

Minutes

Business Meeting of the International Society for Plastination held in Toledo, Ohio, USA, June 30, 2016

1. Call to Order

The meeting of the society was called to order at 11:12 a.m. by the President Carlos A.C. Baptista. There were 23 members present at the ISP meeting. The quorum was established.

2. Approval of the minutes of the 2014 business meeting

The minutes were approved without discussion, as printed (and publish online) in the Journal of Plastination volume 26; 1 (2014).

3. Reports of the Officers:

President's Report

The President, Carlos Baptista, reported that the 17th International Conference which was held in St. Petersburg, Russia in July 2014, was a tremendous success. It was one of the most beautiful settings in recent history. The conference was well organized and of a professional caliber. Sincere appreciation was extended to Dmitry Starchik and his Institution for hosting the conference.

The Interim meeting of the Society was held in Vitoria, Brazil in 2015, under the direction of Athelson Bittencourt. On behalf of the Society, the President extended his sincere thanks for Athelson's efforts in putting on a quality meeting and workshop, which was the first ISP meeting to be held in South America.

It was reported that the Society currently has 300 members, compared to only 30 members in 2008. Concern was expressed about how to assure members are current with membership dues. The President asked for suggestions on how to engage more people to increase an active membership. Two possible strategies were proposed and approved unanimously by the assembly:

1. **Business memberships** from companies and enterprises that sell equipment and supplies for plastination were approved. Dmitry Starchik offered support from his company. Support for this meeting from Biodur was also acknowledged and appreciated.
2. **Student grants** to support attendance and participation at future meetings were also approved. This would require students to have an ISP "sponsor" who would mentor and encourage the student to submit a proposal for either an oral or poster presentation. A maximum of 5 grants would be available.

Treasurer's Report

On behalf of the society, President Baptista thanked Joshua Lopez for his outstanding service as Treasurer of the ISP. Under his leadership the finances were well-organized and accurate reports were provided. Joshua's move to the Caribbean has complicated financial transactions and, for this reason, he is not interested in continuing as Treasurer. The following report was provided by Joshua Lopez and presented by Carlos Baptisat in his absence:

ISP Treasurer Report 2016

Balance Transferred from Ameer Raof (2014)	\$23,309.30
Income	<i>(ISP Membership is \$75. Total received after Fees is \$72.52)</i>
Membership Dues (September-December 2014)	\$725.20 (10 Membership)
Membership Dues (2015)	\$580.16 (8 Membership)
<u>Membership Dues (2016)</u>	<u>\$507.64 (7 Membership)</u>
Total Membership Dues	\$1,813.00
Conference Dues/Fees Collected	\$1,393.20 (Victor Cordova/Pamela Nelson, Azu)
<u>Conference Dues/Fees Paid (Check 1006)</u>	<u>(\$772.20) (Victor Cordova/Pamela Nelson)</u>
Total Conference Fees Collected	\$621.00
Expenses	
Printing & Production	(\$2,761.85)
<u>Bank Charges</u>	<u>(\$143.53) <i>Bank Charges relates to Chase Bank only</i></u>
Total Expenses	(\$2,905.38)
Current Chase Account Balance	\$21,294.75
Current PayPal Account Balance	\$ 1,544.00
Total Accounts	\$22,838.75

The Treasurer's report for 2016 was accepted as submitted.

Following the approval of the finance report, there was much discussion about the collection of membership dues, the timing of notices and late fees. It was agreed that notices would be sent out in December about the deadline to pay membership dues in January. If dues are not paid a late fee would be added and members would be presented with another bill in March. The amount of the late fee would be decided by the Council. Possible methods for collecting payment include automatic withdrawal and PayPal. Carlos Baptista noted that the Society needs to apply for tax exempt status for automatic payment and he will pursue this when he assumes the office of Treasurer. He will also pursue using PayPal as another alternative, since it is easier for members in some countries and it also has lower fees.

4. Journal of Plastination Report

Editor-in-Chief Philip Adds was unable to attend this meeting due to a family emergency. In his absence, Carlos Baptista reiterated the long process of requesting indexing for the Journal through the National Library of Medicine. Because it is not currently indexed, if you do a search for articles on plastination you will get many listings of articles, but none are from the ISP. Philip is confident that we will be able to get the Journal indexed, which will elevate the status of this publication. Carlos also acknowledged the help of Kathy McVicker in the printed edition of the Journal. A Report was sent from Philip Adds to be included in the minutes as follows:

"2015 has seen the publication of volume 27, issues 1 and 2, maintaining our aim of producing two issues a year. It has been a challenge, and on behalf of the editorial board I apologise for the late arrival of the second issue of volume 27.

