

Minutes, Business meeting Microsporidia Division, Valencia/Spain, July 31st, 2019:

The Annual Business Meeting of the Microsporidia Division was called at 08:00 pm on July 31st, 2019 at the 52nd Annual Meeting of the Society for Invertebrate Pathology in Valencia, Spain. Twelve members were present:

George Kyei-Poku, Regina Kleespies, Adrien Quiles, Yannick Senn, Yuri Tokarev, Yuliya Sokolova, Joe Ironside, Sarah Biganski, Pattana Jaroenlak, Artur Trzebny, Jie Chen, Xianzhi Meng, Andreas Linde

Officers prior to the Microsporidia Division Business meeting:

| | | |
|-------------------------|--|--------------|
| Chair: | George Kyei-Poku | (2018-2020) |
| Chair Elect: | TBD | (2019-2021) |
| Secretary / Treasurer: | TBD | (2019-2021) |
| Members-at-Large: | Elke Genersch (2017-2019); TBD (2019-2021) | |
| Past Chair: | Yuliya Sokolova | |
| Student Representative: | TBD | (2019-.2021) |

The chair, George Kyei-Poku described the dire situation of the Microsporidia Division. As we have a low number of members in 2018 at SIP meeting, Gold Coast, Australia we were not able to find new officers and therefore the functioning and ultimate existence of our Division was at stake. George Kyei-Poku made an emotional call to all members to keep the Division alive and working.

1. Election of new officers (newly elected officers are in **bold**):

- Chairperson: George Kyei-Poku (2018-2019)
- Chairperson1-elect: **Yuri Tokarev** (2019-2021)
- Chairperson2-elect: **Joe Ironside** (2019-2021)
- Secretary-Treasurer: **Andreas Linde** (2019-2021)
- Member-at-Large: **Jie Chen** (2019-2021)
- Member-at-Large: **Sarah Biganski** (2019-2021)
- Student Representative: **Artur Trzebny** (2019-2021)

2. Acceptance of the minutes.

The minutes of the 2018 business meeting were published online (see: http://www.sipweb.org/microspor/div_micro.html)

There were no questions, nor comments. Moved by Yuri Tokarev and seconded by Yuliya Sokolova "that the 2018 minutes of the Microsporidia Division Business meeting (Gold Coast/Australia) be accepted". Motion carried unanimously.

3. Secretary/Treasurer's Report:

Budget balance:

| Division | Balance 5/1/18 | To divisions for SIP 18 | Total available for SIP18 | Expended SIP18 | Money back to General Fund | Division balance after SIP18 | Dues | Interest | Balance 4/30/2019 | SIP Allocation for SIP19 | Total available for SIP19 |
|--------------|----------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|----------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|----------|----------|-------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| Microsporida | \$2,115.12 | \$2,250.00 | \$4,365.12 | \$1,200.00 | \$1,050.00 | \$2,115.12 | \$390.00 | \$6.47 | \$2,511.59 | \$3,000.00 | \$5,511.59 |

As of August 1st, 2019, the division's balance has increased from the last year to a total of \$5511.59 (total available for SIP 2019) because no money was spent on speaker travel support (Gold Coast, 2018) and student travel awards (Valencia, 2019).

The Division had decided to sponsor the attendance of invited symposium speakers (Elena Nasonova, Ronny Larsson) at the 2019 meeting in Valencia, Spain

The division spent \$1600 on travel assistance for Drs. Ronny Larsson and Elena Nasonova at the Valencia meeting.

There was no student travel awards at the Valencia 2019 meeting therefore; the budget allocated for the purpose will have to go back to the general fund. Thus a deficit of \$1400.

Therefore the total available for the SIP19 (**\$5,511.59**) with a deduction of \$3000 leaves the division in a current standing budget of **\$2511.59 (August 27, 2019)**.

