



International Neurotoxicology Association

INA Newsletter

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Colleagues,

INA 8 has just ended in Estoril, Portugal and I am delighted with the quality of the meeting. Despite a solid week of beautiful warm, sunny weather and a meeting site highly conducive to spending time on the beach, all of the scientific sessions were well attended! Top rate science lured us indoors. I cannot remember a higher quality nor more enjoyable INA meeting. And our gratitude is due to our hosts, Ana Paula dos Santos and Maria Batoreu—for their hard work and careful planning. In addition, the scientific program committee consisting of Miki Aschner, Maria Batoreu, Kai Savolainen, Lucio Costa, David Ray and Ana Paula dos Santos worked hard to develop a first class program. Special highlights of the program included Dr. John Olney's Hooisma Lecture entitled, "New Insights and New Issues in Developmental Neurotoxicity" and the first student symposium. Social highlights included a day excursion to Cascais and Sintra, an evening banquet at the Estoril Casino, and the soccer game.

I hope to have the opportunity to help INA attain some important goals that will facilitate the development of our Association and of our science. We should soon attain legal status as a non-profit organization in the Netherlands. We have also recently been granted membership in IUTOX. These steps will provide us with increasing credibility when applying for conference grants and seeking meeting sponsorship.

Some of the challenges we face include how to increase scientific interaction given our biannual meeting schedule, how to program our meeting effectively to accommodate the growing number of presentations, and how to build upon our initial success in bringing talented graduate students to our meeting? These are, indeed, enjoyable challenges as they reflect the fact that our society is active and growing. During the next two years I hope to explore with you the possibility of developing a program to support collaborative research visits between laboratories. Increasing international collaboration and improving research opportunities for young scientists and students are, in my view, fundamental aspects of INA's mission. In addition, we will explore the possibility of increased interaction with the neurobehavioral section of ICOH, the International Committee on Occupational Health. This group will meet next year in Brescia, Italy, hosted by Roberto Lucchini.

A very important decision reached at INA was to hold our next meeting in Dresden, Germany. The local organizing

committee will be chaired by Professor Andreas Seeber. I urge you to contact Andreas with your ideas concerning symposia for that meeting. I also would appreciate suggestions for the Hooisma lecturer and general thoughts about meeting organization.

Finally, I am very lucky to serve as President of INA at a time when the Executive Committee consists of a number of talented and hard-working individuals. They are: Miki Aschner, Past President, Carey Pope, President-Elect, Jordi Llorens, Secretary, Henk Vijverberg, Treasurer, and David Ray and Rich Seegal Councillors. A special recognition is due to Kevin Crofton who edits this Newsletter, maintains our webpages, and serves as an unofficial treasurer of INA in the United States.

Best wishes for a new academic year of promise and accomplishment!

Larry Fechter

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INA-9 in Dresden

The 9th Meeting of the International Neurotoxicology Association will be held in Dresden, Germany, June 23 - 27, 2003. The following is a note from the organizers of INA-9. The conference theme is: "Neurotoxicological mechanisms of occupational and environmental exposure"

Dear INA-members, dear friends,

It is an honor and a pleasure to invite you to the 9th Meeting of the International Neurotoxicology Association (INA-9). We try to arrange a program with traditional and new, comprising different developments in neurotoxicological research. Additional proposals for congress symposia and the Jacob-Hooisma-Lecture are welcome. Please, use the links of the web page (www.INA-9.org) or the e-mail address (ina-9@ifado.de) to inform the local organizers or contact the members of the INA executive board. Congress information will be continuously updated on the INA-9 web page according to the organizational progress. On behalf of the organizing committee and the INA executive board, we cordially invite you to INA-9 in Dresden.

Andreas Seeber
Ernst Kiesswetter
Christoph van Thriel

Congress Venue: The 9th Meeting of the International Neurotoxicology Association will be held in summer 2003 in the old German town of Dresden, by the riverside Elbe. Dresden is known as "Florence of the North" and we hope a sunny summer weather to take the impression as it is in the Italian Florence.

To make the stay in Germany during the INA-Congress 2003 as enjoyable and interesting as possible, according to the long tradition of INA conferences, a modern conference building was chosen in natural suburban surroundings but not too far away from the architecturally interesting cultural center of the city. Most of the conference participants will be accommodated in the hotel rooms of the conference building.

