



Draft Minutes of IAB council Wednesday 22/23 January 2025

Present: Chris Cargill (DCC- minutes), Catherine Reeb (CR), Juan Carlos Villareal (JCV), Matt von Konrat (MVK), Jessica Budke,(JB), Andrew Franks (AF), Lars Söderström (LS), Masaki Shimamura (MSh), Michael Stech (MSt), Silvia Pressel (SP), Boon Chuan Ho (BCH), Matt von Konrat (MvK)

Apologies: Bernard Goffinet, Itambo Malombe, Juan Larrain, Mereia Tabua

1.— Update for Taiwan meeting (CR)

While the website it is up it is not entirely complete and is not yet taking registrations etc.

Bernard has advised the conference committee that tasks pertaining to the conference need to begin now.

MSh is on the science committee, and they have not received any instructions yet, but will begin soon.

Boon Chua also reiterated this and that dates are now being asked for the submission of potential symposia etc.

CR noted that more information on field trips is also required.

2.Updates for IAB elections (CR, JB, MVK)

Several nominations have been received (and verified by Matt) and following the process. A number of nominees were not members of IAB. They will be contacted and encouraged to join but will not be eligible for election this year. All council members present at meeting agreed with this decision.

Jessica noted that members of the election committee will write to these nominees and will cc Catherine as the President of IAB.

3.Review of Awards Committees and Nominations – introduction (CR)

Here the link for the award details https://bryology.org/get_involved/awards-grants/

We need to select committee members for the following awards:

3.1. Spruce Awards (JCV)

Selection Committee chaired by **Vice President Number 1** → two members appointed by the IAB Council

https://bryology.org/get_involved/awards-grants/#richardspruce

JCV asked for volunteers to be on the panel – Andrew Franks and Silvia Pressel volunteered to assist.

Spruce Award committee: chaired by Juan Carlos Villaréal. Committee members: Andrew Frank and Silvia Pressel

3.2. Hattori Prize (DCC)

Selection Committee chaired by Vice President Number 2 → three members appointed by the IAB Council.

https://bryology.org/get_involved/awards-grants/#hattoriprize

The award will be made this year, despite it having been made last year (it is awarded every 2 years), but this was because of it being an unusual year last year. We are now back on track.

Need to correct on the website that the award is not in Canadian dollars.

DCC noted that members on this committee can come from outside of Council and asked for volunteers. Michael Stech and Catherine Reeb both volunteered and Alison Downing was invited by DCC to also be on the committee and she accepted, so we now have a full committee.

Hattori Award Committee: chaired by Chris Cargill. Committee members: Alison Downing, Catherine Reeb and Michael Stech.

3.3 .Stanley Greene Award (MVK)

Awarded to persons submitting a proposal for research in Bryology. Chaired by Secretary-Treasurer → two members appointed by council.

https://bryology.org/get_involved/awards-grants/#stanleygreene

In the past this award has been split between two recipients or one. We have not had many recipients in the past, 5 applicants in total. Need to advertise and push this award. Requires 2 or 3 members on the committee, do not have

to be council members. Andrew Franks and Masaki Shimamura both volunteered to help MvK.

Stanley Greene Award chaired by Matt von Konrat. Committee members: Andrew Franks and Masaki Shimamura. For **“Conservation and Endangered Species Grants” and Riclef Grolle Award for Excellence in Bryodiversity Research, no decision from the Council is needed. But some advice will be welcomed. CR**

CR noted that just before the meeting Irene Bisang had sent an email to the Exec committee about the award and outlining clearer and more detailed instructions for applicants.

3.4. Finalize New Awards Proposal (see Attached document) (DCC)

DCC to email to the council members asking them to make a proposal by return mail:

- 2-3 names
- 2 suggestions sorted by award type
- their proposal for the award, monetary or non-monetary value

Once we have settled on a number of options we can create a form to be available on the IAB website for members to vote.

4. Bryological Times Editor (CR)

Call for a second editor to support Mereia for 2025.

Propose regional corresponding editors?

CR asked if any of the council members would like to volunteer to be a co-editor with Mereia. Andrew Franks volunteered. Andrew will contact Mereia and CR maybe to set up a meeting in the near future?

5. Project “prominent bryologist” (CR, DCC)

Based on the model of “Women in bryology”, we propose to start on our website, a compilation of biographies of prominent bryologists, initially based on Rob Gradstein’s archives.

MSt noted that there is a book published on German bryologist of the past, but it is in German, but made the point that it could be a difficult job to include all bryologists.

JCV commented that many younger bryologists are unaware of past bryologists so may be of some interest.

DCC felt that the inclusion of this new website did not have to be extensive and could fill a gap. But it will require one or two people to be responsible to post to it regularly. Would this be Rob Gradstein and Jeff Duckett?

6. Student membership forms (Boon Chuan)

Boon Chuan noted that the student membership forms could be improved.

MvK suggested a re-design of these forms, will draft something and send it out to the Council for comment.

CR thanked all attendees and for those members who volunteered for committees etc.

Meeting finished at 9AM Australian Eastern Standard time!