

WORLD ASSOCIATION OF SOCIETIES OF PATHOLOGY AND LABORATORY MEDICINE

MINUTES OF THE BUREAU

18 October 2002

Kyoto, Japan

The meeting of the WASPaLM Bureau was called to order at 0900 at the Nikko Princess Hotel by Mikio Mori, President. Those present were:

Mikio Mori	President
Kenneth McClatchey	President-Elect
Utz Merten	Immediate Past President
Henry Travers	Secretary-Treasurer
Ikunosuke Sakurabayashi	Executive Director
Marilene Melo	Director-at-Large
Oh. H. Kwon	Director-at-Large
David Davies	Director-at-Large
Michael Oellerich	Director-at-Large

Those absent were:

Barrie Murphy	Director-at-Large
Nevbahar Turgan	Director-at-Large

Others attending:

Raj C. Dash	Administrator, Informatics Secretariat
Alfred Hartmann	Administrator, COWSA Secretariat
Robby Bacchus	Administrator, Secretariat on Pathology in Countries in Need
Han-Ik Cho	President, 22 nd World Congress
Ganze Mocam Kuzey	President, 23 rd World Congress
H. Asuman Tokullugil	Turkish Society of Clinical Biochemistry
Susumu Kanda	WASPALM Administrative Office
Paul Raslavicus	President, College of American Pathologists

1. REVIEW OF WASPaLM MEMBERSHIP

Dr. Travers reviewed the membership list and asked for discussion regarding the disposition of societies that have not paid dues. There was a brief discussion with suggestions for contacting societies from which we have heard little.

ACTION Item#1: The WASPaLM web site will publish only those societies that have official WASPaLM status (constituent society, corresponding society, associate society).

2. NEW OFFICERS/DIRECTORS

Dr. Cho commented about the organization and its future and suggested that WASPaLM must have a strategy to support this organization.

The Bureau needs to replace a director-at-large and the Education Secretariat. Discussion about this did not produce any specific recommendations other than to solicit recommendations from constituent societies. The Bureau discussed the issue of whether there should be an Education Secretariat vested in a single society or whether educational activities should be assumed by the World Association at large.

ACTION Item #2: A decision to abolish the Education Secretariat was tabled.

3. NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Nominating Committee had been appointed by Dr. Mori at the meeting in Düsseldorf. It consists of:

Chair	Dr. Utz P. Merten	Germany
Members	Dr. William B. Zeiler	U.S.A.
	Dr. Peter B. Herdson	Australia
	Dr. Tadashi Kawai	Japan
	Dr. Barrie Murphy	U.K.

The Nominating Committee will present its slate of officers to the Secretary-Treasurer by 20 February 2003. The Secretary-Treasurer will send this information to all constituent societies by 1 March 2003 as provided in the bylaws.

4. NEW PROJECTS

4a. Global Forensic Pathology Quality Assurance Program.

Dr. Travers reported in Dr. Cordner's absence. No action is necessary. The original proposal is withdrawn based upon the absence of support from two organizations in the United Kingdom.

4b. CIOMS.

There was discussion regarding membership. As a corollary to this discussion, Dr. Merten suggested that WASPaLM would need an individual assigned primarily to monitor WHO.

ACTION Item #3: Approval of Membership in CIOMS. The Bureau approved full membership in CIOMS for WASPaLM for one year at a cost of \$375 per year.

4c. WASPaLM in the Archives.

Dr. McClatchey reported on a column to appear in the *Archives of Pathology* called "World Scope". This information piece will appear quarterly and allow readership to get a clear idea of what many international organizations do.

4d. Internet/Web Site

Dr. Dash presented information about the redesign of the WASPaLM web site. Goals include maintenance of up to date information and provision of methods for information sharing and communications. Dr. Dash has provided tools to make editing of the web site easy, including a master calendar and email list management. Dr. Dash demonstrated the new web site and its properties. Dr. Dash proposed a "go live" date in January 2003.

There was some discussion about the use of the web site to provide differential value for constituent societies (Dr. McClatchey; Merten), and "disclaimers" (Dr. Oellerich). The availability of access to the web site was a point of discussion. A "license" or "contract for use" of the web site was discussed. Dr. Dash and Dr. Travers will engage the services of an attorney to develop such a contract.

