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# The Phycologist

The Newsletter of

The British Phycological Society

# The Phycologist

Number 45 - November 1996

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## Editorial

It always surprises me how quickly another issue comes round with the usual scramble for copy but I must say this issue seems pretty full. I suppose one of the most interesting happenings of the summer was the European Psychological Congress in Cologne in August. It's not every day a new Psychological Society comes into being and I was there! I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge, and thank, Michael Melkonian and Matt Dring for the tremendous amount of work they did to ensure the Congress was such a success. I think one of the reasons I enjoyed it so much was that I got to put faces to so many names on papers I have read over the years. Cologne was a great location though the rain was something else, and this comes from someone who lives in Scotland!

There is little doubt that there was considerable demand for a European Psychological Society mainly because there are so few psychologists within some European countries that separate societies are not really tenable. In the light of some comments that were made to me about the less than constructive role the BPS was perceived as adopting I would like to make the point that the BPS was instrumental in initiating the Congress. In the summer of 1991 BPS council passed a motion in favour of the principle of a European Federation, when Brian Whitton was the President of the Society. It was clear that it was originally planned to inaugurate a Federation in 1992. The trouble was obtaining feedback from Europe and agreeing to a set up. This was kicked around council for as long as I can remember, not having been on council that long. When Matt Dring became the BPS President and Michael Melkonian was the Overseas Vice-President the BPS council decided to request Matt to ask other European psychological societies whether they would wish to form a Federation as an instrument of closer collaboration. Matt got very little feedback from two separate mailings to the available addresses he could find. As this avenue seemed to produce little in the way of success BPS council then considered whether holding a European Psychological meeting would act as a necessary stimulus. Michael Melkonian kindly agreed to investigate and this led in the long run to the Congress in Cologne in August '96. Initial estimates of numbers were between 300-400, but in the end there were over 550. The Congress was obviously a great success and this led onto the formation of the European Psychological Society. I don't think the BPS has anything to worry about because of its formation. Nearly all BPS members attending the Founding meeting of the EPS voted in favour. It is for the EPS to give European Psychology a focus point and a funding lobby, in which the BPS can be actively involved. It is for the BPS to decide how it can encourage its numerous European (non-British) members to remain as members of the BPS. It would be a pity, given the long association the BPS has had with European psychology, if their valued input into our society was to become diminished. The BPS has to attract members to the society from all parts of the globe.

There are a couple of pages concerning the Winter meeting of the BPS in Sheffield '97, the programme and the agenda for the Annual Meeting. Be sure to remember to bring this issue to the meeting, if you are attending, as it is the only place you will find the programme.

Andrew M. Johnston (Hon. Editor)

## Opening comments on the Meeting for the European Phycological Society.

On the Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> August 1996 a number of people (60-70?) attended the Meeting for the European Phycological Society. The meeting was chaired by Dr Matt Dring. He opened the proceeds by listing an agenda.

The first topic, which in essence was the major objective of the meeting, was to discuss whether a European Society of Phycological was required. Matt introduced this section by proposing the alternatives, a Society, a Federation or nothing at all. The debate went on for about an hour by which time most people had aired their views. I think it is enough to cover the points raised rather than document who said what and when. In general most people were in favour of founding a European Society of Phycological but it was interesting to note that there was no real agreement within national groups. The two major points in favour of a society were: to have a society for phycologists in countries in which there is no national phycological society and to have a major society that can lobby for phycology research funding from Brussels. Most who supported this view felt that a federation would not have an identity for the former and not be strong enough for the latter. Those who felt that a federation would be adequate suggested that there was nothing unusual in sections with in a national society, or small groups who did not have a society, joining a federation. A topic that did come in for discussion was the matter of a newsletter, which in the initial stages of the new society would be a major cost. Comparisons were made with *The Phycologist* which costs the British Phycological Society about 4000 pounds per annum. Initial costs of such a newsletter would be bound to have an effect on the membership subscriptions. When the role of a society journal was raised, comment was passed that the *European Journal of Phycology* belonged to the British Phycological Society and would remain so. Matt Dring then stated that it would be possible for a European Phycological Society to be associated with *European Journal of Phycology* but that this would have to be resolved at a future date. Though the name of the society had still not been formalised at this stage there was some debate as to whether the term Phycology should be used as so few non-phycologists seemed to know its meaning. While most phycologists have a story of being mistaken for physiologists or psychologists it was decided that there was little that could be done with the usage of english today.

The vote on whether to establish a European Society of Phycology was by a show of hands. All but three people voted in favour.

## Inaugural meeting of European Psychological Society Köln, Saturday August 17th 1996

Following a vote of those attending the Saturday morning discussion, it was decided to form a European Psychological Society. The following are notes on the inaugural meeting of the Society, with Dr M.J. Dring, Chairman of the International Organizing Committee for the First European Psychological Congress (EPC1), acting as Chairman, and Christine Maggs as Recorder.

The chairman outlined the procedures which would now follow at the inaugural meeting, with the following agenda items.

### 1. Formation of Steering Committee

A Steering Committee would be set up, with about 10 members, which would appoint a chairperson and secretary and invite membership applications. It would also revise the draft constitution, which had been issued to all registrants at EPC1, and circulate the final version to members and prospective members of the Society. The Steering Committee would also invite nominations for officers and members of the first council, ballot of members of the Society for these positions.

Nominations for the Steering Committee from the conference delegates had been invited at registration. 84 ballot sheets had been received, including a range of names. Unfortunately, the ballot sheets had not asked for the consent of people being nominated; many people had been nominated several times over. The names of people not present at EPC1 and some who had already asked not to be considered had been removed from the list of nominees.

Following this, the numbers of nominations received by each nominee had been tallied. The chairman presented a table of these names, listed alphabetically, with numbers of nominations received. The names had also been ranked by numbers of nominations of delegates from each country. Each person receiving the most nominations for each country was then asked if he/she would be prepared to serve on the Steering Committee, as follows:

Country	Name	Prepared to serve?
Germany	M. Melkonian	Yes
UK	M.J. Dring	Yes
Denmark	O. Moestrup	Yes
Sweden	M. Pedersen	Yes
Netherlands	W. Prud'homme van Reine	No, owing to IPC commitments
Netherlands	W. Stam	Yes
Spain	F. Figueroa	Yes
Ireland	M.D. Guiry	Yes
France	P. Potin/C. Destombe (to decide)	Yes
Austria	A.-M. Schmid	Yes

Italy P. Albertano Yes

At this point the question of eastern European representation was raised, and the chairman therefore continued nominations for other less well-represented countries, enlarging the Steering Committee from the original size envisaged, to a total of 14 members.

Slovak Rep	F. Hindak	? (no longer present)
Switzerland	H. Preisig	Yes
Belgium	E. Coppejans	Yes
Russia	A. Usov	Yes (according to A. Vershinin)

## 2. Constitution

As there was insufficient time to go through every item in detail, it was assumed that the draft constitution, which had been circulated with the registration documents, had been read by those attending the meeting. The individual sections were then discussed in order.

### (a) Objectives

Michael Guiry pointed out that the objectives should include the promotion of algal utilization as a stated aim of the Society if its members wished to enhance EU funding prospects. Jim Callow recommended a pro-active approach to EU funding. Wording suggested for the objective of the Society was "to promote the study of algae and their utilisation".

The Chairman noted that publication matters had been dealt with in the debate about forming a Society, so that further discussion of it was not necessary.

### (b) Membership

Linda Franklin proposed reduced membership fees for post-doctoral workers and unemployed phycologists. Christine Maggs noted that the amounts were liable to be small, perhaps DM25, but Dr Franklin thought they still added up when several memberships were involved.