The congress venue is the Academy in Dresden of the German Berufsgenossenschaften (BGs) which support the conference. The German Berufsgenossenschaften are corporations under public law responsible for the prevention of accidents as well as accident insurance in cases of occupational accidents, commuting accidents and occupational diseases.

The Address of the Academy:

Institute Occupational Health and Safety Standards
Berufsgenossenschaftliches Institut Arbeit und Gesundheit (BGAG), Königsbrücker Landstraße 2, D - 01109 Dresden, Germany

Last but not least, there will be plenty of opportunities for the Soccer Match (and other exercise) and amusements.

Local organization of the conference:

A. Seeber, E. Kiesswetter, C. van Thriel

Institute for Occupational Physiology at the University of Dortmund, Unit: Neurobehavioral Toxicology, <http://www.ifado.de>

E-mail: ina-9@ifado.de or

seeber@ifado.de; kiesswetter@ifado.de;
thriel@ifado.de

In co-operation with:

G. Winneke, L. Altmann, H. Lilienthal, H. Wiegand, Medical Institute for Environmental Hygiene at the University of Düsseldorf, Department of Neurobehavioral Toxicology.

<http://www.miu.uni-duesseldorf.de>

e-mail: gerhard.winneke@uni-duesseldorf.de

Conference Fee and Accommodation:

The conference fee will be in the range of 400 € for non-INA-members 350 € for INA-members. This includes: Registration-fee, book of abstracts, coffee breaks, lunch, and social program (Welcome at Sunday, tours and evening event at Wednesday). It is a special fee, which could be arranged with support of the Institute Occupational Health and Safety Standards in Dresden, the local host. There are about 100 hotel rooms available in the Academy (about 80 € for a single room) and a block booking of alternative hotels is prepared.

Important Dates:

Sept 2002: Second announcement, details of the conference program
Dec, 31, 2002: deadline for abstract submission

Call for Nominations- Hooisma Lecture

One of the most important events held at INA meetings is the Hooisma Lecture in which we invite an eminent scientist to present a scientific address. The lecture is named, of course, for Jakob Hooisma, one of INA's co-founders, who died, tragically, at a very early age. The Executive Committee is soliciting nominations from the membership for the 2003 Hooisma lecture. Nominations should include brief biographical information on the nominee (including contact information), a list of recent manuscripts published by the nominee, and a working title or research focus that would be the subject of the talk. Send nominations to Larry Fechter (see address below).

Student Symposium Nominations

INA members are encouraged to nominate their students for a travel stipend to attend INA9 and the chance to present their work in a student symposium. To be eligible, students must have completed at least the second year of graduate study and, at most, have completed their doctoral degree after June 2002. Applications are due by January 15, 2003 for consideration by the Executive Committee. Applications consist of a copy of the student's CV, an official transcript from the institution where they are doing graduate study, an extended abstract (1 page single space) describing the research to be presented, and a letter of nomination by the student's graduate mentor. Applications should be sent to: Dr. Laurence Fechter, Oklahoma Center for Toxicology, University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center, PO Box 26901, Oklahoma City OK 73190 USA

Speaking of Student Awards: It is also important to highlight the student award winners for INA-8. Congratulations to the following students: Elsa Dias, Paula Altivo, Cleide Fernandes-Teixeira, Kennet Olivier; Stephanie J Garcia, Elena Fonfria, Jeffrey W. Allen, Deepa B. Rao, R.F.M. Silva, Mona Tiruchelvam (see page 6 for photos)

Update on Incorporation of INA

June 26 2002, ~3:15 pm, The Netherlands: Beverly Kulig and Henk Vijverberg (INA Treasurer) signed the official legal statute of the International Neurotoxicology Association



in the presence of "notaris" (lawyer) Nico Cussell. This means that INA is officially incorporated in The Netherlands. This is an historic date for INA! Special thanks go to Beverly and Henk for tackling this onerous task.

Election Results

The latest round of elections resulted in the following new Officers: Carey Pope as President-elect, Jordi Llorens as Secretary, Henk Vijverberg as Treasurer, and Rich Seegal and David Ray as Councilors.

