

South African Crystallographic Society (SACrS) AGM

Held on 29 November 2008 at University of Stellenbosch, Stellenbosch

Minutes

Present: Prof S Bourne (vice-president), Dr N Bathori, Dr C Esterhuysen, Dr M Fernandes, Dr JA Gertenbach, Ms T Jacobs, Dr D Haynes, Prof G J Kruger, Dr D Liles, Ms L Loots, Dr C Oliver, Dr M Rademeyer, Dr G Ramon, Dr H Su, Ms C van Blerk.

Apologies: Prof D G Billing, Prof J Boeyens, Prof D Levendis, Prof A Roodt.

1. WELCOME

In the President's absence Prof Bourne welcomed the members to the annual general meeting of the South African Crystallographic Society (SACrS).

2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 25 SEPTEMBER 2008

Minutes from the previous meeting were approved. Dr Liles suggested that he would make these available via the SACrS website.

3. FINANCES

Bank account: Prof D Levendis is still negotiating with the bank in order to obtain FICA compliance and so unfreeze the bank account.

SACrS membership: The introduction of a membership fee for SACrS was discussed vigorously, with both individual and institutional membership fees being suggested, but decided against.

4. REPORTS ON NATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR THE IUCr AND IUCr GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The reports of the National Committee for the IUCr and the IUCr General Assembly held in Osaka Japan, August 2008, by Profs S Bourne and DG Billing were tabled, and Prof Bourne explained the relationship between SACrS, IUCr and the IUCr National Committee. She mentioned that she would soon be calling for information for the next IUCr annual report, and highlighted the importance of this information as the basis for the funding of the National Committee for the IUCr by the NRF. She also pointed out that SACrS could nominate members for the IUCr National Committee, and asked for nominations. Kirsty Stuart at UKZN (Pietermaritzburg) is to be approached.

5. FUTURE CONFERENCES

- Twinning workshop at SACI2008: Stellenbosch (28,29 November 2008)
- SCIENCE @ SYNCHROTRONS: CSIR, Pretoria (9-13 February 2009)
- International Seminar on Inclusion Compounds: Stellenbosch (4-9 April 2009)
- Powder workshop (April 2009)
- Indaba 6: Kruger National Park (30 August-4 September 2009)
- Inorganic 09 (SACI): Bloemfontein (13-17 September 2009)
- ECM 25: Istanbul, August 2009

Dr M Rademeyer as member of the IUCr commission on crystallographic teaching indicated that funding is available from the IUCr for holding a Crystallographic School. However, the level and focus of the school need to be decided. She asked that ideas in this regard be sent to her.

6. OFFICE BEARERS

The previous committee was retained, with the following office bearers being confirmed:

President:	Dave Billing (DB)
Vice president:	Susan Bourne (SB)
Secretary:	Catharine Esterhuysen (CE)
Treasurer:	Melanie Rademeyer (MR)
Co-opted member:	Dave Liles (DL)

7. OTHER MATTERS

There being no other matters the meeting was adjourned.