Minutes of the General Assembly of the Purine and Pyrimidine Society and of the PP15 meeting.

New York, NY, USA, June 7, 2015.

Attendees: about 25 participants, including the Executive committee (the President of the Society (Michio Hirano, MH), the Treasurer (Monica Loffler, ML), the Secretary (Frits Peters, FP), and most of the Scientific Committee.

The meeting was opened by the new PPS president Michio Hirano, who welcomed all.

1. The minutes of the General Assembly of 2013 were approved. Several of the action points were dealt with during the meeting, some are dealt with below.

2. Report on membership of PPS. FP’s secretary Saskia Broekman (SB) kept the list complete and up-to-date including received payment for membership. As agreed in Madrid, PPS opened a PayPal account, which was very helpful in getting payment of membership. FP would appreciate any information on members who retired or deceased in order to keep the list up-to-date.
   a. Sponsors. Some suggestions were done to make PPS attractive for company sponsorship. Suggestions were done to get support from companies in the rheumatology field (e.g. Takeda), cardiovascular diseases and oncology (e.g. AstraZeneca, GSK).
   b. Other groups. It was suggested to get more different scientists in PPS, such as cardiologists. They might help to find sponsors.

3. Report on PP foundation: A Foundation was set-up with its seat in Amsterdam, NL, in order to take care of financial business of the society. This foundation states in its statutes its relationship to the PPS. A bank account was opened to support the organization of the meeting in New York.

4. PPS finances. Current financial situation of the meeting is € 18,719. Income of the last two years consisted of the reimbursement of the money provided to the organization of PP13 in Madrid, while in 2015 membership fees were received. Expenses consisted of payment of the poster awards, banking costs and publications.

5. Election of new members to the PPS committees
   a. Membership executive committee: According to the statutes, Michio Hirano is the new president and Juan Puig, Staffan Eriksson and Kimiyoshi Ichida are the past-presidents. ML agreed to remain treasurer and FP to remain publication secretary/secretary
   b. Membership of the scientific committee: Following the meeting in Madrid, FP has asked the present scientific committee whether they still wanted to remain on the committee. Some resigned or might retire shortly, others who did not yet respond will be asked in a personal mail, whether they want to remain on the committee. Up to now only Rick Sabina officially resigned. Bruce Cronstein and Lars-Petter Jordheim agreed to become member. Others volunteered or will be consulted. For membership of the scientific committee the geographical distribution and representation of various disciplines, will be taken into consideration. FP discussed
with Kimiyoshi Ichida Japanese membership and FP will approach potential new Japanese members.

c. **Honorary member:** The executive proposed to elect Michael Becker as honorary member for his long-term efforts to support the PPS in general and several meeting specifically. All approved.

6. **Report on the PP15 meeting.**

   a. **PP15 meeting:** MH gave a report on the organization of the PP15 meeting, for which he and Sherry Cabrasamen took care of the local organization. There are 65 participants with 20 invited speakers. From the 58 abstracts 26 were presented orally and 33 as a poster. Most attendees came from the USA (18) and Japan (14), followed by Spain (6), Sweden (4), Denmark, Canada, Czech Republic, the Netherlands, Poland, UK (each 3), France (2) and one from Colombia, Germany, Italy. MH thanked the generous sponsoring by Takeda, The University of Chicago, Tejin and Hongene.

   b. **PUMPA awards:** During the closing session David Perrett, the president of PUMPA gave an overview on activities of PUMPA and possibilities to receive support from PUMPA such as research projects, travel grants, equipment. The income of PUMPA consists of remains of PP1991 and charity. Since then PUMPA has supported PP travel grants and will continue doing this in the future. PUMPA provided the following travel awards to:

   i. **Christelle Machon,** Laboratoire de Biochimie et Toxicologie, Centre Hospitalier Sud, Lyon, France
   
   ii. **Magdalena Zabielska,** Department of Biochemistry, Medical University of Gdansk, Gdansk, Poland;
   
   iii. **Dzjemma Sarkisjan,** VU University Medical Center, Amsterdam, Netherlands;
   
   iv. **Marco Di Giorgio,** Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center and Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA, USA;
   
   v. **Andrea Lopez Moreno,** Biochemistry and Molecular Biology of Parasites Group, Departamento de Ciencies Biologicas, Universidad de los Andes, Bogota, Columbia.

