

MINUTES OF THE 2014 AGM  
*Canadian Society for Chemistry, Inorganic Division (CSC-ID)*

18:00 – 19:00  
Wednesday, June 04, 2014  
Vancouver Convention Centre, Room 109  
Vancouver, BC

In Attendance (46 attendees vs 52 in 2013; m.a.l. = member at large)

Eric Rivard (Alberta)	Charles Walsby (SFU – 2014 ID mixer chair)
Dietmar Kennepohl (Athabasca)	Jeff Warren (SFU)
Roland Roesler (Calgary)	Wen Zhou (SFU)
Warren Piers (Calgary)	Robert Morris (Toronto)
Xavier Ottenwaelder (Concordia)	Jennifer Love (UBC – outgoing chair)
Kathryn Preuss (Guelph – outgoing secretary)	Pierre Kennepohl (UBC – webmaster)
Craig MacKinnon (Lakehead – m.a.l. inorg. curriculum)	Laurel Schafer (UBC)
Michael Gerken (Lethbridge)	Bob Thompson (UBC)
Scott Kroeker (Manitoba)	Parisa Mehrkhodavandi (UBC)
Ignacio Vargas (McMaster)	Chris Orvig (UBC)
David Emslie (McMaster – incoming secretary)	Mike Wolf (UBC)
Frank Schaper (Montreal)	Curtis Burlinguette (UBC)
Christian Reber (Montreal – incoming chair)	Adam Dyker (UNB)
Fran Kerton (MUN - treasurer)	Lisa Rosenberg (UVic)
Chris Kozak (MUN – m.a.l. ICE chair)	Robin Hicks (UVic – incoming vice chair)
Jaclyn Brusso (Ottawa)	Scott McIndoe (UVic)
Deryn Fogg (Ottawa)	Rich Oakley (Waterloo)
Muralee Murugesu (Ottawa)	Johanna Blacquiere (Western)
Bryan Koivisto (Ryerson)	Paul Ragogna (Western)
Andrew Grosvenor (Saskatchewan)	Joe Gilroy (Western)
Stephen Foley (Saskatchewan)	Charles MacDonald (Windsor)
Tim Storr (SFU – 2014 ID program chair)	Cory MacLeod (Yale)
Danny Leznoff (SFU – past chair & nominations chair)	Gino Lavoie (York)

**1. Jen Love called the meeting to order at 5.56pm**

MOTION to approve the current agenda and the minutes of the 2013 AGM

*Motion:* Jen Love  
*2<sup>nd</sup>:* Paul Ragogna  
PASSED Unanimously

**2. Outgoing Chair's Report (Jen Love).**

Jen Love thanked Danny Leznoff for organizing the 2013 CSC conference.

Jen Love thanked Tim Storr and Charles Walsby for organizing the 2013 ID program and mixer at the 97<sup>th</sup> CSC conference.

Jen Love thanked Christian Reber and Kathryn Preuss for their efforts as vice chair and secretary.

Jen Love congratulated this year's award winners:

Rio Tinto Alcan Award – Martin Stillman

Strem Chemicals Award – Paul Ragogna

AGWIC – Mita Dasong from the Veinot group

AURIC (new this year) - Eric Bowes from the Westcott group

Stacey Award – Barry Lever

Catalysis Award – Warren Piers

CIC Award – Doug Stephan

CCUCC Chemistry Doctoral award – went to Gabriel Ménard from the Stephan group

Jen Love Welcomed incoming executive members:

Robin Hicks – incoming vice chair

David Emslie – incoming secretary

Jen Love also noted the following:

- All subject divisions were required to create a new charter that is in line with the Canada not for profit act. Christian will talk about it later and hopefully we can pass a motion to approve the new charter.

- A major point of action from last year was to deal with the problems with the ACS journals (suspended negotiations etc.). In the end it was not necessary to work with Neil Burford and Cathy Crudden, since the grass roots effort of the chemists in Canada was extremely successful resulting in a new contract with the ACS. The previous year, the same type of grass roots approach ensured that RTI was not dismantled, so this is clearly an effective strategy.

