



## Open Meeting of the Section

during the 9<sup>th</sup> Conference on Recombinant Protein Production (RPP9), on

**Monday, 24<sup>th</sup> April 2017, 17.50**

Hotel Valamar Iacroma Dubrovnik, Iva Dulčića 34, 20000 Dubrovnik, Croatia

### Minutes:

#### 1. Apologies for absence and adoption of the agenda.

Apologies were received from:

Pete Lund, John Morrissey, Gen Larsson, Danilo Porro, Susann Müller, Jean-Marie Francois, Conor O'Byrne, Michael Sauer

### Participants:

Pau Ferrer, Chris Finnis, Daniela Debiase, Tim Overton, Klaus Liebeton, Brigitte Gasser, Joseph Shiloah, Ursula Rinas, Paula Alves, Maša Vodovnik, Diethard Mattanovich, Mathias Uhlén and Jeff Cole (in the Chair)

#### 2. Minutes of the meeting held in Krakow in July 2016.

The Minutes of the last meeting (ECB Krakow, 2016) have been posted on the EFB Microbial Physiology Section Website.

The minutes were approved.

#### 3. Matters arising from the Minutes that will not be covered below.

None

#### 4. Chairman's report including developments within the European Federation of Biotechnology reported by JAC as the Section Chair.

- (i) EFB finances: EFB had last year achieved a positive financial outcome with income exceeding expenditure by about €5,000.
- (ii) The EFB Central Office: a new, third member of staff, Marta, had recently been appointed and was already making positive impact on the Office.
- (iii) Report from the EFB strategy meeting held in Barcelona in February 2017. Draft notes from the meeting are attached. Two items were highlighted: plans for a closer collaboration with the European Society of Animal Cell Technology (ESACT); and based on a proposal by the President, EFB will explore the options to organize a Meeting on Bioprocessing in the years between the ECB.
- (iv) Proposal for biennial EFB meeting organised by the Executive Board. See above, meeting on Bioprocessing.

#### 5. Treasurer's report presented by PF.



- (i) Current state of Section finances. Section finances are controlled by Pau Ferrer, at the UAB. The proceedings will be formalized with a MoU for the next 5 years between UAB and Section. This MoU can be renewed.
- (ii) Presentation of meeting accounts.

During the last year, there were expenses for fellowships for young scientists to attend Section meetings:

PYFF conference: 2000 €.

Electron Transfer: 2000 €.

Currently cash on the account is slightly above 50.000 €, with a further sum of about €12,000 held in the EFB Central fund. This sum is used to pay the €1,500 pa fee for hosting the Section website and for specific payment in connection with meeting organized jointly by the Section and the EFB Central Office.

PF agreed to confirm with Karsten, the EFB Finance Manager, the exact sum owed to the Section, and to present to future Section meetings brief summary accounts of both the Section and Section meetings.

- (iii) Policy regarding bursaries for students and young scientists to attend Section meetings and the EFB Congress. Approval that the Section continues to support young participants with grants.

P. Alves, President of the European Society for Animal Cell Culture, announced that preliminary discussions had been held for greater co-operation between ESACT and the EFB. She reported that ESACT offers grants for students to attend meetings related to animal cells. These meetings do not need to be organized by ESACT, but they must have a focus on animal cells.

## **6. Report on recent Section activities and future plans.**

- (i) Recombinant protein production: the likely outcome of the current meeting and plans for RPP10. DM reported that 255 participants were registered for the meeting, and all but one were present. 44 talks and over 100 posters were presented. 35 talks were scheduled in the regular programme and 9 in the pre-session on PhD programmes. The financial outcome will be reported once the final accounts are settled. However it can be anticipated that the meeting will lead to a surplus
- (ii) Physiology of Yeast and Filamentous Fungi. Report from the 2016 meeting and plans for PYFF 7. DM reported that more than 250 participants attended the meeting in Lisbon in July 2016, which was an excellent scientific success. The next meeting will be organized by Paola Branduardi (Univ. Milano-Bicocca) in 2019 in Northern Italy.
- (iii) Bacterial electron transfer and its regulation. JAC reported that the next meeting is still in an early organization phase. Current plans are for a meeting near Marseille, with the initial plan to hold it in March 2018. No quotations of venues are available so far, so that it may be that the date needs to be postponed. Usually 150 participants attend Electron Transfer conferences.



- (iv) Microbial response to environmental stress. Daniela Debiase reported that she, Connor O'Byrne, and John Morrissey are co-chairs of the organizing committee. Planned date is 23<sup>rd</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> April 2018. The location will be Kinsale near Cork, Ireland. 70% of invited speakers are fixed, and the organization is on time. The meeting will cover bacteria as well as yeasts and fungi, and different types of stress. The meeting is planned for 150 attendees.
- (v) Synthetic Biology: Tim Overton reported that this meeting series is jointly organized by the Sections on Bioengineering and Bioprocessing, and on Microbial Physiology. The next conference will be organized in the Toulouse area by Jean-Marie Francois in October 2018.

## **7. Election of Section Officers and Membership of the Section Board**

Section board: current Board Members were re-elected.

## **8. Date of the next Section meeting**

This will be held during the ECB2018 European Congress of Biotechnology to be held in Geneva from 1 to 4 July, 2018. Exact date and location will be announced as soon as available.

DM and JAC. April 2017