INA Executive Committee

Names and contact information for all members of the Executive Committee of INA are printed on the last page of this newsletter. Please contact your officers with ideas, questions, suggestions, etc. Remember the society is here to serve you. Your participation will ensure the continuing success of INA.

Announcing - Neurotox'03

The sixth meeting in the international Neurotox series will be held in Nottingham, U.K. over September 1st to 4th 2003. Please can you put these dates into your diary? In the past, these meetings (which are sponsored by the U.K. Society of Chemical Industry) have had a strong emphasis on pesticides, but in 2003 we are broadening the theme to include general neurotoxicology as well. The reason for this is that the pesticides area has learnt a lot from molecular level studies, and we want to help others to benefit from that experience. The objective of Neurotox'03 is therefore to bring the latest genomic and proteomic expertise to bear on the broader issues faced by neurotoxicologists as a group.

We have assembled an international advisory panel (including several INA members) and our intention is to build each session around a key speaker, with further speakers selected from those submitting relevant abstracts. There will be three main sessions: Structure and function of ion channels; Susceptibility and resistance; and Genomes and proteins, plus poster sessions and workshops. In addition to the more academic sessions, we will also have a half day workshop on Current issues in Drug and Pesticide Regulation, to bring out the practical relevance of the themes of the conference for product managers and regulators.

Further information can be obtained from the conference secretariat (email: secretariat@soci.org) or from myself (david.ray@nottingham.ac.uk), and I would also welcome your suggestions for programme items and speakers.

David Ray

(on behalf of the Organizing Committee of Neurotox'03)

Membership Issues

Dues:

Membership dues for the 2003-2004 years will be due in the spring of 2003. A notice will be sent to all current members. A copy of the dues notice will also be posted to the INA website. Any questions about membership should be sent to the INA Secretary, Jordi Llorens. jllorens@bell.uib.es.

Dues are cheap and are the major source of funds for the society so please remember to pay your dues. Please join if you are not currently a member. In order to increase membership we are asking all members to contact colleagues and ask them to join. Send them a copy of this newsletter, an email, or give them a phone call!

Membership information and applications are also available from the INA website at:

<http://www.neurotoxicology.org/member1.html>

A Note About EMAIL Addresses:

To save mailing costs of newsletters and other items of interest, we will be changing over to electronic communications in the near future. If you don't have access

to the internet, or lack an email address, do not worry, you will still receive newsletters via mail.

Please notify the INA Secretary Jordi Llorens whenever you change your email address. jllorens@bellub.es

INA WebSites:

Check out the INA Website:

<http://www.neurotoxicology.org>

You can find copies of newsletters, meeting information, a membership application and more. If you have any suggestions or items you would like posted on the website just send a note to Kevin Crofton (crofton.kevin@epa.gov).

A Note from the Editor:

After a long hiatus the latest edition of the INA Newsletter has finally arrived. I apologize for being so tardy with this edition. Hopefully this year will mark a new beginning for the Newsletter. I plan to have two yearly editions. One in June and another in December.

Research Highlights

This is a feature in the INA newsletter where we highlight the research interests of members. Hopefully this will lead to increased interest in these important avenues of research and/or collaborative efforts. Any INA member wishing to highlight their research area or ask for collaboration can send a short article to the editor for publication in the next issue. More immediate needs for dissemination of information can be posted on the INA website or emailed to members.

International Research Opportunities

In this section of the INA Newsletter we publish information about international research opportunities. Please send the Editor information about any international research opportunities. This section is mostly about US organizations that provide Research Opportunities. Member in other parts of the world should send announcements to the newsletter editor.

Announcing the AstraZeneca Fellowships to attend the 2003 Society of Toxicology, USA. IUTOX is pleased to offer fellowships, sponsored by AstraZeneca, to attend the SOT, USA meeting. Please note the January 03, 2003 deadline and kindly circulate this announcement to qualified candidates in your Society.

