

IOHA Board Meeting, 31 May 2009, Toronto, Canada



1. The meeting was held in Toronto, Canada, chaired by Tom Grumbles (President) and attended by representatives of ACGIH, the Australian, Brazilian, British, Canadian, Dutch, French, Hong Kong, Italian, Korean, Norwegian, Southern African, Swiss and Taiwanese organisations, with Pamela Blythe from the Secretariat in attendance and Deon Jensen van Vuuren (Southern Africa) as an observer. Apologies for absence had been received from the organisations in Finland, Germany, Ireland, Japan (JAWE and JOHA), Malaysia and Sweden.
2. The Board received the final report and financial statement from its 7th International Scientific Conference, held in February 2008 in Taipei, Taiwan, and thanked the organisers for a well-organised and very successful event.
3. In addition to Danilo Cottica, three members of the Organising Committee for the 8th International Scientific Conference, to be held in Rome, Italy, 28 September – 2 October, attended part of the Board Meeting to give a presentation on progress with the organisation. The Call for Papers for the conference is now available from www.ioha.net and the deadline for submission of abstracts is 1 December 2009.
4. Although a representative of the Malaysian Association wasn't able to attend, an update was presented of the arrangements to date for the 9th IOHA International Scientific Conference to be held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia in 2012. This Conference will also mark the 25th Anniversary of IOHA.
5. The Board was pleased to agree to a proposal from Berenice Goelzer, the IOHA Newsletter Editor, to increase the number of issues of the Newsletter from two/year (April and October) to three/year (February, July and November). The next issue of the Newsletter will, therefore, appear during July 2009.
6. The new IOHA website is gradually being populated with information and attachments, although any offers of appropriate, suitably good quality photographs (minimum (w) 300 pixels x (h) 250 pixels @ 72 dpi) would be welcomed.
7. The problem of falling membership numbers with the member organisations of IOHA was discussed, with those present agreeing to share details of any membership retaining/recruiting initiatives they were using.
8. The regular report from the NAR Committee was received and discussed. Minor amendments were agreed to the Committee's Charter and this will be published shortly on the IOHA website.
9. The Board is in the final stages of approving a position paper on Control Banding, which will be published on the website during July, and a REACH position paper which should also be published shortly.
10. Roger Alesbury, gave a presentation on the international training and qualifications initiative, which provoked a lively question and answer session. The IOHA Board is considering signing a Memorandum of Understanding with those involved in this initiative.
11. The British Occupational Hygiene Society (BOHS) has provided the Secretariat for IOHA since IOHA was formed in 1987. The Memorandum of Understanding between the two organisations, last signed in 1998, has been revised to bring the procedures up to date and re-signed.

12. IOHA has accepted ICOH's invitation to participate in reviewing and revising its Code of Ethics and asked Michel Guillemin (Switzerland) to be its representative on this initiative.
13. Some years ago, WHO published a document entitled *Basic Occupational Health Services*, of which IOHA has been critical. Now that the document is under review, IOHA will be providing feedback to WHO on ways in which the document could be improved.
14. The next meeting of the Board will be on 8-9 October 2009 in Bilbao, Spain. The meeting will be hosted by the European Agency for Health and Safety at Work.

IOHA Annual General Meeting, 31 May 2009, Toronto

The second Annual General Meeting (AGM) of IOHA was held in Toronto, Canada on 31 May 2008. The business of the meeting, chaired by the President, Tom Grumbles, included accepting the minutes of the first AGM, re-appointing the auditors and the outcome of the nomination process for the posts of President-Elect and Secretary-Treasurer. There was only one nomination for each position, so Luc Hamelin (Canada) was declared President-Elect for 2009-2010, and Hugh Dalrymple (UK) was declared Secretary-Treasurer for 2009-2011.

Having declared the meeting closed, Tom Grumbles handed the Association's gavel over to Danilo Cottica (Italy), who will be President of IOHA for 2009-2010.