- This was the 2<sup>nd</sup> Year for the Inorganic Division Calendar – there will probably be some discussion of the calendar later in the meeting.

- Jen Love noted that she will try to make some progress with outreach-related activities (this was a point of action from the last 2 years), and that in her role as past chair, she will mainly focus on nominations and advising.

- The division was approached by David Cole Hamilton of RSC (the budget for the Dalton Division is upwards of £100,000) since they are interested in having more interaction with Canadian Inorganic Chemists. Some ideas for how to do this have been proposed. One option is to have joint UK-Canada symposia: ideally 1 international symposium per year (alternating each year between Canada and the UK).

- There will be a motion in “New business” about putting Jen in charge of interactions with RSC.

## **2. Incoming Chair's Report (Christian Reber).**

Christian thanked Jen Love for all of her hard work as chair of the ID.

He noted that our raison d'être is to provide support and exciting opportunities for students and all of us, and that if anyone has ideas and/or questions, they should get in touch by email.

### **Discussion of the New Charter (Christian Reber)**

Christian noted that the new charter is a legal obligation that we have, and that the new CIC charter is now accepted at the highest level. He noted that Jen Love had worked very hard to develop the charter for the inorganic division working with the template and in consultation with other division members.

Christian reviewed the content of the charter. Some important points were: (a) that we are a division of the CIC, rather than an independent entity, (b) that all divisions need at least 50 members, (c) that we cannot enact anything that counteracts higher level policies, (d) that anyone can sign up to be a member of our

division, and that this has not presented any problems in the past, but that the new charter does contain some policy for removal of division members. Christian reviewed the list of division officers and noted that we can have members at large for specific tasks. He also noted that: (a) the new charter contains sections specifically outlining the duties of all of the officers, including past chair, treasurer, secretary and even the mixer chair, (b) the new charter and the "not for profit" act are carefully designed to avoid situations where cliques are able to make the decisions, (c) at least 1 AGM per year is mandatory for all divisions, and (d) that we can have access to the CSC's funding numbers, although it is not clear why we would need this access. The last few sections of the charter were then outlined briefly.

*MOTION to accept the new Charter:*

*Motion:* Christian Reber

*2<sup>nd</sup>:* Bob Morris

Discussion ensued.

Dietmar Kennepohl asked whether the charter could be reformatted to make it easier to navigate and refer to. He noted that some sections are very thick and they could be divided into articles or sub articles.

Christian Reber replied that we could perhaps put some text in bold, but he was not sure whether we can number different sections since this would deviate significantly from the template that we were provided.

*PASSED Unanimously*

### **3. Webmaster's Report (Pierre Kennepohl)**

As background, Pierre noted that Scott McIndoe was the webmaster before CSC took control of the website and then returned control when they realized what was involved...

The new ID website was launched in September 2013, and the mobile website was launched in December 2013.

There are some costs associated with website hosting, and currently the UBC Chemistry Department is paying the \$99 per year.

The mobile website is free, but consequently there are some advertisements on the website. If anyone finds this really unacceptable, they are welcome to pay the ~\$50 p.a. to have an advertisement-free mobile website.

Some of the primary purposes of the website are to disseminate news, AGM info, conference information, and job postings.

The majority of people using the website are looking at the job postings (there are more people looking at this section, and they are spending more time on this section of the website).

About half of the hits on the website are from Canada – others people are accessing the website from US > India > UK > Italy.

Pierre Kennepohl noted that anyone can unsubscribe from emails etc if they want to. He also noted that the website now has a twitter feed and a Facebook page (as of last week).

Craig MacKinnon asked whether the new Federal government regulations regarding spam will affect our listserv.

Pierre Kennepohl replied that everyone on our listserv has requested to be on the mailing list, so we are OK.

#### 4. Discussion of Inorganic Division Finances (Christian Reber).

This year we received \$1800 from the CSC. These funds are typically used for student awards, and symbolic amounts are also provided to student focused conferences.