IUTOX announces the availability of three (3) fellowship awards sponsored by AstraZeneca, each of \$2,500 USD, to attend the 2003 Society of Toxicology, USA (SOT) meeting. The meeting will be held in Salt Lake City, Utah, USA on March 9-13, 2003. The awardees must be senior scientists from a country where toxicology is underrepresented, and have an active research program or currently be active in the practice of toxicology. The

following criteria will be used to select recipients of the awards:

- A brief statement indicating how the awardee will benefit from the fellowship
- Curriculum vitae including email address if available and fax
- A strong letter of recommendation from the home Society
- Demonstration of the ability to meet other expenses to attend the meeting.
- An Abstract for the meeting is optional

See also the SOT website: <http://www.toxicology.org>

All submissions must be received no later than January 3, 2003. IUTOX HQ, 1767 Business Center Dr., Suite 302, Reston, VA 20190. Email: shawnl@aim-hq.com, FAX: (703) 438-3113.

Awardees will be notified by January 31, 2003. Awards will be issued at the SOT meeting.

Fulbright Scholar Program: provides US scientists with overseas travel opportunities ranging from 2-12 months information from www.cies.org <<http://www.iie.org/cies/>>

Zeneca Traveling Lectureship Awards: The Zeneca Traveling Lectureship Awards are presented through the Society of Toxicology to recognize excellence in research and service in toxicology. Zeneca, Ltd., provides two awards annually to promote greater collaboration between European and North American toxicologists and to enable North American toxicologists to undertake a three- to four-week lecture tour of Europe. Applicants must be members of SOT. <www.toxicology.org/Awards/awards.html>

Fogarty Center of NIH: Provides research training opportunities for non-US scientists seeking to undertake training at a US laboratory. Information from www.nih.gov/fic/opportunities/index.html <<http://www.nih.gov/fic/opportunities/index.html>>

Open Positions

Postdoctoral Position:

The National Health and Environmental Effects Research Laboratory (NHEERL) of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is seeking candidates to fill approximately 10 federal post-doctoral research positions during the coming year. As one of the national laboratories within the Office of Research and Development (ORD), NHEERL is EPA's focal point for scientific research on the effects of contaminants and environmental stressors on human health and ecosystems. NHEERL utilizes a multi-disciplinary approach to solving research problems. Assimilation and integration of information across environmental disciplines and across multiple levels of biological organizations (from molecular to the whole organism, and from the organism to the ecosystem levels)

strengthen analyses of environmental issues. Several of these positions will present developmental opportunities which may be cross-organizational or cross-disciplinary; i.e., within or across NHEERL ecology or health divisions; across lab and human or ecological field studies; and across other national laboratories/centers within ORD or regulatory program offices within EPA.

Because of NHEERL's broad research mission and multi-disciplinary approach, we are seeking candidates from a wide range of disciplinary backgrounds. The preferred candidate will have earned a Ph.D. in one of the following areas (or a closely related field): biochemistry, biology

(e.g., cellular, molecular), biomedical or chemical engineering, biostatistics/modeling, development and reproduction, ecology (e.g., aquatic, coastal systems, coral, ecosystem, estuarine, landscape, marine, microbial), ecotoxicology, endocrinology, environmental sciences, epidemiology, genetics, geographic information science, geomorphology, geostatistics, immunology, microbiology, neurosciences, pharmaceutical sciences, pharmacology, physical chemistry, physiology, plant physiology, population/community modeling, pulmonology, or toxicology. Candidates with an M.D. or D.V.M. degree and a background demonstrating experience conducting scientific research may also be considered.

For more information go to:

<http://www.epa.gov/nheerl/postdocs/>

Future Meetings of Interest

ICT X - 2004: The 10th International Congress of Toxicology "Living in a Safe Chemical World". Organized jointly by the Finnish Society of Toxicology and the International Union of Toxicology, 11-16 July, 2004 Tampere, Finland. Contact: ICT X Congress Secretariat TSG-Congress Ltd; Kaisaniemenkatu 3 B, FIN-00100 HELSINKI, Finland; Tel. +358 201 301 311; Fax +358 201 301 349; E-mail ictx@tsgcongress.fi; <http://www.ictx.org>

International Congress of Turkish Society of Toxicology

The Turkish Society of Toxicology invites you to the 5th International Congress, to be held in Antalya, Turkey, April 24 - 27, 2003. For more information please send your data (full name and postal address, phone and FAX numbers and e-mail address) to Dr. Yalçın Duydu to the following e-mail address: duydu@pharmacy.ankara.edu.tr

2002 Neurotoxicology Conference - Call for Oral and Poster Abstracts, November 18 - 21, 2002. 20th International Neurotoxicology Conference Theme - "Emerging Issues in Neurotoxicology". The Peabody Hotel, Little Rock, Arkansas, USA. For information please contact: Prof. Joan Cranmer, Department of Pediatrics, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, 1120 Marshall - Rm 304, Little Rock, AR 72202 USA. Tel: (501) 320-2986; Fax: (501) 320-4978; Email: CranmerJoanM@uams.edu. Website:

www.neurotoxicology.com; Abstract Deadlines

September 1, 2002 - for Oral Presentation; October 1, 2002 - for Posters.

