Minutes of ICT-16 Business Meeting

Friday September 1st, 2023
14:30-15:30 (CEST)
Belgrade, Serbia

Agenda Items

1. Approval of Minutes of Last Business Meeting
2. ICT Website Committee Report
3. Financial Report
4. Nominations for the New ICT members
5. Election of the New Executive Committee (EC) Members
6. Proceedings for ICT-16
7. Bid for the 17th International Conference on Trichinellosis in 2027
8. Any Other Business

K. Nöckler chaired the meeting and B. Scandrett recorded the minutes.

1) Approval of Minutes of Last Business Meeting

The minutes from the virtual meeting held on August 2, 2022 were approved by all participants. Minutes are available on the ICT website at the link below:

2) ICT Committee Reports

Website Committee (K. Nöckler)

Miroslaw Rozycky, Poland continues to lead the standing Website Committee, and has done an excellent job of maintaining the ICT website, currently hosted by GoDaddy™. Unfortunately, Mirek was unable to attend ICT-16. There was discussion during the Executive Committee meetings recommending that an additional member of the website committee have full administrator rights for managing the ICT website to ensure capacity and continuity.

The link on the ICT website to the *Trichinella* database (managed by the International *Trichinella* Reference Center, Unit of Foodborne and Neglected Parasitic Diseases, Department of Infectious Diseases Istituto Superiore di Sanità) is now fully functional.

There is an ongoing need for members to update the ICT website with new information about *Trichinella*, including human and animal outbreaks. This could include links to other sources of these data as applicable.

Balance (at previous business meeting, Aug 2022):  +8244.04 EUR (~9150.80 USD, based on 1 EUR = ~1.11 USD)

Outgoings:
-100.50 EUR (WFP fee 2022-2026)
-99.50 EUR (ICT Website fee 2022)
-950.00 EUR (~1000.00 USD; Student Research Award ICT-15, Rajnish Sharma)

Current Balance:  +7094.04 EUR (~7704.13 USD)

Expected Outgoing:  -950.00 EUR (~1000.00 USD; Student Research Award ICT-16, Pang Jianda)

4) Nominations for New ICT Members (B. Scandrett)

Nominations are based on By-Laws of the ICT. Nominees shall be individuals who are active in any aspect of Trichinella or trichinellosis. Consequently, nominees should also regularly attend the ICT conferences whenever feasible. However, the EC recently approved the nomination of candidate members who might not be able to attend the ICT conference, with the By-Laws to be revised accordingly as warranted. As such, the following individuals were nominated by the Membership Committee:

- **Argentina**: Mariana Pasqualetti, University of Buenos Aires (proposed by Mabel Ribicich)
- **Bulgaria**: Nikolay Lalkovski, Trichinella NRL (proposed by Sasa Vasilev)
- **Canada**: Vladislav Lobanov, CFIA (proposed by Brad Scandrett)
- **China**: Jing Ding, Xuemin Jin, Ning Xu, Jilin University (proposed by Mingyuan Liu, Xiaolei Liu)
  - Shao Rong Long, Ruo Dan Liu, Zhengzhou University (proposed by Jing Cui)
  - Xi Zhang, Zhengzhou University (proposed by Zhong Quan Wang)
- **Croatia**: Davor Balić, Trichinella NRL (proposed by Sasa Vasilev)
- **France**: Hélène Yera, Limoges University (proposed by Isabelle Vallée)
- **Germany**: Annette Johne, Federal Institute for Risk Assessment (proposed by Karsten Nöckler)
- **Italy**: Alessandra Ludovisi, ISS (proposed by María Ángeles Gómez Morales)
- **Netherlands**: Helga Waap, RIVM (proposed by Joke van der Giessen)
- **Romania**: Laurentiu Ciupescu, Trichinella NRL (proposed by Sasa Vasilev)
- **Serbia**: Ivana Mitic, University of Belgrade (proposed by Ljiljana Sofronic-Milosavljevic)

All nominated ICT members were approved by participants of the ICT Business Meeting. An official letter to the new ICT members will be sent by the Secretary General. Congratulations to all our new members!
5) *Election of the New Executive Committee (EC) Members (K. Nöckler)*

The new EC for the term 2023-2027 will be as follows:

**President**
Isabelle Vallée (France)

**Vice President**
Liu Xialolei (China)

**Secretary General**
Brad Scandrett (Canada)

**Members**
Fernando Fariña (Argentina)
Rajnish Sharma (India)
Gianluca Marucci (Italy)
Miroslaw Różycki (Poland)
Milena Żivojinović (Serbia)
Zuzana Hurníková (Slovak Republic)
Benjamin Rosenthal (USA)
Peter Thompson (USA)

**Past President**
Karsten Nöckler (Germany)

Congratulations to all new EC members and a sincere thanks to those ending their terms on the EC (Calin Gherman, Joke van der Giessen, Bretislav Koudela, Antti Oksanen, Mabel Ribicich, and Ljiljana Sofronic-Milosavljevic) for their contributions!

