

**Minutes of the Business Meeting
of the
International Association of Chemical Thermodynamics (IACT)**

Fragrant Hills Hotel, Beijing, 19 August 2004

17.30-18.30

1. *Preliminary Matters*

The IACT Chairman, Jean-Pierre Grolier welcomed those present and referred to the first slide of the Powerpoint presentation, with the IACT logo and its aim of “promoting the advancement of chemical thermodynamics world-wide through measurement, evaluation and theory”. He explained that IACT had been set up in 2002 to extend the role of the former IUPAC Commission on Thermodynamics. In 2003, the IUPAC Council had granted Associated Organisation status to IACT. As given on the second slide, its main objectives were to arrange the biennial IUPAC Conferences on Chemical Thermodynamics, to select the Rossini Lecturer, to encourage young thermodynamicists by making Doctorate Awards, and to encourage collaboration between thermodynamicists through various projects.

He showed the Agenda for the meeting (slide).

2. *Apologies.*

Apologies had been received from Ron Weir, Manuel Ribeiro da Silva, Ulrich Deiters, and Bill Wakeham.

3. *Report on ICCTs (slide).*

Thanks were expressed to the Organisers of the present Conference. The total number of participants was about 400, with 250 from overseas.

The Chairman said that the 19th ICCT would be held in Boulder, Colorado, USA from 30 July to 4 August, 2006. The following ICCT would probably take place in Warsaw, Poland in 2008. A proposal had been received for ICCT-2010, but the Board would prefer to have a number of proposals for each Conference. He invited further proposals, and said that if anyone was interested and wanted further information, they should contact himself or the Secretary, John Dymond. A decision on the venue for ICCT-2010 would be taken in 2006.

4. *The Rossini Lectureship Award (slide)*

The Chairman explained that the Rossini Lectureship Award was made by the IACT in recognition of a significant contribution to the field of thermodynamics. It is presented every two years at the Biennial ICCT, when the recipient delivers the Rossini Lecture. Nominations are accepted from any member of the IACT during the three-month period following a Biennial Conference for the award to be made at the following Biennial Conference. The Award recipients are selected by the vote of the Board of Directors, as set out in the Bylaws of the Constitution, ARTICLE XI, Sections 3 and 4.

The Chairman invited nominations for the 2006 Award, pointing out that the deadline for nominations was 30 November 2004. The timetable for the ballot would be: 15th Dec 2004 circulation of ballot papers with resumés or c.v.'s to Board members, and 10 Jan 2005: deadline for receipt of ballot papers.

5. *Report on IACT Doctorate Awards (slide)*

The Secretary reported that the Doctorate Awards were based on research work in thermodynamics, which had been carried out in the previous two years before the ICCT. Applicants, who must be under 30 years of age, should submit an abstract of their paper at the latest three months before the ICCT. Further details would be given on the IACT web site for the 2006 Awards. The selection of prize winners shall be made by a small committee under the past-Chair, set up by him, and with the approval of the Board of Directors.

For this year, the first occasion on which these Awards were offered, there were only 5 applications. It was hoped that there would be many more, high quality applications next time.

6. *Report on Current Projects (slides)*

The Secretary drew members' attention to the variety of the projects currently being undertaken (task group leader in parentheses):

- Electrolyte Solution Data (J. Barthel)
- Thermochemistry of Chemical Reactions (M.A.V. Ribeiro da Silva)
- Standards, Calibration and Guidelines in Microcalorimetry (G. Della Gatta)
- Vapour-Liquid Critical Properties of Elements and Compounds (K.N. Marsh)
- International Thermodynamic Tables of the Fluid State. Benzene (W.A. Wakeham)
- Measurement of the Properties of Multiple Phases (Eds. Th. W. De Loos and R.D. Weir)
- Ionic Liquids (K.N. Marsh)
- Chemical Thermodynamics in Industry (Ed. T.M. Letcher)
- Recommended Values for the Viscosity of Molten Iron and Aluminium (W.A. Wakeham)
- XML-based IUPAC Standard for Experimental and Critically Evaluated Thermodynamic Property Data Storage and Capture (M. Frenkel)
- Ionic Liquids Database (K. Seddon)

7. *Proposals for New Projects (slide)*

The Secretary reported on two new projects. The first was a supplement to the earlier volumes on Heat Capacity of Liquids: Critical Review and Recommended Values to cover the years 2002-2004, with V. Ruzicka as task group leader. This project would benefit from additional collaboration, and assistance was invited, with interested persons being asked to contact the Chairman or Secretary.

