

Industrial Group of The British Crystallographic Association

**Minutes of the 23rd Annual General Meeting
Wednesday, 5th April 2006 12:00
At The University of Lancaster**

Chair Jeremy Cockcroft

1) APOLOGIES

None received

2) MINUTES OF THE 22nd ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Held at the Wednesday, 13th April 2005 at The University of Loughborough

The minutes were accepted as a true record

Proposed J K Cockcroft

Seconded D J Taylor

3) MATTERS ARISING

None

4) CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Given by Jeremy Cockcroft at the University of Lancaster

This is my second report as chairman of the Industrial Group. Compared to 2004, this last year has been a quieter year with regard to the number of meetings organised by the committee. In the autumn, we organised a two day event in London held at Birkbeck College, the first day of which was an introductory workshop on the subject of "Patents & Crystallography". The second day formed, in effect, our usual 1 day autumn meeting. This allowed us to develop the previous day's topic by making the morning session "Crystallographic Patents". The afternoon session was based on a mixture of talks revolved around the themes of standards and applied crystallography. While there was an excellent attendance on day 1, it was disappointing to see a lower attendance on day 2 despite some really excellent talks. So the whole issue of two day sessions is something that the committee needs to look at very carefully in future.

At the last Spring Meeting, the industrial group decided to take on the subject and responsibility of XRF by including a series of parallel XRF sessions. One of the questions that arose at our last AGM was the issue of how to include XRF within XRD given the formal constitution of the group. It seems to the committee that the simplest solution at this stage is to continue XRF as a special interest group (SIG) within the BCA Industrial Group analogous to our other SIGs (e.g. pharmaceutical, residual stress, and non-ambient diffraction). In addition, there are plans in progress to have a small-angle scattering SIG within the BCA-IG, so watch this space!

So what else has the committee done? The BCA-IG has a very active committee who meet in person on a regular basis, typically 3 times per year, in contrast to some of the other BCA groups. This last year we have been fortunate to have had the use of facilities at the Natural History Museum in London for our committee meetings and I would like to express my personal thanks to Martin Gill for both arranging these facilities plus the additional tours

including one to the diamond exhibition. However, due to both time and costs, we plan to reduce the number of committee meetings to twice per year since much of the detailed discussions on future meetings can now be held electronically.

The main activity of the committee is to organise meetings and workshops of interest to the members, and a large number of the sessions at this meeting were organised by IG committee members. In addition, we already have plans afoot for our next autumn meeting, to be held at Pilkington's research base at Lathom, Lancashire. For those who have never been there, I strongly recommend attendance since there will be an opportunity for a fascinating guided tour. For the autumn meeting, we will be reverting to our traditional theme of "Crystallography in Industry", so if you are doing something interesting using diffraction, let the committee know so that we include you in our next programme. In addition, plans are now in place for the next XRF meeting in May (see the website for details) plus a residual stress meeting in June.

We do want to hear more about what our members are doing: so one suggestion for the next BCA Spring Meeting in Canterbury, Kent, is for a series of very short talks in which we will encourage as many of our "silent" members as possible to tell us in, say 5 to 10 minutes, about what they are doing in the field of diffraction. So expect an email or two from us should we go ahead with this idea!

The industrial group is incredibly fortunate to have the services of Dave Taylor who is a pillar of support when it comes to both the group's web pages and the newsletter. We really are grateful for all the hard work that he puts into this job. For many years the newsletter was the responsibility of our vice chair, Phil Holdway, who has been on the committee since 1999, both in the rôle of member and secretary-treasurer. Phil is now standing down due to his other busy commitments at Qinetiq. At this meeting we will be electing a new vice chair to take over from Phil, so I would like to take this opportunity to thank Phil for his work with the newsletter. Financially, we are also very grateful to the various sponsors of our newsletter. Since the last AGM, our two newsletters have been sponsored by PANalytical and Rigaku, and I would like to thank both companies for their support.

The committee is also involved with the subject of PXRD standards and we have been fortunate to have the services of Steve Norval to represent British interests here. In addition, the BCA-IG had a round robin on the subject of low-angle standards and I would like to thank Dave Taylor for organising this. Reports on both subjects were given by Steve and Dave at our last autumn meeting.

This meeting also sees the end of a 3 year period of office for our secretary-treasurer, Judith Shackleton. It is not an easy job chasing non-payers up for meeting fees, and I know that most of the work has had to be done in her own free time at home. I would like to thank her for all hard work. Fortunately, she has agreed to stand again for committee, as the rules allow, but in a different role. Finally, I would like to thank all the committee members for their help and support during the last year.

This ends the Chairman's report for the year 2005.

5) TREASURER'S REPORT Judith Shackleton, Secretary Treasurer

a) Current Financial Status

Summary up to the 31st December 2006

	<u>2005</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2003</u>
Received	£1914.63	£5732.50	£2,348.46
Paid Out	£1975.50	£4370.72	£2,935.74
Balance	£-60.87	£1361.78	-£587.28
Dec 31st	£6953.64	£7014.51	£5,652.73

There was a much lower turn over for 2005 than 2004, as we did not hold as many meetings. However, sponsorship for the XRF SIG in May looks excellent. We paid £390 of BCA Membership fees arising from Autumn Forum 2004.

Bank Balance as of 1st March 2006 £7301.94

However, the following are not included

- Cheques Issued not cashed £1396.0
(Includes a big catering bill for the Autumn Forum)
- Bills expected, not received as yet
Birkbeck Catering, Autumn Meeting 2004 £500
- Overpayment by AstraZeneca £355
(To be credited as meeting registrations)

Actual Balance about £5550 (£6675.71 1/03/05)

All meeting fees have been paid

In summary the finances are healthy, although our turn over is rather low

b) Charities Aid Foundation

CAFCASH is up & running we earned about £50 in interest, as yet this account has not been used for a meeting.

c) Credit Cards

No progress with credit cards, due to the cost, but the matter is being investigated by the BCA. We hope they are successful.

I would like to express my thanks to the Committee for their help and support during my term as Secretary/Treasurer, particularly to David Beveridge for his help with the minutes of the Committee meetings

6) THANKS TO SPONSORS OF THE IG

THE BCA IG Committee would like to express their thanks for the financial support provided by,

Received since January 2005, listed in alphabetical order

Analyso	Bruker	Hilton-Brooks
Horiba	PANalytical	Rigaku MSC (UK)
Rigaku (USA)	Spectro	

Many thanks for this sponsorship which supported our Autumn Meeting, XRF Meeting and the Group Newsletter

7) ELECTIONS TO COMMITTEE

The following were elected to the Committee,

Vice Chair

Richard Morris
Proposed by Judith Shackleton, seconded by Martin Gill

Secretary Treasurer

David Beveridge
Proposed by Anne Kavanagh, seconded by Roy Copley

Nominations were received for two Committee Members

Chris Staddon (Nottingham University, Physics & Astronomy)
Proposed by Judith Shackleton, seconded by Richard Morris

Judith Shackleton
Proposed by David Beveridge, seconded by David Taylor

All were successfully elected and Jeremy Cockcroft welcomed them to the Committee

8) ANY OTHER BUSINESS ADMITTED BY THE CHAIR

None

Jeremy Cockcroft Closed the meeting and thanked all for attending