

Minutes of the 2011 Microsporidia Division Business Meeting

1. The Annual Business Meeting of the Microsporidia Division was called to order at 8 pm on August 7th, 2011 at the 44th Annual Meeting of the Society for Invertebrate Pathology in Halifax, Canada, and 11 members and non-members were present: Dörte Goertz, Andreas Linde, Wei-Fone Huang, Leellen Solter, Gwyn Puckett, Grant Stentiford, Ann Cali, Lin Ji Ping, Joe Ironside, Regina Kleespies, Susan Björnson (all Division members) and Peter Gaudet, Don Behringer, Jeffrey Shields, Elke Genersch, Kate Aronstein, Spencer Greenwood, Lyn Bartholomay, Frazer Clark, Dan Klines, Hamish Small (all non-members of the Division).

2. Ann Cali announced that a new e-book "Topics on the pathology of protozoan and invasive arthropod diseases" will be hosted soon by the Defense Technical Information Centre "DTIC on line" end of August 2011. The material will be free to access and download. Among the protists is a chapter on microsporidia in humans. For further information email anncali@andromeda.rutgers.edu and she will forward the link when it becomes available.

3. a) The minutes of the 2010 business meeting were published online (see: [http://www.sipweb.org/microsporidia/Microsporidia+Division+Meeting+minutes+2010_final\[1\].pdf](http://www.sipweb.org/microsporidia/Microsporidia+Division+Meeting+minutes+2010_final[1].pdf)).

b) Furthermore, the Secretary/Treasurer's Report was reviewed: Budget balance: \$ 2,628.76, (as by April 30th, 2010). The balance has decreased \$78.24 from the last year, due to expenses for symposium speakers and student travel award for the 2010 meeting in Turkey. Membership: 38, down from 42 in 2010 and 49 in 2009.

The audience discussed options to increase membership, in particular of students. The benefits of being a member of SIP and the Division should be communicated more clearly, and free Division's membership for students may be an option. This should be communicated during the opening session. This might be combined with the requirement to become Division member if you win the Division's travel award.

There were no questions, nor comments. Leellen Solter motioned to accept the 2010 minutes; the motion was seconded by Susan Björnson and unanimously accepted.

4. Election of new officer: An election of a new officer was held. The Nomination Committee presented Dr. Daniela Pilarska as the candidate for the position of Member at Large. This had already been posted 24 hours before the business meeting. There were no further nominations from the floor. Dörte Goertz motioned that the members accept the nominee and was seconded by Ann Cali.

Dr. Daniela Pilarska was unanimously approved as Member-at-Large.

5. Miscellaneous information:

* The Microsporidia Division has organized a workshop (Monday, 9:00 p.m., after the business meeting). Speaker is Grant Stentiford (CEFAS), topic is "Extreme dimorphism in a microsporidian infecting the musculature of marine crabs". * Furthermore, the Division organized a symposium "Microsporidian-induced effects on the host", to be held Wednesday 8:30-10:00 a.m. Unfortunately, 2 speakers cancelled their presentations. * There are two contributed paper session with 9 oral presentations, and 5 posters presentations. *Dörte Goertz reported that the Council (Mark Goettel) calls for applicants for the Secretary of SIP. Names of potential candidates should be mailed to him before Februar 2012. *It was proposed to update the website of the Microsporidia Division. Joe Ironside reported that he will create a facebook page for our Division.

6. The Division's Student Award Committee selected Sebastian Gisder, Free University of Berlin / Germany for the 2010 Student Travel Award. However, as Sebastian Gisder was later selected as the recipient of the Mauro-Martignoni Award 2011, the highest student award of the SIP, and since both awards may not be accepted, no Division student travel award was given out in 2011. The Division will have \$ 750 for student travel awards in 2012.

7. The 2012 meeting in Argentina:

Suggestions were solicited for topics for the symposium and workshop.

* Andreas Linde suggested to contact Carlos Lange (Division Vice Chair) for ideas to include researchers from South America. Dörte Goertz suggested that the "sanitation of microsporidia in insect mass rearings" might attract the attention of many invertebrate pathologists from that region. *Another idea (workshop) is to invite Bryony Williams (UK) to present the results of her recent molecular work, and Grant Stentiford suggested a joint symposium with her and the Division on Beneficial Invertebrates on aquatic microsporidia. * A third option, proposed by Ann Cali, is a symposium / workshop on "Host range of microsporidia", as there are new results on specificity of microsporidia in human and insect hosts.

Other suggestions can be mailed to the chair (doerte.goertz@boku.ac.at). Dörte Goertz pointed out that the division would probably be able to waive the registration fee for invited speakers.

8. Leellen Solter moved to adjourn the meeting and Andreas Linde seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dörte Goertz, Division Chair, and Andreas Linde, Secretary/Treasurer