6) *Proceedings for ICT-16 (K. Nöckler)*

As for previous ICT conferences, a selection of best papers (oral or poster presentation) will be published in a Special Issue of Veterinary Parasitology guest-edited by selected ICT members. Only papers presented at ICT-16 can be published. Manuscripts need to be submitted for peer review according to VetPar guidelines for authors. Further information on formatting of manuscripts, deadline for submission, etc., will be provided in due course.

7) *Bid for the 17th International Conference on Trichinellosis in 2027 (K. Nöckler)*

A declaration of interest ([http://www.trichinellosis.org/uploads/ICT-17%20-%201-%20Declaration%20of%20Interest.pdf](http://www.trichinellosis.org/uploads/ICT-17%20-%201-%20Declaration%20of%20Interest.pdf)) to host the ICT-17 in 2027 should be send by e-mail to the ICT President by December 31st, 2023. The ICT President will disseminate the declarations of interest to the members of the Executive Committee who will decide by electronic vote on the candidates for hosting ICT-17. Selected candidates will be notified accordingly by January 30th, 2024 and will then be asked to prepare and submit more comprehensive proposals as stipulated in the *ICT Policies and Procedures* by April 30th 2024.

8) *Any Other Business*

_Nomination of honorary members (K. Nöckler)_
As described in the ICT By-Laws, individuals who have distinguished themselves in the field of Trichinella and trichinellosis may be elected to Honorary Membership. They can be Active or Retired Members who have contributed in exceptional measure to our knowledge of Trichinella and trichinellosis in the areas of research, public health administration, education, control or other aspect. In any case, Honorary Membership will be reserved for those who have made truly outstanding contributions to the ICT or to the understanding of Trichinella and trichinellosis.

As per the criteria described above, the Executive Committee has determined that ICT Honorary Membership be awarded to the following members, who will be informed as such via a letter sent by the Secretary General on behalf of the ICT:

- Pascal Boireau
- Dickson Despommier
- Alvin Gajadhar
- Ray Gamble
- Ljiljana Sofronic-Milosavljevic
- Dante Zarlenga

Congratulations to all our new Honorary Members!

Recognition of Dr. Ruben Binaghi (Brad Scandrett)

The ICT acknowledged the contributions of one of its past members, Dr. Ruben Binaghi, who passed away in 2022.

Dr. Binaghi obtained his PhD in 1946 from the University of Buenos Aires and was an immunologist who worked extensively with Trichinella as a model. He became a member of ICT in 1985. He held various posts throughout his career, including in France and Italy, and collaborated on many Trichinella research studies with Fabrizio Bruschi and Stella Maris Venturiella.

On the occasion of his 100th birthday in 2022, he was honored for his scientific achievements, which included a letter of congratulations sent by our ICT President Karsten Nöckler.

List of Attending ICT Members (29)

Fernando Fariña (Argentina), Mabel Ribicich (Argentina), Walter Glawischnig (Austria), Brad Scandrett (Canada), Liu Xialolei (China), Isabelle Vallée (France), Nino Iashvili (Georgia), Karsten Nöckler (Germany), Rajnish Sharma (India), Fabrizio Bruschi (Italy), Alessandra Ludovisi (Italy), Gianluca Marucci (Italy), María Ángeles Gómez Morales (Italy), Yuzo Takahashi (Japan), Zhiliang Wu (Japan), Frits Franssen (Netherlands), Joke van der Giessen (Netherlands), Ewa Bilska-Zajac (Poland), Sofija Glamoclija (Serbia), Alisa Grudens-movesijan (Serbia), Ljiljana Sofronic-Milosavljevic (Serbia), Sasa Vasilev (Serbia), Milena Živojinović (Serbia), Zuzana Hurníková (Slovak Republic), Walter Basso (Switzerland), Caroline Frey (Switzerland), Benjamin Rosenthal (USA), Peter Thompson (USA), Dante Zarlenga (USA)