Bernard Kloareg proposed group or corporate membership, an idea noted by the chairman.

Maureen Callow requested that the method of payment be considered carefully because bank charges for international payments could exceed the membership fees.

Conrad Guettler noted that the proposed method of fixing fees, by agreement with the members, was not feasible, and suggested that the Steering Committee would have to fix the fees. Jane Lewis, however, thought that the Society would be legally obliged to obtain the membership's consent for the fees charged.

Linda Franklin brought up the question of legal responsibility for the activities of the Society. The activities of some Australian societies have been seriously affected by problems of legal responsibility. The chairman noted this point for consideration by the Steering Committee.

(c) EPS Council and Committees

The chairman outlined the roles of each of the members of Council that had been proposed, and of the three subcommittees of the Society described in the draft constitution.

Inger Wallentinus pointed out that it would be very expensive for the 15 members of Council to meet together. The chairman explained that face-to-face meetings were not envisaged (at least not frequently!).

The question of intersociety relationships was raised, and the chairman suggested that this could be the secretary's responsibility. It would be added to the list of duties of this officer.

(d) Election of Council members

The chairman introduced this topic, commenting that a good spread of countries should be represented. There should be no more than two officers and three ordinary members of Council from any one country, as proposed in the draft constitution.

Willem Prud'homme van Reine proposed that this should be changed so that there could not be more than a total of three council members from any one country (i.e. without taking account of their status as an officer or ordinary member).

John Raven raised the problem of making provision for continuity, as all Council members could change simultaneously under the proposed constitution.

Joanna Kain suggested that six years as President was too long. This should change more frequently so that the honour of holding this office might be available to more countries and their representatives.

Richard Crawford responded that the periods of office must be related to the frequency of meetings.

The chairman pointed out that postal ballots are expensive and could not be held too often. The potential six-year term of the President could be reduced by the electorate if they voted against a continuation for a second three-year term.

Bernard Kloareg noted that developing the work of President takes time, and three years is not a long period to achieve objectives. This point was supported by Jim Callow.

Jane Lewis raised two technical points. The phrase "ballots with newsletter" should be deleted as this condition could constrain electoral procedures in the future. No definition had yet been provided of what "country" means in the context of the Society.

The Chairman replied that membership was open to everyone world-wide, but the question of how to define a "country" would be addressed by the Steering Committee (Michael Guiry proposed using the same criteria as for the Eurovision Song Contest!).

Linda Franklin suggested that continuity of the Council could be achieved by having two additional officers - President Elect and Past President (with which Michael Melkonian concurred).

Ralph Lewin proposed that the periods of office of Council members could be staggered.

Pierre Compère raised again the issue of the representation of particular countries on Council, noting that three officers from one country would be too much (i.e. the constitution should limit membership to, perhaps, two officers and one ordinary member from one country).

Inger Wallentinus brought up the subject of the working language for the Society - it should be stated explicitly that it would be English.

(e) Other constitutional issues

The Chairman noted that it was inappropriate to include details of publication matters in the constitution. Willem Prud'homme van Reine commented that the constitutional requirement to produce two newsletters per year might prove impossible to meet in some years, and suggested that "normally" be inserted in this sentence.

Ludwig Kies pointed out that registration of the society should be in a country where costs will be low.

Richard Crawford asked whether establishing the frequency of meetings would be a matter dealt with by the Steering Committee, but the Chairman replied that such details should not be included in the constitution.



### 3. Future of the European Phycological Congress

The Chairman noted that many people had said that they would like another EPC, while others had complained that there are too many congresses in general. He invited the views of the meeting on this matter, and provided some information on the timetable of meetings of other societies. The International Phycological Congress (IPC) was being held next year in Leiden, Netherlands, and from then onwards would be on a 4-year cycle. The next meeting, in 2001, would also be in Europe, in Thessaloniki, Greece. The International Seaweed Symposium follows a 3-year cycle; the 1998 meeting will be in the Philippines and the 2001 meeting in South Africa. They have no plans to change their schedule.

The Chairman suggested that, when IPC is on a 4-year cycle, the EPC could be held in the middle of the gap between consecutive IPCs. The next EPC could then be held in 1999, and a 4-year cycle could be adopted thereafter.

Wytze Stam informed the meeting that the next International Botanical Congress will be in St Louis, Missouri, USA, in 1999.

Riccardo Materassi mentioned that in 1999 there would be an algal biotechnology meeting in Florence, Italy.

Jeanine Olsen spoke on the issue of the proliferation of meetings big and small. While it would be good for the EPC to develop momentum, a natural coalescence with other meetings should also be sought. Joint meetings should be encouraged, working towards a critical international mass of people in the small discipline of phycology. The EPS should therefore open dialogue with organizers of other international congresses in any area of phycology.

Michael Guiry noted that the Leiden IPC will be held jointly with the Phycological Society of America. Could EPC be held jointly with the IPC in Thessaloniki?

Michael Melkonian commented that the IPC had not been a very big meeting lately, which was not good for phycology. He supported the Chairman's suggestion that IPC and EPC could be intercalated. Since regional meetings could not be combined (e.g. Australian with European), the model proposed by the Chairman should be pursued.

Jeanine Olsen noted that schedules for other meetings have already been fixed for the next few years. Michael Melkonian responded that this was why EPS had to be flexible in its planning.

Joanna Kain also supported the Chairman's proposal and commented that she believed the present meeting (550 delegates) was as big as is desirable.

Jeanine Olsen clarified her previous statement by emphasizing that she was not proposing a cessation of EPCs.

The Chairman then invited bids or offers of venues for the next EPC in 1999, and noted that these would have to be received within the next 2-3 months, in order for the Steering Committee to make a decision by the end of the year.

Ralph Lewin proposed a joint meeting with the International Botanical Congress, but this was thought unsuitable because it will be in USA. The suggestion concerning the meeting in Florence was raised again as another possible venue.

Willem Prud'homme van Reine voiced his fear that the representation of phycologists at the International Botanical Congress would decrease.

Following a suggestion from Ralph Lewin, the Chairman raised the question of whether the society should be called the European Phycological Society (the working name used so far) or the Phycological Society of Europe. The meeting agreed that the former was preferable.

The inaugural meeting of the European Phycological Society closed at 10.50.

### **Auction Update**

I am expecting the 1997 BPS auction to be better than ever. Available for the first time, will be matted and framed colour plates from The Freshwater Algae book (thanks to the generosity of BioPress) on sale and auction. The matted composite plates will be reasonably priced and will be sold to students in the first instance. The professionally matted and framed full page colour plates (very suitable for an office wall) will be auctioned to the highest bidder (cash or cheque accepted).

Members are encouraged to search their offices, laboratories, etc. for books, reprints, and any phycological memorabilia suitable for donation to the BPS auction. If you would like to donate something please contact Dr M. Callow at the School of Biological Sciences, University of Birmingham B15 2TT, Tel: +44 (0)414 121 5579.

All proceeds of the auction are dedicated for support of student travel, awards, and grants.

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## Draft BioCode

You may all be aware already of the Draft BioCode of Nomenclature, published in *Taxon* earlier this year, and now also available from IUBS ([iubs@paris7.jussieu.fr](mailto:iubs@paris7.jussieu.fr)) as a separate publication. Or, it can be consulted electronically via Internet at:

[biocode@cmsa.berkeley.edu](mailto:biocode@cmsa.berkeley.edu) (subscribe to [listserv@cmsa.berkeley.edu](mailto:listserv@cmsa.berkeley.edu)

or:

<http://www.rom.on.ca>

I think it is important that every phycologist who has to deal with nomenclature from time to time, or who intends to construct databases that have a taxonomic element, should have a look at this Draft. It proposes 'harmonization' of the five Codes of Nomenclature, which means, inevitably, that all of the individual Codes (zoological, botanical, bacteriological, etc) will change. Note that they will not disappear. The existing codes will be applied for names published up to a particular date; the unified Code for names after this date. Taxonomists will have to work with two codes rather than one (or three instead of two, if they work with organisms like dinoflagellates, where taxa are published under two Codes at present).

