

INDUSTRIAL GROUP OF THE BRITISH CRYSTALLOGRAPHIC ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the 17th Annual General Meeting, held at Heriot-Watt University, Edinburgh Tuesday 4th April 2000.

1. MINUTES OF THE 16th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The minutes of the 16th AGM, held at the Royal Court Hotel on Monday, 12th April 1999, were circulated at the meeting, approved and signed by the chairman.

2. MATTERS ARISING.

There were no matters arising.

3. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

In some respects, it doesn't seem so very long since the last Chairman's report. It was delivered at the Industrial Crystallography Forum in Coventry and, as a group, we haven't had our usual year full of Group activities since then. Most of our 1999 activities were packed into a very concentrated two days and a total of six sessions, covering materials science, pharmaceuticals, Rietveld refinement, quality assurance, industrial applications and thin films. Everyone seemed to like the format, but the big question is whether or not we should do it again. The committee would be most interested to hear from anyone with an opinion. I am not going to list all the things that were done by so many people to make the Forum such a success, it really was a team effort. But I would mention with thanks the huge administrative effort from Jo Jutson and Dave Taylor. It's only when you are involved in organizing a residential meeting that you realize what you have taken on. I should also mention the sponsorship that we received from Bruker-AXS, ICDD, Microsource-Bede, Oxford Cryosystems and Philips Analytical. It's not only the money that is given by these companies, but we do also detect a genuine interest in our activities and we thank them for their support.

In the course of the Forum, we doubled-up on the Alun Bowen lecture and an Industrial Group Award that was presented to David Rendle, who also gave the lecture. It was a great pleasure to catch up with David again, and it is good to see that he has just been re-elected as a member of the ICDD board.

For some, 1999 was the year of the IUCr Congress at Glasgow, which was a great success in many ways. The IG was well-represented, in quality if not number of delegates. The main Group input was a poster that displayed a range of uses of Industrial Crystallography in UK (it is now on the web site). After the Forum, the committee took some time to decide that there should be an Autumn meeting. Other crystallography meetings seemed to have left most of our community exhausted by November. But a format was found to suit a smaller number of participants and the meeting was held at Birkbeck College, hosted by Jeremy Cockcroft. The workshop covered the use of the Internet, software available on the Internet and Spreadsheets for Crystallography, with plenty of hands-on time, making the most of the local facilities. It was well received by those who came and the format is already influencing plans for at least one workshop this year. Another spin-off from the meeting was a set of spreadsheets from the web site and the hope that it will grow as a facility for a much wider community around the world. Our thanks go to Dave Taylor for starting something with real potential.

Our other activities continue strongly. The web site continues to grow and the Newsletter continues to go out twice a year, now under the editorial control of Colin Small. It's good to see that Colin has stamped some of his personality on it, with a bit more human interest to reports, etc. I continue to represent BCA and UK in the group working towards a European Standard for XRPD. I took that on 3 years ago thinking it would mean attending two or three meetings over a couple of years. I don't dare to make predictions about just when it will be completed, but if anyone is interested in getting involved, it's certainly not too late. The good news is that two of the five parts of the standard are quite close to completion.

Before finishing, I must once again thank the Committee all for the tremendous effort they have made on our behalf over last year. In many ways it is a sign of the times for manufacturing industry that several individuals have had to resign or take a back seat. Bruce Fox and Graham McPherson have changed jobs. Jo Jutson retired from work at the end of last year and couldn't continue as vice-chair.

C S Frampton, Hon Secretary, April 2000

Kath Clay, Mary Vickers and Philip Lake have all come to the end of their three-year term as committee members. All of these people have helped far and wide in organizing specific meetings and in the many other less obvious things that get done by the committee.

I would like to finish with a special work of thanks to Jo Jutson. Jo has served on the committee as a member, secretary/treasurer, and latterly as vice-chairman. She has always been available to help and given so much to the group. I am sure we all wish her well in her retirement.

Finally, thank you all for supporting the group activities over the year. We have a very full programme arranged for this year and hope we will see you often.

4. TREASURER'S REPORT

Copies of the Statement of Accounts for the year to 31 December 1999 were distributed. The surplus for the year was £1,372.89 and the balance in hand was £8152.45. The accounts have been submitted to the BCA for examination.

5. ELECTIONS TO COMMITTEE

Having been duly nominated, the following were declared elected: Prof. C. S. Frampton as Vice Chairman, Dr. P. Holdway as Secretary/Treasurer and, as Committee Members, Dr C. Anderton, Prof. P. F. Fewster, Ms. J. Shackleton and Mr. C. Small.

6. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The Chairman, Dr. S. Norval informed the members of the Industrial Group that the committee proposed to appoint Mr. P. Lake as a co-opted member of the committee. No objections were raised.