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FAOPS

N E W S L E T T E R

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Minutes of the 11th FAOPS Council Meeting

JW Marriott Hotel, Seoul, Korea.

Sunday 3 October, 2004

Present: Professor C. Pholpramool (President), Professor SH Cheah (1st Vice President), Professor KW Kim (2nd Vice President), Professor PSG Wang (Treasurer), Professor A Kaneko (Secretary) and Professor S. Semnanian

Apologies: Professor V M Kumar, Professor Ming Fan, Professor A. Moran, Professor P. Cragg, and Professor T Glinsukon

The meeting was called to order at 9:00.

1. The President opened this meeting by thanking participation to those who are present and the local host for local organization of the meeting. All participating members paid silent tribute to the late Professor John Young, the Past President of FAOPS.
2. Approval of minutes of the 10th FAOPS Council Meeting (2002, Kuala Lumpur) with a correction of a mistyping of the name of Professor Fan.
3. Reports of Officers:
The President reported his activity since the last Council meeting.
The Treasurer reported on the financial condition of FAOPS and on the due payment by member Societies. It is agreed to update the number of physiologists belonging to each Society.
The Secretary reported his activity since the last Council meeting.
4. Publication of abstracts of the 6th FAOPS Congress in Kuala Lumpur in the Asia Pacific Pharmacology Journal. This agenda was proposed by Professor SH Cheah, the Chairman of the Organizing Committee of the 6th Congress. The Council approved this proposal unanimously.

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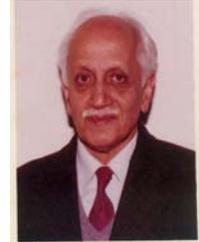
5. The Secretary reported that he distributed the information to all regular and associate members on the the New Zealand International Postgraduate Research Scholarship.
6. The Secretary reported that he received an application for a new membership from Dr. Ting Fei Ho of the National University of Singapore and an e-mail showing a strong interest to become a new member from Dr. Sharaine, the Secretary of Physiological Society of Sri Lanka. Since Singapore does not have a Physiological Society, the Council decided to encourage Dr. Ho to organize his colleagues to a Society to become a FAOPS member society. The Council suggested the Secretary to continue communication with Dr. Sharaine of PSSL.
7. The President proposed to establish a memorial lectureship named after the late Professor John Young starting from 2006 FAOPS Congress. To this goal he suggested to raise a fund of between US\$10,000 to 15,000, and proposed to establish a fund raising committee. The proposal has been approved unanimously. The President will chair the committee and all Council members and Professor Ito are appointed as the committee members. Call for the donation to this fund will be addressed to Professor Young's friends and students.
8. Since Dr. Thirayudh Glinsukon had moved to a provincial university in the south of Thailand and he lacks of facilities for publishing, the newsletter has not been published since 2002. The President proposed to replace the editor of the FAOPS Newsletter. Dr. Semnanian suggested Professor Motamedi of Iran, a previous FAOPS Council, and the Council decided to invite her as a new editor unanimously. Also it is agreed to ask each member Societies whether they need printed version of the Newsletter. If such need is very slim, FAOPS Newsletter will be published only in an electronic form.
9. The regional workshops held in 2002 and 2003 were reviewed. The Council recognized that all regional Workshops/Symposia were successful and useful, and were conducted by the responsibility of the host Societies. The Council discussed the effectiveness of FAOPS Grant, and decided to continue the support for other few years with stricter criteria for selection.
10. Professor Ki-Wham Kim, the second Vice President, reported on the preparation of the 6th FAOPS Congress, 2006 to be held in Korea. It is strongly recommended to reduce the registration fee to encourage a large delegation from neighboring countries. It is also discussed to set a FAOPS desk at the 2005 IUPS Congress in San Diego.
11. The Council discussed on the host Society for the 7th FAOPS Congress, 2010. It is agreed to continue discussion with FAONS for a possible cooperation of the Congresses of the two Federations.
12. The Council discussed on the establishment of the Nominating Committee for the election of Officers and Councilors for the term starting in 2006. The Council agreed to invite Professor Masao Ito as the chairman of the Nominating Committee.
13. The Secretary proposed to organize "FAOPS Evening" at the IUPS Congress in San Diego. The Council accepted this idea and asked the Secretary to arrange it.
14. Professor Semnanian suggested inviting Physiological Societies of Middle East and Central Asia as members. They include Pakistan, Qatar, UAE, Kuwait, Syria, Turkmenistan, Azerbaijan, Armenia, Jordan and Lebanon. To this goal it is suggested to write an invitation letter to the physiologists in medical universities of these countries.

15. The Council discussed on the FAOPS Website. To strengthen our Website, it is proposed to have our own domain. The first Vice President, Professor Cheah, has

been appointed to deal with this issue.
16. Professor Semnanian suggested to have 3D Logo of FAOPS.
The meeting was adjourned at 12:30.

