

## **Minutes for Committee Meeting, Monday November 15<sup>th</sup> 2010 5.40 pm, TCH**

### **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 Sarah Tallentire and Kirsten Christensen

Apologies: Ivana Evans, Sam Callear and Christoph Salzmann

Secretary: Kirsten Christensen

New members of the committee were welcomed to the committee.

1. Minutes of Previous Committee meeting and actions arising
2. Chairman's report/comments if any
3. Secretary/Treasurer's report
  - a. IOP matters.

Groups and Division Officers Forum within IOP is going to change how it works. New groups/divisions will be formed based on earlier questions from IOP on what division's we wanted. IOP do not have access to those committee members that only have BCA membership. It was agreed to give the details of the non-members of IOP to IOP. IOP is looking for a greater balance male/female committee members. Through SCMP we can get help with conferences with no charge to arrange division's meetings but the meeting itself has to break even.

MyIOP is a similar interface to Facebook and LinkedIn, but people do not use it. Dave Keen receives emails from IOP asking for opinions on various subjects and he was encouraged to forward some of the more interesting emails to the committee.

- b. Current financial status

We have about £1290 left to spend this year which will probably all be used on the winter meeting. In the future we will have no money to pay for bursaries, but we will be assigned money from the IOP's central funds if we get applications. It is possible for a PhD student to get up to £250 during his/her PhD time. We have been awarded £2400 for next years PCG/SCMP budget.

4. Communication

The autumn newsletter was sent out the 23<sup>rd</sup> of October by Ivana. The current website is wiki based and all committee members agreed that it was good, whereas the IOP homepage is not really kept updated. We have 166 members from the IOP and have more if including the BCA members are included.

**Act.1** Dave Allan will look into making the IOP-homepage more interesting. Please email Dave Keen and Matt Tucker with suggestions.

5. Meetings/Group activities

a. Winter meeting 2010

This is a good format especially if we could encourage more young people to give short talks. This has so far been done on a volunteer basis. There is a preference for having the meeting Thursday - Friday instead of Monday – Tuesday as this autumn. We need to get an early booking for Cosener's house for next year's joint winter meeting with ISIS.

**Act.2** Dave Keen

b. Magnetic Rietveld School 2011

This needs to be discussed and the appropriate people needed to be reminded. **Act. 3**  
Dave Keen

c. BCA Spring meeting 2011

The planning is going forward and those people responsible for PCG sessions have ideas about who to invite and a few speakers have already been approached.

**Act. 4** Dave Keen will formally invite our plenary speaker Gilberto Artioli from Italy.

d. Winter meeting 2011

We agreed on a similar set-up to this year. A possible theme could be super-conductivity since next year is the anniversary for discovering superconductivity. It is also possible to keep the theme a bit broader and go with a theme similar to this year.

e. BCA Spring meeting 2012

There was a call for ideas for a theme for the BCA Spring meeting in 2012. Some of the previous themes have been: Dynamics, Structure-property relations, Data matters (although this theme were not really liked by the group). "Surprising Structures" was suggested as a theme, but a theme inspired by the Olympic Games coming to UK in 2012 was considered a very good idea.

It was also suggested to consider changing the structure of the meeting to some longer joint sessions, as well as to remove references to which group is responsible for arranging each session.

f. Future meetings

6. Committee structure and membership

A new chair and vice-chair is needed from next year. A possible new chair could be Matt Tucker, and suggested new members/chairs/vice-chairs were Winfried Kockelmann, Mathias Gutmann, Pascal Manuel, Antonella Scherillo (all from ISIS), Simon Clarke and Lee Brammer.

**Act. 5** Matt needs to investigate if he is allowed to become chair. Please send an email with the outcome

**Act. 6** Andrew Goodwin will ask Simon Clarke if he could be interested in committee work.

**Act. 7** Dave Allan asks Lee Brammer if he is interested in committee work.

7. The future of the PCG/SCMP

It is very hard within the BCA to attract people to the PCG sessions if they run at the same time as a CCG session. PCG could merge with CCG or we could try to rename ourselves and then carry out a “rebranding”.

A lot of people connect physics with magnetism, whereas a more general description could be Crystallography that is not organic! This means that a good name for the PCG group might be Materials Crystallography Group or Materials Structure Group instead. In principle we need to rebrand PCG within BCA and SCMP within IOP. We need to think about topics that attract more people in general.

We can get help from the IOP to run CMMP sessions.

8. Prizes

This year Thesis prize went to Helen Maynard-Casely. We do need suggestions for next year's thesis prize that is again sponsored by PANanalytical, so please encourage students to send in their theses and let people know that the prize exists.

9. Any other business

At the end of her two consecutive terms, Ivana will be stepping down from the committee and we therefore need to identify a new Newsletter editor. Helen could be interested in doing the news letter.