The second project, currently just at the proposal stage, was for a database for hydration properties of selected organic solutes, with V. Majer as task group leader.

Members were encouraged to propose new projects to any Board member.

8. *Treasurer's Report (slide)*

The Treasurer spoke about the accounts, with reference to the financial statement for the period from 6 January 2003, when the interest-bearing account was opened for IACT with the Abbey National Bank plc (since changed in name to "Abbey"), to 31 April 2004. This showed a balance of GBP 5384.17, from income by donation from the ICCTs in Halifax (2000) and Rostock (2002), less expenses in connection with ICCT-2004.

Further expenses since then, mainly on the Doctorate Awards (USD 1500 plus travel expenses of award winners) and for setting up the IACT web site, would reduce this balance. Even with the promised USD 1000 from Elsevier towards the Doctorate Awards, IACT needed a higher regular income in order to fulfil its objectives of offering more Doctorate Awards in future years and contributing financially to IACT-approved projects.

Eckhard Vogel asked why only about 10% of the participants at the current Conference had joined IACT and paid their membership fee. Emmerich Wilhelm replied that special circumstances pertained to China. Ken Marsh said that the IACT Board at its meeting on Monday, 16 August in the Hotel had amended the Bylaws so that it would in future be a condition when awarding the Conference that the Organisers agreed to include the IACT membership fee in the registration fee, and pay it from the Conference in those cases where the registration fee was waived.

The Treasurer said that the Board was also actively seeking additional sponsors, and asked that any suggestions be sent to him.

There being no other points raised, the accounts were moved by Ken Marsh, seconded by Trevor Letcher and unanimously adopted. There was a vote of thanks to the Treasurer.

9. *Election of Directors (slides)*

The Secretary showed a slide with the names of members of the Board of Directors. In response to a question, he explained that a number of members of the Board were Counsellors. These were appointed by the elected Directors, so as to ensure that as far as possible, there was representation from all the main geographical areas of the world and with expertise in all the different areas of thermodynamics.

As IACT had been set up only in 2002, it was necessary to ask some Directors to stand down at this time in order to have a Board where members served staggered 4-year terms. In fact, Michio Sorai, Ulrich Deiters and Manuel Ribeiro da Silva had agreed to stand down. The last two offered themselves for re-election. Michio Sorai was thanked for all his work and support during these early years of IACT.

As per the Constitution, a Nominating Committee had been set up. It produced a list of 4 nominees: Prof. U.K. Deiters (University at Cologne, Germany), Prof. M.A.V. Ribeiro da Silva (University of Oporto, Portugal), Dr. R. Goldberg (NIST, Gaithersburg, Maryland, USA) and Prof. H. Inomata (Tohoku University, Sendai, Japan). In addition, Prof. T. Atake (Tokyo Institute of Technology, Tokyo, Japan) had been nominated by written petition, with the support of 13 IACT members.

Prof. Mary Anne White and Prof. Theo de Loos acted as tellers for the ballot which followed. The result was the election of Prof. U.K. Deiters, Prof. M.A.V. Ribeiro da Silva and Prof. T. Atake for the period 2004-2008.

10. *Any Other Business.*

There was no other business.

11. *Date of next meeting*

The next meeting will be held during ICCT-2006 in Boulder, Colorado, USA at a time and venue to be arranged.

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J.H. Dymond, IACT Secretary

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(date)