

Minutes for Committee Meeting, Tuesday April 12th 2011 5.20 pm, Keele University

Physical Crystallography Group of the British Crystallographic Association

Structural Condensed Matter Group of the Institute of Physics

Members present: Andrew Goodwin, Matt Tucker, David Keen, David Allan, Helen Maynard-Casely Ivana Evans and Kirsten Christensen

Apologies: Sam Callear, Sarah Tallentire and Christoph Salzmann

Secretary: Kirsten Christensen

This committee meeting, held at the BCA Spring Meeting is usually an informal gathering, but on this occasion it was agreed that minutes should be taken. Before the meeting a list of topics was sent to David Keen and Matt Tucker by committee members.

- 1. Communication within the group.** Matt and David Keen apologised for the recent confusion within the group where not everyone had been informed about all decisions. A year ago at the BCA spring meeting Matt asked for help with the minutes and Kirsten stepped forward. To improve communication it was suggested that we could form a Google group.
ACTION 1. The new secretary looks into forming a Google group and discuss with committee if we want one by email.
- 2. 2012 Spring Meeting.** David Keen was informed a year ago that the PCG was responsible for the 2012 BCA Spring Meeting and emailed a request for volunteers to coordinate this on our behalf. Kirsten said that she was willing to do it, if she was in the country (end of contract November 2011) and Andrew said that if no one else would do it then he was available. On this basis David informed Elspeth that Kirsten would coordinate the Spring Meeting if she found a new UK-based job or her current employment was prolonged with Andrew as back-up. The committee members representing the PCG on the planning committee will be Helen and Matt; subsequent to the meeting Ivana will be part of the planning committee as well. A possible theme is: Olympics of Crystallography.
ACTION 2. Helen to make a logo.
ACTION 3. Matt and Andrew to check folder with programs to check for older themes. It should be possible to reduce the number of parallel sessions and reduce the presentation time to 20 min to still achieve the same number of presentations. The teaching plenary should be on a Thursday to get people up.
ACTION 4. Kirsten to organise a quick meeting on Wednesday between 15-15.30 to get into contact with representatives. Inform about theme idea, combined sessions and get email addresses.
- 3. Name change.** There was a brief discussion at the last PCG committee meeting about whether the name "Physical Crystallography Group" was still appropriate and whether another name might better reflect our Group's activities and members. Subsequent to this and after further discussions between the Group officers, David Keen, Matt and Ivana approached Elspeth to see if a name change was possible. Elspeth did not see a problem with this constitutionally. The history of the name came originally from the IOP, but the name within the IOP has changed with time to Structural Condensed Matter Physics. A lot of our sessions and group interests

overlap with the CCG. The general feeling was that we need to recruit more members or at least attract new members. Suggestions for a new name were: Materials Group, Functional Materials Group or others that may arise from a period of consultation. One could also look at the ECA homepage to see what type of special interest groups exist there. It was decided to approach our members for opinions on this and following this a PCG AGM will confirm a change of name which is then brought to the following BCA AGM for ratification.

ACTION 5. David Keen will introduce the idea of a name change at the AGM and Matt will explain.

ACTION 6. Andrew to make a form for ISIS and Diamond to recruit members.

ACTION 7. Ivana will prepare a 'White Paper' for discussion and initiate a timetable for consultation and re-naming.

4. **CMMP 2011.** The PCG are sponsoring two symposia at the CMMP 2011 meeting in December. One in 'Structural studies of nanomaterials' and one in 'Local structures of functional materials'. These lie very close to sessions that were held at the 2011 BCA Spring Meeting. Currently we only need to get 1 speaker per slot. The conference proceedings are peer reviewed and published.

ACTION 8. David Keen and Matt Tucker will arrange the sessions for CMMP 2011.

5. **Winter meeting 2011.** Cosener's House have confirmed the 3rd to 4th November for this meeting. The topic needs to be organised, but we will keep the same format as last year. David Keen is responsible for this meeting and liaises with the new chair of the ISIS Crystallography Group.

6. **Matters from the Council.** Through the ECA it is possible to apply for money for bursaries for schools. Email addresses are going to be sent to each group's secretary. The role for the PCG educational representative is still very unclear and needs to be clarified.

ACTION 9. Dave Allan to investigate the role of the Education Coordinator. There are suggestions that a more senior person in this role could be beneficial.

ACTION 10. Kirsten to send around Georgina's email concerning joint membership between societies. IOP have set up a Group Coordination Committee that is looking into joint membership between societies.

7. **Current meeting.** Matt and Helen will judge the PCG posters.

ACTION 11. Helen will write up the three sessions 'New Developments at Diamond', 'Local Structure' and 'High Pressure and Energetic Materials' sessions for Crystallography News. Matt will ask Winfried if he could write up the 'Cultural Heritage' session.

8. **PCG AGM.** There is only one nomination for each post at the committee.

Chairman: Ivana Evans. Proposed David Keen; Seconded Matt Tucker

Vice-chairman: Matt Tucker. Proposed Andrew Goodwin; Seconded Ivana Evans.

Secretary: Kirsten E. Christensen. Proposed Matt Tucker; Seconded David Keen.

Ordinary Member: David Keen. Proposed Ivana Evans; Seconded Andrew Goodwin

Ordinary Member: David Allan. Proposed Andrew Goodwin; Seconded Ivana Evans.

9. **Other.** The newsletter editor is going to change. The committee thanked Ivana for the work she had put into the newsletters.

ACTION 12. Ivana to ask one of the absent committee members if one of them was interested in becoming the editor of our newsletter.