A year from now, 16% of surplus funds from the CSC Conference will go to the divisions, and this amount will be allocated based on number of abstracts per division. Consequently, our funding level will increase next year to at least twice its current level (Danny Leznoff noted later in the meeting that it may be closer to three times the current level).

Over the next year, we need to decide how we would like to spend these additional funds, and Christian encouraged the entire division to contribute ideas. To date, some suggestions are to do something for the PDFs, since there are lots of awards for other groups, but PDFs are left out, by comparison. Another possibility would be to double the amount provided to student-focused conferences. We could perhaps contribute to travel for students to the CSC, and this may help to increase the abstract count which would be beneficial given that funding is allocated based on the number of abstracts submitted.

Christian noted that a document will be posted on the website in the coming weeks to present possible ideas, and that he is hoping for discussion.

In a year from now, the ID executive will present a plan, followed by discussion and a vote.

#### 5. Various Motions (Christian Reber).

*MOTION to task Christian Reber with (a) discussion of a plan for how to spend the additional funding that will be available next year, and (b) implementation 1 year from now of the plan that results from these discussions.*

Motion: Christian Reber  
2<sup>nd</sup>: Laurel Schafer

Discussion ensued.

Bob Morris – another possible use of the new funds would be to promote the division and engage in new outreach activities (Science Rendezvous was mentioned).

Lisa Rosenberg noted that the ICE Program is always struggling financially, and that some of the funds could perhaps be used to support this program.

Christian Reber noted that support of the ICE program would definitely be of benefit to the inorganic community and students.

PASSED Unanimously

*MOTION for Jen Love to work with the RSC Dalton Division to increase the level of interaction between Canadian and UK chemists.*

Motion: Christian Reber  
2<sup>nd</sup>: Frank Schaper

PASSED Unanimously

*MOTION for Kathryn Preuss and Danny Leznoff to work on graphical promotion of division member research on the website and social media.*

Motion: Christian Reber  
2<sup>nd</sup>: Tom Baker

PASSED Unanimously

*MOTION to nominate Muralee Murugesu as the new division treasurer.*

*Motion:* Christian Reber

*2<sup>nd</sup>:* Kathryn Preuss

*PASSED* Unanimously

*MOTION to nominate Kathryn Preuss as a "member at large" for graphical promotion.*

*Motion:* Christian Reber

*2<sup>nd</sup>:* Craig MacKinnon

*PASSED* Unanimously

## 6. Conferences

### **(a) CSC 2014 Vancouver: overview of inorganic program** (Tim Storr)

Tim Storr presented the following data from the conference:

- 391 abstracts were submitted (269 oral presentations / 122 poster presentations)
- 6 grad student oral presentation requests were converted to poster. This was unfortunate, but was necessary due to scheduling restraints.
- 73 graduate posters and 16 undergraduate posters in total were eligible for awards.

Tim Storr thanked Charles Walsby for organizing all the poster judging. He also thanked all of the ID symposium organizers, and all of the inorganic members involved in organization of joint symposia.

Tim Storr thanked everyone in the ID for making his job easy and for coming out and supporting our division, and for bringing their students.

Danny Leznoff thanked Tim Storr for putting together a really strong inorganic program. He also thanked everyone in the ID for making the conference what it is, especially for submission of almost 400 abstracts, which is much more than any other division (the next highest number of abstracts is about 300).

### **(b) CSC 2015 Ottawa: proposed inorganic program** (Christian Reber and Tom Baker)

Darrin Richeson was not present at the CSC, so was not able to present the proposed program himself.

Tom Baker will pointed out the seven symposia submitted to the ID for next year and noted that four of them are joint symposia with other divisions. One of these (to be organized by Richeson, Manners and Weller) will be an international symposium which may receive support from the RSC.

Tom Baker asked if there were any questions.

Danny Leznoff noted that we probably have enough symposia, but that there are some areas that are not well represented – in particular solid state chemistry.