Travel assistance:

The Division invited and decided to sponsor the attendance of two symposium speakers (Elena Nasonova, Ronny Larsson) at the 2019 meeting in Valencia.

1. Dr. Ronny Larsson, Presentation title: Cytology and Development of Metchnikovellideans and Related Organisms.
2. Dr. Elena Nasonova, Symposium speaker, \$600. Presentation title: Early evolution of Microsporidia: lessons from molecular phylogeny, phylogenomics and genomics of metchnikovellids.

Membership: 31 (+ 4 student members) in 2019, slightly lower than 2018 (33 +6). We need to recruit new Division members.

Contribution to SIP meeting 2019 in Valencia:

Seven posters with a focus on microsporidia were presented in Valencia. The microsporidia session (Thursday, Aug. 1st, 8.30-10.30) was titled "Microsporidia-host interactions: from organism to molecular levels". It was chaired by Dr. Ronny Larsson and Yuliya Sokolova and featured five oral presentations. The Cross-Divisional Symposium (with DBI Division) was held on Thursday, Aug. 1st from 2.30-4.30 and titled "Microsporidia and microsporidia-like

cryptomycota infecting micro-eucaryotes and metazoan parasites”. The symposium was chaired by Mark Freeman (DBI) and Joe Ironside and featured five presentations.

Membership: 31 (+ 4 student members) in 2019, slightly lower than 2018 (33 +6).

| | 2014/2015 | 2015/2016 | 2016/2017 | 2017/2018 | 2018/2019 |
|-----------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Regular | 30 | 38 | 34 | 33 | 31 |
| Students | 5 | 6 | 3 | 6 | 4 |
| Total | 35 | 44 | 37 | 39 | 35 |

It is our obligation to recruit new members to the division.

4. New Business

- Discussion of the future of the Microsporidia Division.

George Kyei-Poku discussed the possible “merging” of the Microsporidia Division with either DBI or Fungi Division, and explained the consequences for the Microsporidia Division (e.g. no more Division grants for student travel or invited speakers). He motioned that the Microsporidia Division shall stay independent. The motion was moved by Regina Kleespies, seconded by Andreas Linde and unanimously supported by members of the division.

- **Student Travel awards; guidelines**

George Kyei-Poku informed the Division members that students that submit an abstract either for an oral or poster presentation and apply for a Division student travel award are eligible. He apologized to the student members who had submitted a poster for the 2019 meeting but not considered for a division travel award. The award money for 2020 will be US\$ 750 per student.

- **Division Report to the Society (business meeting, Thursday Aug. 1st):**

At the 2019 meeting, the Microsporidia Division has 7 oral presentation and 8 posters. Furthermore, 5 oral presentations were given at the cross-divisional symposium (with DBI) on Thursday, Aug. 1st 2019.

George Kyei-Poku will present highlights of microsporidia research in 2019, namely the publications by:

- Barandun *et al.* (2019) Evolutionary compaction and adaptation visualized by the structure of the dormant microsporidian ribosome. *Nature Microbiology Letters*.
- Takvorian *et al.* (2019) An Ultrastructure study of the extruded polar tube of *Anncalia algerae* (Microsporidia). *Journal of Eukaryotic Microbiology*.
- Franchet *et al.* (2019) Phosphatidic acid as a limiting host metabolite for the proliferation of the microsporidium *Tubulinosema ratisbonensis* in *Drosophila* flies. *Nature Microbiology*.

Meeting 2020 in Mexico

The chair asked for topics for symposia/ cross-divisional symposia and names of invited speakers to the 2020 meeting in Merida/Mexico. Topics might concentrate on results of local (Central American) microsporidia researchers. Suggestions by all Division members are welcome and should be sent to George by email.

George moved to adjourn the meeting at 09:20 p.m. and was seconded by Joe Ironside. Motion supported unanimously by members of the division.

Respectfully submitted,

George Kyei-Poku, Chair; and Andreas Linde, Secretary/Treasurer