

**Minutes of the Microbial Control Division Business Meeting
Aug 12, 2013 SIP Annual Meeting, Pittsburgh, PA**

Meeting opened: 8.00 pm
Convened by Stefan Jaronski, Chair, MCD

Current officers:

Chair	Stefan Jaronski (USA)	2011-2013
Chair-elect	Leon Rabinovitch (Brazil)	2011-2013
Secretary/Treasurer	Michael Brownbridge (Canada)	2011-2013
Member at large	Nick Jessop (UK)	2011-2013
Member at large	Jarrod Leland (USA)	2012-2014
Student representative	K RS Jakka (USA)	2011-2013

Membership:

Membership in the division stands at 156 for the year 2013, with 15 student members versus 140 in 2012. This is a significant upturn from the trend of the past few years.

Finances:

FY 2013: 1 May 2012-30 April 2013 (vs. FY2012)

Balance from FY2012	\$	5,622.97
Income from dues	\$	375.00 (327.00)
Interest	\$	18.36 (41.25)
Balance as of 30 April 2013	\$	6,016.60

2013 Student Travel Awards

(\$750) to Rebecca Heinig, Pennsylvania State University (USA) *'Temperature, dose and coverage effects on fungal biocontrol of malaria vectors*

2013 Speaker Travel Award (\$600 registration fee) to Dr. Cynthia Fuller, Henderson State University

Goal to have greater coordination of student awards across all Divisions for future meetings, to ensure appropriate applications shared across divisions (esp. the MCD) to promote student support at future meetings. Potential increase in the size of the travel awards for the 2014 meeting.

The MCD has \$1,000 to support participation of external (i.e. non-members of SIP) speakers in MCD-supported symposia and joint symposia.

Pittsburg 2013 meeting

Microbial Control Division Symposium: "Duking It Out - - Interactions Between Introduced Microbial Pest Control Agents and Indigenous Microflora "

Also joint symposia with,
Diseases of Beneficial Insects Division: "Pathogens to Control Populations of Invasive Aquatic Invertebrates"
Nematode Division: "Trait Stability and Improvement"

Joint workshop with Fungus Division: "What's the Name of My Fungus?"

19 contributed oral presentations (4 students)
22 posters (1 student)

Other: The Division has been supplying a column for the SIP Newsletter with biopesticide product development and registration information from US and Canada, with some good feedback, but would like inputs from other countries. In general, need stories, updates on MCD member activities, members in the news, awards, etc.

The MCD web page has been redesigned, includes listing of officers, news related to novel microbial products, MCD activities, awards, links to other web pages, archives, photo-archives, etc. Members asked to submit information, pictures, etc. of interest.

New Members

Introduction of new members: Andrew Hawse, Agbiotech, Australia; Patricia Golo, Utah State University, USA

MCD Elections

Open Offices: Chair Elect, Secretary-Treasurer, Member-at-Large, Student Representative

Nominees:

- Member-at-Large: Pasco Avery , Elected
- Secretary-Treasurer: Michael Brownbridge, Elected
- Chair-Elect: No nominations
 - Chair will solicit nominations via e-mail
 - Voting will be done by e-mail
- Student Representative: Patricia Golo, Elected

News from Governing Board

Clarification about the Lomer Award: To qualify for the award, applicants originally had to be from "*low-income economies*". This has been revised so that submissions can now be accepted from applicants residing in countries with "*lower-middle-income economies*" (spread the word to eligible prospect applicants). The Lomer Award is intended to provide travel support for SIP meetings

New early scientist award planned for the 2014 meeting; criteria being finalized

2014 Meeting will be held in Mainz, Germany from Aug 3-7. Meeting will be held on campus Gutenberg University Mainz, with accommodations in city (hotel)

2015 Meeting site: University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada. Aug 9-13. Accommodations available at the university.

MCD Symposia Ideas

For 2014 meeting. Topics suggested so far:

- Use of microbes with other natural enemies (subject of an IOBC Symposium at the 2013 annual meeting of the Entomological Society of America)
- Modelling and experimental analysis of weather (environmental conditions) affecting microbial control
- Developments/issues in the regulation of microbial products: harmonization across jurisdictions as possible joint symposium; Dave Gryzwicz has offered to coordinate with other Divisions

If you have a good idea, please develop the content and line up potential speakers. The call for Symposia topics will go out over the coming months.