Andrew Grosvenor indicated that John Greedan and Yuriy Mozharivskyj from McMaster have submitted a solid state symposium through the materials division and that this symposium should be joint with inorganic.

Christian Reber noted that if anyone wants to suggest additional symposia, they need to do it within the next few days.

*MOTION to approve the proposed inorganic program for the 2015 CSC.*

*Motion:* Christian Reber  
*2<sup>nd</sup>:* Danny Leznoff

Discussion ensued.

Lisa Rosenberg suggested some of the symposium names should be revised.

Danny Leznoff and others requested that the Buriak symposium be removed from the list since the title is extremely vague, and an equally vague symposium title has been submitted by Buriak to the Materials division. This amendment is to be included in the motion.

Andrew Grosvenor noted that the joint solid state symposium (joint with the Materials division) should be added to the list.

PASSED Unanimously

**(c) CSC 2016 Halifax: nomination of Inorganic Program Chair** (Danny Leznoff)

Danny noted that Russ Boyd will be overall conference chair for the 3<sup>rd</sup> time.

MOTION to approve Mark Stradiotto as 2016 ID Program Chair.

*Motion:* Danny Leznoff

*2<sup>nd</sup>:* Laurel Schafer

PASSED Unanimously

MOTION to approve Jason Clyburne (with assistance from Jason Masuda) as 2016 ID Mixer Chair.

*Motion:* Danny Leznoff

*2<sup>nd</sup>:* Charles Wallsby

PASSED Unanimously

**7. Treasurer's report** (Fran Kerton).

Fran Kerton addressed the members and said that everything is fine (Report attached to agenda). She also noted the following:

- Our grant was a bit bigger this year also: \$1800 instead of \$1600, probably because there are more members in the division.
- The level of funding from the CSC will go up next year, as we have already heard.
- This year we supported 2-3 less conferences than usual – people just need to ask to receive funding.
- The Strem award will continue to be funded by Strem until 2016.
- Some of the funding is used for the AGWIC, AURIC and Steacy awards, and a small amount was also contributed for the ID poster awards at the CSC conference.

Fran also noted that the 2014 Inorganic Mixer/Poster chair (Charles Walsby) did an excellent job of fundraising so that more poster awards could be given out this year.

Tom Baker asked how much funding was actually raised by the Mixer/Poster chair.

Charles Walsby answered that approximately \$8,000 was used for the mixer, and that \$1300 was provided for poster prizes. It was speculated that the individual symposia raised around \$30,000 in total funds for their symposia.

Danny Leznoff noted that the inorganic program chair typically does not fundraise.

Fran Kerton noted that some symposium organizers did very well in fundraising while others struggled.

### **8. I.C.E. report** (Chris Kozak).

Chris Kozak addressed the members and went through the report. Some specific points were:

- There were 33 applicants to the ICE program this year, which is the same as last year.
- 12 positions were available in 12 different departments.
- The program relies fairly heavily on NSERC USRAs to help cover the costs, but only 8 of 12 students were successful in obtaining a USRA.
- Since starting in 1994, there have been a total of 91 ice scholars.
- Chris Kozak will be hosting the ice workshop in August in St. Johns.
- Next year, Brian Koivisto at Ryerson will be hosting the workshop.
- This is Chris Kozak's last year as ICE chair. Andrew Grosvenor will take over from him

Chris Kozak asked that anyone who is interested to find out more about what the program involves should let him know. He noted that there will be a call-out later in the year and then a follow up email in September to firm things up.

Lisa Rosenberg asked the members to thank Chris Kozak Kris for doing a great job as ICE chair.

Christian Reber noted that it is nice to see ICE alumni presenting their graduate work at the CSC conference.

### **9. Other business**

Craig MacKinnon asked the members to thank Danny Leznoff again for all his efforts with the division and the conference. Jen Love referred to Danny as our "dear leader", and much hilarity ensued...

Christian Reber thanked everyone for attending.

Meeting adjourned.