



International Committee on Systematics of Prokaryotes

EB-ICSP Meeting September 28th 2023 – Redacted Minutes

Minute 1. Call to order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 10.00 a.m. CET.

Minute 2. Record of attendance

The following members of the Executive Board (EB) participated: E.R.B. Moore (Chair), C. Manaia (Vice-Chair), A. Oren (Executive Secretary), S.L.W. On (Secretary of Subcommittees), P. Nielsen (Treasurer), R. Hahnke (Member-at-Large), M. Sakamoto (Member-at-Large), D.R. Arahal (Chair JC), H. Christensen (Vice-Chair JC), and M. Göker (Secretary JC; present during part of the meeting).

Minute 3. Minutes of the 31st August 2023 meeting of the Executive Board

The draft minutes of the 31st August 2023 meeting were approved. No redaction was needed. A. Oren will distribute the unredacted minutes to the members of the International Committee on Systematics of Prokaryotes (ICSP), the Judicial Commission, and chairs of the Subcommittees on Taxonomy, and he will send a copy to E.R.B. Moore to be posted on the ICSP website.

Minute 4. Matters Arising/Action points from previous meetings

- E.R.B. Moore has sent requests for confirming the time for regular EB-ICSP meetings, to be scheduled on the last Thursday of each month.

- A. Oren has forwarded the minutes of the 3rd August 2023 meeting to all members of the ICSP, the Judicial Commission and the chairs of the Subcommittees on Taxonomy.

- E.R.B. Moore has posted the minutes of the 29th June 2023 and 3rd August meetings of the Executive Board on the ICSP website.

- E.R.B. Moore did not yet complete the posting of short CVs of deceased Life Members on the ICSP website. Ongoing.

- E.R.B. Moore has posted the minutes of the 24th January meeting, as well as the minutes of the 02nd May meeting, of the Publications Committee on the ICSP website.

- M. Göker and E.R.B. Moore have discussed with D. Cardew possible changes to be made in the way the ICSP website is updated, which was coordinated with and approved by R. Samson (Executive Secretary IUMS). See Minute 23.

- S.L.W. On has contacted the authors of the proposal for the establishment of a subcommittee on the taxonomy of *Borrelia* and notified them that the proposal was approved by the EB.

Chair:

E.R.B. MOORE
University of Gothenburg
Sweden

Vice-Chair:

C.M. MANAIA
Universidade Católica Portuguesa
Portugal

Executive Secretary:

A. OREN
Hebrew University of Jerusalem
Israel

Secretary for Subcommittees:

S.L.W. ON
Lincoln University
New Zealand

Treasurer:

P. NIELSEN
Novozymes, Copenhagen
Denmark

Members at Large:

R. HAHNKE
Leibniz Institute DSMZ
Germany

M. SAKAMOTO
RIKEN BioResource
Research Center
Japan

**Members of the Judicial
Committee**

Chair:

D.R. ARAHAL
University of Valencia
Spain

Vice-Chair:

H. CHRISTENSEN
University of Copenhagen
Denmark

Secretary:

M. GÖKER
Leibniz Institute DSMZ
Germany

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- A. Oren has forwarded information received from P.-E. Fournier about the French Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS) restrictions on the availability of biological material to E.R.B. Moore.
- E.R.B. Moore have informed M.E. Trujillo about forming a new and active panel of experts that can be consulted by the IJSEM editors on matters relating to the Nagoya protocol and local restrictions on the availability of type strains.
- One member of the EB has sent comments on the proposed revisions of the ICSP statutes. Ongoing, see Minute 12.
- S.L.W. On has finalized letters to the chairs and the secretaries of the subcommittees on the taxonomy of Chlamydiae and the subcommittee on the taxonomy of Rhizobia and Agrobacteria to explain the reservations of the ICSP Executive Board on meeting minutes published recently by these subcommittees. See Minute 14.
- S.L.W. On did not yet send a letter to the chairs and secretaries of all subcommittees on taxonomy to make them aware of the rules of the ICSP statutes and rules concerning the mandate of the subcommittees as defined in Article 6 (5) of the statutes. He has received responses and comments about the letter from members of the EB. Ongoing.
- E.R.B. Moore has organized the election of the chair, vice-chair and secretary of the Judicial Commission (JC). See Minute 15.
- E.R.B. Moore did not yet organise with C. Manaia to schedule a meeting of the Publications Committee with the staff of the Microbiology Society, if possible before the end of 2023. Ongoing.
- E.R.B. Moore has notified M. Trujillo about the new term of Officers of the EB-ICSP and that C. Manaia will be new Vice-Chair and liaison of the ICSP on the IJSEM Editorial Board and Chair of the ICSP Publications Committee.
- E.R.B. Moore did not yet send invitations to colleagues who may be interested to join the working group on Education and Outreach. Ongoing.

