

International Society of Bionic Engineering

Minutes of the Executive Board of Directors

(15:00, April 14th 2015, Instituto Superior Técnico, Lisboa, Portugal)

Present:

President: Julian F.V. Vincent, University of Oxford, UK

Standing Vice-president: Luquan Ren, Jilin University, China

Vice-President: Thomas Stegmaier, ITV Denkendorf, Germany

General Secretary: Jianqiao Li, Jilin University, China

Quorum Present: 2/3

Others Present:

Deputy General Secretary: Yuying Yan, University of Nottingham, UK

Portugal Representative: Ana Sofia Olivera Henriques Moita, Instituto Superior Técnico, Lisboa, Portugal

Director, Office of Secretariat: Runmao Wang (taking the Minutes)

The meeting was chaired by Julian Vincent.

1. Welcome

2. Apologies for non-attendance

Michael King sent apologies for non-attendance.

3. Minutes of the last meeting

4. Matters arising from the Minutes of the last meeting

One of the questions is if the Chinese Society happened. Jianqiao Li said that it is very difficult to be registered in China even though we have mentioned it for three years.

5. Discussion Programme

5.1 Progress of this year's International Workshop, IWBE2015

Jianqiao Li reported the workshop information had been released on the ISBE website and the workshop's own website will be set up soon.

Julian Vincent and Yuying Yan suggested focusing on only two or three key themes. Because workshops are different from conferences, a wider range of themes can be included in ICBE'16.

Action: Yuying Yan will talk with Prof. Zhang in Beihang University and choose three topics for this year's meeting.

5.2 Biomimetic Workshop in 2015

Julian Vincent introduced his successful workshop in Oxford University and suggested the same for the Biomimetic Workshop in 2015 in Changchun.

Action: Biomimetic Workshop 2015 will adopt the new method following the suggestion of Julian Vincent.

5.3 Progress of EU Network Workshop in Lisbon in 2015

Ana introduced the EU Network project and its progress. ISBE will support the project by putting information on the EU Network on the ISBE website and in the newsletter.

5.4 Nomination & Evaluation of Bionic Engineering Award in 2016

Jianqiao Li proposed that the number of nominations is unsatisfactory, maybe due to sufficient time before the deadline. Directors were asked for suggestions for nomination. Yuying Yan suggested inviting some scholars to nominate candidates. Julian Vincent said we can ask the Fellows to nominate.

5.5 Plenary lectures for ICBE2016

Yuying Yan reported on ICBE2016. The conference will be on June 21-24, 2016. The website is set up. There will be 3 or 4 plenary lectures. The candidates could be the winners of the Bionic Engineering Award, Fellow Members, and scholars from China, Canada, Germany, UK, and USA etc. He will seek further support from local government in China.

5.6 Regular election of the Board of Directors in 2016

Jianqiao Li confirmed the contribution of Julian Vincent to ISBE. However, according to the Statutes of the Society, we have to re-elect the president next year in Ningbo. Julian Vincent suggested the Office of Secretariat can draft a resolution and send it to National Representatives and the Executive Board to ask for their opinions.

Luquan Ren mentioned ISBE is established in 2010, and is still developing. Julian has made a significant contribution to the society, and also enjoys incomparable position in bionic area. We expect Julian can continue to serve as the president of ISBE.

Action: all participants supported Julian continues to serve as the president of ISBE. The election of the Board of Directors will be held during ICBE'16.

5.7 Development of individual membership and change of Board of Directors

Jianqiao Li reported that there are 668 ISBE members from 44 different countries. 5 Fellow Members were granted in 2014 and 2 Directors were nominated, they are Prof. Gebeshuber from Malaysia and Dr. Moita from Portugal. However only 2/3 of them are active, maybe the number of Directors on the Board should be reduced in 2016. Thomas Stegmaier suggested we should involve more National Representatives from Africa and South America.

5.8 On membership dues and donations

Jianqiao Li said that because the policy had changed, funds from JLU are not sufficient for ISBE. Membership dues and donations must be on the agenda. Julian Vincent proposed that we need proper accounting and a budget so that members know the income and expenditure of the Society.

Action: More details about the membership dues and donations must be discussed. The Secretariat will prepare the documents.

5.9 Construction of the bionic database

Jianqiao Li reported that the construction of database has progressed with financial support of JLU. The MYSQL database includes six tables: papers, patents, institutions, journals, books and others.

Thomas Stegmaier suggested that different functions should be introduced to the bionic database, in that much of what was currently in it could be found using internet search engines. It would be more use to add links to institutions and research centers rather than papers and patents.

Meeting ended at 17:30