OBITUARY Professor Autar S. Paintal

Professor Autar S. Paintal, who died in Delhi on December 21st, 2004, was one of the world's most distinguished physiologists who discovered a number of important sensory receptors in the heart, lungs and the gastro-intestinal tract. His most important discovery is considered to be the J receptors, which are stimulated by a rise in the interstitial fluid volume of the lungs. To most physiologists in this field, he was a hero and all those who worked in the cardiopulmonary field, acknowledged being in his debt. They were particularly impressed by the way he carried on the work on the significance of the J receptors to a meaningful physiological interpretation.



Besides introducing new techniques that revolutionized sensory physiology, his work on the conduction and block in mammalian nerves gave the electrophysiologists a tool to distinguish between the myelinated and non-myelinated nerve fibres. Although a few of the receptors that he discovered were renamed by others in an attempt to claim it as theirs, he was successful in retrieving back their nomenclature as he advocated that romance and rivalry were conducive to the progress of science. With that,

He was born on September 24th, 1925 in Mogok, in Myanmar, and evacuated at the age of fourteen to Lahore where he finished school. His beliefs and actions were moulded by the strong socialist views held by his father, a physician in the British Medical Service and a deeply religious mother.

Admission into King George's Medical College, Lucknow was accompanied by financial support from the Burmese Government, whom he was bonded to serve when he graduated in 1948, but eventually exempted from doing so. His student years at Medical College were marked by distinctions, awards and rowing on the river Gomti and he finished off with winning the coveted Hewitt Medal of the college.

With an extraordinary brilliant record behind him, it was not surprising that he gave up a future career in clinical medicine which although would have been lucrative but not satisfying enough for him as he had already evinced a keen interest in research. Always his own person he was able to convince the Rockefeller Fellowship committee to let him take it to work for his Ph.D degree in Edinburgh-this being unprecedented as the fellowship was to be given for going to USA.

Appointed Director of the Vallabhbhai Patel Chest Institute, Delhi University at the age of 39, he gathered together a galaxy of scientists not only from the country but from all over the world. His total commitment to his scientific pursuits led him to establish his laboratory in his office from where he not only administered the Institute but let students, faculty and staff have complete access to him. His hospitality was legendary-brewing tea in the laboratory for his visitors or taking them out bird-watching or rowing on the river Yamuna in the winters or for a swim to his club in the summer- the latter providing an occasion to discuss the experiments conducted just before.

Foremost amongst the receptors discovered by him were the juxtapulmonary capillary or J receptors which are stimulated by a rise in the interstitial fluid volume and increase in pulmonary blood flow (in left heart failure; coronary artery disease; chronic obstructive pulmonary disease). Their stimulation gives to breathlessness and termination of exercise. He described the reflex termination of exercise as one of their most important functions - providing a protective reflex to humans and animals against excessive pulmonary pressures. With A.Anand he showed that these receptors are also stimulated by increased blood flow, as in exercise. Along with his other collaborators – he showed that stimulation of J receptors produced respiratory sensations leading to dry cough. This discovery has assumed significance clinically in patients experiencing dry cough.

His work on the conduction and block in mammalian nerves gave the electrophysiologists, a tool to enable them to distinguish between the myelinated and non-myelinated nerve fibres. He was also to demonstrate that the Head's Paradoxical reflex was an artefact. He was only 39 years old when he was invited to write for the Pharmacological Review.

One of the most insightful scientists of the world his contributions came to be described as having opened a new phase in Physiology with the Nobel Laureate Heymans and Eric Neil coining the terms Pre-Paintal era versus Post-Paintal while referring to the impact of his discoveries.

He was famous for his quick-witted humour, his fund of limericks and an ability to carry out calculations on the back of postage stamps if that were the only paper available.

He was elected to the Fellowship of the Royal Society of Edinburgh in 1966, followed by an election to the National Academy of Medical Sciences, the Indian National Science Academy and Royal Society (U.K.). The Physiological Society U.K. and the American Physiological Society were pleased to make him their honorary member, as was the Royal College of Physicians with its fellowship.

He was President of the Indian National Science Academy between the years 1988-89. His outstanding scientific contributions won him several National Awards and Honours and Doctorates of Science (H.C.), with the President of India bestowing on him the honour of the Padma Vibhushan in 1986.

As Director- General of the Indian Council of Medical Research, he made another major contribution in his inimitable way that shook up the complacency of the government and the public and made them aware of the spread of AIDS in India and the urgency of its control

In his own view, his greatest contribution to science in India was the formation of the Society of Scientific Values, which he helped establish and serve as its first President. This was the first of its kind in the world and its main objective amongst others was to promote integrity, objectivity and ethical values in the pursuit of science.

