

**MINUTES**  
**of the Meeting of the**  
**International Liaison Committee**  
**on occasion of the**  
**8th World Congress for Microcirculation**

**Wednesday, August 15, 2007, 14:00**  
***Hilton Milwaukee City Center***  
***Kilbourn Room***

**Present:**

Axel Pries, *Chairman of the International Liaison Committee for Microcirculation*  
Mirjam oude Egbrink (for A. Shore, *Treasurer ESM*)  
Tim Secomb, *President MCS*  
Bruce Klitzman, *Delegate MCS*  
Terrence Sweeney, *Delegate MCS*  
Makoto Suematsu, *Chairman of the LC of the Japanese Society for Microcirculation*  
Ruijuan Xiu, *Chairman Asian Union for Microcirculation*  
Masaya Oda, *Delegate Asian Union for Microcirculation*  
Julian Lombard, *President of the 8<sup>th</sup> World Congress for Microcirculation*  
Eric Vicaut, *President of the 9<sup>th</sup> World Congress for Microcirculation*  
Michael Perry, *President of the 7<sup>th</sup> World Congress for Microcirculation*

**Apologies:**

Hiromasa Ishii, *Delegate Asian Union for Microcirculation*  
Akos Koller, *President 2008 ESM*  
Gerry Meininger, (for I. Sarelius, *Delegate MCS*)  
Ed van Bavel, *Delegate ESM*

The Chairman of the International Liaison Committee for Microcirculation, Axel Pries, opened the meeting of the ILC at the occasion of the 8<sup>th</sup> World Congress for Microcirculation in Milwaukee/Wisconsin, USA and thanked all members for their support and participation. The ILC expressed its deep appreciation and admiration for the excellent work the President of the 8<sup>th</sup> WCM, Julian Lombard, did in organizing an outstanding conference with a first class scientific program.

**Terms of office of committee members**

Then, the Chairman entered the agenda asking members of the ILC for their view on terms of office of committee members. It was the unanimous opinion of the ILC that a rigid limitation of ILC membership does not fit well to the long timeframe of ILC strategic planning and World Congress intervals. On the other hand, a transparent mechanism safeguarding the adequate renewal of the ILC membership had to be established. It was therefore decided to delete the section related to terms of ILC membership from the bylaws (enclosure) and to replace it by the following statement:

*“Prior to each World Congress for Microcirculation, the constituent regions (America, Europe, AustralAsia) will appoint or confirm their representatives at the ILC taking into account both the continuity of international strategic development in the area of microcirculation and the adequate renewal of the committee.”*

### **ILC Website**

Next, the Chairman informed the ILC about the establishment of an ILC website. This website is meant as a portal to activities of the regional and national societies worldwide. The second aim is to serve as an archive of world microcirculation. Another purpose of the website is to highlight upcoming international events related to microcirculatory research. The website should allow individuals, researchers, media agencies etc. to get a quick overview on worldwide activities in the area and a chance to look into more detail by using the respective links.

Prof. Pries pointed out that the website offers a unique opportunity of providing a repository for material and information on the history of worldwide microcirculatory research. Such material could range from official minutes of Committee meetings to photographs, film clips or anecdotes. With the help of eminent figures in the field, some interesting facts on previous conferences and ILC meetings could be collected. By using the ILC website, such material can be made readily available to researchers in the field and the public at large.

It was decided to appoint representatives for each global region to solicit and provide historic material for the ILC website:

USA: Terry Sweeney  
Europe: Dick Slaaf, Akos Koller  
AustralAsia: Ruijuan Xiu, Makoto Suematsu

It was then discussed to also use the website to stimulate considerations on the role of microcirculatory research for biological science and for the medical field as well as respective perspectives for future development. The ILC commissioned members from the different global regions to initiate and/or write short strategic statements on role/perspective/deficits/requirements of microcirculatory research:

USA: Bruce Klitzman, Tim Secomb  
Europe: Eric Vicaut  
AustralAsia: Michael Perry, Masaya Oda

### **9<sup>th</sup> World Congress for Microcirculation in Paris in 2010**

The President of the 9<sup>th</sup> World Congress for Microcirculation in Paris in 2010, Eric Vicaut, presented the current state of planning and concepts for the conference.

