

**Minutes of the Annual Business Meeting of the  
The International College of Fellows of Biomaterials Science and Engineering  
(ICF-BSE)**

**Date:** 04/11/2013

**Location:**

**US Society for Biomaterials Annual Meeting**

Hynes Convention Center, Room 307

Boston, MA, USA.

**Start Time:** 03:30 PM

**End Time:** 04:30 PM

**Attendees:** Joachim Kohn, Paulette Spencer, Art Coury, William Wagner, Paul Santerre, Andres Garcia, David Kohn, Vasif Hasirci, Buddy Ratner, C. Mauli Agrawal, Ajit Nair, John Ramshaw, Rui L. Reis, Stuart Goodman, Lynne Jones, Can Hu, Jack Lemons, Fred Schoen & Cato Laurencin.

**Chairman's Report**

**Speakers:** Dr. Joachim Kohn & Dr. J. Paul Santerre

**Minutes:**

**Dr. Joachim Kohn:**

- ❖ The International College of Fellows has grown now to include 268 Fellows-BSE (with the addition of the 52 new fellows in 2012). The college's visibility has substantially increased. There are now more people asking for the procedures to become a Fellow.
- ❖ A working communication tool has been established for email communications. We now have updated email addresses of most of the members. If any members are not receiving email notifications then we please urge them to contact us through the website and have their email addresses updated.
- ❖ The first democratically elected Steering Committee of the ICF-BSE is now representing the ICF from 2012-2016. The members of the Steering Committee are Joachim Kohn (chair), W. John Kao (Secretary), and Luigi Ambrosio, Stuart L. Cooper, Guy Daculsi, Chandra P. Sharma, Liping Tang and Hasan Uludag (committee members).
- ❖ We urge all the members to use the "FBSE" title behind their respective names so as to generate visibility of the honor of being a Fellow.
- ❖ Summary the 2012 Fellows Session discussion "Can We Regrow a Human Arm?": the discussion was very well received with several hundred people in attendance and there was a lot of input from the fellows and the attendees. 3 Fellows presented in favor of the motion, and 3 presented against the motion. Interestingly, there was a significant shift in opinions

from the audience (with regard to whether an arm could be regenerated) after hearing the supporting and opposing sides.

- ❖ During the session there was a request for the Fellows to prepare manuscripts of the session to be published in a Journal as a “Special Fellows Issue” contribution. We have been so far successful in preparing 6 Manuscripts and they are in the process of getting submitted to the Journal of Materials Science: Materials in Medicine (editor, Serena Best) for publication processing.
- ❖ We are planning to arrange for additional fellows contributions in the Journal of Materials Science: Materials in Medicine (JMSM) or other journals. Kohn will contact some of the editors to explore additional possibilities. The steering committee will discuss themes (topics) of interest and communicate these to all Fellows.
- ❖ We urge all the Fellows to save the date for the 10<sup>th</sup> World Biomaterials Congress (WBC) to be held May 18 – 22, 2016 in Montreal, Canada. There will again be a Fellows induction ceremony, but we will look at ways to make it more personalized (for instance, including a profile or a short video of the work of the inductee as he/she is receiving the FBSE title)
- ❖ A suggestion was raised to have a “Distinguished Fellow Award” and presenting it at the WBC. The suggestion was placed in front of the committee and was open for discussion. **Suggestion:** A suggestion was put forward that instead of giving out an award, we could have a Distinguished Fellow Lecture at the WBC. The opinions of the fellows were solicited.
- ❖ The International Student Exchange program is evolving successfully. This is currently a 3 month summer program that brings 4 international students to the New Jersey Center for Biomaterials at Rutgers University to work on their graduate studies and experience the social life and culture of the US. After initiating the pilot program 2 years ago, we have been able to get sponsors for the program. The program this summer has become self-sustainable.
- ❖ We have received interests from several other research institutes to participate in the International Summer Exchange Programs. The Steering Committee will discuss ways to ensure that all sites offer a comparable program to the visiting students in terms of research opportunities, social activities, quality of housing, and personal safety.
- ❖ A suggestion was made to have a biannual meeting of the fellows to discuss possible collaborations between Fellows laboratories, and other topics of relevance to the Fellows.

#### **Dr. Paul Santerre:**

- ❖ Provided details about the World Biomaterials Congress (WBC) 2016 and invited all fellows to the conference on behalf of the organizing committee of the WBC. The call for symposia will be around September 2014 and the call for abstracts will be around May 2015.
- ❖ Hasan Uludag has established a small international advisory committee (representing every continent) that will compile program speakers. There will be a Conference Symposium held on September 15<sup>th</sup> 2014 – focused specifically on New Frontiers. There would be round table arrangements for groups of 12-15 people for promoting one-to-one interactions and sharing of interests.
- ❖ The International College of Fellows will be able to have another Fellows Session during the 10<sup>th</sup> WBC. A theme and title will need to be submitted.
- ❖ All fellows are encouraged to visit the WBC 2016 website ([www.wbc2016.org](http://www.wbc2016.org)) for updates.
- ❖ The call for nomination of new Fellows BSE will be sent out around 18 months before the 10<sup>th</sup> WBC by each national society.

- ❖ The fellows are also encouraged to promote the WBC 2016 by downloading the banner from the WBC website and advertising it on the last slides of lectures they present so as to increase visibility. This banner can also be posted on websites.

**Other Suggestions:**

- ❖ A suggestion has been placed in front of the Committee that instead of having elections of the ICF – BSE coinciding with the same year as the World Biomaterials Congress, we should hold the elections 2 years in advance. The suggestion is still under consideration.

Respectfully submitted

Joachim Kohn