

INDUSTRIAL GROUP OF THE BRITISH CRYSTALLOGRAPHIC ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the 13th Annual General Meeting, held at the University of
Cambridge on Thursday, 4 April 1996.

1. MINUTES OF THE 12TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The minutes of the 12th AGM, held at the University of Wales, Cardiff on Tuesday, 28 March 1995, having been circulated at the meeting, were approved and signed by the Chairman.

2. MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

3. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT Dr David Dyson reported:

This year has seen a consolidation of the changes we started to introduce the previous year. We have combined introductory aspects of crystallography with its applications in industrial and academic research environments. It is pleasing to be able to report that, whilst the support may not be that seen a decade ago, our numbers have remained constant, particularly at our one day meetings.

The success of our programme of events has been largely due to the teamwork of the committee members, helped by the personnel at the host meeting sites together with the equipment manufacturers. All this help is acknowledged gratefully.

Our year started with two excellently organised sessions (by Steve Norval and Jo Jutson) at Cardiff which covered Novel Materials and Rietveld Analysis in Industry. This was supported by a course run by Ron Jenkins (ICDD) who introduced our newer members to the problems of data collection and search/match methods for phase identification. Ron also delivered a very interesting denary Lecture on the work of ICDD with particular reference to the new search/match techniques. The first part of a seminar on Quantitative Methods of Analysis was held at Sir William Siemens House, Manchester in June. The papers presented were published in a booklet, a first for the Group, and so provide a record of the proceedings and a useful source of advice and reference material for the newcomer and experienced user alike. Our thanks go to Siemens' staff for arranging the publication. The Autumn Meeting was held at British Steel, Rotherham and sponsored by Rigaku. The meeting was organised by Steve Norval and covered the analysis of small amounts of sample: the review of different approaches to the problems proved rewarding. The second part of the Quantitative Methods seminar was held in February at the Philips Research Laboratories at Redhill, Surrey. The seven papers drew on the information presented in part one and consolidated the information. Again we thank the hosts for their help and their offer to arrange publishing of the papers presented. Our final meeting has been the current Spring Meeting where our sessions have covered Structure and Data (organised by Dave Taylor) and Preferred Orientation (Colin Small). The first of these sessions complemented the short course on Essential Crystallography for Industrial Powder Diffraction Users that we have run during the Spring Meeting. Much work has gone into this course and our thanks go to Jeremy Cockroft of Birkbeck College for preparing and teaching the course and to Dave Taylor for his part in organising the course.

We are always thinking about further topics for our meetings and hope to arrange sessions on pharmaceuticals and on residual stress measurements in the near future.

We have made an Industrial Group Award to Peter Salt in recognition of his contribution to crystallography, particularly in the field of clay minerals analysis. His work is recognised internationally and the award has been a popular one. Peter has retired now and we wish him well.

We have introduced a new scheme to attract more industrial users of xrd into membership of the BCA. The changes are aimed at attracting new users and maintaining their interest in the IG activities. This has been a success so far and sixty-one members have joined or renewed their BCA membership through attendance at our meetings.

It is of interest that authors are becoming more conscious of the accuracy, precision and errors of their results. Many are concerned with these aspects and it has been said that measurements without an associated expression of uncertainty are incomplete. Inevitably, this has cropped up at our meetings and it is good to see that it is being taken seriously - even though we do not seem to have an internationally recognised standard. One way to check quality of results is by round robin samples. Such an exercise, using the NIST SRM1976 alumina plate standard, was launched at our 1995 Autumn Meeting. Several UK participants have already generated results for this survey.

Co-ordination of many of these activities has involved a considerable amount of time and our thanks go to Eric Kelly for the effort he has freely given.

Keeping our members informed has been of prime importance to us as the changes have been introduced. Our Newsletter proved an effective way of doing this. There have been two issues this year: the quality and contents are a tribute to those concerned with editing it. One of these - Trevor Carter - retires from the committee this year and I would like to thank him for his efforts while on the Committee, at the same time wishing his successor, Bruce Fox, every good fortune.

This is my last report as Chairman as I too retire - with some misgivings but happy in the knowledge that those remaining are keen and that their efforts will ensure that the Industrial Group continues to flourish and serve the industrial community. To all who have supported me during my term of office, and to all who have contributed to our success - thanks.

I TREASURER'S REPORT

Copies of the Statement of Accounts for the year to 31 December 1995 were distributed. The surplus on the year was £347.18, compared with a deficit of £546.78 previously. This was a result of sponsorship of technical meetings by the host companies. The balance in hand was £5651.75. Thanks were recorded to Mr Murray Cowie for examining the accounts.

5 ELECTIONS TO COMMITTEE

The Chairman, Dr D J Dyson, had decided to retire this year, one year earlier than required by rules. Mr D J T'aylor had been nominated as Chairman and Dr K D Rogers as a Committee Member. As there were no other nominations, they were declared elected for three years.

6 AMENDMENT OF GROUP CONSTITUTION.

The Group Committee proposed an amendment to Rule 11 to provide for the ICDD Representative to serve *ex officio* as a member of the Group Committee. The revised rule would read:

11 COMMITTEE. The affairs of the Group shall be managed by a Committee consisting of the Officers of the Group together with no more than six Ordinary Members of Committee. Not more than three Officers or Members of the Committee shall be from Academic Institutions. **The UK Representative to the ICDD shall be a member of the Committee *ex officio*.** Additional members may be co-opted from time to time under Rule 13. The Committee shall be broadly based, with no one field or discipline unduly favoured. Only members of the Group shall be eligible for Membership of the committee.

The Secretary explained that Dr J Anwar had become a member of the ICDD with support and approval of the Council. Dr J I Langford questioned the suggested wording as no one body was able to appoint a representative for the United Kingdom. After discussion, the **principal** of the amendment was approved subject to the Group Committee revising the inserted sentence.

There being no other business, the Chairman declared the meeting closed, with thanks to those attending.