I have yet to find an advantage of the new unified Draft Code, but perhaps others will be able to help me out of my dismay at yet another set of rules. The proposals have been drawn up by a small committee, with the authority of the International Union of Biological Sciences; one of the committee members is also the President of IUBS. As far as I know, no pressure for change came from the botanical community. The IUBS "intend[s] to play, much more directly in the future, the leading role in governing bionomenclature, which is theirs by tradition." (quote from the Draft published by IUBS). It would not seem unreasonable, then, to say that this is a deliberate attempt by IUBS (and perhaps the IUBS committee itself) to take control over nomenclature and its pseudolegal framework, though the Draft promises discussion and consultation at all stages.

This initiative is being pushed by a group of people who are working hard to create a momentum for change with the authority they have under IUBS. The deadlines they are seeking to impose on the discussion of these proposals are tight (e.g. 31 December 1996 for comments on the present Draft, following which a revised Draft will be produced).

I would be interested in the views of anyone who has read the Draft Code (even to know how many people HAVE read it). To others of you: read it and make up your minds, and if you have time, again, I would be interested to know your thoughts. This Institute and the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, have considerable reservations about what is proposed, to put it mildly.

David Mann

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# A NATIONAL STRATEGY FOR SYSTEMATIC BIOLOGY RESEARCH

## The UK Systematics Forum

In January of this year, the UK Systematics Forum secured additional funding to December 1998 from the Office of Science and Technology, with the principal aim of developing a national strategy for systematic biology research.

The Forum was initially set up in February 1994 to promote communication and coordination within the systematics community. Since then, the group has established a number of initiatives (see below) aimed at developing a network of UK systematists in order to improve coordination of the nation's collections and associated expertise. These activities will provide the basis for carrying out the Forum's second phase of work: to develop a strategy for UK research in systematic biology.

A national strategy for systematics research will be developed with consensus from the wider systematics community. It will aim to identify priorities for the UK's expertise and resources in systematics by assessing scientific and user needs. The strategy should help to promote the best possible use of available resources by enhancing co-operation and collaboration between institutions, and to strengthen the case for funding of systematic biology.

Commitment to the strategy has already been expressed by the Directors of the leading UK collections-holding institutions at a meeting held in April 1996. This meeting was convened by the Forum to initiate discussion on content of the strategy and to build commitment to the initiative. The next phase will involve a survey of collections-holding institutions to gather base-line information on their current policies for systematics collections and research, and surveys of scientific and user needs for systematic biology research. Once a preliminary strategy has been developed, the Forum will carry out a wider consultation process to ensure that the final document has wide support.

Development of the national strategy will take place alongside the Forum's ongoing activities in its role of promoting coordination: developing a database of UK systematics expertise, and supporting meetings of specialist groups of collection managers. Information from the database of expertise is available from a searchable directory, accessible from the Forum's Home Page (<http://www.nhm.ac.uk/uksf>). Certain information in the directory, such as the spread of expertise across taxonomic groups, will be used in developing the national strategy. UK systematists not currently included on the database are therefore urged to complete and submit a questionnaire - available either on-line or from the Secretary.

Further information is available from: The Secretary, UK Systematics Forum, c/o The Natural History Museum, Cromwell Rd, London, SW7 5BD. Tel: 0171 938 9522, fax: 0171 938 9531, e-mail: [ew@nhm.ac.uk](mailto:ew@nhm.ac.uk).

Emma Watson September 1996

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E-mail: [ew@nhm.ac.uk](mailto:ew@nhm.ac.uk) Home Page URL: <http://www.nhm.ac.uk/uksf>

## **Haemodialysis Patient Fatalities in NE Brazil**

Although cyanobacterial toxins are well established as health hazards, fatal poisonings attributed to the toxins have so far been confined to animals (vertebrates and invertebrates). Human illnesses associated with cyanobacterial toxins have hitherto included skin irritations, allergenic responses, liver damage, pulmonary consolidation and gastro-intestinal upsets (1).

The deaths of over 50 patients at a haemodialysis clinic in 1996 in Caruaru (Pernambuco, Brazil) have been attributed to the presence of a cyanobacterial hepatotoxin (microcystin) in the water used for dialysis (2). We are investigating, with medical colleagues, aspects of this tragedy. Work is in progress on the analysis of the water filter materials (granular activated carbons and ion exchange resin). The value of applying a range of physico-chemical and toxicological analytical methods for microcystins is apparent: evidence against, and for, the presence of the toxins in filter material has been obtained. Victim serum samples are being processed for toxin analysis.

A workshop to examine the causes and consequences of the tragedy is being held during the IV Symposium of the Brazilian Society of Toxinology in Recife (6-11, October). Management requirements and strategies to avoid, or reduce the problems presented by cyanobacterial toxins in waters which are prone to bloom development, and which are needed for dialysis, will also be identified.

1. Bell, S.G. and Codd, G.A. *Reviews in Medical Microbiology* 5, 256-264 (1994)
2. Dunn, J. *British Medical Journal* 312, 1183-1184 (1996)

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## **BRITISH PHYCOLOGICAL SOCIETY**

### **Winter Meeting 1997 - Programme**

#### **THURSDAY 2ND JANUARY 1997**

#### **BUFFET & POSTER SESSION: 19.00**

**(Buffet starts 19.00; Posters : 20.00 - 21.00)**

**Babic, S. & Adams, D.G.** (University of Leeds)

Photoheterotrophy and nitrate metabolism in the symbiotic cyanobacterium *Nostoc* sp. strain LBG1 and mutant M22.

**Barwell, C.J., Wang, G.C., Zhou, B.C. & Tseng, C.K.** (University of Portsmouth & Chinese Academy of Science, Qingdao, China)

Evaluation of *Polysiphonia urceolata* as a source of R-phycoerythrin.