[ will be provided by Eric Vicaut ]

It was suggested to strengthen the interaction with the clinical disciplines by recruiting well-known representatives of central clinical topics to the International Scientific Committee of the conference. Potential topics include intensive care, neurovascular medicine, hypertension/metabolic syndrome/diabetes, atherosclerosis and myocardial perfusion.

## **10<sup>th</sup> World Congress for Microcirculation**

In the following, the ILC discussed the location and timing of the 10<sup>th</sup> World Congress for Microcirculation. The Chairman gave an overview of past decisions of the ILC with respect to the rotation and schedule of WCMs ([www.worldmicrocirc.org](http://www.worldmicrocirc.org) → ‘World Congresses Info’). According to these procedures, the 10<sup>th</sup> WCM should be organized by the AustralAsia region with a preference for China as the location for the conference after having had recent WCMs in Sydney/Australia and Tokyo-Osaka/Japan. He also informed the members of the ILC that he received a letter by Prof. Ruijuan Xiu expressing the intent of the Chinese Society of Microcirculation (CMS) to organize the 10<sup>th</sup> WCM on behalf of the Asian Union for Microcirculation (AUM) in the year 2015 in Beijing/China.

This offer was welcomed by the members of the ILC, thanking Prof. Xiu for her initiative. It was stressed that in the years 2014/2015, the Japanese Society for Microcirculation would have a very important historical anniversary. In the following, it was discussed how this event could be represented adequately in a World Congress held in Beijing. In line with the friendly international cooperation in the field of microcirculatory research represented in the ILC, the following decisions were taken:

- The 10<sup>th</sup> WCM will be held in the year 2015 in Beijing/China organized by the Chinese Society of Microcirculation on behalf of the Asian Union for Microcirculation and will be chaired by Prof. Ruijuan Xiu, M.D., Ph.D., AUM & CMS President.
- The AUM in close relation with the ILC will define and implement an optimal mechanism to ascertain the visible and adequate representation of the historical anniversary of the Japanese Society for Microcirculation. Possible approaches include the organisation of an anniversary focus consisting of a plenary lecture and a number of symposia by the Japanese Society.
- To support the structural and scientific preparation of the 10<sup>th</sup> WCM, an initial international advisory board would be formed including representatives from China, Japan, Australia, North America, Europe, and the ILC.

The Chairman and members of the ILC congratulated Prof. Xiu and expressed their gratitude for her willingness to lead in the organisation of a scientifically outstanding and memorable 10<sup>th</sup> World Conference for Microcirculation in 2015 in Beijing, China.

### **Additional initiatives of the ILC**

Possibilities for additional initiatives of the ILC were discussed. The Chairman suggested to consider the establishment of ‘International ILC Microcirculation scholarships’. Such scholarships should allow younger researchers in the field to conduct research at a guest laboratory for a period of 4-6 months. In the following, possibilities to fund such scholarships were discussed. Terry Sweeney was willing to explore possible funding mechanisms on behalf of the ILC.

[ **Proposal for young investigator scheme will be provided by Prof. Suematsu** ] The representative of the Japanese Society for Microcirculation, Prof. Suematsu, informed the ILC about an international exchange program which he initiated **with support by ...** . The ILC officially endorsed this initiative and will act as review committee for the selection of applicants for that program.

**Next meeting of the ILC**

It was decided to convene the ILC for a next meeting on the occasion of the 25<sup>th</sup> European Conference for Microcirculation in Budapest, August 26-29, 2008. At this meeting, the state of preparations and scientific/organisational details for the upcoming 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> WCMs will be discussed.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 17:00.

Berlin, September 2007

Axel R. Pries  
Chairman