



Draft Minutes of the Annual General Meeting/Special General Meeting of the Society for Low Temperature Biology

**Held at Society for Low Temperature Biology
Scientific Meeting 2008
Faculty of Life Science in the University of Copenhagen
11th Sept. 2008**

Chair: Prof Tiantian Zhang, 27 members of the SLTB were present. Thus, a quorum was present as >10% of the members of the charity attended.

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from: Drs Erica Benson, Keith Harding & Roland Fleck

2. Minutes of last AGM

The minutes of the previous meeting held at the held at Univ Derby, 14th September 2007 have been posted on the SLTB web-site and were circulated at the meeting. *They were accepted and will be signed as a correct record by the Chair.*

3. Matters arising

All matters arising from the Minutes of the 2007 AGM were dealt with under the main agenda.

4. Secretary's report

The Committee has met twice during the year, at the University of Bedfordshire and briefly at the Copenhagen meeting.

Two Newsletters were published and distributed since the 2007 AGM, the most recent in June 2008. The majority of the Newsletters are posted; however, ~25% are now distributed as email attachments. In addition, the current and archive copies of the Newsletters are hosted on the SLTB website.

Since the last AGM seven travel grants have been awarded from the Audrey Smith Fund

Awarded	Institution	Meeting attended
Adel Reda.Moawad	University of Nottingham, Sutton Bonnington	Cryo2008
Ralf Spinder	Leibniz University of Hannover	SLTB 2008
Inga Bernemann	Leibniz University of Hannover	SLTB 2008
Sophie Chassagne-Berces	Institute AgroParisTech, Paris	SLTB 2008
Wendy Martins	Hasselt University, Belgium	SLTB 2008

Raquel Magalhaes
Oluseun Olarewaja

NUS, Singapore.
Univ York

SLTB 2008
SLTB 2008

Prof Tiantian Zhang, Dr Andrew Wettten and Dr John Day have completed their terms on the SLTB committee.

As only 3 nominations (see below) were received it was unnecessary to hold a postal ballot.

Position	Nominee	Proposed	Seconded
Chair	Prof Hugh Pritchard	Tiantian Zhang	Barry Fuller
Gen. Sec.	Dr Jon Green	John Day	Andy Wettten
Member	Dr Roland Fleck	Tiantian Zhang	John Day

The AGM ratified these appointments.

No motions were received

The Secretary thanked the committee for their hard work and commitment over the past year.

5. Treasurer and membership report

Due to delays cause by the bank and the Treasurer moving house the current financial status is not full up to date. However, the Society is in a very similar financial state to last year.

The Balance Sheet for the period 21.07.07 to 01.08.08 was presented to the meeting.

Income	£727.74
Expenditure	£1711.66
Excess of expenditure over income	[£983.92]
Balance in current & Deposit accounts	£5681.92

The accounts were accepted by the meeting.

The membership currently stands at 127 members including 20 student members and 7 Honorary members. However, a significant number of “members” have not paid their subscriptions for 2008, although quite a number have been received during the Copenhagen meeting. An additional issue is the low levels of Subscriptions paid by some members who pay by Standing Order. The Treasurer will request payment from all members at the end of the year for 2009. Those who have not/ paid for 3 years will be removed from the membership list.

The financial arrangements associated with Copenhagen meeting were dealt with by the Local organiser (Prof Brian Grout) and the University of Copenhagen. Furthermore, the University has agreed to pay the costs associated with publication of the abstracts from the 2008 meeting in CryoLetters.

There followed discussions on the financial implications of future meetings. These minored previous committee discussions held in Dec 2007. Future meetings could be held under one of the following financial models:

SLTB: complete control

Host: complete control

Mix: SLTB and host have agreed responsibilities, liabilities and a defined share of any profit from the meeting.

The AGM agreed that future meetings proposals must have a financial planning component. Furthermore, on acceptance of any proposal the financial model must be agreed in advance by the SLTB Committee.

It was agreed by all present that more effort must be expended on “marketing” SLTB meetings and that for example IVF clinics should be sent mail-shots of future relevant meetings.

ACTION New Committee

Discussions also covered options available for increasing the funds available for the Society to spend on activities such as Audrey Smith travel grants. One option is to “front load” registration fees to ensure a surplus returns to the SLTB. Concerns were raised on the effects on students and those from Eastern Europe in particular. Raising subscription was also suggested. There was no consensus at the AGM on this issue.

ACTION New Committee to discuss the need for and options available to increase the funds available to the SLTB.

6. Meetings Secretary’s report

Dr Joachim Keller thanked Prof Brian Grout and his team for their work organising the meeting in Derby. The meeting has 45 participants includes 10 invited papers, 11 free communications and 18 posters. Abstracts from the meeting will be published in CryoLetters.

ACTION Meeting Secretary to edit abstracts and liaise with CryoLetters.

The next meeting in Sept 2009 will be held in Germany with Prof Birgit Glasmacher, Leibniz Univ. Hanover and Dr Joachim Keller at IPK, co-hosting a two site meeting. The latter part would be joint with COST.

*ACTION Meeting Secretary to organise logistics and scientific content of the meeting with Prof Glasmacher
New Committee to formulate a financial agreement with the local organisers in advance the covers liability and financial profit issues.*

Informal offers and options available for subsequent meetings were raised these include the possibility of a joint meeting with the Society for Cryobiology in Bristol 2010 and a meeting hosted in Seville in 2010 or 2011.

ACTION New Committee to request more information and liaise with local organisers.

7. Chairman’s report

As part of the process of increasing the benefits of SLTB membership and encouraging recruitment, CryoLetters agreed in 2007 to publish Abstracts of the SLTB meeting in CryoLetters. In addition, for 5 years they agreed to provide a

complementary issue of the journal to up to 15 new members a year and make the journal available at 50% of its standard cost to up to 15 new members a year.

The Chair thanked Drs John Day & Andrew Wetten for their efforts on behalf of the SLTB and wished the new Committee well in their efforts to promote and advance the SLTB.

8. Charity status

Dr Andrew Wetten reported that because of the size of the SLTB and its modest income all reporting to the Charity Commission can be done on line. He also flagged that he was leaving the committee shortly after the AGM and wished to stand down as a Trustee of the Society.

*ACTION New Committee to agree on a new Trustee and to update
Charity Commission and SLTB websites accordingly.*

9. Web site

Belinda Wade continues to act as SLTB webmaster. The website is regularly updated with documentation being forwarded via the General Secretary.

10. AOB

The possibility of a joint meeting with Soc Cryobiology was raised (see above)

Dr Joachim Keller gave a brief presentation on the proposed 2009 meeting.

11. Date of next meeting

To be confirmed either Hannover or Gatesleben in Sept 2009 in association with an SLTB scientific meeting.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 2.55pm

Dr. John G. Day
General Secretary
17 Sept. 2008

Society for Low Temperature Biology

Income and expenditure for the Period 21.07.2006 to 01.08.2008

Income	£		Expenditure	£	
Subscriptions	615.00	(765.00)	Committee Expenses	381.34	(558.28)
Bank Interest Deposit Account	2.74	(1.99)	SLTB Website	105.73	(58.74)
2007 Cryoletters Prize	100.00		2007 Cryoletters Prize	100.00	
			2007 AGM Abstracts	320.00	
			2007 Memorial Symposium Exp.	49.10	
			Audrey Smith Travel Awards	700.00	(100.00)
			Newsletter	55.49	(144.61)
Total.	727.74	(766.99)		1711.66	(1211.63)
			Income minus expenditure	[983.92]	[444.64]
Balance in Current Account	3,202.24				
Balance in Deposit Account	2,479.68				