- Birkett, D.A., Dring, M.J. & Savidge, G.** ((The Queen's University of Belfast Marine Laboratory)  
Estimations of microphytobenthic biomass and oxygen production from intertidal sediments in Strangford Lough, Northern Ireland.
- Bond, P.** (University of Plymouth)  
The use of freeze-fracture / cytoplasmic maceration for the scanning electron microscope to investigate the fine structure of *Enteromorpha intestinalis* and the effects of the triazine herbicide Igarol 1051 on chloroplast ultrastructure.
- Duggan, P.S., Bean, M.C. & Adams, D.G.** (University of Leeds)  
Cell wall structures associated with gliding motility in cyanobacteria.
- Edwards, G.O., Callow, J.A. & Brownlee, C.** (University of Birmingham & Plymouth Marine Laboratory)  
Application of RAPDs to analyse the occurrence of *Fucus* hybrids.\*
- Ellaway, J.W., Douglas, G.E., John, D.M., Brooks, S.J. & Jones, G.C.** (The Natural History Museum, London)  
A bloom of the water net (*Hydrodictyon reticulatum*) in a eutrophic lake: its seasonality, cause and impact.
- Fyson, A., Krumbeck, H., Mischke, U. & Nixdorf, B.** (Brandenburg Technical University, Germany)  
Use of single-cell photometry to characterize algae from extremely acidic mining lakes in Lusatia (Germany).
- Green, J. & Hunter, C.N.** (University of Sheffield)  
The isolation and characterization of the *ChlH* gene from the magnesium chelatase step of the chlorophyll biosynthesis pathway within the chlorophyte *Chlamydomonas reinhardtii*.\*
- Harris, E., Leadbeater, B. & Wood, R.** (University of Birmingham)  
Virus infection of *Hinckia hincksiae* (Harvey) Silva: an ultrastructural and physiological study.\*
- Howat, J. & Gilmour, D.J.** (University of Sheffield)  
Physiological adaptation of two unicellular green algae to pH stress.\*
- John, D.M., Johnson, L.R., Whitton, B.A., Brook, A.J. & York, P.V.** (The Natural History Museum, London, University of Durham & University of Buckingham)  
Progress towards a modern freshwater algal flora of the British Isles.
- Johnston, N.A.J., Mole, R.J & Adams, D.G.** (University of Leeds & University of Nottingham)  
Isolation of mutant cyanophages capable of lysing phage-resistant cyanobacterial strains.
- Jones, J.L. & Whittick, A.** (Memorial University of Newfoundland, Canada)  
Season and substrate: morphological variation of intertidal *Pilayella littoralis* (Ectocarpales, Phaeophyceae) from insular Newfoundland.
- Koyuncu, M., Nimer, N.A. & Merrett, M.J.** (University of Wales, Swansea)  
Regulation of the calcification / photosynthesis (C/P) ratio by inorganic phosphate ( $P_i$ ) in coccolithophorids.
- Maughan, K., Watt, I., Martin, N.J. & Ratchford, I.A.J.** (The Scottish Agricultural College, Auchincruive)  
Heterotrophic growth of algal and cyanobacterial species.
- May, S., Lewis, S., Price, D.N., Depledge, M.H. & Donkin, M.E.** (University of Plymouth)  
An assessment of the toxicity of the marine antifouling triazine Irgarol 1051 to *Enteromorpha intestinalis*.\*
- O'Mahony, J., Weeks, A. & Taylor, T.** (Southampton Institute)  
Phytoplankton composition and growth cycles in Southampton Water.
- Plumb, J. & Brodie, J.** (Bath College of Higher Education)  
Population dynamics of *Chondrus crispus* (Rhodophyta): a temporal study.\*

- Ratchford, I.A.J., Fallowfield, H.J. & Martin, N.J.** (The Scottish Agricultural College, Auchincruive & Flinders University of South Australia)  
The effect of Reynolds number on the cellular dimensions and biochemical composition of microalgae.
- Sampaio, A.H., Rogers, D.J. & Barwell, C.J.** (University of Portsmouth)  
Improvement of lectin extractions from *Ulva* species.
- Shubert, L.E. & Russell, S.** (The Natural History Museum, London)  
Environmental aspects of stress protein production in a cyanobacterium induced by cadmium.
- Stengel, D.B. & Guiry, M.D.** (University College Galway, Ireland)  
Environmental control of vegetative and reproductive growth of *Himantalia elongata* (Phaeophyta) from the west of Ireland.
- Taylor, R. & Fletcher, R.** (University of Portsmouth) Decomposition of "Green Tide" Algae- its role in nutrient budget of eutrophicated waters.
- Watson, A.G., Jones, R.I. & Eccleston-Parry, J.D.** (University of Lancaster)  
Cell size, nutrient pulsing and competition for phosphorus.
- Yang, M.-H., Blunden, G., Tyihak, E. & Sardi, E.** (University of Portsmouth, Hungarian Academy of Sciences & University of Horticulture & Food Industry, Budapest, Hungary)  
Formaldehyde, as its dimedone adduct, from marine algae.

Posters marked \* have been entered for the BPS Poster prize.

Those presenting posters should ensure that these are in place before the start of the evening session on Jan.2nd. The posters will be located near the lecture theatres so that it will also be possible to view them during the rest of the meeting.

## FRIDAY 3RD JANUARY 1997

### ECOTOXICOLOGY

**9.00 : Introduction** - D.J. Gilmour

**9.10 : Cox, E.J. & Gilmour, D.J.** (The Natural History Museum, London & University of Sheffield)

Aims, scope and limitations of ecotoxicology - an algal perspective.

**9.40 : Legal demands and constraints.**

| Speakers to be finalised, but

**10.00 : Assessing new products.**

| representing the chemical industries

**10.20 : Ecological impact studies.**

| and regulatory organisations.

**10.40 : COFFEE**

### ECOTOXICOLOGY

**11.10 : Newman, J.E. & Brown, M.T.** (University of Plymouth)

Physiological responses of different populations of *Gracilariopsis longissima* to copper exposure.

**11.40 : Brown, M.T.** (University of Plymouth)

Arsenic tolerance in seaweeds: is the phosphate uptake system altered?

**12.10 : Lewey, S.A. & Nummela, E.C.** (Southampton Institute)

Effects of s-triazines on the survival and growth of selected marine macroalgae.

**12.40 : LUNCH**

### ECOTOXICOLOGY

- 14.00 : Bell, S.G., Humble, A.V. & Codd, G.A.** (University of Dundee)  
Comparative effects of cyanobacterial toxins on rainbow trout.
- 14.20 : Riches, C.J., Greenway, D. & Robinson, P.K.** (University of Central Lancashire)  
Lipid profiles from immobilised algae as indicators of heavy metal pollution.
- 14.40 : Maliphant, P.** (University of Hertfordshire)  
Laboratory investigations of the effects of atrazine and isoproturon on diatom cultures.
- 15.00 : Discussion : from laboratory test to environmental assessment.**

**15.20 : TEA**

### UPDATE LECTURES

- 15.50 : Stam, W.T.** (University of Groningen, The Netherlands)  
From macromolecules to microsatellites in algal systematics and ecology - I. The toolbox.
- 16.35 : Olsen, J.L.** (University of Groningen, The Netherlands)  
From macromolecules to microsatellites in algal systematics and ecology - II. Applications.

**19.00 : DINNER**

**BPS AUCTION**

## SATURDAY 4TH JANUARY 1997

### SESSION A - PHYSIOLOGY

- 9.00 : Introduction**
- 9.10 : Johnston, A.M.** (University of Dundee)  
Direct and indirect abiotic effects on the level of  $^{13}\text{C}$  discrimination by marine phytoplankton.
- 9.30 : Nimer, N.A. & Merrett, M.J.** (University of Wales Swansea)  
Carbon dioxide availability, extracellular carbonic anhydrase ( $\text{CA}_{\text{ext}}$ ) activity and the regulation of photosynthetic rate in *Skeletonema costatum*.
- 9.50 : Inglesias-Rodriguez, D. & Merrett, M.J.** (University of Wales Swansea)  
Inorganic carbon utilization in some marine photosynthetic picoeukaryotes.
- 10.10 : Raven, J.A.** (University of Dundee)  
Can vacuoles replace carbonic anhydrase in carbon concentrating mechanisms?

### SESSION B - MANTON PRIZE PRESENTATIONS

- 9.00 : Introduction**
- 9.10 : Richardson, T.L., Ciotti, A.M. & Cullen, J.J.** (Dalhousie University, Canada)  
Physiology of the diatom *Rhizosolenia formosa* in the context of open-ocean vertical migration.
- 9.30 : Probert, I., Lewis, J. & Erard-le Denn, E.** (University of Westminster & IFREMER, Plouzané, France)  
Observations on vegetative reproduction and the sexual life cycle of the marine dinoflagellate *Alexandrium minutum* Halim.

