

MINUTES OF THE 2017 AGM
Canadian Society for Chemistry, Inorganic Division (CSC-ID)

17:40, Wednesday, May 31, 2017
MTCC, room 203A, Toronto, ON

In Attendance 47 (vs 39 in 2016, 51 in 2015, 46 in 2014 and 52 in 2013; m.a.l. = member at large)

Danny Leznoff		SFU	Andrew Grosvenor	
Mike Wolf		UBC	Christa Rehe	
Paul Hayes		Lethbridge	Chris Caputo	
Fran Verdon		MUN	José Stephan	
Lisa Rosenberg		UNIC	Paul Ragogna	
Stephen Foley		U of S	CHARLES MACHENRIED	
Frank Schape		UdM	Louise Dawe	
Michael Gorkun		Lethbridge	Stephane Poirier	
CHRIS ORVIG		UBC	KAROL SCHLITZ	
Chris Kozak		Memorial	Dmitriy Soldatov	
Parisa Mehrkhadavandi		UBC	Antonio Vaz	
CHRIS GENDY		U of C	V. Thangadurai	
Laura Truculus		Dalhousie	Brian Sternberg	
Joe Gilroy		Western	Jennifer Love	
Johanna Blaquiere		Western	Xavier Ottenwelder	
Deryn Fogg		Ottawa	Paul Hayes	
Declan McKeown		SFU	Craig MacKinnon	
Ben Olafsen		UBCO	R. MURIEL	
Richard Ormer		Waterloo	S. Johnson	
Jeff Wren		SFU	Paul Fontaine	
Tim Starr		SFU		
Michael Kutz		MUN		
JASON MASUMI		SFU		
CHARLES WALSBY		SFU		
William Wudjinn		Alberta		
Roland Reber		U of C		
Duncan Prokofchuk		PNUL (USA)		
Kevin Smith		UBCO		

1. Approval of the Agenda for the 2017 AGM

Robin Hicks called the meeting to order at 5.48 pm. He displayed the agenda for the meeting and asked whether there any points to discuss with the agenda, or any additions. There were none.

MOTION to approve the current agenda for the 2017 AGM.

Motion: Lisa Rosenberg
2nd: Andrew Grosvenor
PASSED Unanimously

Agenda

- Approval of Agenda
- ID poster prize announcement (Caputo)
- 2016 AGM Minutes (Hicks) ACTION
- Chairs report (Hicks)
- Treasurer's report (Ragogna) ACTION
- Nominations (Reber) ACTION
- CSC Conferences
 - 2017 Report (Morris)
 - 2018 Program (Lundgren) ACTION
 - 2019 Nomination of ID program/mixer chairs (Reber) ACTION
- ICE (Grosvenor)
- Other business
- Adjournment

2. ID poster prize announcements (Chris Caputo)

Chris Caputo announced the poster presentation winners for this year. He also thanked the people who provided prizes (Wiley, CSC inorganic etc.) for their generous donation. He summarized that there were 125 posters, for which 8 prizes were awarded (5 grad and 3 undergrad). 4 of the prize winners were present at the AGM, and he requested that they see him to receive their textbook prizes.

3. 2016 AGM minutes (Robin Hicks)

MOTION to approve the minutes from the 2016 AGM.

Motion: Christian Reber

2nd: Chris Caputo

PASSED Unanimously

4. Chairs Report (Robin Hicks)

Robin started by congratulating all of the winners of awards at this CSC - poster award winners, and Alcan, Strem, Agwic, Auric etc. winners. He also congratulated Neil Burford on winning the Montreal medal and Anne English on winning the Clara Benson award. Additionally, he thanked the sponsors, in particular PROTO for funding this year's inorganic mixer.

Robin noted that in 2016 there was concern about the near-term funding for the Rio Tinto-Alcan award, but that Rio Tinto and Alcan have now confirmed 2 and 5 years of support, respectively.

Robin presented several updates from the CSC that were approved at their board meeting this week. An important change is that there will be a change in the model for the CSC meeting. Until now, the host organization was in charge of organization. However, this is no longer practical because only 8 or 9 cities in Canada are large enough to host the CSC. In the future, the conference will be geographically disconnected. However, the impact on the inorganic program will be minimal. For example, we will nominate our own program and mixer chairs as usual.

The Materials division raised a concern that they feel is worthy of discussion. In particular, they would like to modify all award terms of reference so that it is not possible to win two early career awards, or other things that could be thought of as double dipping. However, the general sentiment at this AGM was that we are happy to leave our terms of reference as they are.

5a. Treasurer's Report (Paul Ragona) for the period from January 1, 2016 to December 31, 2016.