Photos from INA-8

Here are some visual reminders of a great meeting in Portugal!



The Football Players Association of INA-8: From left-to-right, back-row: Victor Shefel; Yoram Finkelstein; Christoph van Thriel; Tomas Guilarte; Richard Parsons; Miki Aschner; Donate DiMonte; Roberto Lucchini; Russell Roberts; Ernst Kiesswetter; front-row: Tarik N. Zawia; Lucio Costa; Nasser Zawia.



Student Award Winners at INA-8: Left-to-right, top-row: Elsa Dias; Kenneth Olivier; Jeffrey W. Allen; Deepa B. Rao; R.F.M. Silva; Middle-row: Elena Fonfria; Stephanie J Garcia; Bottom-row: Mona Tiruchelvam; Paula Alvito. Not pictured is Cleide Fernandes-Teixeira.



Yoram Finkelstein and friend rejuvenate after some strenuous lectures.



The local organizers of INA-8, Ana Paula dos Santos and Maria Batoreu.



Peter Lund demonstrates his remarkable likeness to a statue!



Kai Savolainen relaxes in the shade.

Minutes INA Business Meeting Estoril 19 June 2001

President Aschner called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m..

The minutes of the July 1999 Business Meeting were approved without amendment.

Old Business:

President Aschner gave many thanks to Larry Fechter as Secretary, to Kevin Crofton as Newsletter and Website Editor, and to all the member of the Local Organizing Committee of INA-8.

The following new INA officers were introduced: Richard F. Seegal and David E. Ray as Councilors, Henk Vijverberg as Treasurer, Jordi Llorens as Secretary, Carey Pope as President Elect; and Larry Fechter, former Secretary and President Elect, as President.

New Treasurer Henk Vijverberg reported that the Association has a account balance of approximately 65000 NL Guilder and an additional 23000 NL Guilder in the Jacob Hooisma Fund and 600 US \$ in the US account. He indicated that an update using data available to the previous treasurer, Beverly Kulig, or to the holder of the US account, Kevin Crofton, was still required to provide the final exact balance of this account.

A motion was made and approved to thank B. Kulig's task as former treasurer.

The Treasurer informed that student's expenses at INA-8 will be paid by INA.

The report of auditor's concerning treasury report could not be heard because the treasury books were not available due to B. Kulig not attending the meeting.

It was informed that the final English version of INA's by-laws was being translated to Dutch by a lawyer company. This legal Dutch version is needed for INA's registration as a non-profit organization in The Netherlands.

President Aschner opened the discussion on the need for changing the place for INA-9 - 2003, as a consequence of the present situation in Israel. I. Desi suggested to maintain Jerusalem in first place and to have Zagreb as a second choice if really necessary at the end. However, it was decided that INA could not afford such a last moment change. Two bids were presented:

- To hold INA-9 in Dresden, at the Academy for Safety and health Protection at Work of the German Industrial Injury Insurance, and organized mostly by the groups in Dortmund and Dusseldorf. This bid was presented by Andreas Seeber and Ernst Kiesswetter.
- To hold INA-9 at either South Carolina (beach place) or North Carolina (mountain place), and organized mostly by the groups from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in Research Triangle Park (NC). This bid was presented by Virginia C. Moser.

A vote of members present resulted in: 28 votes for Dresden; 11 votes for the Carolinas

Presentation of bids for INA-10 - 2005: The only bid was that presented by Kiti Müller, to hold INA-10 in Finland. The proposal was accepted by the present members without need for votes.

New Business:

President Aschner informed on the decision of the EC to submit INA's membership application for IUTOX without waiting for the Dutch version of the by-laws. The audience was also informed that the fee that INA will have to pay for IUTOX membership should be in the range of 300-400 US \$ / year.