**9.50 : Charrier, S.-C., Weeks, A., Lewey, S. & Robinson, I.** (Southampton Institute & University of Southampton)

A preliminary study of the underwater light field in a turbid intertidal and estuarine environment, and its implication on the vertical zonation of macroalgae.

**10.10 : Blomster, J., Maggs, C.A. & Stanhope, M.J.** (Queen's University of Belfast)

Molecular approaches to the systematics of the green seaweed *Enteromorpha*.

**10.30 : COFFEE**

#### **SESSION A - PHYSIOLOGY**

**11.00 : Pearson, G.A. & Brawley, S.H.** (University of Maine, U.S.A. & University of the Algarve, Portugal)

Inorganic carbon acquisition couples water motion sensing to gamete release in fucoid seaweeds.

**11.20 : Giordano, M. & Gilmour, D.J.** (University of Ancona, Italy & University of Sheffield)

Interactions between carbon and nitrogen metabolism in the unicellular alga *Dunaliella*.

#### **SESSION B -**

**11.00 : Humble, A.V. & Codd, G.A.** (University of Dundee)

Isolation and characterisation of bacterioferritins from freshwater cyanobacteria.

**11.20 : Martin, D., Ridge, I. & John, D.M.** (Open University & The Natural History Museum, London)

The use of decomposing plant litter to control nuisance algae and its possible effects on natural algal assemblages.

#### **11.45 : PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS**

**Raven, J.A.** (University of Dundee)

Putting the C in Phycology.

**12.40 : LUNCH**

#### **SESSION A - PHYTOPLANKTON**

**14.00 : Berges, J.A.** (Queen's University of Belfast)

Death in the sea? Involvement of proteases in mortality or survival of marine phytoplankton under environmental stress.

**14.20 : Forster, R.M. & Schubert, H.** (University of Rostock, Germany)

Assessing the risk of ozone depletion on phytoplankton communities in eutrophic water bodies: the Darss-Zingst bodden chain as an example.

**14.40 : Gibson, C.E. & Bradley, C.** (Department of Agriculture (N.I.) Aquatics Group & Queen's University of Belfast)

A waterbloom in 3D: synoptic survey of lower Lough Erne, Co. Fermanagh.

**15.00 : Ball, S.J.** (Lancaster University)

Are picophytoplankton relatively more important in nutrient poor lakes?

#### **SESSION B - MANTON PRIZE PRESENTATIONS**

- 14.00 : Poole, L.J. & Raven, J.A.** (University of Dundee)  
The growth of *Enteromorpha intestinalis* in elevated oxygen concentrations.
- 14.20 : Fleck, R.A., Day, R.G., Benson, E.E. & Rana, K.J.** (CCAP, Ambleside, University of Abertay Dundee & Stirling University)  
Lethal freeze-induced injury in the coenocytic xanthophyte *Vaucheria sessilis*.
- 14.40 : Powtongsook, S. & Gilmour, D.J.** (University of Sheffield)  
Immobilization of the green alga *Dunaliella* for the production of glycerol.
- 15.00 : Ward, C.J., Preiser, W., Poon, G.K., Pouria, S., Neild, G.H. & Codd, G.A.** (University of Dundee, University College London Medical School, SmithKline Beecham, Guy's & St. Thomas' Hospital Trust)  
Analysis for cyanobacterial microcystins after multiple deaths at a haemodialysis clinic, Caruaru, Brazil.

**15.20 : TEA**

**SESSION A - FLAGELLATES**

- 15.40 : Jones, H. & Hitchman, R.** (Imperial College & Coventry University)  
The costs and benefits of mixotrophy.
- 16.00 : Fyson, A., Nixdorf, B., Mischke, U. & Steinberg, C.** (Brandenburg Technical University & Institute of Freshwater Ecology & Inland Fisheries, Berlin, Germany)  
Ecology of a *Euglena* sp. in extremely acidic mining lakes in Lusatia (Germany).

**SESSION B -**

- 15.40 : Cockell, C.S., Squire, B. & Rothschild, L.J.** (Ecosystems Science & Technology Branch, Mississippi & NAWA/Ames Research Center, California, U.S.A.)  
DNA synthesis patterns in algal mats.
- 16.00 : Doherty, H.M. & Adams, D.G.** (University of Leeds)  
Cell division and gene expression during the development of motile hormogonia in cyanobacteria.

**16.30 : BRITISH PHYCOLOGICAL SOCIETY AGM**

**19.00 FOR 19.30 : BRITISH PHYCOLOGICAL SOCIETY DINNER**  
(Announcement of student poster and Manton prize winners)

**SUNDAY 5TH JANUARY 1997**

**SESSION A - PHOTOSYNTHESIS AND LIGHT**

- 9.00 : Introduction**
- 9.10 : Osborne, B.** (University College Dublin, Ireland)  
Chipping away at the foundations of a paradigm.
- 9.50 : Geider, R.** (Marine Biological Association U.K., Plymouth)  
Cybernetic cells: acclimation to light and nutrient limitation.
- 10.10 : Dring, M.J., Wagner, A. & Lüning, K.** (Queen's University of Belfast & Biologische Anstalt Helgoland, Germany)

The UV-component of natural sunlight is less effective than the PAR-component in inhibiting photosynthesis of subtidal brown and red seaweeds.

### **SESSION B - MOLECULAR SYSTEMATICS**

**9.10 : McIvor, L., Stanhope, M., Maggs, C.A. & Waddell, V.** (The Queen's University of Belfast)

The search for a phylogenetically informative mitochondrial gene in the Ceramiales, Rhodophyta.

**9.30 : Brodie, J., Hayes, P.K., Barker, G.L.A. & Irvine, L.M.** (Beth College of Higher Education, University of Bristol & The Natural History Museum, London)  
*Porphyra miniata* (Bangiales, Rhodophyta): a question of layers.

**9.50 : Serrao, E.A. & Brawley, S.H.** (University of Maine, U.S.A. & University of the Algarve, Portugal)  
Phylogenetic analysis of *Fucus* using nrDNA-ITS2.

**10.10 : Hayes, P.K. & Barker, G.L.A.** (University of Bristol)  
The genetic structure of Baltic Sea populations of *Nodularia*.

**10.30 : COFFEE**

### **SESSION A - PHOTOSYNTHESIS AND LIGHT**

**10.50 : Maberly, S.C. & Pettitt, M.** (Institute of Freshwater Ecology)  
The effect of ultraviolet radiation on *Asterionella formosa*.

**11.10 : Skidmore, R.E., Maberly, S.C. & Whitton, B.A.** (Institute of Freshwater Ecology & University of Durham)  
Light as an ecological factor controlling the productivity of river phytoplankton.

**11.30 : Schubert, H., Matthijs, H.C.P. & Forster, R.M.** (University of Rostock, Germany & University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands)  
Occurrence of complementary chromatic adaptation in a eutrophic estuary.

**11.50 : Discussion**

### **SESSION B - BIOGEOGRAPHY, VARIABILITY & DISTRIBUTION**

**10.50 : Williams, D.M. & Webb, K.** (The Natural History Museum, London)  
*Fragilariforma virescens*: ontogeny, species and biogeography.

**11.10 : Fewer, D., McGuire, C., Dring, M., Savidge, G. & Maggs, C.** (The Queen's University, Belfast)  
Two forms of *Palmaria palmata* (Rhodophyta) in Strangford Lough: distribution and variability.

**11.30 : Farrell, P. & Fletcher, R.L.** (University of Portsmouth)  
Investigations into the distribution and biology of the recently introduced macroalga *Undaria pinnatifida* (Harvey) Suringar in the UK.

**11.50 : De Gregorio, S. & Fletcher, R.L.** (University of Portsmouth)  
Studies on the autecology of selected furoid algae in Langstone Harbour, south coast of England.

