

## **Minute 7. Proposed revision of the ICSP Statutes**

A. Oren reported that comments on the circulated draft proposed revisions of the ICSP statutes were received from D.R. Arahal, M. Göker, R. Hahnke, E.R.B. Moore, and I.C. Sutcliffe. A. Oren is still working on a new version that can be approved for publication. A. Oren and M. Göker will further work on the document and send a new version to all members of the EB and to I.C. Sutcliffe and Y. Shouche (members of the previous EB) for further comments, to be sent to A. Oren no later than 25<sup>th</sup> November. A. Oren will then prepare the document for discussion and approval by the EB on 30<sup>th</sup> November and submission for publication. The document will be authored by D.R. Arahal, M. Göker, R. Hahnke, C. Manaia, E.R.B. Moore, A. Oren, and I.C. Sutcliffe, to be listed in alphabetical order.

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## **Minute 8. Presenting the ICSP and the ICNP during the BISMIS conference in Guangzhou**

Due to the current situation in Israel, A. Oren will not be able to attend the BISMIS conference in Guangzhou. He will present the half-day nomenclature workshop via zoom on November 5<sup>th</sup>. He will give the conference lecture on nomenclature of cyanobacteria in the framework of the BISMIS Live lecture series on 16<sup>th</sup> December.

## **Minute 9. Follow-up from the special EB-ICSP meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> October**

The question was discussed whether the EB-ICSP needs to make a formal statement regarding the SeqCode. The six voting members of the EB present unanimously decided that no such a statement should be prepared at this moment.

## **Minute 10. Report from the Glasgow meeting on Bacterial Nomenclature held in September**

M. Göker initiated a discussion whether an ad-hoc committee for mitigating changes in prokaryotic nomenclature should be established, following discussions held in Glasgow. A. Oren volunteered to be a member of such a committee.

## **Minute 11. Plenary on-line meeting of the ICSP**

E.R.B. Moore proposed to hold an online meeting of the greater ICSP in the last two weeks of November or the first week of December, to be held in the evening hours (European time zones). All members of the EB are requested to notify him on which dates they will not be available for such a meeting.

## **Minute 12. Report from the Judicial Commission**

H. Christensen and M. Göker had nothing new to report.

## **Minute 13. Update on Subcommittees**

A. Oren reported that the Minutes of the inaugural 25 October 2022 meeting of International Committee on Systematics of Prokaryotes (ICSP) Subcommittees on Taxonomy representatives: challenges, trends, and perspectives for microbial taxonomists, authored by S.L.W. On, were published (<https://doi.org/10.1099/ijsem.0.006075>).

## **Minute 14. Update from the Editor-in-Chief of the ICNP**

A. Oren reported that on 10<sup>th</sup> November, the six-month discussion period for the proposal to amend Appendix 9 of the ICNP (Naming genera after geographical locations. Proposal to amend Appendix 9 of the International Code of Nomenclature of Prokaryotes, A. Oren and M. Chuvochina, published: 10 May 2023 <https://doi.org/10.1099/ijsem.0.005873>) will end. No comments were received thus far. A. Oren will prepare a ballot to be sent to the voting members of the ICSP. E.R.B. Moore and C. Manaia will serve as the tellers.

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## **Minute 15. Update from Publications Committee**

C. Manaia and E.R.B. Moore will convene a meeting of the Publications Committee to discuss ongoing problems with the typesetting of IJSEM papers and other current issues. E.R.B. Moore needs to send the mailing list of members of the Publications Committee to C. Manaia.

## **Minute 16. Update from IJSEM**

There were no updates.

## **Minute 17. Treasurer's update**

P. Nielsen reported that the process to enable C. Manaia access to the ICSP bank account has been completed. W.B. Whitman has been disabled as Bankline user, while I.C. Sutcliffe for practical reasons remains as user until further notice. Payment of the honorarium to LPSN is pending due to negotiations with the DSMZ. Travel expense refunds to P. Rahi and A. Jones have been approved, but were not yet processed.

## **Minute 18. Update from the working group on Education & Outreach**

E.R.B. Moore reported that M. delC. Montero-Calasanz expressed interest in joining this working group, and that L. Carro may also be interested. There were no updates about the use of social media such as Twitter/X.