The finances for the Inorganic Division of the CSC are in good shape. As of December 31, 2016 the net worth of the Division is approximately (\$64,851.95). This amount includes the value of the Trust Fund (\$40,000, invested Feb 2, 2012 @ 2.35%, 5-year term; interest over the past year (as of Feb 2017), was \$1007.84, (automatically reinvested to give a total of \$43,894.63). The divisional grant from the CIC for 2017 is \$1,584.88 (c.f. \$1924.95 in 2016, \$1642.80 in 2015, \$1809.22 in 2014, \$1654.96 in 2013). We also received a CSC 2014 Surplus Share of \$3148.25.

The ID has provided \$2640 in awards to students at graduate and undergraduate research conferences through 2016, with a 2017 commitment of \$2080 so far. Details are provided in the treasurer's report.

Paul noted that in 2017, AGWIC was given for both this year and the past year. He also noted funding from Strem Chemicals for the Pure or Applied Inorganic Chemistry Award (\$1500) has been received, and that an anonymous donor is sponsoring the Award for Undergraduate Research in Chemistry (AURIC; \$250).

MOTION to accept the financial summary.

Motion: Craig McKinnon

2nd: Paul Ragona

PASSED Unanimously

5b. Other discussion relevant to division finances (Robin Hicks)

Richard Oakley asked what has happened to our contribution to the Steacy award, and Robin answered that it is now fully endowed.

Lisa Rosenberg asked how the level of support for the different conferences we support was decided upon. Robin answered that there were various criteria, especially an inorganic focus, and if a conference met all the criteria it received \$300, and if not, it received less.

Robin reiterated that our division is pretty well off (net worth of approx. \$65,000), and that the CSC wants us to trim this amount down because we are a non-profit organization, and we should not be seen to be holding on to money and not doing anything with it (we have permission to hold some equity, but it should not be more than about \$10,000). Consequently, divisions have been tasked with coming up with a plan (within the next ~6 months) for how to use these funds. He noted that the Inorganic Division executive meeting had some discussion of this topic on Monday, but for now, Robin asked for some suggestions, with further communication through the listserve if necessary. Apparently, some divisions are adding to their industrially sponsored awards to provide them with more financial security, or increasing the value of these awards. Other alternatives would be for us to create a new award, or contribute more to meetings, or provide more funding for a subset of inorganic regional meetings, or to support the ICE program. Robin noted that \$50,000 sounds like a lot of money, but when spread out, it will go fast. Therefore, we should carefully consider how we can spend it to maximize its impact on the division, especially students in the division.

Doug Stephan commented that the Rio Tinto award has not changed in value for 25 years, so one possibility would be to increase this amount. RSC awards are approximately £2,000-£5,000 plus travel, so by comparison, we contribute very little.

Chris Orvig asked whether we could double the support to all the conferences? Robin replied that just from our annual income (not including the \$65,000), now that we receive a cut of the conference income, we could increase the amount that we provide to inorganic meetings.

Chris Kozak noted that the atlantic IDW has been defunct for a few years, and that more funding could be very useful for this meeting.

Danny Leznoff noted that we could easily endow the AGWIC, although this may be a safe but fairly boring thing to do.

Rich Oakley noted that various Faculties of Science have decided not to support IDW-like conferences, so with things like this going on, additional conference funding would be very useful.

Fred Fontaine suggested that the division could support Chemistry Olympiads.

Lisa Rosenberg suggested using the funds for travel awards for students to attend conferences, perhaps including pacificchem.

Robin thanked everyone for their feedback and stated that we will come up with a proposal, or probably more than one proposal in next 6 months.

6. Nominations (Christian Reber – past chair)

Christian noted that there are no nominations for this year, but several coming up next year. For example:

Robin Hicks will become the past chair.

Laurel Schafer will be the new chair.

David Emslie has been secretary for 2 terms, so someone else will take over this role.

The following nominations were also proposed for next year:

Vice chair - Sam Johnson - approved
Secretary - Martin Lemaire - approved

Robin explained that members at large are now all limited to 1 year terms.

Curriculum - Craig MacKinnon - 1 year term starting immediately - approved
Curriculum - Steven McNeil - 1 year term starting immediately - approved
Society Liaison - Jennifer Love - 1 year starting immediately - approved

7. Conferences

(a) CSC 2017 Toronto: overview of inorganic program (Bob Morris)

Bob Morris enthusiastically summarized the 2017 inorganic division program:

181 talks in 6 IN Symposia
An additional 45 talks in 3 general sessions divided into 3 themes
3 joint symposia, with BM, MS and OR
Poster session with 207 posters (63 requested talks were converted to posters)
145 posters were judged by 57 judges
Total approx. 3300 delegates at the meeting

Bob thanked Chris Caputo for arranging the poster session and all of the judging. He also thanked the organizers of all symposia, going through each one by name. Additionally, he thanked the students (green chemistry initiative) for organizing the symposium on sustainable chemistry which replaced one that was supposed to be organized by Geoff Ozin. The students did an excellent job, including getting Martin Poliokov to speak in their session.

