

Report of the Education Committee to the ECM-97**1., Introduction**

The first meeting of the Education Committee took place on 19th February (Hotel Beatriz, Lanzarote) with the attendance of 15 of the 20 members in total.

The Chairman expressed thanks to the previous Chairman and Secretary for their work and expressed his intention to continue previous works organically, updating activities and making them more efficient, accelerating some actions.

The Minutes of the previous ECMs (ECM-95,96) were approved.

The Chairman's proposal for the program (sent to members earlier) of the Committee in the next triennium was briefly outlined and a short introduction to IUVSTA guidelines and practice concerning Short Courses (SC), Technical Training Courses (TTC) and IUVSTA Schools was given, with a call for applications (TTC & Schools).

2., Review of recent activities

SCs (held at conferences) provide income for conferences and benefit to the societies. 10 SCs were held at IVC-16 with 60 participants in total. 4 SCs are planned at EVC-9 in April 2005 in Paris, during the same day.

TTCs: 4 were funded so far, a brief status report was given by Nikola Radic.

The Chinese Vacuum Society reported on a successful TTC at ECM-95.

The Croatian Vacuum Society requested an extension until ECM-98, if not organizing their scheduled TTC by that time, the support should be returned. The Committee accepted the request of the Croatian Vacuum Society.

A TTC by the Pakistani Vacuum Society (PVS) was funded but the money was not spent properly, according to the respective IUVSTA rules. Previously the PVS was asked and they agreed upon either to use the IUVSTA financial support appropriately for a course before the end of 2005 or to pay the support back.

The Polish Vacuum Society organized a successful TTC last November with 56 participants, out of them 27 received IUVSTA support and 48 certificates were issued. Marek Szymonsky reported on the TTC, the report was accepted by the Committee.

The Committee extended the position of Nikola Radic as TTC Program Coordinator until his replacement by an appropriate volunteer, max. until ECM-98.

Educational Web Site (EWS): Joe Greene was appointed as the Web Education Programme Coordinator and Angus Rockett was asked to work with him as Web Editor of the EWS.

Visual Aids Program : Only Module 5 is available for sale so far. John Robins, the Visual Aids Editor reported: "John Robins is still working with the appropriate people with a view to finalising the revision of Modules 1, 2, 4, 6."

Recent progress:

Module 1 (Fundamentals of Vacuum)- the review has been completed (Fabio Mazzolini), the report is to be submitted.

Module 2 (Vacuum measurements and gauges, total pressure measurements) has been completed (Ron Reid) and submitted for review.

Progress has been reported with expected completion of the modules this year:

Module 8 (Pumping, Fabio Mazzolini)

Module 11 (Electron Spectroscopies, Massimo Sancrotti)

Module 6 (Leak Detection, S. Hoath)

Less Developed Countries: Maria-Carmen Asensio reported on meetings with Argentinean experts discussing how IUVSTA could help their vacuum society to be a member of IUVSTA.

Status of Vacuum Engineering Courses: Masatoshi Ono reported on the 2nd successful course in Japan, those participants passed the final exams were provided by certifications.

3., Plans of activities in the present triennium

Updating the Visual Aids Program: Discussions started on a number of proposals for improvements:

- to seek possibilities to sell and advertise (by snapshot previews) the Modules through internet via the IUVSTA website

- to conduct a survey on needs for new topics

- to provide detailed information for authors on the existing guidelines (how to prepare modules) to be completed if necessary (Fabio Mazzolini has offered to contribute with his experience)

Review criteria for TTC: Discussions started on some key requirements like the exclusive use of the national languages, the common and uniform content in all member countries and the exclusion of non member countries. IUVSTA guidelines should be available through the website.

Development of the Educational Web Site: New links were proposed to NIST, LBL databases. Vladimir Matolin volunteered to recommend selected web sites as further sources for valuable information (e.g. courses, lectures, etc.).

Building new contacts in non-member countries: A subcommittee has been established on Lesser Developed Regions, with Maria-Carmen Asensio as leader. Members: Pedro Nascente, Ki-So Sohn, Jose Avila, Monika Jenko.

Support of activities in member societies: Discussion started on the IUVSTA acknowledgement

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(endorsement) of certificates provided by the National Vacuum Societies in IUVSTA supported courses. The opinions were divided.

Any Other Business: IUVSTA Schools in 2005 were discussed, they seemed to be "on the right track".

#6 on Science and Technology at Nanoscale (Tri Studne, Czech Republic, June 6-11). The message of A. Fejfar, including a report on the developments and the announcement, was reported.

#7 on Advanced Synchrotron Radiation Technique for Fine Analysis of Matter (Avila, Spain, July 17-22). Maria-Carmen Asensio reported on the preparation of the School.