

International College of Fellows, Biomaterials Science & Engineering (ICF/BSE)
Meeting Minutes

Date: Friday, April 15

Location: Orlando, Florida (U.S.A.) – Society For Biomaterials (U.S.) conference

Attendees:

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1. Stuart Goodman
 2. Bob Pilliar
 3. Jack Lemons
 4. Young-Ha Kim
 5. Thilak Gunatillake
 6. Fred Schoen
 7. Buddy Ratner
 8. Jonathan Black
 9. Arthur Coury
 10. C. Mauli Agrawal
 11. Anne Meyer
 12. Maria Cristina Tanzi
 13. Lynne Jones
 14. Dave Costner
 15. Paul Santerre
 16. Molly Shoichet
 17. Tony Mikos
 18. John Brash
 19. Paul Ducheyne
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1. Professor Kohn called the meeting to order and announced that approximately 50 new Fellows will be inducted to ICF/BSE at the 2012 World Biomaterials Congress [WBC] in Chengdu, China. This will bring the total number of Fellows to approximately 250.

 2. Professor Kohn led discussion on topics of interest for an ICF/BSE symposium that he plans to propose for the 2012 WBC. Those present noted that the College also should draw from this list of topics for ICF/BSE sessions at other national/regional conferences of member societies in the IUSBSE. The format of the proposed session also was discussed (e.g. debate or symposium with invited abstracts). Suggested topics/themes for a session are listed below.
 - What is the scope of tissue engineering?
 - Regenerative biomaterials: Do we need stem cells?
 - Is it time for an international biomaterials curriculum? – What defines the field?
 - Is the current enthusiasm for “bio” distracting us from more traditional materials and implants?
 - Where did the field of biomaterials science & engineering come from? Major concepts? Pioneers? Roots?

- The “business” of science [e.g. publications, citations, competition for grant funding; technologies to promote science worldwide]: What are the effects on biomaterials science? Are newer/younger scientists at a disadvantage?
 - Nanoparticles: Are they the answer to all problems, or are they a toxic nightmare?
 - New v. old: quo vadis? [*i.e. Where is the BSE field going?*]
 - Conflicts of interest within and among academia, business, and government: What can and cannot be done about them?
 - Regulation of medical products: Is worldwide harmonization a realistic goal?
3. It was noted that there are prominent biomaterials scientists and engineers in parts of the world that do not currently have a national/regional biomaterials society. This means that these individuals cannot be nominated for ICF/BSE fellowship (because they are not a member of an IUSBSE-recognized society). Discussion on this issue included the following observations and suggestions:
- These individuals should be encouraged to join one of the existing IUSBSE member societies.
 - Could these individuals be recognized as honorary members of an IUSBSE member society, and then be nominated for Fellowship?
 - Over the longer-term, ICF/BSE should work to encourage other countries/regions to form their own biomaterials societies, perhaps with founding membership by one or more of the current Fellows from other IUSBSE member societies
4. Professor Kohn encouraged Fellows to participate in a visiting students program. He outlined the program that he has initiated at his university, and noted the J-1 visa requirements for support of students visiting the U.S. from other countries.
5. The meeting closed with a discussion of how ICF/BSE can increase its profile, visibility, and effectiveness. The following observations and suggestions were made by those present.
- Fellows should make themselves available for guest lectures, plenary lectures, etc.
 - ICF/BSE should establish an international mentorship network and, by continuing commitment to mentoring, encourage and identify the next generation of leadership in biomaterials science & engineering.
 - ICF/BSE should work toward making connections among the student organizations that are associated with IUSBSE member societies.
 - ICF/BSE should show leadership and coordination for excellence in a biomaterials curriculum that can be used world-wide.
 - Fund-raising is needed to allow ICF/BSE to be more active (e.g. government or foundation grants for visiting students, Fellows, etc). Another idea: a per-capita payment from each IUSBSE member society, based on the number of Fellows from that society.
 - ICF/BSE needs an executive committee that is more visible and active.
 - At the WBC and at meetings of the IUSBSE member societies, Fellows should have a distinctive lanyard/ribbon/button to wear.

- Fellows should make an effort to attend meetings of other IUSBSE member societies (i.e. other than the individual Fellow's "home" society).
 - As noted earlier [*Minutes item #2, above*], ICF/BSE should organize sessions at IUSBSE member societies' annual meetings, in addition to the WBC.
 - Fellows should strive for intellectual leadership within all of the IUSBSE member societies.
 - ICF/BSE should strive for increased presence on the websites of the IUSBSE member societies.
 - ICF/BSE should identify international initiatives for discussion and education among IUSBSE members. (e.g. global harmonization of medical devices regulations).
 - A distinguished visiting scientist program should be established, where Fellows visit other countries.
 - "Highlights" from ICF/BSE meeting minutes should be sent to IUSBSE member societies for distribution to their members through newsletters, websites, etc.
6. It was noted that the ICF/BSE Bylaws should be republished and distributed to the Fellows and the business offices of the IUSBSE member societies. [*Professor Kohn agreed to do this.*]

Minutes developed from notes taken during the meeting by Dr. Anne Meyer.