



Minutes of ICT Business Meeting

Thursday 21 October 18:00 – 18:30, 2010
ICT QA Workshop, ANSES, Maisons-Alfort, France

Agenda

1. Status of ICT Committee activities
 - a. Quality Assurance Committee
 - b. ICT website
 - c. Membership list
2. Update on ICT-13 Organization
 - a. Proceedings
 - b. Registration
3. Young Scientist Award
4. ICT membership in the World Federation of Parasitologists
5. Financial Status
6. Other business (and *post-* meeting input)

Ad 1) *ICT Committee activities* (C. Kapel)

ICT Quality Assurance Committee – (A. Gajadhar)

The working group assembled in Paris 21-22 October 2010. The purposes of the committee are: a) to identify and prioritize needs for the development of standardized procedures, guidelines, and other resources to facilitate quality assurance in the detection and control of *Trichinella*; b) to develop high priority needs into feasible projects with specific time-lines and deliverables, and; c) to organize working groups for specific projects.

The focus of the workshop was: To identify ways to standardize digestion assays and proficiency panels and to identify best practices for laboratory certification. Discussion included the definition of a list of QA terms, critical points for standardization of digestion methods and preparation of proficiency samples and panels, criteria for establishing equivalency for proficiency samples, and methods for evaluation of laboratory equivalency. Two sub-groups were formed – one to review the processes for preparation of proficiency samples and the other to identify standards for laboratory certification. A status report of the working group will be presented at ICT13 in China 2011. Alvin Gajadhar will try to obtain funding from OECD to gather the group for final workshop in late 2011.

Website – R. Gamble

ICT have now a web-domain of its own: www.trichinellosis.org . Ray Gamble is presently concluding the work on the new homepage. A total of 750 USD have been used for the completion of the task. Individual members will be contacted for provision of scientific input to the homepage, update of existing material on the present homepage. The work is ongoing.

Membership list

The ICT membership list has been updated and will be uploaded on the new ICT website

Ad 2) *Update on ICT-13 Organization* (L. Mingyuan)

Liu Mingyuan presented the status of the program for ICT-13. The conference will take place 1-5 August 2011 in Changchun, China followed by 2 days of sightseeing in Beijing. The activities will be offered separately or as a full package. The organizers will continue fundraising activities to keep the registration fee at a level that allows for participation from less favoured regions. No scholarships will be offered to participants from less favoured regions. Information can be obtained at www.ict13.org.

The following are points of action for the organizing committee chaired by Liu Mingyuan:

- A plan for dissemination of meeting information to other scientific societies, authorities and industry. Jean Dupouy-Camet offered to post the conference on the website of the European Society for Parasitologists.
- To make sure that only one email address is used for correspondence with the organizers. Specific email addresses may be used for e.g. the scientific committee.
- Confirm a cost estimate for Veterinary Parasitology to publish the ICT13 proceedings,
- Scientific program should be specified in details (E. Pozio suggested to include “Diagnostics” as a topic for a scientific session). It is critical to develop a list with suggestions for chairs and co-chairs of the individual sessions. The chair (and co-chair) of each session should actively contribute to develop the content of the individual sessions. A list of potential speakers may prove helpful to draft the likely contents of the individual sessions.
- Online registration should be opened latest December 2010
- A list of hotels identifying their room rates shall be posted at the conference homepage at the same time as online registration (Dec 2010).
- Accompanying person program, e.g. activities for spouses and family, shall be posted on the conference homepage.

Ad 3) *Young Scientist Award* (R. Gamble)

For ICT-12, two awards were granted. As there were no surplus funds from ICT12, the present financial balance of ICT allows only for one award for the time being. The Executive Committee will post the call for applications in early 2011 on the new ICT web page and the ICT-13 website. ICT members are strongly encouraged to propose students. Albert Marinculic volunteered to identify industry sponsors of Young Scientist Awards.

In future, it is important that organizers of ICT conferences reserve the funds for the award before they allocate money for social activities. In addition to the membership fee of 25 USD, corporate sponsorship should be explored.

Radu Blaga (previous recipient of YSA) suggested that the award eventually could be a reimbursement of registration fee.

Ad 4) *World Federation of Parasitologists* (J. Dupouy-Camet)

Jean Dupouy-Camet participated in the ICOPA 2010 and voted for the ICOPA 2014 on behalf of ICT. The result was that ICOPA 2014 will take place in Mexico. As a WFP member, ICT will have to pay 100 USD per year in the future.

Ad 5) *Financial Status* (C. Kapel)

Surplus from ICT11: 3750 USD
Balance ICT11: 4575 USD
Student Awards ICT12: - 2000 USD
Balance 2009: 2575 USD
Surplus from ICT12: 0 USD
Expenses 2010: WEB site 750 USD
Balance 2010: 1825 USD

Ad 6) *Post meeting input*

It was suggested to include a list of regional/national reference laboratories for meat inspection at the new ICT webpage

Additionally, the membership list was suggested to include homepage links for ICT members if available.

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List of attending ICT members (19):

Karsten Nöeckler (DE), Ray Gamble (USA), Christian Kapel (DK), Alvin Gajadhar (CA), Lorry Forbes (CA), Sandrine Lacour (F), Pascal Boireau (F), Albert Marinculic (HR), Liu Mingyuan (RC), Brad Scandrett (CA), Marleen Claes (BE), Jean Dupouy-Camet (F), Radu Blaga (Ro), Francisco Bolas (ES), Teresa Garate (ES), Edoardo Pozio (I), Patricia Rossi (I), Isabelle Vallee (F), Ljiljana Sofronic (RS).