   Recipients of PUMPA travel awards will be reimbursed for their registration fee.

c. **Poster awards:** Poster awards were selected by the chairs of the poster presentation sessions. The chairs selected posters from their session, and selected the 3 best during the last poster session. The winners were:

   i. **M. Hosoyamada,** Laboratory of Human Physiology and Pathology, Faculty of Pharma Sciences, Teikyo University, Tokyo, Japan
      
      - Urat-1 double knock-out mice are experimental animal models of renal hypouricemia and exercise-induced acute kidney-injury.
   
   ii. **M. Zidanova,** Institute of inherited metabolic disorders, First Faculty of Medicine, Charles University of Prague and General University Hospital, Prague, Czech Republic
Diagnosis of adenylosuccinate lyase deficiency by measuring of succinylpurines in neonatal dried blood spots

iii. M. Zafar, Departement of Biochemistry and Biology, Ryerson University, Toronto, Canada

Substrate translocation triggers endocyte regulation of the equilibrative nucleoside transporter 1 (hENT1)

7. Proceedings of PP13. FP commented that NNNA again agreed to publish the proceedings. FP remarked that the PPS were among the best cited papers of the journal and due to that the impact factor increased. Hence, the editor, Jack Secrist was happy to continue. The journal which was originally focused on medicinal chemistry, wants to include more biochemical and biomedical papers, completely in line with the content of most PPS papers. SE and FP are editorial board members. The procedure for publication will be similar to that in 2013. Papers should be submitted via the NNNA “Manuscript central” website. This will contain a link to PP15, as well as a selection for the guest editors (MH and FP). Submission deadline will be October 1, providing enough time to review, revise, and re-review and hopefully acceptance. FP will provide final information when this is available. Publication is planned early 2016.

a. Reproduction of data. There was a question on publishing earlier data again. FP remarked that when you consider this it has to be properly cited. (Self)-plagiarism is of course not allowed. SE remarked that original data should be published; published data can be published in a review with proper citation.

b. Anne Simmonds issue. Earlier it was suggested to publish a special Anne Simmonds issue. However, only a few responded positively to FP request, while David Perrett did not get a positive response. Because of this poor response the initiative was discontinued.

8. Website. FP welcomes all suggestions to keep the website as up-to-date as possible. The website contains links to all NNNA proceedings as well as the program and abstracts of the last meetings. It was suggested that abstracts of all meetings be placed on the website. FP is happy to do this when they are available in an electronic format. Paper format is more complicated because then they need to be scanned.

9. Future meetings. It was suggested for future meetings to seek contacts with related societies, such as Purine Receptors, ICAPT, cardiology and oncology meetings. This might help to attract more participants, who might be in those meetings.

a. PP17: Tom Smolenski volunteered to organize the PP17 meeting in Gdansk. He introduced Gdansk and its twin city Sopot (likely to be the conference city) and mentioned that the city and surroundings changed considerably since the ESSPPMM99 meeting. Even the “sanatorium” of that meeting improved considerably. He asked the audience whether they would prefer a meeting in May/June of September. There was a slight preference for September, because that was before the teaching starts in most places, while June is often occupied by exams.

b. Future meetings: There was no application for PP19, although it was suggested to consider countries such as China.

10. Other matters.
a. **Anne Simmonds**: It was suggested to honour Anne Simmonds with an award. FP explained the the PUMPA sponsored lecture is already called the Anne Simmonds lecture.

b. **Posters**: The poster award was initiated by Prof. Nepomuk Zöllner, who initially paid the award out of his pocket. The award was later named after him.

c. Thereafter the meeting was closed.

GJ Peters, secretary PPS

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**Action points:**

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<th>Responsible person(s)</th>
<th>Time line</th>
<th>Done</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Search for new committee members</td>
<td>Exec Committee</td>
<td>2nd half 2015</td>
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<td>4.</td>
<td>Update website</td>
<td>Suggestions from all</td>
<td>continuously</td>
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<td>5.</td>
<td>Add abstracts of previous meetings to website</td>
<td>FP, SB</td>
<td>2nd half 2015</td>
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