**12.15 : LUNCH**

**N.B. This is your only copy of the programme. Please remember to bring it with you to the meeting.**



Dr R. Geider	nominated: Dr A.J. Johnston
	seconded: Dr D.A. Birkett
Dr J. Kübler	nominated: Prof. J.A. Raven
	seconded: Dr D.J. Gilmour
Dr L.E. Shubert	nominated: Prof. J.A. Raven
	seconded: Dr L.R. Carvalho

There is also 1 vacancy for an ordinary member of council to serve for 2 years.  
Council has made the following nomination:

Dr D. Thomas	nominated: Dr A.J. Johnston
	seconded: Dr D.A. Birkett

6. European Psychological Congress - report on the meeting, including the inaugural meeting of the European Psychological Society.
7. Field meetings and timing of winter meeting.
8. Election of auditor for 1997.
9. Any other business.

Please notify the Hon. Secretary **before 9.00 on the 4<sup>th</sup> Jan.** of any items for consideration.

## **BRITISH PSYCHOLOGICAL SOCIETY**

### **Minutes of the 44<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of the Society**

University of Lancaster, at 16.45 on Thursday 4th January 1996. The President, Prof. J. A. Raven, was in the chair, 52 members were present.

1. There were no apologies for absence.
2. Minutes of the 43rd Annual General Meeting were approved and signed.
3. Matters arising: There were no matters arising.
4. Presidential report:

The President commented that there were problems with the timing of the 1997 meeting which he would like to bring up under AOB. There is often an inconvenient interval between 1st January and the start of university terms as far as the BPS winter meetings are concerned, given the number of days for the meeting and the need to prepare rooms for students. This will be particularly difficult in 1997 and 1998. If the society does not use university accommodation it may face higher costs of conference centres and possible problems with the availability or size of lecture theatres. Meeting from 2nd-5th January 1997 will be possible at a university whose term starts late and will take us into a weekend, which could help overseas delegates to obtain cheaper airfares.

5. Reports from Council:  
Written reports were circulated to attendees.

a. Hon. Secretary.

There was another good response to the call for papers for the Winter meeting, almost matching last year's numbers. 35 posters and 59 papers were submitted this time, and again parallel sessions were arranged for most of the meeting. The applied day, co-ordinated by Dr Roger Jones, was entitled "Nuisance algae and their control", divided into two sections, freshwater and marine. In addition, both special topics, "Physiology and growth" organised by Drs Andy Johnston and Stephen Maberly, and "Resting stages" organised by Prof. Chris Gibson and Dr Jane Lewis, contained a good number of varied papers. There were fewer entrants for the Manton prize (6), but this year saw the first BPS Poster prize, for which there were 4 entrants. Council hopes that a poster prize will encourage students to present their work in this way, and also revive general interest in the poster session which has not always received the attention it deserves. The Founders' lecture was given by Dr Colin Reynolds, entitled "Potamoplankton does it on the side". As far as possible, other talks were placed into "natural" groups and once more reflected the diversity of algal research.

An abstract booklet was prepared for registered participants and abstracts of presented papers and posters will appear in the next issue of the Phycologist. Unfortunately, there is still inconsistency in abstract formatting, in spite of consistent instructions to authors. This should particularly be noted by those who organise applied days or special sessions if non-society members are invited. The organisers should ensure that the speakers receive full details about abstracts in good time, and that their speakers receive details of the programme and registration/booking arrangements. However, the majority of authors did send duplicate copies of their abstracts which facilitated simultaneous preparation of the booklet in London and abstracts for the newsletter in Dundee. Thanks are due to the Natural History Museum (London) for allowing the Secretary time for such duties.

b. Hon. Treasurer.

The financial statements for the year ended 30 Sept. 1995 have been sent out to all members and show a surplus for the year of £7,425.49 (1994: £6,939.97). The format still remains familiar too as the long-awaited SORP (Statement of recommended practice) has only just been published and will not take effect until next year.

**Income:** Total income is almost £1000 greater than in 1995, brought about by higher interest received (c. £1000) and an improved performance from the Journal (c. £2000). Against this however the income from subscriptions is almost £1500 lower than in 1994, and as the accounts for the 1995 Winter Meeting at Portsmouth have not yet been finalised no account has been taken of any income from this source in the 1995 accounts.

**Expenditure:** Expenditure is overall very similar to 1994. The Journal costs appear lower than in 1994 but this arise from an over-provision in the 1994 accounts.

Consequently, the provision for Volume 30 has been set at a lower level, being marginally above the actual payment made in respect of Volume 29. The increase in the costs of the European Journal Management Committee's expenses arise from the Hon. Treasurer being able to attend the meeting in Cambridge in 1995!

The cost of the Newsletter is approximately double that of 1994. This is partially due to the University of Dundee picking up the costs of posting out the accounts to members in the financial year 1994/5 whereas the corresponding costs were paid by the Hon. Secretary in the previous year. The principal reason for the apparently large increase is, however, the lateness of charging by both the Universities of Sheffield and

Dundee. I have come to recognise that the Printing Department of the University of Sheffield has an invoicing system which defies belief, but the University of Dundee is not far behind when it comes to re-charging for postage. Approximately £500 of the charge for 1995 relates to postage for 1994 which was not paid by the Society until July 1995. The provisioning for Newsletter costs not invoiced at the year end has been increased by £500 this year and a substantial proportion of the accruals in the balance sheet relate to sums due to the University of Sheffield which have still not been correctly invoiced to the Society.

Other items of recurring expenditure are broadly in line with the corresponding 1994 charges. Last year the Society purchased new stationery, incurred legal costs in connection with the review of the constitution and gave financial assistance to the publication costs of the Coralline volume of the Marine Algal Flora, all of which were non-recurring items of expenditure in 1995. In addition, there was no cost to the Society in connection with the Field meeting this year. Council has, on the request of the EJMC, set up a reserve for colour plates for the Journal, and this is shown as a transfer in the Appropriation Account.

**Assets:** All funds previously held in the Forward Trust Account have been transferred to the National Savings Investment Account to take advantage of better interest rates and conditions. The current account is interest bearing with good rates.

**Capital:** During the year the Society has received £6000 towards the Freshwater Flora project, £3000 from DARNI and £3000 from Northumbrian Water plc. These receipts are shown as deferred income in the balance sheet until the project gets fully underway. As the Bangiophyceae volume of the Marine Algal Flora is still on-going, the contribution of £420 from the Natural History Museum remains in the balance sheet.

**Manton & Scientific Meetings Funds:** Both funds have benefitted from increased interest compared with 1994. Despite not receiving any surplus from last year's meeting (in fact suffering the photocopying charges), the Scientific Meetings Fund still showed a small excess of income over expenditure during the year. All of the awards made from the fund in 1995 related to students attending the winter meeting in Portsmouth. Please remember that assistance may also be available for students attending the field meeting in the summer.

**Future expenditure and proposed subscription increase:** I have outlined Council's intentions regarding future expenditure in issue 42 of the Phycologist and I also gave the reasoning behind the proposed subscription increase for 1997. Although the Society's financial position is healthy our expenditure on items other than the Journal and the Phycologist is very modest. It is Council's wish to support projects and initiatives which will promote Phycology and the decisions to support student vacation grants, the Freshwater Flora and the European Congress reflect this commitment. A strong performance from the Journal is essential if we are to achieve our objectives and I am encouraged by the prospect of a larger and more frequent Journal.

c. Hon. Editor of the Journal.

