AGENDA

1. Purpose of the society
2. Meetings of the society
   a. International Chromosome Conference (Switch to a 2 year format)
   b. European (North American) Colloquium on Animal Cytogenetics and
      Gene mapping (To be held in the interim years)
   c. Conference proceedings and their publication
3. ICGS session at ICC-2007 (Amsterdam)
4. Statement of finances
5. Web site
6. Endowed fund to aid student travel
7. Society newsletter
8. Society relationship to Cytogenetic and Genome Research (Karger) and other
   journals (e.g. Chromosome Research).
9. Membership and membership drive
10. Prizes for best talk and poster
11. Date of next meeting
12. AOB
Minutes of the Second General Meeting of the International Cytogenetics and Genome Society

Held at the 2nd ICGS in Canterbury at the University of Kent
June 29th 2006 at 2pm

ICGS Committee Members Present
President: Prof Peter Pearson (University of Sao Paulo, Brazil)
Secretary General: Dr Darren Griffin (University of Kent, UK)
Treasurer: Prof Bhanu Chowdhary (Texas A&M University, USA)
Prof Leopoldo Iannuzzi (National Research Council, Italy)
Secretary for meeting: Dr Helen Tempest (University of Kent, UK)

Individuals who attended the ICGS meeting:
Peter Pearson (PP) Darren Griffin (DG) Bhanu Chowdhary (BC)
Leopoldo Iannuzzi (LI) Helen Tempest (HT) Neil Jones (NJ)
Herbert Macgregor (HM) Malcolm Ferguson-Smith (MFS) Andreas Houben (AH)
Joanna Bridger Beth Sullivan (BS) Willem Rens
Inna Lermontova Ellen van Binsbergen Martin Volker
Vladimir Trifonov Mary Wallis Daria Grafodatskaya
Wanda Viegas Stefan Imreh Anna Szeles
Anja Weise Lurdes Almedia Toledo Christian Lanctot
Stefan Mueller Michaela Neusser Florian Grasser
Victor Rambau Jane Deuve Aurora Ruiz-Herrera
Paul Waters Heleen Schuring-Blom

PP Welcome Address:
- PP called meeting together and welcomed both the members and non-members that were present
- PP briefly gave an overview of the election held at the 1st Congress of the ICGS in Granada explaining who the members of the committee were and what role they played
- PP mentioned that he only accepted the position of President of the society on the provision that there would be no more additional meetings as there are currently more than enough meetings.

DG Agenda:
- DG passed round a copy of the agenda for the 2nd Annual General Meeting for the ICGS and a sheet to record attendance for the meeting

1. Purpose of the society:
- PP pointed out that the current mission statement for the society can be found on page 96 of the congress abstract book
- PP: In brief it is a forum to bring people together who are working on the cutting edge of classical optical microscopy and molecular/genomic studies in chromosome research. The society would like to combine with a suitable conference i.e. ICC.
- DG and Michael Schmid are currently the ICGS committee members that are on the standing committee for the International Chromosome Conferences (ICC), a conference such as this one covers the ground that the society is interested
NJ mentioned that the society is weak on plants – PP: not by exclusion – DG: organiser of the ICC 2007 Amsterdam is Hans de Jong (plant cytogeneticist)

BS suggested the society is also weak on Drosophila genetics

PP asked whether members agreed that the society should represent the ICC – the majority of individuals agreed that this is a good idea

NJ asked how the ICC was funded as the ICGS society is currently a small one and would need to have a membership in the 1000’s – PP and DG ICC self funded

HM: the society is a young society not a small society but one that covers a tremendous area, perhaps the scope of the society should be defined and published

PP: demarking the limitations is away from the character of the society and that it is a broad based society

MFS asked what would happen to Chromosomes Today (to be discussed later)

2. Meetings of the society
2a. ICC (Switch to a 2 year format)

PP: ICC was originated by Cyril Darlington (1960’s Oxford chromosome conference) and was run on a 2 year cycle, the ICC has since switched to a 3 year format. At present the meeting is a free floating meeting that has no formal society behind it. The meeting is run by a local organising committee and since the 1990’s an international standing committee was formed comprised of previous ICC organisers to help the local committee.

