

Report of the Secretary General to ECM 100

Hotel Sofitel Ambassador, Seoul, Korea

1 General

Much of the relevant (and some of the irrelevant) information that crosses my desk is posted on my pages (“Meantime”) in the Members’ Area of the website, so is not reported here. If you do not have a password to this area, please ask me for one.

This is of course a rather auspicious meeting, the 100th occasion on which this august body has met in various parts of the world. Much has happened in the course of these meetings and much has changed, but our main aim, of increasing scientific collaboration and understanding in matters relating to the generation and application of vacuum, remains unchanged.

Because of the special nature of this meeting, our hosts, the Korean Vacuum Society, are to be congratulated on arranging the excellent Special Symposium and Highlights Seminar which precede the Executive Council Meeting itself. I write this before the event, but it promises to be a magnificent occasion. My special thanks go to Professor Geun-Young Yeom, the Program Chair, who has also had the unenviable task of acceding to all my requests about arrangements for this meeting.

We should also congratulate our former President Phil Woodruff on his election as a Fellow of the Royal Society.

2 Minutes and Mailing

The Minutes of ECM-99 were posted on the web site in July.

I would like to remind all Committee and Division Chairs that they need to ensure that their reports and minutes are sent electronically to the Recording Secretary in good time after each meeting, and certainly by the date announced. The selected dates give sufficient time for the writing and editing process. It is important that all such items go into the record as they are printed and archived as part of the official records of the Union.

3 Secretary General’s Matters

Can I remind you once again of the importance of depositing proxies? Many of you have given proxies for the Triennium and that is very useful. If we do not have two thirds of the possible votes present at an ECM either in person or by proxy, then the meeting cannot transact any business. Three Societies are not represented at this meeting.

4 Web Issues

I try to maintain the information on the web site as up to date as possible, but of course I can only post information that is made available to me. In the Calendar, I post information that is of direct relevance to IUVSTA, e.g. workshops and our conferences. As agreed at the Education Meeting, I will now also post announcements from our member Societies if they are sent to me electronically.

The work on the new website is proceeding, albeit slowly. A fruitful meeting was held in Paris and the main ground rules have been set. Information from the current website has to be translated and reposted so that it is more maintainable than in the past.

5 Interactions with other Bodies

5.1 International Bodies

Most material now comes from UNESCO, ICSU and ISO by email, although there is an ever-growing pile of printed material in my study, especially from UNESCO. If you spot anything of interest on the website from these bodies, please ask and I will gladly send it on to you.

5.2 Commercial Bodies

Many convention centres, travel agents, etc., contact me with offers to host our meetings. Details of the main ones are again on the website. If particular ones are of interest to your Society, please contact them directly if there is a link or contact me if it is hard copy.

6 National Vacuum Societies

I informed The Iranian Vacuum Society of our agreement at ECM 99 to admit them to provisional membership. I have asked them to indicate how many shares they wish to take up and await a reply on that matter. Prof Mosfegh sends his apologies that he is unable to attend this meeting, but hopes to join us in Basel.

There is no further progress to report on contacts with the Romanian Vacuum Society or those with Morocco and Turkey.

7 Future Executive Council Meetings

ECM 101 will be held in Basel, Switzerland on the 16th – 18th February 2007.

ECM 102 will be held in Mora, Sweden on 29th June – 1st July 2007.

ECM 103 will be held in Stockholm, Sweden on 6th July, 2007.

I will request bids for ECM 104, the first full meeting of the new triennium for consideration at ECM 101

Ron Reid
September 2006