Minute 5. Adding the categories domain and kingdom to the scope of the ICNP

The voting from 8th August was closed on 08th September. Out of the 34 ICSP members eligible to vote, 24 voted in favour of adding the categories domain and kingdom in the ICNP, two voted against, there were no abstentions, and eight members did not vote. E.R.B. Moore and C. Manaia served as the tellers. An announcement of the changes made in the rules of the ICNP, prepared by A. Oren, is in press (see Minute 17).

Minute 6. Appointment of H. Christensen as a co-opted member of the ICNP.

The voting from 13th August was closed on 12th September. Tellers were E.R.B. Moore and C. Manaia. Out of the 31 ICSP members eligible to vote, 19 voted in favour of appointing Henrik Christensen as a co-opted member of the ICSP, one voted against, there were no abstentions, and 11 members did not vote. E.R.B. Moore congratulated H. Christensen on the appointment.

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Minute 7. Election of officers of the Judicial Commission

The voting from 1st September was closed on 15th September. Eight out of the 12 members of the JC voted in favour of appointing D.R. Aharal, H. Christensen, and M. Göker as chair, vice-chair, and secretary, respectively, of the JC of the next three-year term. Four members did not vote. A. Oren and E.R.B. Moore served as the tellers. E.R.B. Moore congratulated the elected officers.

Minute 8. Nomination of A. Nemeč as a co-opted member of the ICSP

A. Nemeč (Prague) was nominated (self-nomination) as a co-opted member of the ICSP. The nomination was supported by E.R.B. Moore and P. Sveč. A ballot is ongoing and will be closed on 11th October. A. Oren and C. Manaia serve as the tellers. Thus far, 14 out of the 31 eligible ICSP members have returned their votes. On October 1st, A. Oren will send reminders to the members who did not yet vote.

Minute 9. Proposal to allow an annual travel allowance for the IJSEM nomenclature reviewers

The proposal made by A. Oren during the 31st August meeting of the EB to provide an annual travel allowance of GBP 1000 to the IJSEM nomenclature reviewers, similar to the allowance to the handling editors and the list editors, was approved by five of the six voting members within the EB. One member did not vote. This arrangement will be valid as long as sufficient funds are available in the ICSP bank account. A. Oren will notify the nomenclature reviewers of the decision and P. Nielsen will update M.E. Trujillo.

Minute 10. Proposal to appoint A. Oren as Editor-in-Chief of the ICNP for another term

Following Article 13 of the Statutes of the ICSP, E.R.B. Moore proposed A. Oren to continue as Editor-in-Chief of the Editorial Board for the ICNP. A. Oren left the meeting during the discussions and vote on this topic. After A. Oren had confirmed that he is willing to serve as Editor-in-Chief of the ICNP for another term, the EB discussed the nomination. The nomination was unanimously approved by the voting members within the EB. E.R.B. Moore congratulated A. Oren on the appointment.

Minute 11. Appointment of Markus Göker as co-opted member of the Editorial Board of the ICNP for another term

M. Göker was proposed by E.R.B. Moore to continue as a co-opted member of the Editorial Board of the ICNP. This proposal was approved by the members of the Editorial Board of the ICNP.

Minute 12. Proposed revision of the ICSP Statutes

As only one set of comments was received on the draft proposed revisions of the ICSP statutes that were circulated earlier, and as several members of the EB requested more time to study the document, this topic will be further discussed at the next meeting. All members of the EB are invited to critically examine the proposed revisions of the ICSP statutes, and to send any proposed changes to all board members no later than 25th October. A. Oren will collate the comments received.

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Minute 13. Presenting the ICSP and the ICNP during the BISMIS conference in Guangzhou

Several officials of the ICSP will attend the BISMIS conference in Guangzhou in November. A. Oren will also give a nomenclature workshop on November 5th, preceding the conference. M. Göker and E.R.B. Moore have been invited to present. It is important to coordinate the way the ICSP and the ICNP will be presented. E.R.B. Moore will convene a special meeting of the Executive Board in mid-October to discuss the possible contributions of ICSP officials during the BISMIS Conference in Guangzhou.

Minute 14. Update on Subcommittees

S.L.W. On has sent letters to the chairs and the secretaries of the Subcommittees on the Taxonomy of Chlamydiae and the Subcommittee on the Taxonomy of Rhizobia and Agrobacteria to explain the reservations of the ICSP Executive Board on meeting minutes published recently by these subcommittees. He soon will send a letter to the chairs and secretaries of all Subcommittees on Taxonomy to make them aware of the rules of the ICSP statutes and rules concerning the mandate of the subcommittees as defined in Article 6 (5) of the statutes.

Minute 15. Report from the Judicial Commission

D.R. Arahal announced the appointment of the officers for the current term: D.R. Arahal, H. Christensen, and M. Göker as chair, vice-chair, and secretary, respectively.

K. Konstantinidis has announced his resignation from the Judicial Commission. As a result, there is a vacancy in the 26th class of commissioners. E.R.B. Moore will ask candidates who were earlier nominated for membership in the Judicial Commission but were not elected, whether they are willing to be nominated to replace K. Konstantinidis in the 26th class of commissioners. A. Oren will invite additional nominations from the ICSP members, Judicial Commission members and chairs of Subcommittees on Taxonomy.