Note: There are monies available to partially pay invited speaker costs!

Other Business

1. Calibration of the Bt standard. Dirk Avery was coordinating but several new issues have arisen. Moves to resolve and continue to develop an internationally-accepted standard.
2. Greater inputs requested from all members to document registration of microbial products around the world.
3. No other business.

Company Presentations

ExoSect (UK) Nick Jessop. New initiatives include use of Entostat in seed coatings, using the product to deliver biological additives, e.g. biologicals for soil-borne diseases, biostimulants to improve plant growth, bioinsecticides, combination treatments. The use of microbes as seed treatments may allow microbial products to be used in field crops, providing targeted delivery of the active organism(s). New formulation of Entostat: micro-foam vs micro-chip product, greater surface area can deliver higher numbers of microbes with less product; has impact on cost of treatment.

Andermatt Biocontrol (Switzerland) Martin Andermatt. Selling >150 products in Switzerland. Most are imported to provide a full product portfolio for growers. Andermatt has In-house production of a range of viral products, some natural enemies and rodent trapping products. Andermatt recently acquired a 60% stake in Sylvar Technologies. Main products: baculovirus-based biopesticides. Now have 63 registrations of products worldwide (as of Aug 2013).

Sylvar (Canada) Renee Lapointe. The company is based in Fredericton, New Brunswick, producing baculovirus products for balsam sawfly and other forest pests. Products are registered in Canada and the US. Registration is pending for a new product based on a cabbage looper (*T. ni*) virus; product is for use in greenhouses. Sylvar also produces and sells pheromone lures for 4 insect pests.

Novozymes Biologicals (USA, Canada) Jarrod Leland. Developing a new Met52 EC formulation for greenhouse crops, spray application. The Met52 granular formulation is registered in Canada for use against black vine weevil in nursery ornamentals and western flower thrips in greenhouse ornamentals. EC formulation is newly registered for use against chinch bugs in turf (US and Canada).

Technical developments in formulation of sprayable products, include evaluation of spray adjuvants, e.g. silicone-based wetting agents, to promote coverage and activity. The new EC formulation is very stable, promoting conidial viability. The company is looking to expand label use and understand technical issues

related to improved efficacy. Novozymes recently acquired 'Natural Industries' who produce NoFly® (*Isaria fumosorosea*).

Marrone BioInnovations, USA Carrie Link (?). Company produces products for pest management in agricultural and aquatic systems. Products are the outcome of in-house discovery and screening programs, as well as the in-licensing of microbial and natural product chemistries. Commercialization of products based on rapid high throughput screening and development techniques, combined with formulation, fermentation and manufacturing capabilities. Three products currently registered: Regalia® (biofungicide based on knotweed extract), Grandevo® (microbial insecticide registered for use on pepper weevil, aphids, thrips and tarnished plant bug), and Zequanox® (for control of zebra mussels). Marrone BioInnovations has just gone public.

Valent BioSciences, USA Terry Benson. Valent engages in discovery, development, manufacture and supply of biorational products worldwide. Have over 800 product registrations around the world. Have just acquired PACE, which specializes in postharvest products. Valent is currently engaged in the construction of a new fermentation plant (primarily for Bt products) in Iowa, USA. They have a new product – Di-Tera (based on *Myrothecium verrucaria*) for control of plant parasitic nematodes in turf, grape, bananas and other crops.

Eléphant Vert , Morocco Christian Kooyman. This is a new company being set up in Morocco to produce biopesticides and organo-mineral fertilizers. First microbial products will be based on *Beauveria*, *Metarhizium* and *Trichoderma*; goal to have products available in early 2014. Biofertilizers will follow. Concern is driven by opportunities for use of microbials in vegetable production systems, a sector of Moroccan agriculture which is rapidly expanding to supply fresh vegetables into the European market. The company originates from Switzerland and currently has two operations in Africa – based in Morocco and Mali.

Motion made to conclude the meeting by Michael Brownbridge

Seconded by Nguya Maniania

Meeting adjourned at 9:35 PM.

Minutes respectfully submitted,

Michael Brownbridge, Secretary-Treasurer MCD