ACTION Item #4: (1) The Bureau voted to move the host location of the web site from Japan to the United States, under the management of the informatics secretariat, that will be mirrored world wide. (2) The Bureau authorized Drs. Dash and Travers to engage the services of an attorney to develop the license/contract for use that will be part of the web site. (3) The Bureau voted to engage a professional ISP to host and maintain the site.

4e. REPRINTING THE WHO/WASPaLM ETHICS "BOOK"

There was discussion about whether or not this book should be simply republished or reviewed and expanded prior to further action.

ACTION Item #5: The Bureau tabled a decision regarding further publication pending (1) investigation of publication on the web site through appropriate copyright permissions; (2) further review of the book itself by members of the Bureau; and (3) restructuring the writing committee to revise the work.

4f. NATIONAL COMMITTEE ON CERTIFICATION OF PATHOLOGIST ASSISTANTS

Dr. McClatchey informed the Bureau about developments in the United States and Canada with respect to pathologists' assistants and the growth of their professional practice. Similar assistants are found in Brazil, but not in Korea. In Australia, assistants are informal. No action was taken.

4g. BHUTAN PROJECT

Dr. Travers described the Los Angeles Society of Pathologists initiative in Bhutan. Bureau members (Drs. Bacchus and Davies) supported further exploration of ways in which WASPaLM may be able to assist. Dr. Travers will inquire further (including suggestions about involving Singapore) regarding how WASPaLM may assist.

4h. EDUCATIONAL TOOL PROPOSED BY DR. LAURINAVICIUS

Dr. Travers presented the proposal from Lithuania. The initial support requested was for a meeting to develop the project plan. Some (Drs. McClatchey and Oellerich) felt that this was not an appropriate use of WASPaLM funds. There was support, however, for the attendance of a WASPaLM representative to any organizational meeting.

4i. CONTRACT BETWEEN WASPALM AND SOCIETIES ORGANIZING WORLD CONGRESSES

Dr. Travers presented a draft contract for this purpose. The Bureau suggested that we add provisions exculpating WASPaLM from responsibility for financial loss, sharing any profit generated from congresses, the use of the WASPaLM logo, promotion of a congress on the WASPaLM web site, and specific provisions to allow the host society to enter into additional contracts to conduct the congresses. Those provisions must also specify that WASPaLM must be held harmless from any adverse consequences incident to such contracts. The Bureau felt that development of such contracts will be facilitated by incorporation of WASPaLM.

ACTION Item #6: The Secretary-Treasurer was directed to engage the services of an attorney as soon as possible to finalize a standard contract for review by the Bureau.

4j. BUSAN WORLD CONGRESS

The Bureau discussed publication of the proceedings of the 22nd World Congress. Dr. Kwon has explored publishing in a book form using an Italian publisher. The question of publishing peer-reviewed papers in

one or more journals was actively discussed. Dr. Kwon and Dr. McClatchey will work together to assist in this publication.

4k. SUPPORT FOR WORKSHOPS IN DUBAI

Dr. Bacchus presented a proposal for holding workshops in countries where costs and circumstances prohibit pathologists leaving their home locations. He proposed holding the workshops at hospital sites rather than hotels. Programs will be developed with guidance from the “target” sites themselves. Faculty would come both from the local site and volunteers from elsewhere. Dr. Cho raised the issue of language; Dr. Oellerich supported the need for simultaneous translation into local languages.

Dr. Travers proposed that WASPaLM consider a broader program with more than one planned event. Benefits cited included possible connections to industry, sustained recognition for WASPaLM, and the efficiency of proceeding with a *program*, rather than a single event. There was general support for this approach.

ACTION Item #7: The Bureau approved Dr. Bacchus’ proposal in concept and asked him to put together an expanded proposal, including support for appropriate staff, to mount a continuing program that may cover several events over a period of 2 or more years.

4l. PATHOLOGY SUPERCOURSE

There was general discussion of the nature of this program. Presentations for this program are voluntary and cost nothing. There was some sympathy for directing our educational efforts more toward our own web site rather than the Supercourse. The Supercourse can be part of the web site header.

Without a specific action item, the Bureau expressed support for expansion of contributions to the Supercourse via the new WASPaLM web site.

5. REPORTS FROM THE SECRETARIATS

5a. SEQUA (Dr. Reinhauer)

CEN is working on a draft European standard on use of external quality assurance schemes in the assessment of the performance of *in vitro* diagnostic examination procedures (prEN 14136). The standard is being circulated for a vote and may be connected to a similar ISO standard.