Minute 16. Update from Publications Committee

In October, C. Manaia and E.R.B. Moore will organise convening a meeting of the Publications Committee in November, with the meeting to be held sometime before end of the year.

Minute 17. Update from IJSEM

C. Manaia reported about the annual IJSEM Editorial Board meeting held online on 8th September. She highlighted the discussions on the implications of the Nagoya protocol and special restrictions on the availability of type strains imposed by certain countries, and the decreasing number of submissions to the journal.

Minute 18. Update from the Editor-in-Chief of the ICNP

.A. Oren reported that the paper on Emendation of Rules 8, 15, 22, 25a, 30(3)(b), 30(4), 34a, and Appendix 7 of the International Code of Nomenclature of Prokaryotes (<https://doi.org/10.1099/ijsem.0.006070>) was published on 11th September. A paper on Emendation of Principle 8, Rules 5b, 8, 15, 33a, and Appendix 7 of the International Code of

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Nomenclature of Prokaryotes to include the categories of kingdom and domain was accepted for publication on 25th September.

Minute 19. Treasurer's update

P. Nielsen reported that a travel expenses refund to P. Rahi is being processed. The process to enable C. Manaia access to the ICSP bank account is ongoing. Payment of the honorarium to LPSN is pending.

Minute 20. Update regarding the honorarium for LPSN

Payment of the honorarium to LPSN is pending. M. Göker had no updates to report.

Minute 21. Update from the working group on type strain accessibility

E.R.B. Moore reported that he had received additional information from a number of French colleagues concerning the status of the availability of type strains isolated in France. R. Hahnke has discussed the issue with colleagues at the Pasteur Culture Collection. Further updates and clarifications about the status of cultures from France can be expected within 1-2 months.

Minute 22. Update on the Singleton Deposit Initiative

M. Göker had no updates.

Minute 23. Update from the working group on Education & Outreach

There was nothing to report.

Minute 24. The ICSP website

The Executive Board discussed a proposal by M. Göker to distribute the work on the individual web pages among the members of the ICSP Executive Board to keep the website up to date. There was little support for this proposal. D.R. Arahal suggested the option to add the function of Webmaster to the statutes of the ICSP, pending approval by the ICSP membership. This idea was proposed to be further discussed later.

Minute 25 Other business

E.R.B. Moore mentioned the IUMS conference to be held in Florence in October 2024. This conference may be a suitable venue for the van Niel Prize lectures by Tanya Woyke and the winner of the 2023 van Niel Prize, to be announced soon by the University of Queensland. It is time to consider the organization of a session to be sponsored by the ICSP and discuss the content of such a session.

D.R. Arahal announced that he was invited to organize a taxonomy workshop at the upcoming meeting of the Microbiological Society of Korea in the last week of October.

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Date of next meeting: 26th October, 10 a.m. CET.

Adjourned at 12.15

Minutes prepared by A. Oren – 29st September 2023

Action points:

- A. Oren, to forward the minutes of the 31st August 2023 meeting to all members of the ICSP, the Judicial Commission and the chairs of the Subcommittees on Taxonomy.
- E.R.B. Moore, to continue with posting of short CVs of deceased Life Members on the ICSP website.
- All members of the Executive Board, to critically examine the proposed revisions of the ICSP statutes, and to send any proposed changes to all board members no later than 25th October.
- A. Oren, to collate the received suggestions for emendation of the statutes and prepare a new version to be discussed during the next meeting of the EB.
- S.L.W. On, to send a letter to the chairs and secretaries of all Subcommittees on Taxonomy to make them aware of the rules of the ICSP statutes and rules concerning the mandate of the subcommittees as defined in Article 6 (5) of the statutes.
- E.R.B. Moore, to send invitations to colleagues who may be interested to join the working group on Education and Outreach.
- A. Oren, to send reminders on October 1st to the ICSP members who did not yet vote on the proposal to appoint A. Nemeč as a co-opted member of the ICSP.
- A. Oren, to notify M. Kostovski, S. Ventura, and B. Schink that the nomenclature reviewers are entitled to an annual travel allowance of GBP 1000.
- P. Nielsen, to notify M.E. Trujillo that the nomenclature reviewers are entitled to an annual travel allowance of GBP 1000, similar to the handling editors and the list editors.
- E.R.B. Moore, to convene a special meeting of the Executive Board to discuss the possible contributions of ICSP officials during the BISMIS Conference in Guangzhou.
- E.R.B. Moore, to ask candidates who were earlier nominated for membership in the Judicial Commission but were not elected, whether they are willing to be nominated to replace K. Konstantinidis who resigned from the 26th class of commissioners.
- C. Manaia and E.R.B. Moore, to organise convening a meeting of the Publications Committee before the end of the year.