

Minutes of the Annual General Body Meeting of Indian Immunology Society (IIS) held on 10.11.2012 at BHU, Varanasi

The Annual General Body Meeting (GBM) of IIS was held on 10.11.2012 in the KN Udupa Auditorium of the Institute of Medical Sciences, Banaras Hindu University (BHU), Varanasi at 5.30 PM during the 39th Annual Conference of the Indian Immunology Society (IIS), IMMUNOCON 2012.

1. A total of 44 life members attended the GBM, chaired by Dr. Pawan Sharma, President of IIS. (*As per constitution of the Society, “ Article 23. Quorum: The business of the Annual General and Extraordinary Meeting shall be transacted only if at least 15 members are present.”*)
2. Dr. Sharma opened the meeting with appreciation for Prof. Usha and Dr. Shashikant Patne of BHU for organizing the 39th Annual Meeting of the Society,
3. The Minutes of the last Annual General Body Meeting of IIS held at Delhi on 14.03.2012, were circulated and the same were approved by the GBM without any amendment.
4. Minutes of the Executive Committee meeting held on the previous day (09.11.2012) at BHU, Varanasi were also circulated as well as read out at the GBM for approval; these minutes are reproduced below for the record:

“Minutes of the meeting of the Executive Committee of Indian Immunology Society (IIS), held on 10.11.2012, at BHU, Varanasi

A joint meeting of the outgoing and the newly elected Members of the Executive Committee of IIS was held on 10.11.2012 at 8.30 AM at the KN Udupa Auditorium Complex, BHU, Varanasi.

Following members (Outgoing/Incoming: O/I) attended the meeting:

Dr. Pawan Sharma – President (O/I) (in Chair)
Prof. Sunil K. Arora – Vice President (O/I)
Prof. Nibhriti Das – Treasurer (O)
Prof. B. D. Bannerjee – Member (O)/ Joint Secretary (I)
Prof. Shripad Patil – Member (I)
Dr. Alpana Sharma – Member (I)
Dr. Kaustuv Nayak – Member (I)
Dr. Akshat Pandey – Member (I)
Dr. Shashikant Patne - Organizing Secretary - 39th Annual Meeting of IIS-2012
Dr. A. K. Tripathi – Organizing Secretary – 40th Annual Meeting of IIS-2013
Prof. N. K. Mehra – Special Invitee

Dr. D. N. Rao – Secretary, Dr. Sangita Mukhopadhyay – Jt. Secretary, Dr. V. Manivel, Dr. V. L. Malhotra, Dr. D. K. Mitra, (all from the outgoing EC), could not attend the meeting.

Dr. Keshar Kunj Mohanty and Dr. Teena Mohan (newly elected Members of EC) also could not attend this meeting.

Following decisions were taken:

1. The unusual situation arising out of non-election to the posts of Secretary and Treasurer was discussed in detail to find the solution. EC noted that it would be inappropriate for Secretary and Treasurer to be nominated (by EC) rather than being elected by the general membership of the Society (similarly it would be

improper for President to be nominated rather than elected). It was therefore decided to hold re-election just for these two posts, namely, Secretary and Treasurer, as soon as possible.

It was decided to request the existing Secretary (Prof. D.N. Rao) and Treasurer (Prof. Nibhriti Das) to continue as **Interim Secretary** and **Interim Treasurer**, respectively, till election of new officers. It was also decided to request Prof. H K Prasad to kindly conduct elections for these two posts, and that the process of elections may please be completed by the end of December 2012. Prof. Mehra pointed out that as per Constitution of the Society, the Treasurer would have to be from New Delhi, the Head Quarters (HQ) of the Society; Secretary of IIS, however, could be elected from anywhere in the country.

2. Considering significant growth of the Indian Immunology Society, and in order to have representation from various regions of the country, the EC decided to expand as follows:

(i). Creation of four posts of Vice Presidents, representing four different regions as Vice-President (E); Vice-President (W), Vice-President (N), and Vice President (S). The Vice Presidents will be expected to implement the mandate of the IIS in their respective regions, and keep the EC informed of various academic and training activities carried out in their regions.

(ii). Number of Members of EC to be increased from Six to Eight.

3. A Constitution Committee should be entrusted to make necessary amendments in the Constitution of the Society to reflect the changing face of the Society.

4. It was decided to adopt IT tools for conducting Elections of the Society in future. As a first step towards that aim, the EC entrusted Dr. Kaustuv Nayak to prepare an updated database of the membership of the Society.

5. Matters related to IUIS were deferred until the election of new Secretary and new Treasurer in December 2012.

6. On the issue of IIS providing travel support to members of the Society for attending scientific meetings/conferences/symposia, it was clarified that IIS provided Bursaries to members to attend national meetings of IIS, and international meetings co-sponsored by IIS in India. IIS does not provide any support for international travel, but members are eligible and encouraged to apply to IUIS and Immunology Foundation or other funding agencies (DBT/DST/CSIR/ICMR *etc.*) for such support.

7. The EC also agreed to the proposal of Dr. DK Mitra to institute an award to be termed as IIS-BD Award for Excellence in Immunology. The nominations will be invited from the general membership of the Society; the nominee should be a Life Member of the Society and should have contributed significantly to the growth of Immunology in the country. Selection will be made through a panel of eminent scientists, to be nominated by the EC of IIS. Details of the award will be posted at the IIS website soon.

8. Prof. N. K. Mehra put on record his appreciation for the support IIS provided in successful organization of 5th FIMSA held in March 2012 at New Delhi.

The meeting ended with thanks to the Chair.”

These Minutes were approved by the GBM without any amendment, for timely implementation by the EC.

5. Dr. Nibhriti Das, Treasurer of IIS, circulated the audited, annual statements of accounts of IIS for the last three years (2009-10; 2010-11; 2011-2012), including the Statement of Assets of IIS. Prof. GP Talwar wanted the contribution made by the Immunology Foundation to the corpus of the Society to be reflected as such. This contribution had been shown under three sub-heads, viz., “Congress Corpus Fund”, “10th International Congress Commemorative Fund” and “Executive Committee Member Travel Fund”, which was deemed as factually correct.
6. Prof. GP Talwar reminded the Society to make an effort to secure permanent office space for the Society at the Department of Biochemistry, AIIMS, New Delhi; Dr. Nibhriti Das informed that an application to that effect had been submitted to the Director, AIIMS, New Delhi.
7. The 40th Annual Conference of IIS (IMMUNOCON-2013) was endorsed to Prof. (Dr.) B. D. Banerjee, UCMS, New Delhi. It is proposed to be held on Nov 15-17, 2013.
8. The 41st Annual Conference IIS (IMMUNOCON-2014) was endorsed to the MKU, Madurai.
9. The 42nd Annual Conference IIS (IMMUNOCON-2015) was endorsed to Dr. Arindam Bhattacharyya, University of Calcutta, Kolkata (West Bengal).
10. An appeal was made to the members to come forward & organize CME programmes at different places in India, with a view to promote education of immunology, especially in the peripheral/remote regions of the country.

The meeting ended with thanks to the Chair, and to the organizers of the 39th Annual Meeting (IMMUNOCON-2012), Prof. Usha and Dr. Shashikant Patne.
