

Industrial Group of The British Crystallographic Association

**21st Annual General Meeting
Wednesday, 7th April 2004 12:00 am
at UMIST**

Chair Chris Frampton

Chris Frampton opened the meeting at 12:10

1) APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Phil Holdway, Brett Cooper & Anne Kavanagh

2) MINUTES OF THE 20th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Held at York University on 16th April 2003
The minutes were accepted as a true record

**Proposed by Jeremy Cockcroft
Seconded by Steve Norval**

3) MATTERS ARISING

No matters arising

4) CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

April 2004, UMIST, Manchester

Prof. Chris Frampton reported,

This is my final report as the chairman of the industrial group and looking back over the chair reports of the past three years there appears to be an underlying theme in which I say that every year there appears to be fewer and fewer true industrial crystallographers. When I took on the position as chair three years ago I thought at that time that my position with Roche Discovery was a secure one. In fact within 4 weeks of the Reading meeting it was announced that our site would be closing in 3 months. The period of my chairmanship has seen many mergers and acquisitions in the industries within which we work and this trend does not seem to show any signs of slowing up. However on a positive note I have noticed the appearance of many smaller companies offering contract analysis services and from these a new breed of industrial crystallographer is now emerging. During the past year I have changed my position. "Moving over to the dark side" as one eminent colleague put it. This has brought challenges of a different sort to my role within the Industrial Group. Our meeting program for 2003 consisted of the annual Spring meeting held at the University of York and the two day "Forum II" meeting held at Birkbeck College, in November.

The Spring meeting in York consisted of sessions based on Phase Identification and Quantitative Analysis. The quantitative analysis session also reported on the results from a round robin study. Two samples were available for study an "Inorganic" and an "Organic pharmaceutical type" The round robin attracted a lot of interest and in all we had about 10 laboratories taking part. The results returned were all very impressive which demonstrates the high quality science that we do. I would like to thank Jeremy Cockcroft for taking on the lion's share of the work in organising this round robin, from preparing the samples, sending them out and collating the results. He even found time to do the experiment himself. I would also like to thank the other members of the committee for the organisation of the other sessions in the meeting.

The Autumn Meeting departed from the tried and tested format of a "Crystallography in Industry", to a two day Forum II meeting at Birkbeck college. This meeting consisted of two joint sessions and two parallel sessions. It was a pleasure to see Colin Small presented with an Industrial Group Award and he gave an entertaining lecture entitled "Adventures in Crystallography in the Gas turbine industry". Overall I have received many positive comments on the Forum and I believe that this format of meeting is a welcome change to the usual one-day meetings.

For the rest of 2004, we have planned some further SIG meetings. The dates for these meeting are on the website and the program content will be filled in shortly. Please keep visiting the website for updates on these.

Finally we are about to have a change in the committee this year and I would like to thank all the members of the committee for their support over the past three years. Serving the Industrial Group as chairman has been very pleasurable and rewarding experience.

Chris Frampton also thanked the following IG Group sponsors for their support in 2003

Bruker AXS
Oxford CryoSystems
PANalytical
Pfizer
Rigaku

5) TREASURER'S REPORT

a) Financial Report

Judith Shackleton presented the financial report for 2003

The IG Group is in a good financial position. The bank balance is healthy, (£5243 as of 10th April 2004) although some large bills, from Birkbeck College for catering at the Autumn Forum have not yet been received. Also, cheques for £550 have been received but not yet paid in.

Increased receipts, during 2003, are due to meeting fees for the Autumn Forum. However, on a cautionary note, less has been paid to the BCA in membership fees. Also, less has been paid out in speakers' expenses.

Expenditure is mostly room hire/catering for the Autumn Forum & for the winter Newsletter which wasn't sponsored.

The accounts were accepted
Proposed by Robin Shirley
Seconded by Paul Fewster

b) Changing the IG Bank account

Lloyds are no longer paying interest on our account and as our balance is substantial this is a considerable loss & we should look to changing our bank

i) Other Banks

Some pay interest, but the rates are low, typically 0.75%

ii) Charities Aid Foundation

Judith Shackleton proposed that the IG move its bank account to the Charities Aid Foundation, as the interest rates are much more favourable. This is a registered charity and is used by other BCA groups.

There are two accounts which are applicable to the BCA IG

CafCash

Cheque account

Interest Rate (as of 1st April 2004) 2.69% AER

CAF Gold

Deposit Account

Interest Rate (as of 1st April 2004) 3.45% AER

The proposal was accepted by the meeting

Proposed Mary Vickers

Seconded David Beveridge

Action

Judith Shackleton to transfer the funds

The Treasurer also appealed to IG members to pay meeting fees on time. Also, please check that this has been done on your behalf, if applicable, at least by the date of the meeting.

Try & get your employer to put their name on BACS payments and to send a covering note, with your name, for cheque payments

6) IG CONSTITUTION

There are now very few crystallographers still working in Industry with many being transferred to academia. The IG constitution limits the number of committee members, whom are employed by academic institutions, to three. The meeting debated whether or not it is time to change the constitution and remove this limit given the (keenly felt!) reduction of the number of crystallographers employed in Industry. The main points of the discussion are summarised below,

Robin Shirley suggested that the division between industrial and academic crystallographers is no longer "cut & dried" and that the division should be abolished in the IG Constitution.

Steve Norval suggested that IG committee members should have a direct interest in industrial crystallography, rather than being directly employed there.

Paul Fewster agreed, as the function of the IG is to promote industrial applications of crystallography.

Robin Shirley suggested that committee members need to be active in the industrial field rather than being employed in Industry.

There was general agreement with this suggestion.

It was proposed that the IG Committee members investigate the following and prepare proposals for the 2005 AGM.

- i) **Provide proposals for alternatives to the current limit of three IG Committee members from academic institutions, i.e. how an "Industrial Crystallographer" should be defined given that the climate has changed so much.**

Proposed Dave Taylor

Seconded Jeremy Cockcroft

- b) **Examine the scope & objectives of the IG so that it can be brought up to date with current needs**

Proposed Jeremy Cockcroft

Seconded Mark Farnworth

7) ELECTIONS TO COMMITTEE

The following were duly elected to the IG Committee

- a) **Jeremy Cockcroft was elected as Chairman, to serve for three years from 2004**
Proposed by Chris Frampton
Seconded by Dave Taylor
- b) **Phil Holdway was elected as Vice Chairman to serve for one year only, from 2004**
Proposed by Dave Taylor
Seconded by Jeremy Cockcroft
- c) **Two Committee members were elected to serve for 3 years from 2004**
 - i) **Martin Gill of the Museum of Natural History**
Proposed by Richard Morris
Seconded by Judith Shackleton
 - ii) **Anne Kavanagh of AstraZeneca**
Proposed by Chris Frampton
Seconded by Judith Shackleton

8) ANY OTHER BUSINESS ADMITTED BY THE CHAIR

There was no further business

Jeremy Cockcroft concluded the meeting by thanking Chris Frampton for his hard work as IG Chairman particularly at such a difficult time for him which had seen two changes of job. Jeremy then thanked everyone for attending & closed the meeting at 12:45