## **Minute 19. The ICSP website and Social Media – Twitter/X**

There was nothing new to report.

## **Minute 20. Update from the working group on type strain accessibility**

E.R.B. Moore had circulated a document sent to M.E. Trujillo by M.L. Ferrari (Bioresource Center, Institut Pasteur, Paris) on the interpretation of the new French regulations about the distribution and use of biological material. Colleagues from the CRBIP and from CIRM-INRAe, two of the main French mBRCs, have written a text that they would like to submit as a Letter to the Editor to IJSEM, where they describe the procedures to comply with the French ABS system regarding microbial resources, as well as the regulations in place for their access and utilisation. This text has been reviewed and approved by the French National Focal Point. According to this document, for non-commercial utilization of French microbial genetic resources from Culture Collections or other sources, a registration and declaration via the CERFA 15786 by third-parties is needed when required, according to the definitions detailed in the letter and of course, out of all the exceptions mentioned in there. However, at least at CRBIP, they interpret that a Collection is not obliged to ask for the declaration to the user in order to make the distribution, but to inform the user they must do the declaration, when required. All members of the EB are requested to study the draft manuscript sent by Dr. Ferrari and notify E.R.B. Moore of their opinion no later than 27<sup>th</sup> October, 5 p.m. CET. E.R.B. Moore and C. Manaia will then notify M.E. Trujillo of the opinion of the EB.

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## **Minute 21. Update on the Singleton Deposit Initiative**

M. Göker reported that the NCCB collection has started depositing singleton strains in its collection in the JCM collection. No progress was yet made concerning the many singleton strains in the ATCC. M. Göker will send E.R.B. Moore a list of the culture collections that did/did not respond to the request to deposit singleton strains in a second collection.

## **Minute 22 Other business**

There was no other business.

Date of next meeting: 30<sup>th</sup> November 9 a.m. CET.

Adjourned at 12.05

Minutes prepared by A. Oren – 26<sup>th</sup> October 2023

### **Action points:**

- A. Oren, to forward the redacted minutes of the 28<sup>th</sup> September 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 31<sup>st</sup> August 2023 EB meeting and the redacted minutes of the 28<sup>th</sup> September 2023 EB meeting on the ICSP website.
- All members of the Executive Board, to critically examine the new version of the proposed revisions of the ICSP statutes, and to send any proposed changes A. Oren no later than 25<sup>th</sup> November.
- A. Oren, to collate the received suggestions for emendation of the statutes and prepare a new version to be approved for publication during the next meeting of the EB.
- S.L.W. On, to send a letter to the chairs and secretaries of all Subcommittees on Taxonomy to make them aware of the rules of the ICSP statutes and rules concerning the mandate of the subcommittees as defined in Article 6 (5) of the statutes.
- A. Oren, to send reminders on November 1<sup>st</sup> to the ICSP members who did not yet vote on the ballot to elect a new commissioner to replace K. Konstantinidis in the 16<sup>th</sup> Class of the JC.
- All members of the Executive Board, to notify E.R.B. Moore on which days in the last two weeks of November and the first week of December they will not be available for an online meeting of the greater ICSP.
- C. Manaia and E.R.B. Moore, to convene a meeting of the Publications Committee before the end of the year.
- A. Oren, to prepare a ballot to be sent to the voting members of the ICSP on 11 November on

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the proposal to emend Appendix 9 of the ICNP (Naming genera after geographical locations. Proposal to emend Appendix 9 of the International Code of Nomenclature of Prokaryotes, by A. Oren and M. Chuvochina).

- E.R.B. Moore, to continue discussions for improving updates on the ICSP Twitter/X account.
- All members of the Executive Board, to send to E.R.B. Moore, no later than 27<sup>th</sup> October 5 p.m. CET, their opinion on the document sent by M. Ferrari with a proposed solution to the problem of availability of type material isolated in France.
- E.R.B. Moore and C. Manaia, to communicate with M.E. Trujillo about the opinions of the EB members on the above-mentioned document received from M. Ferrari.
- M. Göker, to send E.R.B. Moore a list of the culture collections that did/did not respond to the request to deposit singleton strains in a second collection.