

Presidential Letter

Dear fellow plastinators,

We are looking back to a pleasant meeting in Brisbane where we met old and new friends. An excellent social program including a taste of kangaroo, crocodile and emu and a Waltzing Mathilda performance by Gunther von Hagens completed the interesting scientific program. With the typical Australian barbecue we said a farewell to each other. **Robbie Boyes, Peter Bore** and **Carol Lambert** did a very good job.

The New Zealanders **Peter Cook** and **Russell Barnett** managed the well attended pre-conference workshop, one of the best prepared plastination workshops ever. They also produced a video step-by-step instruction for all main techniques. It is now available from Peter Cook.

Brisbane was again a step forward for the International Society for Plastination:

- The official **LOGO** of the ISP was accepted and legalized.



- A " **PLASTINATOR'S HOMEPAGE** " has been set up at the Karl-Franzens-University of Graz. This WorldWideWeb page covers all the important things related to plastination and the ISP.

internet address:

<http://www.kfunigraz.ac.at/anawww/plast/index.html>

- A new important tool for looking up references on plastination was presented and distributed by Gilles Grondin and Régis Olry: The **CURRENT PLASTINATION INDEX**. An update of this excellent index is already in preparation.

- On the proposal of the treasurer, Ronn Wade, the membership **DUES** have been **reduced** to USD 75. for **TWO (!)** years for **ALL** members. The **FIRST YEAR** of membership will be **FREE OF CHARGE**. - So please sign up for the ISP, pay your dues and get the new ISP journal, the Current Plastination Index and a price reduction on registration fees of future conferences and workshops.

- A new **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE** that promised to maintain and improve the reputation of the ISP and to improve the Journal of the ISP to the best possible scientific standard was elected.

President: Andreas H. WEIGLEIN, Graz/Austria/Europe

Vice-President: Régis OLRÉY, Trois-Rivières/Québec/Canada

Secretary: Peter COOK, Auckland/New Zealand

Treasurer: Ronald S. WADE, Baltimore/Maryland/USA

Journal Editor: Gilles GRONDIN, Trois-Rivières/Québec/Canada

- **TROIS-RIVIERES/QUEBEC/CANADA** got the honor to host the 9th International Conference on Plastination in July 1998.

One of my ambitions for the future is to involve every ISP-member into the organization of the International Society for Plastination as far as possible and wanted.

One of my duties together with the other officers is to appoint several committees, or at least to replace or add some members to already existing committees.

Both my ambitions and my duties meet in this point: I want every ISP-member to consider if she/he will serve as a member of one or more of the following committees and apply for this/these position(s)- the members of each committee will than be appointed by the executive committee, i.e. the president, the vice-president, the secretary, the treasurer, and the journal editor:

1) **nomination committee** (according to art. VIII/sec. 3 of the ISP-bylaws),

2) **journal committee** (VIII/ 4),

3) **conference planning committee** (VIII/5),

4) **alternative financing committee** (ad hoc committee established in 1994).

ad 1) The **NOMINATION COMMITTEE (NC)** shall be responsible for preparing nominations for the biennial meetings (next: July 1998, Trois-Rivières/Québec/Canada). I.e. in January 1998, prior to the meeting, the NC shall mail out to each member, a call for nominations. Each member may nominate one person for each executive office, and shall mail such nomination back to the NC no later than the end of April. The NC shall then prepare a slate of no more than three or no less than two names for each position according to the response of the members.

ad 2) The **JOURNAL COMMITTEE (JC)** shall assist the journal editor in reviewing all articles submitted for publication. It shall be their responsibility to ensure that such submissions meet with current standards for scientific journals.

ad 3) The **CONFERENCE PLANNING COMMITTEE (CPC)** shall be responsible for solicitation of possible future venues; establishment of a standard format for meetings; establish guidelines on financial aid to participants, - honorarium to speakers, - differential prices for members/non-members, - distribution of profits, - financial backing of the ISP, - expenses of those with large displays; any other matters pertaining to the organization of the conferences.

ad 4) The **ALTERNATIVE FINANCING COMMITTEE (AFC)** shall be responsible for the acquisition of other financial resources, such as corporate advertisement etc.

Committee members should have Email or at least fax for easy communication.

Finally I want again to encourage you to participate in the business and activities of our society! Awaiting your response shortly!

Yours sincerely,

Andreas H. Weiglein
President.