**Publication schedule of *European Journal of Phycology*:** The first three issues of Vol. 30 appeared on time or early, but the November issue was delayed by about a month due to the Editor's other commitments. However, the first issue of Vol. 31 is on course for publication in February 1996. Accepted manuscripts for the first two issues of the year were being published relatively rapidly, about 5 months after

acceptance. By the November issue, however, a backlog of good manuscripts was leading to delay, and accordingly the issue was enlarged to 96 pages, ahead of schedule.

**Length of issues:** Vol. 30 consisted of 3 issues of 80pp. and one of 96pp.

The European Journal of Psychology Management Committee meeting in May 1995 agreed that the length would increase to 4 issues of 96 pages for 1996, representing a one-third increase from the original 72pp. per issue. It has already been necessary to increase the length of the first issue to a predicted 104pp., due to the continuing backlog of mss. At present there is no shortage of good mss being received - on the contrary it is difficult to keep up with the continuing increase. Although EJPMC generally agrees that the aim in the future might be 6 issues of 96pp. further research is needed to determine whether this would actually increase the speed of publication over four larger issues per year. Although the submission of mss on disc has been discussed, there is no immediate advantage in following this route.

**Editorial Board:** All Associate Editors have been working very hard for the journal, and most have either submitted papers of their own, or solicited other excellent mss. To date no Associate Editors have complained about the non-finite commitment, but the Editor would not like them to feel that it is a life sentence and EJPMC have suggested that we bring in renewable 3-year term appointments like other journals.

**Financial aspects:** The predicted profit is likely to be achieved despite the need to buy extra pages during the year because the increase in world paper prices has not been as serious as predicted. At the meeting with CUP in Cambridge our editor Dr Conrad Guettler noted that subscription levels were generally being maintained. The present cost to British members is £20 and to European members £25, and institution subscriptions for Vol. 31 will be £132 and \$238.

**Marketing:** CUP have been very active in marketing EJP, including sending mailings to psychologists throughout the world. A new publicity leaflet will be available early in 1996 giving special introductory offers on three CUP books for new subscribers.

**Editor's business:** New instructions to authors will appear in the Feb. 1996 issue. Instructions will be detailed so that Dr Maggs can return mss to authors if they have not followed them correctly. Full instructions will be published once a year. Dr Guettler will update the authors' instructions on the WWW and Gopher, the address for which is on the journal cover. Impact factors: although the 1991-1993 figures for the British Psychological Journal had gradually increased from 0.667 to 1.18, these are calculated on a 2-year basis. The final figure for 1994 of 0.8 seems low, particularly as SCI say the final year is usually higher than expected as citations peak in the second year after publication. The first figure for the European Journal of Psychology is 0.6. I don't know whether these two figures can be added together. The explanatory notes are incomprehensible and I have contacted SCI in an attempt to find out more about impact factors. We have offered to publish plenary lectures from the European Psychological Congress I, which could be ready at the congress for reviewing and then published in the November issue.

The Editor noted that having consulted with SCI the final value for the impact factor was 0.7 which is rather low.

d. Hon. Membership Secretary.

A breakdown of BPS membership for Dec. 1995 was submitted. This showed a slight reduction in the number of new members from the previous year although losses were

also lower. Total membership was 617 (1994: 616). However the number of members in arrears was markedly higher than in 1994, raising those carried to 12.2%.

e. Hon. Editor of Newsletter.

Again this year three issues of the newsletter were published. The first issue was later than hoped because of a combination of the Editor's slowness and a hold-up at the printers. The other two issues were closer to the hoped for publishing dates. No progress has been made on finalizing publishing dates because of the variable nature of the printers.

The third issue is of considerable importance to the local organizer of the winter meeting as it contains the booking form. I am sorry if this year the time between receiving the newsletter and the deadline for returning the form to Lancaster was so short, but this was due to a postal strike in Scotland starting just as the newsletter was delivered to the University mailroom. In future there may have to be a separate mailing of the booking form.

I would like to thank Dr Judith Taylor for organizing the third issue of the newsletter. Judith's great service allowed me to go to the Antarctic for seven weeks to filter a great deal of seawater. This was truly an experience and hopefully will be described at length in the next issue of the newsletter.

I would like to thank those members of the society who submitted articles and obituaries, and the council officers who gave me reports for the newsletter. I would like to thank members of my laboratory who devoted so much time in posting out the newsletters.

Finally the annual appeal for more articles on phycology would be greatly appreciated, no matter how tenuous.

f. Marine Algal Flora Committee.

The Flora committee met twice during 1995, on 3 May (at University of Portsmouth) and 4 Oct. (at The Natural History Museum).

As before work was largely concentrated on reviewing progress with the Flora volumes.

**Rhodophyta. Vol. 1. Part 3B. Bangiophycideae** (J. Brodie): JB reports good progress with this group, with particular emphasis being given to sorting out the species of *Porphyra*. A major advance has been the ability to obtain sequence data from critical herbarium material. However, the work is proving more difficult than originally envisaged and will probably take longer than planned, largely because of problems of having to deal with non-native species and sorting out species concepts. Work on the non-*Porphyra* taxa is also progressing, although more slowly, with some collections made and material isolated into culture.

**Phaeophyceae. Vol. 3. Part 2.** (R.L. Fletcher): RLF reports that the work continues slowly on this group with particular attention being given in 1995 to the collection of material and the collation of data for members of the family Ectocarpaceae.

**Cyanophyta. Vol. 5.** (B.A. Whitton): BAW reports some progress with this group and the Flora Committee welcomed his intention to produce a "short practical guide to the identification of common forms" in the near future.

**Haptophyta. Vol. 6.** (J.C. Green): JCG reports that Teresa Bennett is now working part-time on this group and that a good start has been made, involving both field studies on the Kent coast and laboratory culture work.

**Bacillariophyceae. Vol. 7.** (F.E. Round): FER reports that work is continuing on an

individual basis. All the authors are progressing well with their respective parts with Claire Gardner recently completing her study of the genus *Licmophora*. FER is also continuing his collections round the British Isles on a community basis.

**Mapping scheme** (F.G. Hardy): FGH reports that all relevant documentation has been received from Trevor Norton and he is now settling into the task. First priority is being given to updating the record cards and initiating a publicity campaign.

**Other Business:** Vol. 1. Part 3a (Ceramiales) received the Prescott award from the Phycological Society of America and many congratulations are extended to the authors, Christine Maggs and Max Hommersand. The committee are also pleased to note that Vol. 1. Part 2B (Corallinales and Hildenbrandiales) by Linda Irvine and Yvonne Chamberlain received a good review in *Phycologia*. Publications informed the committee that Vol. 1. Part 2A and Vol. 3. Part 1 were sold out and 200 copies of each were reprinted.

The chairman of the committee added that the *Porphyra* work is the only continuing red algal work, the rest has been completed. It was also commented that only post 1970 records have been included in the mapping scheme.

g. Freshwater Algal Flora Committee. The committee met at the winter meeting in Portsmouth, the IFE, Windermere, in June 1995 and before this meeting in Lancaster. It is aiming to produce a practical handbook, and to publish what is available by the target date. The target has been shifted from 1999 to 2000, but material must be collated by 1999 for publication the following year. There will be an attempt to obtain support from the Millennium fund. 24 contributors, some overseas, are involved. It is hoped to have a co-ordinator based at the Natural History Museum to achieve consistency in the accounts, for which a £125k target has been set. Some money has been raised (£3000 + £500 from water plc's; £600 from DARNI, N.Ireland). At present there are discussions with the NRA, but it will be sometime before the outcome is known.