The question of whether INA's representative should be INA's President or another INA member was raised. It was argued that a President's term of two years may be too short to assure continuity in the relationship between INA and IUTOX. Kai Savolainen informed that the way IUTOX works makes continuity of society's representatives a minor question. The discussion was postponed until INA's application to IUTOX is in a more advanced stage.

The audience was stimulated to consider preparing proposals for INA-11 - 2007. The Jerusalem group was particularly encouraged to prepare this proposal should the situation in Israel improve as everybody would desire.

Passing of the gravel. President Aschner became Past-President, and President Elect Fechter became President.

Respectfully submitted
Jordi Llorens,, Secretary

Minutes INA Executive Committee Meeting Estoril 17 June 2001

Members present:

- From the Executive Committee: Michael Aschner, Laurence Fechter, Carey Pope, Henk Vijverberg, Kai Savolainen, and Jordi Llorens.
- From the INA-8 Local Organizing Committee: Ana Paula dos Santos, and Maria Camila Batoréu.

President Aschner called the meeting to order.

The minutes of the March 2000 EC meeting were approved without amendment.

Old Business:

Miki Aschner thanked the task developed by Larry Fechter as Secretary, and Ana Paula dos Santos and Maria Camila Batoréu as organizers of INA-8.

The following new INA officers were introduced: Henk Vijverberg as Treasurer, Jordi Llorens as Secretary, and Carey Pope as President Elect.

Ana Paula dos Santos and Maria Camila Batoréu reported on INA-8. There are 152 attendants, including full participants, students, invited speakers, members from the local organization, and accompanying persons. There are 10 students receiving support to attend INA-8. The expected incomes of the Local Organization are approximately 68000 euro from registration fees and Portuguese sponsors. The expected expenses are approximately 73000 euro. A transfer from INA accounts will be required to cover the difference. The expected incomes from US sponsors will be available for this purpose. This amount does not include the contribution from the US EPA, which is being transferred to Miki Aschner to pay for the Proceedings of INA-8 to be published in Neurotoxicology.

Miki Aschner and Henk Vijverberg asked what is the maximal amount of money paid for travel of the invited speakers. The need to keep these expenses as low as possible is highlighted.

Miki Aschner emphasized the benefits from the support given to students to attend the Meeting, and all the EC members agreed that this support must be maintained and increased as possible.

Henk Vijverberg reported that the Association has an account balance of approximately 65000 NL Guilder and an additional 23000 NL Guilder in the Jacob Hooisma Fund and 600 US \$ in the US account. He indicated that an update using data available to the previous treasurer, Beverly Kulig, or to the holder of the US account, Kevin Crofton, was still required to provide the final exact balance of this account.

Dues payment by american members is in progress. Members from other countries are beginning to pay after the Dues Notice recently issued by previous treasurer, Beverly Kulig.

It was decided that dues notices shall be issued during January of the meeting year, and deadline for payment will be the meeting dates. According to this, next dues notice shall be distributed January 2003.

M. Aschner informed that the financial support received from the EPA must be used in its entirety to pay for the publication of the Proceedings of INA-8 in Neurotoxicology.

The number of manuscripts submitted at each INA meeting was evaluated. M. Aschner stressed the fact that the number of manuscripts received after INA-7 was below expectancies, and that the amount of money used for the publication of the Proceedings may be too large if only so few manuscripts are received. Kai Savolainen proposed, and the Executive Committee accepted that invited speakers would not be paid their expenses until they give a manuscript for the Proceedings. Exception to this, the speaker of the Jacob Hooisma's lecture will be paid even if he/she refuses to give a manuscript. It was however decided that the Hooisma's lecturer should be strongly encouraged to write an article for the Proceedings.

It was informed that the final English version of INA's by-laws was being translated to Dutch by a lawyer company. This legal Dutch version is needed for INA's registration as a non-profit organization in The Netherlands. L. Fechter announced that he would work towards the acceleration of this process.

INA-9: M Aschner informed that he had been asking people from a number of different countries to prepare a proposal to organize INA-9 in 2003, as the present situation in Israel advise against the previous decision to have it in Jerusalem. Two groups will present proposals to hold INA-9 in the East-Coast of the USA or in Dresden (Germany). Decisions on INA-9 must be taken quickly as adequate financial support requires well elaborated programs.