Chris Orvig noted that it is great to judge 3-5 posters, not 12 or 30 as in some previous years.... He requested that we continue using this model, which was originally initiated by Mark Stradiotto.

Danny Leznoff noted that there were several non-inorganic symposia this year that had significant inorganic component - e.g. Metal Organic Frameworks, where $\frac{3}{4}$ of speakers were inorganic. However, none of the money from such symposia goes to our division, and we should to fix this. Robin replied that it should be fixable this year, and we should work on this.

(b) CSC 2018 Edmonton: proposed ID program (Rylan Lundgren, on behalf of himself and Eric Rivard)

Rylan thanked everyone who responded to the call for symposia.

He then showed a list of the proposed symposia, many of which are joint symposia. The numbers of IN-only and joint symposia are more-or-less in line with the numbers from previous years.

It was noted that the overall theme for the conference is: chemistry in the post-modern age. Rylan asked if there were any comments or concerns.

Danny Leznoff asked whether bio-inorganic people wanted to organize a symposium this year? presumably not given that they have not come forward.

Pierre Kennepohl suggested that the name of the EPR symposium might be changed to provide a more general theme.

MOTION to approve the list of symposia for the 2018 CSC.

Motion: Ryla Lundgren

2nd: Paul Ragogna

PASSED Unanimously

(c) CSC 2019 Quebec City: nomination of Inorganic Program and Mixer Chairs (Christian Reber)

Christian noted that this is the normal time for us to nominate the people to be in charge of the inorganic mixer and program, and that the new model to run the CSC conferences will be in place by 2019.

Fred Fontaine accepted to be the program chair, and it was noted that it is nice that he is in Quebec City and has strong local tie, independent of who the overall conference organizer is.

MOTION to approve Fred Fontaine as 2019 ID Program Chair

Motion: Christian Reber

2nd: Sam Johnson

PASSED Unanimously

Jenn Love asked whether Fred would get help with this task, and Fred replied that he will if he needs it.

Doug Stephan noted that with respect to mixer organization for CSC 2017, once funding was in place, Proto arranged everything (i.e. they found and booked the venue, and made all arrangements).

Danny Leznoff noted that Fred should take the new conference model from the CSC with a mountain of salt, because some of what they want appears to be somewhat unfeasible.

8. ICE report (Andrew Grosvenor)

Andrew Grosvenor noted that there some faces he knows at the AGM, and some new ones, so he gave a brief overview of the ICE program, noting that the objective is to cultivate the next generation of us! (Ryan Lundgren is an example).

This year there were supposed to be 8 ICE students, but the number dropped to 6. Last year there were also 6 participants. However, in 2014 and before, there were typically 12, 14 etc. ICE students. To increase these numbers, Andrew proposed to expand the program to allow students to apply from non-host institutions.

This year, the USRA success of the students was 50%, and one additional student received a departmental scholarship.

Andrew noted that participation in ICE is expensive for supervisors if their students do not obtain a USRA (~\$8-10k). One problem is current NSERC Discovery Grant budget situation. Everyone's budgets are taking a hit, but ICE is a program of Inorganic Division, and we need to think seriously about how to increase the number of participants.

Andrew asked anyone with ideas to send him an email, and also to consider being involved in the program.

Over the years, there have been >100 ICE students, and of these, over 50% have gone into grad school, and another 20% have gone on to professional programs.

Brian Koivisto joined last year as ICE webmaster, and Andrew will be ICE chair until next year. Andrew noted that there will be a new ICE chair next year, and details will be announced shortly.

An e-mail will be circulated in August through the Inorganic Division mailing list to solicit participants for ICE 2018. The list of supervisors will be finalized in early September so that student recruitment can begin shortly thereafter. Commitments that you take on if you become involved in the ICE program are:

First 6-8 weeks = recruiting

Winter = nothing

May = students arrive

End of the summer = conference

Andrew thanked UWO, and the Materials and Inorganic Divisions of the CSC for sponsoring the 2016 ICE conference, and Johanna Blacquiere and Martin Stillman for hosting the conference at UWO.

In 2017, the ICE conference will be at U. Saskatchewan on Aug 17-18.

Chris Orvig commented that the ICE program seems like a good place to put some of the money that we need to spend.

Hein commented that he thought that only 50% of students ending up in grad school seemed a bit low, and should be higher. Andrew replied that they do their best, but they may also be missing some information on where some students have gone.

9. Other Business

Byran Koivisto noted that there will be an industry/inorganic/innovation event on the Friday before this year's IDW at Ryerson U. Bryan has some "save the date" cards for anyone who wants one.

10. Adjournment

MOTION to close proceedings at the 2017 AGM for the Inorganic Division

Motion: Robin Hicks

2nd: Lisa Rosenberg

PASSED Unanimously

The meeting ended at 6.41pm.