

Industrial Group of The British Crystallographic Association

Minutes of the 24th Annual General Meeting, held on 18th April 2007 at the University of Kent at Canterbury

1. Apologies

No members presented their apologies.

2. Minutes of the 23rd Annual General Meeting (5th April 2006, at the University of Lancaster)

The minutes of the 23rd Annual General Meeting were taken as read and approved (P Mr D Taylor, S Mr R Morris)

3. Matters Arising

No matters were raised arising from the minutes.

4. Chairman's Report (J K Cockcroft)(copy of script)

This is my third and final report as chairman of the Industrial Group. I will try to keep this report short. Firstly, I have been on the BCA Industrial Group committee for many years now, in fact longer than I care to think about having started off as an ordinary member and then "risen through the ranks to the position of chairman". I do strongly encourage other members who, even if they may feel that they have little to offer initially, to serve as committee members. It is very healthy for all committees to experience new blood and everyone has something to offer.

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 particular, as mentioned in my previous chairman's reports, the industrial group has taken on XRF "under its wing" and 2 of our committee members, namely David Beveridge and Dave Taylor have been very active in promoting this complementary technique by organising a parallel set of XRF sessions at this year's BCA Spring Meeting. I hope this can be maintained in future years, and a planned 1 day XRF meeting for 2008 is already underway.

With regard to meetings held last year, the BCA had a well-attended autumn meeting held at Pilkington's research base at Lathom, Lancashire. Personally, it was certainly a pleasure, not only to hear a set of interesting talks, but to see Pilkington's research exhibition. I'm sure all those who attended enjoyed the visit and I would like to thank Mark Farnworth for the organisation and Pilkington's for the hospitality shown to all those who attended. Many thanks!

Our next autumn meeting on 7th and 8th November 2007 will be held at our AstraZeneca's Alderley Park site set in the middle of the lovely Cheshire countryside. It will be a 2 day event with a pharmaceutical SIG held on day 1 and with our usual autumn meeting on day 2. The themes for the autumn meeting will be applications of Rietveld and more general crystallography in industry. If you feel you can contribute in anyway, do contact the organisers (and full details are on the BCA IG web site). So don't "sit on the sidelines" and just wait to be invited! The BCA Industrial Group has had mixed successes with 2 day events from highly successful to a poorly attended one at Birkbeck College a few years ago. Hopefully this year will we have a good attendance on both days.

The BCA Industrial Group has several special interest groups. We still have interests in residual stress and one of our committee members, Judith Shackleton, organised a workshop with the British Society for Strain Measurement earlier this year. As mentioned in my last report, a new SIG is small angle scattering led by our vice-chairman, Richard Morris. We plan to hold a 2-day meeting in early July. Unusually for the BCA IG, this meeting will be held outside the UK at the European neutron and synchrotron facilities in Grenoble, France. Many meetings are held at RAL in Oxfordshire, but given cheap airfares, Grenoble is easy to get to and the cost of holding a meeting at European facilities (for which the UK is paid up member) is not expensive, so we strongly encourage anyone with interests in this area to attend. It will also be an opportunity to view neutron and synchrotron facilities for those who have never seen them and perhaps for those wanting to take their partners, to have a long weekend either in Grenoble or in the surrounding French Alps.

I realize that I haven't yet mentioned all of the committee by name. For example, Roy Copley has been the Industrial Group representative on the Spring Meeting programme committee and Steve Norval continues to

represent British interests in the field of European PXRD standards. For those joining the committee, you will soon find yourself with a role to play.

Again 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. As mentioned in my last report, it is now planned to have just two committee meetings per year since much of the detailed discussions on future meetings can now be held electronically and this will enable money save to be spent, say, on inviting promising speakers from further a field or let young people in industry attend events.

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. Financially, we are also very grateful to the various sponsors of our newsletter. Since the last AGM, our two newsletters have been sponsored by Bruker and PANalytical, and I would like to thank both companies for their support. I should add that the various X-ray companies support us not just financially, but most are good at sending representatives to our various 1- and 2-day meetings.

As this meeting sees the end of my 3 year period in office, I'm fortunate in knowing that the group will continue in healthy hands. I wish our new chairman every success for the next 3 years and will continue to offer my services to the group, if only from the sidelines. Already I have been roped in with helping out at the Grenoble meeting, having worked at the site for the whole of the 1980s, and with this year's autumn meeting too, so this no immediate rest even for a retiring chairman. So Anne, be warned!

This ends the Chairman's report for the year 2006.

5. Treasurer's Report (D Beveridge)

Copies of a summary of the accounts were distributed. At the year end, there was a loss on the year of £108.16, but this did not clearly reflect the year's performance because of uncompleted business from 2005 appearing in the 2006 accounts, and uncompleted business from 2006, most of which has since been completed. Two people have still not paid for attending the XRF meeting in May 2006.

The activities in 2006 showed a very healthy position. The XRF meeting, once the last two people have paid, will show a surplus of about £1500, and the autumn meeting a surplus of £670. This surplus has offset the deficit on 2005 activities, and the overall position is healthy.

6. Thanks to Sponsors of the IG

Thanks were expressed at various stages during the meeting to the 2006 sponsors of the Industrial Group, who were as follows:

Newsletter: Bruker, Rigaku.

XRF Meeting: Analysco, Horiba-Jobin Yvon, PANalytical, Rigaku, Spectro.

Autumn Meeting: Pilkingtons (catering).

7. Elections to Committee

The post of chairman was vacant, and there were three vacancies for ordinary members of the committee.

Nominations had been received as follows:

Chairman: A M Kavanagh (**P** J K Cockcroft, **S** D Beveridge)

Members: M Farnworth (**P** A M Kavanagh, **S** J M Shackleton) and A E Burke (**P** R Morris, **S** D J Taylor)

8. Any Other Business Admitted by the Chairman

No matters were raised.