

## Minutes of the 2017 Virus Division Business Meeting

The annual Virus Division Business Meeting was held at 8:00 pm on August 16, 2017 in San Diego, USA, with 30 attendants. Division Chair Madoka Nakai presented the agenda and no additional items were forthcoming from the floor. Madoka Nakai asked for approval of last year's minutes, which were posted on the SIP website (September 2016) after the 2016 meeting and members were notified of its availability by email. Madoka Nakai made a motion to approve the minutes and the minutes were approved.

The Chair's report was given by Madoka Nakai. The Virus Division membership increased slightly to 104 (78 regular and 26 student) for 2017. Overall the division membership remains quite stable. Madoka presents the current list of Virus Division officers. There was one Division Symposium held at the San Diego meeting, "*Insect Virology: Historical Achievements and recent advances*", organized by Linda King, Nor Chejanovski, Loy Volkman, John Burand and Elisabeth Herniou. A Cross Divisional Symposium "*Honoring Just Vlak*" was organized together with the Division of Beneficial Invertebrates, by Kelly Bateman and Martin Erlandson. A workshop entitled "*Tribute to Michael R. Strand's election to the USA National Academy of Sciences*" will follow the business meeting. In addition to the Division symposium, the Cross Divisional Symposium and Division workshop, Madoka reported that there were 5 virus oral presentation sessions at the San Diego meeting, with 40 contributed oral presentations (12 student presentations). There were 21 virus poster presentations (5 student presentations).

Secretary/Treasurer Vera Ros summarized the Division financial status by presenting the Treasurer's report. The financial state of the Division is sound, with a current balance of \$6,874.55, as of May 1<sup>st</sup> 2017. The income from dues was \$1,141 and \$2,500 was received from the SIP General Fund. Expenditures for the Tours meeting were \$3,331 (\$1,500 for three student travel awards and \$1,830 for two speaker travel awards). Since this was more than received by the SIP General Fund, \$831 was covered by the Virus Division, and no money was returned to the SIP General Fund. For the current San Diego meeting the expenses were planned at \$2,250 for four student travel awards and at \$1,750.00 to cover two speaker travel awards, totaling \$4,000. For the coming year (FY 2019) all Divisions will receive \$1,500 from the SIP General Fund.

The Student Representative Report was given by Yue Han. Han mentioned the number of student oral (12) and poster (5) contributions this year in San Diego. He further reported that the student Facebook activities have moved to the official SIP Facebook page. This page has 800 likes so far. Wednesday August 16 at lunch time there was a student workshop on science communication, given by Bruce Lieberman. Prior to this Virus Division meeting a student/postdoc meeting was held and the topic for next year's SIP meeting was decided to be 'Career options after a PhD'.

Elections were held for four Virus Division executive committee positions. Holly Popham (Member-at-Large) and Yue Han (Student Representative) are rotating off the executive committee this year. There were several calls for nominations sent out by the Chair via e-mail requests. Two nominees for Member-at-Large, Umut Toprak (Ankara University) and Manli Wang (Wuhan Institute of Virology) introduced themselves (Manli Wang was introduced by Zhihong Hu). Two nominees for Student Representative, Xi Wang (Wuhan Institute of Virology) and Bob Boogaard (Wageningen University), also introduced themselves (Xi Wang was introduced by Zhihong Hu). Elections were held by secret ballot, resulting in

Umut Toprak as new Member-at-Large and Bob Boogaard as new Student Representative. Madoka called for show of hands to support each nomination, and all were in favour. Congratulations to those elected.

Madoka presented the awards to the Student Travel Awardees: Hannah Broadley, Fujun Qin, Bob Boogaard and Pei-Chi Wu (the certificates will be handed out a day later (August 17) by Madoka). Congratulations to all student award winners.

Madoka acknowledged both Virus Division executive committee members that will step down this year (Holly Popham (Member-at-Large) and Yue Han (Student Representative)) and thanked them for their service to the Division. A certificate was handed out.

Upcoming symposia were then discussed for the 2018 meeting at the Gold Coast Australia. A cross divisional symposium had been proposed by DBI (Helen Hesketh). The proposed topic was shrimp associated diseases, as Australia had had a large white spot outbreak recently and there is a prominent aquaculture industry in Asia. This symposium was approved by vote. Kelly Bateman will organize this symposium and Just Vlak offered to solicit a co-organizer. In addition, Karyn Johnson proposes a Virus Division symposium on virus infection in arboviral vectors. Karyn mentioned that research in this field is ongoing in Australia and we might attract researches from outside SIP. This symposium was also approved by vote. Karyn Johnson will organize this symposium and Rolly Clem offered to help. Also, Karyn Johnson mentioned that she was approached by the Nematode Division to organize a symposium on multipartite interactions, including nematodes, bacteria and viruses. We will not organize this symposium, but might join in later if this is organized by the Bacteria and Nematode Divisions. Lastly, Elisabeth Herniou asked everyone to put forward ideas for the SIP meeting in 2019 in the near future.

Ideas for a workshop at the 2018 meeting were discussed. Rosemary Dorrington proposed a workshop on initiating a collection/depository of insect cell lines. John Burand and Bob Harrison proposed a workshop on changes in virus nomenclature. This latter topic might be suitable for the 2019 meeting in Valencia. Rosemary Dorrington will draft a proposal for an insect cell line collection workshop, which will be sent around to division members by Madoka.

Lastly, Madoka showed the two highlight papers that will be presented tomorrow during the Business meeting. At 9:00 pm, Madoka Nakai made a motion to adjourn the meeting. At that point the podium was turned over to Elisabeth Herniou and Peter Krell to acknowledge Michael Strand's election to the USA National Academy of Sciences.

Submitted respectfully,

Vera Ros, Secretary/Treasurer