Sponsorship of a journal by INA: M. Aschner informed that the membership was divided on the usefulness of sponsoring a journal, and that the editorial asking for this sponsorship (Elsevier) was not as interested as previously after it has bought Neurotoxicology. As a consequence, INA would take little profit from this sponsoring, and this recommends to abandon this idea, at least for a few years.

New Business:

The previous decision of applying to become a member society of the IUTOX has not been translated into action because the by-laws are not ready. However, Kai Savolainen informed that a copy of the final English version of the by-laws would be enough to start the application process, and that IUTOX membership may be asked before the Dutch version of the by-laws is approved in The Netherlands. It was approved that new President Fechter will initiate the process immediately.

The Executive Meeting was adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted
Jordi Llorens, Secretary

Minutes INA Executive Committee Meeting Nashville March 17, 2002

Members present:

- From the Executive Committee: Laurence Fechter, Henk Vijverberg, Richard Seegal, David Ray and Jordi Llorens.
- Invited members: Kevin Crofton and Beverly Kulig.

President Larry Fechter called the meeting to order.

The minutes of the March 2000 EC meeting were approved without amendment.

Old Business:

Larry Fechter informed that INA has been accepted as member society of IUTOX. Informal discussion on this issue pointed out that IUTOX might give publicity to INA and provide financial support for INA meetings. The EC members were not particularly concerned with the possibility that IUTOX may want to influence the activities of the INA Meetings. Dues notice for this membership has not been received, but the amount to be paid is likely to be moderate.

Secretary Jordi Llorens reported that INA has received 13 membership applications. Of these, 4 applications for full membership and 7 applications for student membership were approved. Welcomed new members are:

- full members: Sandra Cecatelli from Sweden; Larry P. Sheets, USA; Carmina Montoliu, Spain; Floria C. Pancetti, Chile
- student members: Mona I. Tiruchelvam, USA; Elena Fonfria, Spain; My Mustapha Bouyatas, Morocco; Joanne Garlton, Italy; Elena Herrero, Italy; Jason R. Cannon, USA; Juan Carlos Rios, Chile

Two applications were not approved because the information provided by the applicants was incomplete or inadequate.

After the new members were added, INA had 218 members, including 199 full members, 19 student members. There were also 6 persons with and uncertain membership status due to incomplete information in the database. Out of the 218 full and student members, the INA database contains e-mail addresses for 195 members.

Councilor Richard Seegal raised the point that student applications do not include proof that the applicant is a student. It was decided that a different application form would be edited for student membership, on which a request for that proof will be included. It was also decided that proof of studentship status will be required to previously accepted student members at the time of dues notice, in January of the meeting (even) years.

Jordi Llorens informed that INA has received letters of interest from people that finally did not apply because of difficulties in paying the membership fee. The idea of waiving the fee and approving membership for non-paying persons was dismissed by the EC, but it was approved to include these persons in the lists of e-mails for distribution of INA open information, like advertisement for INA meetings.

Councilor David Ray, in his name and in the name of President-Elect Carey Pope, raised the issue that membership needs to be increased. The EC agreed that INA should actively seek new members. The motion was raised and approved that a "Recruitment Committee" shall be created, and that Carey Pope should chair it and be free to choose the INA members (either in and outside the EC) that may help him to raise ideas and take them into action for this purpose. One certain idea was that a brochure for distribution should be edited as soon as the INA is registered as a non-profit organization in The Netherlands.

Website and Newsletter editor Kevin Crofton informed that he had just begun to collect items for the newsletter, and that so far he had only received one postdoc announcement. The Letter from the President after INA-8 in Estoril is also available, and the Secretary promised a membership report. Beverly Kulig suggested to directly asking contributions to chosen members as a way to get a sizeable amount of contributions.

The issue of the distribution process was raised. As e-mail addresses are available for 195 members, it was decided that the newsletter should be distributed in electronic format (PDF or similar) to these members and only sent by mail to the members for whom an e-mail address is not available. Larry Fechter pointed out the need for keeping contact within INA, and that a frequency of two newsletters per year would be appropriate for that purpose and possible thanks to electronic distribution.