E D I T O R I A L

FAOPS NEWSLETTER

News From Societies

Iranian Society of Physiology and Pharmacology (ISPP)

Iranian Society of Physiology and Pharmacology (ISPP) is a national non-profit professional organization committed to the advancement of physiologists and pharmacologists. Founded in 1968 in Tehran, the Society provides a forum for leadership and exchange of information to stimulate discussion and collaboration among physiologists and pharmacologists active in all aspects of their professions. The ISPP also strives to establish effective communication among researchers and teachers. In addition, the Society conducts periodic symposia and cooperates with other organizations having similar or related interests.

Who Belongs To ISPP?

ISPP members are educated professionals who have a minimum of a Master's degree in physiology, pharmacology and/or related sciences. The diverse membership represents physiology, pharmacology, molecular and cellular biology, biochemistry, genetics, and immunology. At the first General Meeting in 1969 membership was 25, ISPP currently has 700 members.

History

Dr. Nematollahi, was the pioneering figure and an outstanding professor in Physiology Department of Tehran University seeking some advice regarding how to found the ISPP in Iran from Professor Heymans, faculty of medicine, Gent University of Belgium in 1956. Professor Geetee was the next pioneer talking to Professor Houssay, the then head of the International Confederation of Physiology (ICP), who grossly outlined how the genesis of ISPP could occur to later join the ICP. It was not until 1967 when Geetee and Nematollahi got their acts together and officially submitted

their request of giving life to the ISPP to the head of the Tehran University. 1968 is marked by the first meeting of the founders of ISPP, when 25 physiologists and pharmacologists summated in Tehran to agree upon the initial draft of the constitution and bylaws, which finally was approved in 16 articles.

The Physiologists and pharmacologists who were the "leading lights" of the Society during the first 10 years of the Society's history were, particularly: Prof Geetee, Prof Katoozian, Prof Nematollahi, Prof Dayachi, Prof Maimandinejad, Prof Izadi, Prof Ataei, Prof Etesami, Dr. Mostashfi, Dr. Saamiraad

What Are Some Objectives of ISPP

1. To provide a powerful, unified forum and opportunity for physiologists and pharmacologists to present and discuss current research in their corresponding disciplines.
2. To promote and encourage the exchange of ideas and information regarding all aspects of physiology and pharmacology.
3. To promote the advancement of teaching and research in physiology and pharmacology within the academic environment.
4. To encourage and implement graduate programs to meet the diverse interests and career opportunities in physiology and pharmacology, regardless of age, gender, race or disability.
5. To promote the development and exchange of scientific information between ISPP and other professional organizations with an interest in physiology and pharmacology.
6. To set the agenda, determine the direction, and make the decisions about the future of the physiology and pharmacology profession.
7. To expand governmental and private funding of physiology and pharmacology research and training.

Administration

The ISPP is administered through the General Assembly and the Executive Board.

General Assembly

The General Assembly is called at the proposal of the Executive Board or that of at least ten members. The Executive Board is obligated to summon a General Assembly every second year. Proposals to the General Assembly must be presented to the Executive Board at least eight days prior to the General Assembly.

The rights of the General Assembly are the following:

- Election of the Executive Board
- Determination of the amount of the membership dues
- Approval of the balance-sheet and dismissal of the Executive Board
- Acceptance of members, application for membership in international scientific associations, exclusion of members
- Dissolution of the Society
- Decisions to hold scientific events.

Executive Board

ISPP is governed by an Executive Board consisting of a President, two President-Elect, and 4 Councilors. The Executive Board is elected by the General Assembly for a term of two years. The National headquarters of the Society is based in Tehran.

Past 10 Presidents

2003-Now:	Prof A. Ahmadiani
1993-2003:	Prof F. Motamedi
1991-1993:	Dr I. Javadi
1989-1991:	
1987-1989:	
1985-1987:	

The Executive Board may appoint special committees such as Publications, Finance, Membership, and Education Committees as it deems necessary or that are voted by the Society. The Executive Board may name regular members of the Society as representatives to other organizations whenever it deems such action desirable.

Membership

The Society consists of regular, affiliate, student and honorary members. Regular members are those who regularly pay their membership dues. Honorary members are named such by the General Meeting upon suggestion of the Executive Board.

Annual Dues. The annual dues for regular members, affiliate members, and student members shall be determined by the Executive Board and shall be paid. Honorary members shall pay no membership dues.

National Meetings

Meetings were organized every other four years at the very beginning of the ISPP birth. However, since the early 1990s, one scientific meeting is held biannually by the Society, hosted by Departments of Physiology or Pharmacology in one or other of the Iranian Universities. Physiology and pharmacology departments of Kerman University of Medical Sciences are going to host the 17th National Physiological and Pharmacological Congress in near future.

Publication

In year 2000, the Executive Council felt that the Society was financially stable enough for it to publish its own journal, to be called the Iranian Journal of Physiology and Pharmacology.

International Collaboration

Although the ISPP had not been involved in formation of the Federation of the Asian and Oceanian Physiological Societies (FAOPS), it has provided financial support in recent years.