**Report of the Secretary General to ECM-98**

**Deutschordenhaus Schloss Gumpoldskirchen, Austria**

**October 2nd 2005**

# 1 General

I intend to make these reports somewhat briefer than has been the case in the past as much of the relevant information that crosses my desk is now posted on my pages in the Members' Area of the website. If you do not have a password to this area, please ask me for one.

I would like to thank Prof Christoph Eisenmenger-Sittner and Mrs Manuela Marik for making the excellent arrangements for this meeting.

I received an email from Bill Westwood on the 9th July to inform me that Dr Paul Redhead had died earlier that day at the age of 81. Although we believe that Paul had no official connection with IUVSTA he participated in many of our meetings, often as an invited speaker. Indeed, he was present at the famous Namur Conference in 1958. Active in vacuum science right up to the end, he will be sadly missed for his insight and wisdom.

I recently heard that Mr A.S.D. Barrett has died. He was formerly Secretary General of IOVST (the forerunner of IUVSTA) and an IUVSTA Councillor for Great Britain. An obituary will be prepared in due course.

# 2 Minutes and Mailing

The Minutes of ECM-97 were posted on the web site in May 2005.

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. If you have not yet done so, please complete a form and return it to the President, copied to me. There are four Societies for whom no votes are available at this meeting.

# 4 Web Issues

We have held two meetings in Paris at the offices of SFV to progress the website. I would like to thank SFV for their hospitality. Unfortunately progress on the redesign has been slower than anticipated, partially due to the illness of Alain Roche. However, I believe that the framework for the site is now established and that we can begin to populate it with content soon.

I apologise that the link to my area disappeared for a while, but this has been restored.

# 5 Interactions with other Bodies

## 5.1 International Bodies

I believe that we have now more or less achieved changeover of contacts from Bill Westwood to me – at least the volume of emails from Bill has dropped considerably! We now again receive the regular updates from ISO which had gone astray.

Most of this type of correspondence is now on the website so I do not list it in my reports. If anything needs particularly to be drawn to your attention, I will send an email to you when the item goes on the website.

### 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

A new Vacuum Society has been formed in Iran and has applied for membership of IUVSTA. Prof A.Z. Moshfegh is in attendance at this meeting. It is intended that a formal vote regarding provisional admission to membership will be taken at ECM 99.

## 7 Future Executive Council Meetings

ECM 99 will be held at San Diego, California, on 28th 30th April, 2006 in association with the 2006 ICTMF meeting. Bill Sproul will provide further details during the meeting.

Three invitations have been received to host ECM 100 and the associated Highlights Seminar. These are from the Czech Republic for Prague in September 2006, Korea (no details available) and Switzerland for Basel at a convenient date.

Presentations will be made by the proposers during the meeting.

Ron Reid

September 2005

v1.0