DG: ICGS committee has spoken to Adrian Sumner and Hans de Jong (next organiser 2007) to discuss the advantages of co-sponsoring the ICC

The question of what to do with the ICC standing committee and Adrian Sumner, it was agreed that the committee will fold and the ICGS will form a new one

MFS asked who was on the old committee and are they happy with this decision? – PP and DG yes they are and the ICGS will have its own session at the 16th ICC in 2007

PP: This is just a means to put a society behind the ICC not to take over the ICC as such and will provide a forum for the ICGS

PP: Would like to move the format away from a 3 year one to a 2 year format

DG no intention to run anymore ICGS standalone meetings the purpose of this one was just to maintain momentum

2b. European (North American) Colloquium on Animal Cytogenetics and gene mapping to be held in the interim years

LI and DG: the American and European meetings are joining forces to reduce the number of meetings to boost attendance would like to see these meetings endorsed by the society and perhaps co-sponsor these meetings as with the ICC

As the 17th European meeting was held the week before the ICGS some labs had 50% members there and 50% at ICGS would like to avoid this

PP emphasised that the ICC should be the official platform for the ICGS – MFS: Welcomed by members

Differing opinions on whether the animal cytogenetics meeting should become a minor forum for the ICGS or an additional meeting

2c. Conference proceedings and their publications
- PP and DG: conference proceedings such as Chromosomes today are often published very late and in the vast majority of cases all the good work is already published elsewhere and they require a lot of work.
- If there is a good session it may be worth writing up perhaps each session chair could write a 1 page overview to highlight the important outcomes?
- For the 15th ICC the proceedings were published electronically and a report written and published in Chromosoma.
- The decision was taken to discontinue Chromosomes Today as a journal.

3. ICGS Session at ICC-2007 Amsterdam
- ICGS will have its own session within the programme of the ICC.
- In future registration for the ICC will be reduced however, this is unlikely to happen for the next meeting in 2007. PP will talk with the local organisers.

4. Statement of finances
- Current money in the bank has come from 2 sources, the first round of subscriptions between 220-250 individuals over 2002-2003 and an endowment fund for studentships largely funded by Harold Klinger but also from members donations. The society has an estimated €35,000 of which approximately a 1/3 has come from subscriptions.
- The committee has put aside €5,000 for student travel funds for attendance at the ICC in Amsterdam.
- Big priority is to get memberships and set up e-mail lists (see point 5).
- NJ enquired about the ownership and whether we are or should be a registered charity etc, something which needs to be decided.

5. Website
- Committee would like to pay a students at texes A&M (BC) to redesign the website and there also needs to be an e-mail list set up through which most of the information can be disseminated.
- HM and others asked whether it will include the opportunities for young scientists, what scope will it have will it include protocols, lab links to members etc. HM suggested that something like chromosome.net which was set up and maintained by Shigeki Nakayama (Natl Inst Agrobiol Sci, Japan) would be something worth looking at.

6. Endowed fund to aid student travel
- Decision has been made to provide €5,000 for this (see point 4) will look how the money goes.

7. Society newsletter
- First society newsletter (DG & HT) was a lot of work in a short period of time.
- Utilising the website is perhaps a better means to disseminate information, perhaps having a news page that is regularly updated although a mechanism will be needed to be put in place to make sure this is done.
- Very important that the website is up and running (point 5).
8. Society relationship to Cytogenetic and Genome Research (Karger) and other journals e.g. Chromosome Research and Chromosoma (Springer)
- At present the society is not tied to any particular journal (despite the similar name to CGR), ideally would like to be associated to all three but this will depend on the publishers
- Awaiting reaction from Karger and Springer
- HM: needs to be an informal, unprejudiced and competitive relationship and needs to offer more free online access

9. Membership and membership drive
- At present there are approximately 220 members mostly comprised of the founding members (and there are some individuals who are on the original list who do not know and others who have not yet paid) therefore the real membership number needs to be cleared up
- Only 20 members have attended the conference need support from the members
- DG will write (via e-mail) to all the pre-existing members and the delegates who have attended the 2nd ICGS congress giving them 6 month free membership to the society
- There will be a recruitment drive in 2006/7 led by DG

10. Prizes for best talk and poster
- Prizes for best talk:
  o 1st Free registration to ICC 2007 in Amsterdam and platform presentation
  o 2nd Receive the Special Issues of Chromosome Research including the two new issues
    o Apple Ipod courtesy of sponsors Digital Scientific
- Prizes for best poster:
  o 1st free registration to ICC 2007 in Amsterdam
  o Apple Ipod courtesy of sponsors Digital Scientific
  o Aurora clock courtesy of sponsors Cambio

11. Date of next meeting

12. Any other business
- NJ: despite some of the negative comments that have arisen during this meeting everyone is appreciative of the efforts made by the committee
- For the record PP wishes he were Harry Potter
- PP thanked all members for attending the meeting and closed the session