Thanks were expressed to the Natural History Museum, London, for allowing Dr L.R. Johnson time to work on the project. Some results should be ready by 1999, given the appointment for an independent or Natural History Museum co-ordinator. £10,000 has been made available to the project by Council to support field work, but this must be for a definite project with a clear result.

A workshop is planned for 1997 with as many contributors as possible attending, to visit field sites and work together in labs.

A budget has been compiled as is available for those who would like to see it. Thanks were expressed to Dr P.K. Robinson for his help in preparing the prospectus.

Questions were raised over how much time the committee would allow for donations to be received before reviewing their approach. It was also pointed out that perhaps BPS members should charge the NRA for any ID's to emphasise the need for the flora.

h. Conservation Committee.

An extensive report was received from the Conservation committee. However, members of the committee had attended Plantlife link meetings and are involved with the UK plant conservation strategy. Comments on a draft strategy document relating to freshwater algae were forwarded to Plantlife link. A more advance draft was discussed at the Plantlife Link Forum in September. Publication is planned for spring 1996.

Sue Scott attended the first meeting of the Plant Conservation Working Group with an opportunity for input to plant conservation in the statutory agencies. Progress on Red Data Books was reported, but it was felt there was insufficient information to produce an algal Red Data Book. A Lower Plant Biodiversity Register is being produced, covering stoneworts and bryophytes.

There has been discussion of the Third Quinquennial Review of the Wildlife and Countryside Act. Modification to the main criterion for species to be listed in the Schedule was suggested.

Information has been sent to JNCC on marine sites of possible high conservation value so that they can be considered for inclusion in the EC Habitats and Species Directive.

Biodiversity Challenge II was launched at a ceremony at the Natural History Museum. 12 species of red algae have been added to the 28 algal species targeted for priority conservation action. Some also featured in habitat targets.

Biodiversity: The UK Steering Group Report has been published. Some algae feature in the lists of species requiring action plans. A range of aquatic habitats are also given. The JNCC Plant Conservation Strategy: a response to the strategy has drawn attention to the gaps in our knowledge of lower plants and emphasised the importance of lower plant assemblages in brackish and marine communities.

The names of some algal species were submitted to the Review of non-native marine species in British waters.

BSBI has been working on a Code of conduct for the conservation of wild plants. DMJ responded on behalf of the conservation committee.

No response was considered appropriate from the committee to the UK Environmental Health Action Plan.

The committee responded to an enquiry on the significance of roads and road transport on nature conservation. Attention was drawn to the need to monitor accumulation of rare earths and other trace elements from vehicle emissions by algae and other aquatic organisms.

Tim Hill (from JNCC) has joined the committee.

Dr J. Clokie raised the issue of large areas of offshore gravels being dug up.

Fishermen have been asked how they would like these left but have not responded. Dr Maggs commented that MAFF may be monitoring the situation. Dr John asked that any such concerns should be communicated to the Conservation committee.

The adoption of the reports was proposed by Prof. G.E. Fogg; seconded by Prof. C.E. Gibson.

Thanks were expressed to all those involved in preparing reports and doing all the work that is required for the above duties.

##### 5. Election of Council for 1996.

###### Hon. Membership Secretary

The council nomination of Dr L.R. Carvalho was accepted.

As no nominations for Ordinary Members of Council had been received from the membership, Council made the following nominations, for members to serve for 3 years:

Prof. C.E. Gibson (Belfast);  
Dr M.T. Brown (Plymouth)  
Dr D.A. Birkett (Belfast);

The candidates were declared duly elected.

#### 6. Subscriptions

The Hon. Treasurer proposed an increase in subscriptions to take effect from 1997. Strong performance of the journal is essential for the reputation of the society and to allow us to maintain our activities. The Hon. Treasurer is always open to suggestions for the effective use of funds. If this increase is approved, no additional increase would be envisaged until 2000. The Treasurer emphasised that she is attempting to move to a realistic charge to members for the journal. At present there is a £5 per head subsidy. Members of affiliated societies currently pay more, but this increase will bring payments more into line.

Other suggestions were that the rate for members not receiving the journal should rise to £15, and that the journal contribution should be higher. It is difficult to predict journal costs and the society may be subsidising it by 1999, but the present suggestion is part of a gradual move to reduce the subsidy. It is awkward to keep changing subscription rates. In reply to a question about charging an extra £5 for members it was stated that the present cost of membership is a more or less realistic charge to cover costs.

A motion to vote on a £5 increase in membership rates was proposed by Dr L.E. Shubert and seconded by Dr J. Clokie. 9 members voted in favour, 31 against. The original council motion to increase subscription rates for those receiving the journal to £35 and £30 (members, and retired and student members respectively) was put to the vote. 41 members were in favour. None opposed the motion. 1997 rates will be: £35 for members receiving the journal; £30 for retired and student members receiving the journal; £10 for members not receiving the journal; £5 for retired and student members not receiving the journal.

It was noted that the cost of administration to members should be recovered, plus some surplus for use by the society.

#### 7. Change to constitution.

A motion was proposed (Proposer: Dr C.A. Maggs, seconder: Dr C.S. Reynolds) to accept the changes in the constitution outlined in *The Psychologist* 42: 24. The motion was carried.

#### 8. European Psychological Congress.

Prof. M. Melkonian reported that about 2200 copies of the 1st circular were sent out in May 1995 containing an outline of the programme structure. There was a very good response (~ 900) and approximately 1000 copies of the 2nd circular would be mailed by 13 January.

Almost all invited speakers have agreed to attend and all other arrangements are on schedule.

The venue will be a lecture theatre building, with 4 or 5 lecture theatres, at the University of Cologne. There is no campus accommodation, but a range of hotels and cheap accommodation will be available. The cost of the banquet has been included in the registration fee but the cost of the planned mid-conference excursions will be extra.

Dr M.J. Dring reported that there have been difficulties in the discussions about the formation of a Federation of societies. Most want to develop integration and the possibility of forming a society rather than a federation has been raised. Consultation with the organising committee showed wide support for the formation of a European Society, but the proposed "Inaugural meeting" of the European society would also decide whether or not to inaugurate before going on to discuss the constitution and election of officers.

A question was raised over whether the new Society would aim to start a new journal. Prof. Melkonian and Dr Dring said that at present there was no idea of setting up a new journal, but that this would be the decision of the new society.

9. Election of independent examiner for 1996. The nomination of Peter Morrison, who acted as independent examiner for 1994 and 1995, was accepted.

10. Any other business.

i. Dr W.T. Stam briefly notified the meeting of IPC6, which will take place in Leiden from 10-16 August 1997. The theme is "Algae in a changing environment". The first circular will be sent in 1996.

ii. Winter meetings

The 1997 will take place from 2nd-5th January, ending at lunchtime on the Sunday. Sheffield has been suggested as the venue. Liverpool University is also available if necessary.

Support was expressed for meeting at the weekend because flights are cheaper.

The use of non-university accomodation was discussed. These tend to be costlier and lecture theatres may be too small or distant. Dr L.E. Shubert said that prices can be competitive and some are located near colleges and universities. It was agreed that such centres should be considered in the future.

iii. Student travel grants:

All applications should be with the Hon. Treasurer or Hon. Secretary by breakfast the next day.

iv. The meeting was advised that both the Hon. Treasurer and Hon. Secretary would be retiring at the end of 1996. It was suggested that perhaps another member of Council could be nominated to help the Hon. Treasurer so that she could continue in office as her financial expertise was extremely valuable. It was agreed that this possibility could be explored.

v. A vote of thanks to the retiring Hon. Membership Secretary for his efforts to bring the society into the 20th century, by developing the data base of members, was proposed by Dr J. Jones and seconded by Prof. J.A. Raven.

The meeting ended at 18.15.

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