In 2015-16, ten new original submissions were received by the editorial office. Eight of these have already been published in volume 27, leaving two for possible inclusion in volume 28. One of these is still under review, and the other has been reviewed and returned to the authors for revision.

It continues to be a struggle to bring out 2 issues each year, as the number of submissions received is really well below what is necessary to maintain this publication frequency. The fact that the second issue of volume 27 (2015) has only just been published shows the difficulties we are having.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the authors who have submitted manuscripts. Without you, there would be no journal. Can I also ask everyone who presented a talk or poster at the 2016 ISP meeting to please consider writing

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up your presentations and submitting them to the journal? It's also not too late to submit papers from presentations at the 2014 meeting in St Petersburg.

Our application for PubMed listing was received by the Literature Selection Technical Review Committee (LSTRC) of the National Library of Medicine of the U.S. on the 8th August 2015. Unfortunately because of their backlog of applications, by the time they came to consider ours, the 2013 issues that were submitted with our application were too old to be considered in the review process, so we shall be submitting volume 27 issues 1 and 2, as soon as the print version is available. The LSTRC meets three times a year, in February, June, and October. Approximately 180 journals are examined at each meeting, and only 12-15% of the journals reviewed are recommended for inclusion in MEDLINE. I anticipate that we will be scheduled for review at the October committee meeting.

I would like to gratefully acknowledge the help of the following people in reviewing submissions to the journal in 2015-16:

Bob Henry, Rafa Latorre, Francisco Gil Cano, Kaori Tamura, Yukiya Oba, Carlos Baptista, Scott Lozanoff, Hong-Jin Sui, David Lovell, Alaa Sawad, Dmitry Starchik, Mircea-Constantin Sora, and Slecuk Tunali: your support is very much appreciated."

There was much discussion about the printing, mailing and online copies of the Journal. Currently only 40 copies of each issue are printed. Possibilities discussed included printing on demand from Amazon and adding fees to membership dues for mailing costs. It was unanimously agreed to keep the distribution the same: Restrict online access for members for 2 years, then open to public and distribute printed copies at the conferences and meetings. Online access will be better controlled with a revamped Web site.

5. Announcements – None

6. New business

19th International Conference on Plastination (2018)

Two proposed locations were presented for the conference in 2018: Durban, South Africa (by Dr. Okpara) and Dalian, China (by Dr. Sui). Due to the last minute change in venue for the 18th International Conference from Columbia to Toledo, Ohio, USA, several questions were directed to Dr. Okpara about the resources available in South Africa and the experience needed to host a conference. After a vote it was determined that the 19th International Conference on Plastination would be held in Dalian, China. A conference committee of 2 or 3 members will be appointed by the next President to help assure the planning continues in a positive direction. This committee will be accountable to the president and ask for reports from the host periodically. It was proposed that perhaps the Interim Meeting of the ISP could be held in Durban, South Africa. Dr. Okpara will talk with his Dean about the prospect of hosting the Interim Meeting.

Update of by-laws

Carlos Baptista reported that the Treasurer of the ISP has always been a U.S. member, but it is not written in the Bylaws. If we get the tax exempt status approved, there are advantages to keep the Treasurer's office in the U.S. He proposed an amendment to the Society Bylaws that states the Treasurer office should be filled by a member of the ISP who lives in the continental United States. Carlos also proposed to add a clause that students members do not pay dues, but must be sponsored by an ISP member. The amendments were approved unanimously.

7. Election Results

As the head of the Nomination Committee Anthony Weinhaus could not attend the conference, ISP President Carlos Baptista presented the results of the elections of officers:

- Councilors: Nicolas Ottone, Telma Masuko, Athelson Bittencourt, Robert Henry, Ming Zhang

- Rafael Latorre was elected as president of ISP
- Dmitry Starchik was elected as vice-president of ISP
- Selcuk Tunali was re-elected as secretary of ISP
- Carlos A C Baptista was elected as Treasurer of ISP

On behalf of the ISP Council and membership, incoming President, Rafael Latorre, thanked Carlos Baptista for his superb leadership over the last 8 years as President of the ISP. A “Distinguished Member Award” was presented to Carlos and appreciation by the general assembly was noted in the applause that followed.

The Business Meeting closed at 11:45 a.m.