There is an international training course for developing countries under the auspices of WHO, but further details are not contained in the report.

A guideline for laboratory diagnosis of diabetes in cooperation with WHO is in preparation, but those cooperating with WHO are not specified in the report. Dr. Reinhauer attended a regional meeting in Cairo on diabetes in developing countries.

A WHO *consultation* on laboratory quality control and external quality assessment in resource-poor environments occurred in Lyon in July 2002. Dr. Reinhauer participated.

Dr. Reinhauer reported that a document regarding the packaging and shipping of diagnostic specimens has been prepared in German. It covers shipping in Europe.

5b. Informatics (Dr. Dash)

Dr. Dash indicated that he had nothing further to report beyond the new web site information described above.

5c. COWSA (Dr. Hartmann)

Dr. Hartmann covered his history with COWSA and discussed ISO/FDIS 15189 regarding laboratory requirements for quality and competence.

There was support for having COWSA materials placed on the web site using the discussion forums for comments. Dr. Hartmann will be responsible for the ISO/Standards forum on the web site beginning in January 2003.

5d. Pathology for Countries in Need

Dr. Bacchus is working through the Royal College's International Forum, but requires more directed assistance for the work of the Secretariat. Dr. Bacchus will incorporate this into **Action Item #7**.

Dr. Bacchus has received information from Africa that suggests that establishing training programs in countries in need may be helpful.

6. INCORPORATION OF WASPaLM

Dr. Travers preented the basic issues surrounding the question of incorporation and Dr. Davies provided background information. If WASPaLM does not incorporate, individual societies and Bureau members may be liable for the actions of the organization. Incorporation will enhance the legitimacy of WASPaLM and will make the use and enforcement of contracts straightforward. The general counsel of the College of American Pathologists, Mr. Jack Beirig, has indicated that incorporation makes insuring against risks easier.

ACTION Item #8: The Bureau voted to incorporate *and* to incorporate in the United States of America. The Secretary-Treasurer is directed to engage Mr.

Beirig or another attorney acceptable to Mr. Beirig to effect the incorporation at the earliest possible time.

7. WORLD CONGRESSES

7a. 22nd World Congress, Busan, Korea (August 30 – September 3, 2003)

The theme of the congress is “Futuristic Pulse” and it is being organized by the Korean Society for Laboratory Medicine. Dr. Cho, President of the Congress, presented an update of progress. Lothar Thomas (Germany) and Carolyn Compton (Canada) have been identified as two of three plenary session speakers. Advance registration fees are set at US\$300; the registration deadline is 31 July 2003. Abstracts must be received by 30 May 2003.

7b. 23rd World Congress, Istanbul, Turkey (22 – 26 September 2005)

Dr. Mocam Kuzey announced that this congress will be held at the Congress and Convention Center in Istanbul. She reported that the Ankara Society of Pathologists was assigned the 2005 World Congress at the World Congress in Versaille in 1997.

She requested an official letter from WASPaLM announcing WASPaLM’s desire to hold the conference in Istanbul and requesting a society to carry out its organization. Such a letter will also help get reduced airfares.

Dr. Tokullugil reported a conflict between the Turkish Society of Clinical Biochemistry and the Ankara Society of Pathologists. The Turkish Society of Clinical Biochemistry was given the responsibility for the World Congress in 2005 at the World Congress in Sao Paulo in 1999. The two organizations disagree about how to organize the congress and how to administer it.

The Bureau received the comments from Drs. Kuzey and Tokullugil as information and determined that there was a need for an Executive Session of the Bureau. This was scheduled for 20 October 2002 at 0730 at the Nikko Princess Hotel.

7c. 24th World Congress, Malaysia, 2007

No information is available at present.

7d. 25th World Congress, Sydney, Australia, 2009

Dr. Davies presented a proposal that the 25th World Congress be held in Sydney, Australia and provided thorough documentation to support the proposal. The Bureau was favorably disposed to this proposal, but given the question about the Malaysia congress in 2007, questioned whether the Sydney proposal could not replace the 2007 World Congress. There was further discussion about holding a World

Congress in conjunction with the College of American Pathologists in 2009 should the Sydney congress be held in 2007.

ACTION Item #9: The Bureau postponed a decision about the 2009 World Congress pending further information from Malaysia and from the College of American Pathologists.

