

Minutes of the International Liaison Committee Meeting
Monday 20 August 2001
Meeting Room 8, Sydney Convention Centre, Darling Harbour
Sydney Australia

Present:

Professor Hiromasa Ishii
Professor Masaya Oda
Professor John Tooke
Professor Axel Pries
Professor Ingrid Sarelius
Professor Bruce Klitzman
Professor Michael Perry

Apologies:

Professor Rui-juan Xiu

Professor Michael Perry President of the World Congress welcomed members to the meeting.

1. The Committee considered and approved a paper outlining the rationale membership and constitution of the International Liaison Committee (Appendix 1).
It was agreed that the principle remit of the Committee was to ensure the decisions in relationship to the timing location and nature of the Microcirculation World Congresses reflected the needs and interests of the global Microcirculation Community. It was further agreed that there should be three representatives from the three broad areas; Australasia, The Americans, and Europe. The immediate past president, the current president and the immediate future president of the next World Congress would be present in a non voting capacity. It was agreed that it was a responsibility of area representatives to ensure broad representation from their geographical area. Professor John Tooke was confirmed as Chair of the Committee. It was agreed to publish the notes of the meeting and the membership of the Committee in terms of office on relevant websites in the interests of transparency.
2. It was agreed that the criteria for selecting locations for the World Congresses should reflect:
 - i) Scientific standing of the applicant
 - ii) Credibility of the proposal in organisational terms
 - iii) The attractiveness of the venue and social program
 - iv) An analysis of the threats to the success of the meeting
 - v) The bid documentation itself
 - vi) The potential for the proposal to broaden interest in the field of microcirculation
3. The Community then considered presentations by Professor Eric Vicaut on behalf of the French Microcirculation Society and Eli Keshet representing Professor Saul Yedgar on behalf of the Israeli Microcirculation Society to host the 9th World Congress in 2011. Professor Eric Vicaut proposed a meeting at the end of August in

conference facilities known as La Defense close to the centre of Paris and 20 minutes from the Airport. Particular emphasis was placed on engaging with European colleagues in the construct of the program.

The Israeli proposal suggested a meeting in Jerusalem in June for climate reasons and proposed links with haematology and cardiology. Security fears were acknowledged as was the impossibility of predicting the position in ten years time. The possibility of relocating the meeting nearer the date if this proved necessary was raised.

The presenters were thanked for their proposals which were discussed by the Committee.

On balance it was agreed that a Parisian meeting would be very attractive, present low risks to meeting success, and build on the experience of the French group who had hosted a successful European Society Meeting in 1998. The Committee nonetheless was eager not to deny the Israelis the opportunity to host what promised to be a very interesting program. It was agreed that the European Society for Microcirculation representatives would explore with Israeli colleagues the possibility of them hosting the European Society Meeting in 2008 at which international attendance from other non-European areas would be welcomed.

4. 8th World Congress for Microcirculation. Professor Sarelius explained that the IUPS may move their meeting in 2005 to San Diego in April to link with the Experimental Biology meeting. The Microcirculatory Society had expressed the possibility of moving the World Congress to coincide with these meetings from the original date in August. An internal flight within the USA was not seen to be a disincentive by American colleagues.

The Committee discussed the implications at length and made the following observations/suggestions:

- An April meeting was relatively inconvenient for Japanese colleagues as it coincided with the busy part of the academic year and the occurrence of many domestic meetings in that country
 - There was a need to recognise the world of microcirculation community involved individuals from a wide range of disciplinary backgrounds and that holding the meeting coincident with IUPS would benefit some but not all of the delegates
 - The possibility that the meeting should revert to the normal five yearly schedule and be held in 2006 was suggested. This would distance the meeting from IUPS thus avoiding the need for scientists to visit the USA twice in a short period.
 - It was agreed that these considerations be taken back to the Council of the Microcirculatory Society.
- Item 5 There being no other business the Chairman thanked the members for their participation and closed the meeting at 3pm.