At this point in the meeting, Jordi Llorens asked whether the INA membership list should be distributed. It was approved that the list should be distributed by regular mail, and that an e-mail should be distributed to members asking whether they would prefer to have their data eliminated from distribution. It was also decided that any necessary mailing would be done each time by a different EC member, in a rotating order, to avoid to place too much work on the Secretary.

Kevin Crofton informed also that INA Website is now listed in the list of relevant scientific web pages issued by ISI-CC.

The member responsible for the legalization process of INA, Beverly Kulig, informed on the task done by Dutch lawyers to convert the rules approved by the INA membership into two different sets of rules, the Statutes, which need to be not much detailed but legally approved and registered, and the By-Laws, that will more precisely detail the rules

by which INA will function, but that will be possible to change by the membership without need for legal approval. The kinds of arrangements made were explained. An example is that of the composition of the Executive Committee: the by-laws approved by the membership stated that the EC will include the past-president, the president, the president-elect, the secretary, the treasurer, and two councilors; the Statutes will state the minimum requirements according to the Dutch law: the EC will be made of a minimum of four members, including the president, the secretary and the treasurer. The exact composition of the EC will then be described in the By-Laws.

Beverly Kulig announced that the task of registering our Association would be finished around mid-April. The holder of the INA main accounts in The Netherlands, Beverly Kulig, reported on INA finances at the date of January 15, 2002. The checking account had a balance of approximately 4000 euro, after cost of approximately 27000 euro and income of approximately 11000 euro. The savings account had a balance of 17000 euro and the Jacob Hooisma fund 11000 euro. Beverly Kulig raised the opinion that the INA treasurer should in the future develop a yearly budget, to better control finances and to avoid unexpected drops in account balances. She and the present treasurer Henk Vijverberg explained also their efforts towards the possibility that TNO becomes the funding source for the Jacob Hooisma lecture.

Larry Fechter presented the financial report received from the Local Organizing Committee of INA-8 in Estoril. The report showed an income of 76 644 euro, and expenses of 76 500 euro, thus resulting in a positive balance of only 144 euro, thus not covering the 5000 euro INA had provided as "seed money" to start the meeting and that were expected to be reimbursed. The EC members agreed that this failure stresses the need that the Treasurer of INA is involved in the finances of the INA meetings as stated in the By-Laws. The EC members also agreed that the financial report from INA-8 was not detailed enough for an adequate evaluation, and that more details should be requested from the Local Organizing Committee. Larry Fechter will ask for such a new report from Portugal. Beverly Kulig raised one motion that was approved: that the Organizing Committee for any INA meeting should prepare a budget of the meeting before undertaking any action.

News from INA-9, to be held in Dresden, Germany, in June 2003, were available. Larry Fechter showed the letter sent by Andreas Seeber to the EC members in the fall of 2001, and the answer he had sent to Andreas in January 2002 after receiving the comments from the EC members. An answer to this last letter had not yet been received. It was also announced that the Local Organizing Committee for INA-9 has already open the web page for the Meeting at <http://www.INA-9.org/>. The EC members agreed that it was time to ask INA members for proposals for Conferences and Symposia for INA-9.

The student activities at INA-8 were reviewed and judged highly successful. The fact that student support will be available from INA for attendance of INA meetings will be publicized from the very beginning of the activities of the meeting. The EC agreed to maintain and increase as much as possible, according to financial resources, these activities.

New Business:

It was agreed that the INA Website editor would be regularly invited to the meetings of the INA EC committee.

It was agreed that the INA Treasurer would be the only person authorizing payments, and that the holder of the USA INA account will not make any payment not ordered by the Treasurer. This will ensure the better coordination between the European and the US INA accounts.

The possibility to create an INA-sponsored e-mail distribution list was not approved at this time, but the need to send information to non-members interested in INA activities was stressed.

Larry Fechter proposed to create an INA Young Investigator Travel Award to support INA young members for research visits from 3 months to 1 year in countries different from their origin. The head of the host laboratory would also be an INA member. The EC agreed that INA had at this time not enough money to support the proposal. Nevertheless, the document prepared by Larry was taken by several EC members to study the possibility of raising external funds specifically for this purpose.

The Executive Meeting was adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted
Jordi Llorens, Secretary

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