8. THE WORLD PATHOLOGY FOUNDATION AND GORDON SIGNY FELLOWSHIPS

Dr. Sakurabayashi reported the 2001 Gordon Signy fellowship winners were Dr. Filho (Brazil) and Dr. Soyuer (Turkey). Dr. Melo suggested that applicants for the Fellowships should have the support of constituent societies, since the Brazilian Society of Clinical Pathology and Laboratory Medicine was unaware of the fellowship choice. Discussion focused on the lack of connection between the awarding of these fellowships and WASPaLM itself. Dr. McClatchey further suggested that ties between WASPaLM and WPF be made closer; the manner in which this should be done will need to be decided within the next year.

President Mikio Mori offered the appreciation of WASPaLM to Japanese corporate sponsors of WASPaLM for their donation of \$54,000 in 2002. Dr. Mori will write to the companies offering the thanks of the World Association for their continued support.

Dr. Mori reported briefly on his attendance at the ILCP meeting in Cork, Ireland.

Dr. Marilene Melo presented detailed information on the clinical pathology situation reviewed the situation from some countries in Latin America, mentioning particularly Brazil, Mexico, Uruguay, Bolivia and Ecuador.

The meeting adjourned at 5:30 PM.

19 October 2002
Kyoto, Japan
Executive Session

The meeting of the Bureau in Executive Session was called to order by President Mikio Mori at 7:30 A.M. at the Nikko Princess Hotel.

Those present were:

Mikio Mori	President
Kenneth McClatchey	President-Elect
Utz Merten	Immediate Past President
Henry Travers	Secretary-Treasurer
Ikunosuke Sakurabayashi	Executive Director
Marilene Melo	Director-at-Large
Oh. H. Kwon	Director-at-Large
David Davies	Director-at-Large
Michael Oellerich	Director-at-Large
Susumu Kanda	WASPALM Administrative Office

The agenda was limited to a discussion of the issue of the 2005 World Congress and how to resolve the conflicting assignment of two separate constituent societies as the host society. After considerable discussion, the Bureau took the following action.

ACTION Item #10: For World Congresses, WASPaLM will contract with only one host society and that society must conform to the requirements of the Constitution and Bylaws.

ACTION Item #11: WASPaLM will contract with the Ankara Society of Pathologists as the host society for the 2005 World Congress.

ACTION Item #12: The Secretary-Treasurer was directed incorporate into the contract specific language about sharing of financial surpluses to include a fixed amount and a percentage (10%), whichever is greater. The Bureau reiterated that there must be specific protections for WASPaLM from financial and other harms included in the contract.

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 AM.

Henry Travers, M.D.
Secretary-Treasurer

WORLD ASSOCIATION OF SOCIETIES OF PATHOLOGY AND LABORATORY MEDICINE

ASSIGNMENT OF TASKS FROM THE MEETING OF THE BUREAU

18 October 2002
Kyoto, Japan

TASK	ASSIGNED TO
1. Obtain the complete list of society representatives	Travers
2. Convene the nominating committee; seek nominations	Merten
3. Develop a license/contract for use of the web site	Dash/Travers
4. Engage a professional ISP to host the web site in the USA	Dash
5. Establish and manage a COWSA forum on the web site	Hartmann
6. Write to WHO to obtain copyright permission to publish the WHO/WASPaLM ethics book on the web site	Mori
7. Obtain copies of the current book for Bureau members	Davies
8. Restructure the writing committee to revise the volume	Davies
9. Communicate with the Los Angeles Society of Pathologists regarding the Bhutan project to further determine what help WASPaLM can provide	Travers
10. Convey to Dr. Laurinavivius the action of the Bureau	Travers
11. With an attorney, develop the World Congress Contract	Travers
12. Develop a mechanism of publishing papers from the Busan World Congress	McClatchey/Kwon
13. Develop a budget and program proposal for the Secretariat for Countries in Need	Bacchus
14. Engage an attorney to complete incorporation of WASPaLM in the United States of America	Travers
15. Contact Dr. Murphy and Dr. Vollier to clarify the funding and control of the WPF	Merten/Mori

Please note that these assignments should be completed as soon as possible. For some (e.g. the Nominating Committee), the time lines are specified in the Constitution and ByLaws. For others, there is no specific time limit. However, delays in beginning these tasks will result in even longer delays in decision making. Therefore, each member is asked to attend to the assignments as soon as possible.