

**International College of Fellows-**  
**Biomaterials Science & Engineering**  
**(ICF-BSE)**

**Meeting Minutes**

September 2nd, 2014 (12:30-1:30PM)

**I. Call to order & Welcome Address**

Dr. Joachim Kohn called to order the regular business meeting of the ICF-BSE at 12:30PM on September 2, 2014 at the ACC-Liverpool Convention Center. Joachim welcomed the participants and thanked Dr. John Hunt for his support of the International College of Fellows. Dr. Hunt provided the opportunity to organize a “Special Fellows Session” at the ESB 2014, and provided a meeting room and lunch for the participants of the ICF-BSE Business Meeting.

**II. Attendance (23 present, but only 21 names captured on sign in sheet)**

The following persons were present: Kohn (chair), Kao (secretary), Nair, Migonney, Tanzi, Anderson, Hunt, Coury, Santerre, Milthorpe, Lewandowska-Szumiel, Chlopek, Williams, Kirkpatrick, Shoichet, Richard, Pandit, Hutmacher, Barbosa, Grijpma, San Roman

**III. Chair’s Report by Dr. Kohn**

Dr. Kohn updated the meeting participants on the key ICF-BSE programs: International Student Exchange Program, Special Fellows Sessions at major biomaterials conferences, and Fellows Publications.

All programs are doing very well. The International Student Exchange program in 2014 had 3 participating students coming from Spain, India, and Brazil. The “Special Fellows Session” at the ESB 2014 was very successful and very positively evaluated by the audience. The College has been invited to provide “Special Fellows Sessions” in several future meetings. The speakers of the “Special Fellows Session” agreed to jointly author a publication documenting the presentations made at the ESB meeting. This will be the second jointly authored publication coming from a group of Fellows.

**IV. Detailed Discussion on Future Activities**

**1. Student Exchange Program**

To grow the program, any Fellow is encouraged to organize a “Student Exchange Site”. The only requirement is that the programs offered are of high quality and approved by the College of Fellows. There should be a standardized application

process and sites should share best practices and experiences. Dr. Kohn has extensively tested hosting a student exchange site at Rutgers University. Based on visa requirements in the USA, the costs per student that are covered by the host site, are about \$10,000 (for visa fees, research supplies, dormitory accommodations, and a living cost supplement). This is for a 3-month period while the student works on his/her thesis project. The student's home institution pays for all travel and continues to pay the student's regular salary.

**To-do: a subcommittee made up of individuals interested in participating as host institutions to coordinate additional sites and operation**

## 2. Special Fellows Sessions

This program has been established as a highly visible program of the ICF-BSE; it should be further developed and the terms "Special Fellows Session" should perhaps be trademarked as a unique program activity only offered by the ICF-BSE. This very successful program is a great opportunity to recognize the individual Fellows who participate in the Session, but also to bring visibility to all Fellows and the International College of Fellows. This program had a very positive response from the Fellows present at the meeting and from the conference attendees.

Future sessions are being planned at the:

- 2015 ESB in collaboration with Dr. Chlopek, Meeting Organizer. The session will have a focus on biomaterials education.
- 2015 US SFB in collaboration with the SFB Program Committee. The session will have a focus on translational and basic research.
- 2016 WBC in collaboration with Dr. Paul Santere, who represents the WBC program committee. This session will have a focus on the global health impact of biomaterials research.

As part of the discussion on the Fellows Session at the ESB in 2015, it became clear that the role of the ICF-BSE in global biomaterials education should be further explored.

**To-do: Encourage Fellows to submit symposia proposals for 2016 WBC (deadline March 2015) and other biomaterials conferences;  
Formation of a sub-committee to brainstorm the possible role of ICF-BSE in student education.**

## 3. Fellows Publications

Rationale: to publicize Fellows' work and ICF-BSE branding.

Three editors-in-chief of biomaterials journals were present at the meeting. There was no clear enthusiasm from these editors to support the publication of opinion papers, reports on “Special Fellows Sessions” or other Fellows publications in their journals. This is due to the mission of these journals being predominantly focused on the dissemination of primary research articles. There are other journal editors (who were not present at this particular meeting) who strongly encouraged the ICF-BSE to provide manuscripts prepared by Fellows on specific topics.

At this particular meeting, the discussion focused on new ways to reach out to the younger generation through the use of electronic dissemination or the use of social media to provide educational content prepared by groups of Fellows. It was suggested that such publications could be included on the ICF-BSE website (<http://www.fellowsbse.org>), the ICF-BSE could develop its own electronic publication, or the Fellows manuscripts could be published in the newsletters of individual biomaterials societies (such as the “Torch” of SFB).

**To-do: continue off-line discussions on this topic;  
Address the issue of maintenance of existing ICF-BSE website;  
Inquire feedback from the Fellows on the newly redesigned website:  
<http://www.fellowsbse.org/>**

4. Bestow a Fellows Award  
Ran out of time, no discussion on this topic

## **V. Adjournment**

Dr. Joachim Kohn adjourned the meeting at 1:30PM

Minutes submitted by: WJ Kao 09/05/14

Minutes approved by: Joachim Kohn