

**Analytical Chemistry Division Committee IUPAC  
Officers Meeting**

**Hotel Capri, Vienna. 9.30 am to 1.00 pm, Sunday February 15.**

Present: K. Powell (President), D. Moore (Past President), R. Lobinski (Vice President) ,  
R.M. Smith (Secretary), in attendance B.R. Henry (IUPAC Vice President)

**1. Welcome.**

The President welcomed the IUPAC Vice-President, Bryan Henry to the discussions. The Vice President thanked the Officers for enabling him to attend and explained that he was interested to see working of ACD because we seemed to have adapted well to the new project system. The Division represented good practice that could be followed in other Divisions. He will address the full ACD meeting the following day.

**2. Discussion of current projects**

The officers then reviewed the reports received from Task Group Chairmen to identify areas that needed fuller consideration by the full ACD Committee.

**a. Stability Constants Database**

Academic Software had communicated the need to consider the long term future of the project. After discussion it was proposed to put forward a consultative group of Ingman, Moore and Powell to consider alternatives and liaise with Academic Software (Leslie and Gwyn Pettit). If necessary the outcome of the discussions could be considered in Beijing. One option was to transfer the database to a host (such as NIST, RSC or IUPAC) that would ensure its maintenance and make the database available to the wider community via the web, with continuing ACD projects to generate additional input of data.

**b. 2001-073-1-500 (Nakahara)**

Status uncertain as no reports received – text received by ACD in 2001 and returned for corrections but revised document had not been received. The DP received no reply to a follow-up letter in February.

**c. 2001-075-1-500 (Corte /Kolotov)**

Electronic database and vector journal article delivered to Secretariat but action taken and dissemination unknown. If published elsewhere needs report and publicity in PAC (President to follow up – article with ICTNS, who reported back to Kolotov on April 3).

d. IUPAC Recommendations 562: Nomenclature for Isotope, Nuclear and Radiochemical Techniques (Karol).

No report received

The results from the original unpublished Karol project have been published on his own website but recommendations from ICTNS (2001) have not been actioned. It is assumed that it has been abandoned. President to ask that project draft Recommendations be removed from IUPAC website.

It has been replaced by a new project. (2003-015-2-500).

e. Front page for *PAC* publications

It was decided that when projects which had originated from the old commission structure were published, the listing of the members who had approved the final paper should be those of the ACD at the time of final approval for publication rather than those of the old Commission during the lifetime of the project.

### **3. Proposed projects**

The officers then reviewed applications to the ACD for new projects.

a. Murray

Proposed to recommended 5.5k support with request to Division I for 1K support and that they should be involved in Project.

b. Chai project

Bonardi to present to ACD. There was concern from the reviewers that the project lacked focus – objections had been raised about terminology - and seemed to concentrate on one aspect only of the work. Intended direction for the work was unclear from project proposal. It seemed that too much of resources were going to one participant. Decided to recommend that it be reconsidered after extra revision and resubmission with advice from Lobinski.

c. Nanotechnology

This had come from Harp Minhas (RSC managing editor) in a communication with DM. It was followed up by President, both with Minhas and with Jed Harrison (MicroTas04 chair) but progress on developing the project is slow – so far the scope of requirements has not been clarified. The Vice President would meet the chair of the editorial board, Gillian Greenway, in the near future at a meeting and would discuss.

d. Matsumoto project

It was very unclear from the draft application what is proposed, but a presentation will be made at the ACD meeting. Additional clarification would be sought on the relationship to GMO. There was some concern that the overall topic might be too broad.

e. Holden (Critical evaluation of data and uncertainties for neutron activation analysis parameters)

There was concern that the proposed membership was too limited. The project had been withdrawn after adverse comment from a referee had been forwarded from the Secretariat. The President would discuss with the applicant. [DP discussed with DM and decided to accept the decision of the proposer].

Because of the way the referees reports had been handled for this project, an issue was raised about the procedures in handling applications. It was suggested that a better system would be for the reports to be passed first to the Division President who would forward them to the project proposer through the secretariat, together with an overview assessment placing the ideas and comments in a constructive format. Henry will take this idea forward to the Secretariat.

f. Tuli (Nuclear Wallet cards)

The project had received no support. It will be recommended to the ACD that it not be accepted

g. Lobinski

A proposal on metallomics is in preparation

h. Moore (Standardisation of analytical approaches and analytical capacity building in Africa)

The proposal suggested a stronger collaboration between the ACD (and IUPAC) and IOCD to develop assistance and aid in developing countries and to avoid duplication of effort. It was noted that Nelson Torto has been accepted as a Provisional member of ACD representing SEANC – part of project to establish links with developing countries. ACD wished to formalise commitment to project.

j. Arsenic in Bangladesh

Leiv Sydnnes reported that Bangladesh minister for S and T is interested in IUPAC initiatives. Also noted that the presidents of the unions for soil sciences and geological sciences are very keen to be involved as well.

[Subsequent correspondence established that CHEMRAWN has a project on this subject: <http://www.iupac.org/projects/2003/2003-050-1-021.html>].

k. T Grady

T Grady from IMR Test labs NY had enquired about International standards for metal and organic contaminants in electrical and electronic equipment. To be passed to WPQA for comment.

l. Camoes (pH in complex matrices)

An extension of the earlier study on pH - a possible future proposal; was expected to expand the topic to a number of specialist areas. Currently under review.

m. De Bievre et al. (Measurement traceability – a fair basis for trade)

IUPAC application for ICSU funding. The WPQA will be meeting for 3 days this week to complete the application. The President will assist on one day.

#### **4. Division Strategy**

A number of ideas were introduced for the development of a long term strategy for the ACD – as a basis for discussion at the ACD meeting. The aim would be to focus on a limited number of priority areas.

a. The aim would be to develop team work rather than basing activities around individuals, to share responsibilities for core activities and to provide continuity. TM, AM and NR would be associated with each core activity.

b. Because the loss of the commissions had taken away the most common route for project generation, new ways had to be considered. One initiative was to use workshops and symposia as a source of ideas; another was to use the Division as a ‘think tank’ – and from these to generate advisory groups, task groups and project proposals.

c. The work of the ACD can be viewed as covering two areas - core activities and continuing activities. The core activities of the ACD were identified as: Communication, Quality Assurance, and Terminology (Orange book).

d. Continuing activities were identified as:

i. Critical evaluation of data – in discussion it was thought that this was key to the working of the ACD and possible should be regarded as a core activity.

- ii. Project management - keeping track of projects
- iii. Key emerging areas:
  - Bioanalytical
  - Process and nanochemistry
  - Separation methods (much of which might be part of first two)
- e. Conference participation:

Part of work of ACD is to represent IUPAC at sponsored conferences. In discussion it was suggested that the representative should be nominated by ACD as an active member of the division rather than a nominee from the conference organiser.

- f. Mini-symposia:

There was a discussion on how mini-symposia used to raise awareness of possible new areas should be funded by ACD. These would not generally qualify for support as ACD projects. It was noted that there was now some flexibility allowed in the allocation of the budget although nominally travel was restricted to 25%. A larger proportion could be permissible.

The above ideas would be further developed at the full meeting of the ACD.

## **5. Next Officers meeting –**

It was proposed to hold the next Officer meeting in Boston MA in Nov/ Dec 2004 and to combine this with discussions on GMOs and Bioanalytical Metallomics