

Brief Minutes 6th IPSCSG Biennial Meeting, London, June 20-21, 2022

Venue: University College London

Attendants: N=75 from Europe, Middle-East, North-America, and South-America

The program featured 5 keynote lectures on genetic and microbiota determinants by Tom Karlsen, biliary fibrosis by Massimo Pinzani, carcinogenesis by Chiara Braconi, development of symptom scores by Cyriel Ponsioen, and lived experience by Eilís Kennedy and Kathy McKay.

There were 4 four break-out sessions along the existing working groups, where ongoing projects, new proposals, and near future directions/strategy were discussed. Summaries of the WG break-out sessions were discussed on Tuesday June 21. One concrete issue was that WGs are encouraged to follow the example of the MRO WG to put all proceedings and ongoing proposals on the IPSCSG website and maintain these pages regularly through the Secretariat.

A formal part of the meeting concerned rotations of the secretariat and Steering Committee (SC) members.

Strictly spoken, according to the statutes all SC members positions were due for rotation, with a possible extension of two years for 3 members.

Tom Karlsen proposed to extend the current secretariat with one additional year in order to guarantee a smooth continuation of the flow of IPSCSG this short after the relative stand-still due to COVID-19.

There was only one candidate for the new Secretariat location, Christoph Schramm and Ansgar Lohse from Hamburg Germany.

The group decided to accept their candidature and relocate the Secretariat by January 2023 to Hamburg.

Regarding rotations of SC this committee proposed the following:

Chantal Housset, Chris Bowlus, and Tom Karlsen would resign now. Ulrich Beuers would step down January 2023.

Hence, there would be 4 vacancies.

Five candidates have been approached, Palak Trivedi from Birmingham, Cara Mack from Wisconsin, David Assis from Yale, Mette Vesterhus from Bergen, and Marco Carbone from Milano. All five delivered a short pitch. Using a QR code based online system, the first four were chosen as new SC members.

Within the Biennial Meeting a one hour slot was reserved for the regular 6-monthly Biannual Meeting. Several ongoing projects were discussed. It became clear that COVID-19 has had a substantial impact on several collaborations, and new input and momentum should now be

incited. Researchers were again encouraged to put their proposals for collaboration on the IPSCSG website and circulate through the Secretariat.

Next meeting: Washington DC November 2022.