55 Members were in attendance.

1. Opening & welcome by the President

Professor Patrizia Tormene, President, opened the meeting and thanked the organisers for their hospitality. It was noted the meeting was open only to members; junior members could not vote. Dr Ruth Hamilton, Secretary-General, outlined the purpose of the meeting (by-laws Article XV, 1–4.)

2. Minutes of the 2015 ISCEV Membership Meeting

The minutes of the 2015 ISCEV Membership Meeting, as printed in the 2016 Newsletter, were adopted as a true record. There were no corrections and no matters arising.

3. Report from the 2016 Symposium Organiser

Dr Audrey Chia reported 79 and 11 attendees for the human and animal courses respectively; 196 registrants for the Symposium from 30 countries. 16 (of which, 4 children) accompanying persons registered. 56 registrants were members. 103 registrations were received before the ‘early bird’ deadline. 48 received the ‘local’ rate; 21 received complimentary (part of sponsorship) registrations, and there was one on-site registration. 68 abstracts were accepted, 44 as oral papers, and 13 clinical cases Preliminary budget showed income of approximately 72k Singapore dollars from sponsorship and 1,250k Singapore dollars from registrations. A small surplus was anticipated. The membership showed their appreciation of Dr Chia’s team’s work with a round of applause.

4. ISCEV Officers’ Reports

Secretary-General report: Ruth Hamilton presented her report as in the Newsletter, noting that it was her last report as she was standing down at the end of her five-year term. She thanked Patrizia and the membership for appointing her and noted how much she had learned from and enjoyed the role. She noted the slight drop in membership and the shift to greater representation from Asian countries, and that the running costs of the Secretary-General’s office had dropped by two-thirds due to use of online services.

Editor-in-Chief, DOOP report: Pierre Lachapelle noted that the journal was suffering from a drop in submissions and exhorted those present to submit their work to Documenta. Daphne McCulloch noted that pertinent special issues would be welcomed.

Director of Education: Dorothy Thompson gave an update from the 2016 course, noting excellent feedback. She stated that the courses were continually evolving and thanked the sponsors (Diagnosys, Roland and LKC) for their support. With 90 attendees, it was ISCEV’s biggest ever course, and she thanked Audrey Chi and her team for their work in advertising and supporting.

Director of Standards: Daphne McCulloch noted that the standards session had taken place and resulted in good ideas and input and forward planning. The EOG Standard will progress in the next few weeks.

Director of Communications: Michael Bach had nothing to add to his report in the newsletter.

Treasurer: Mathias Seeliger noted changes in the report in the interests of clarity. Award funds were now listed as separate entities. Assets were subject to fluctuations in dollar-Euro exchange rates. The membership exonerated Mathias Seeliger with a show of hands.

The membership exonerated the work of the Board with a show of hands.

5. Highlights from the 2016 Board meeting
Eight travel grants were awarded, with a mixture of awards for course, symposium or both. There were 19 candidates for the Dodt Award. There were also 12 candidates for the $500 initial Marmor Award, and one project eligible for the $2500 follow-up Marmor Award.

An ISCEV course was run at ARVO in 2016, and this will be repeated every 3 years, as well as an annual ISCEV@ARVO scientific session.

To encourage increased membership, we plan to offer junior membership rates for one year to all non-members attending the Singapore Symposium. ISCEV planned to produce a first draft of a simple, ‘lab standard’ for labs to self-accredit. This would be circulated widely for consultation.

The Board are also working closely with Springer to ensure non-paying access to the Standards.

YSCEV is a new initiative from those young or new to visual electrophysiology which is hoped to help the specialty flourish.

ISCEV is looking at using commercial society management software to deal with some of the aspects of payment and other routine tasks associated with the Society.

6. Standards Update – Daphne McCulloch noted that the existing Standards were being reviewed in terms of the schedule for updating. The Guidelines are also due for updating.

7. Elections

7.1. VP of Europe & Africa: Dorothy Thompson supported the re-election of Richard Smith noting his knowledge and pragmatism and ability to deliver as promised. There were no further nominations from the floor. The membership approved unanimously his re-election to a second term. Richard thanked those present.

7.2. Director of Standards: Daphne McCulloch was thanked for her extensive work during her term. She thanked the membership and noted she would support the transition to a new Director. Anthony Robson was proposed by Michael Bach, who noted that Tony was extremely knowledgeable and an excellent candidate. There were no further nominations from the floor. The membership approved unanimously Tony’s election as Director of Standards.

7.3. Director of International Communications: Ruth Hamilton supported Michael Bach’s nomination for a second term noting his hard work and ability to deliver results. There were no further nominations from the floor. The membership unanimously voted Michael for a second term as Director of International Communications.

7.4. Member-at-Large: Professor Zheng Qin Yin was not able to attend, but sent a letter noting her willingness to stand for a second term and outlining the work she had undertaken so far. There were no further nominations from the floor. The membership voted unanimously to re-elect Prof Zheng Qin Yin as Member-at-Large.

7.5. Secretary-General: Patrizia thanked Ruth Hamilton for her work over the last five years. Patrizia then proposed Karen Holopigian as Secretary-General, citing her long-standing activity for ISCEV. The membership unanimously ratified this choice: Dr Karen Holopigian was therefore appointed as Secretary-General.

8. Future ISCEV Symposia

8.5. 2017: Miami, Florida (Symposium Coordinator Mitch Brigell). Host Byron Lam confirmed dates (23–26 October; courses 21–22 October) to avoid other meetings. Hurricanes are very unlikely. Miami airport is close to conference facility (Bascom Palmer Eye Institute Education Centre). The Symposium hotel (Marriott South Beach Stanton) is 4 miles away, and transport will be provided. The hotel is on the beach and next to a park. Negotiated room rates are $199 (1 bed, inc tax, exc breakfast) or $235 (2 beds, inc tax, exc breakfast). Welcome reception is planned at a bayside restaurant, and the final banquet and excursions to Fairchild Gardens (25 miles), with the Olympics being planned on the
Registration is estimated at 550-600 euros, to include all breakfasts, coffee breaks and lunches, 3 dinners and the excursion.

8.6. 2018: Reims, France (Symposium Coordinator Colin Barber). Host Carl Arndt confirmed dates as 20–23 June (courses 18–19 June). Reims is 30 minutes on high-speed train from Paris airport. Venue is the Reims Congress Centre in the city centre; many suitable hotels within walking distance. Welcome reception in the city hall, gala dinner in either champagne cellar or in reception room used by French kings. Estimated 590 euros, possibly better. Supporting team from SEVE.

8.7. 2019: Two invitations were presented: Paul Constable and team presented Darwin, North Australia and Prof Young Hoon Ohn and team presented Seoul, Republic of Korea. Both venues will go forward to a membership vote.

9. Any other business

No further business had been notified to the Secretary-General. Mathias Seeliger noted the importance of citing the current Standards when referencing them. Tony Robson also noted importance of raising this as a reviewer, including whether the Standard was adhered to.

10. Close

The meeting closed at 15:36pm.

Dr Ruth Hamilton
Secretary-General
December 2015