

## Minutes of the Committee of the British Liquid Crystal Society

Coventry University, 12.30pm, September 12<sup>th</sup> 2002.

**Present:** Andrew Cammidge, Sally Day, Helen Gleeson, John Goodby, Mike Hird, Maureen Neal, Mikhail Osipov, Roy Sambles (Chair), Tim Wilkinson (representing WC)  
**Apologies.** Cliff Jones, Richard Miller, Mary O'Neill.

- 1. Minutes of the meeting of 15/5/01** were agreed as a correct record. (The chair thanked the secretary for her excellent work on behalf of BLCS.)
- 2. Matters arising** (other than those appearing as later agenda items)
  - Marcus Coles (Southampton) has suggested a way forward for design of the web site but doesn't address management of the site. AC and TW both volunteered to take this over. HG to discuss with Mark Wilson and see if he wishes to hand over.
  - RS wrote expressing sympathy to Jay Patel who replied with thanks to the BLCS.
  - Final Report on Oxford Meeting. Still nothing from Steve Elston. RS to attempt to obtain the report as a matter of urgency. MH also to e-mail to attempt to obtain a balance.
  - Award of GW Gray Medal 2002. This was not presented at ILCC (illness and concern that the occasion was not appropriate). It will be presented at the BLCS2003 conference dinner.
- 3. ILCC 2002 Summary.** Was reported to be a successful conference with nearly 900 delegates. There has been positive feedback, relating especially to the science and organisation. The level of industrial participants was lower than hoped for. The Pre-tutorial session had about 30 attendees. Cost had been an issue for some participants.
- 4. Annual Winter Workshop 2002.** The 2002 workshop will run from 16<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> December. Prices and format will be the same as last year. No obvious EEC funding is available. The Committee thanked MH and his Hull colleagues for running this valuable course.
- 5. Lectures and Awards 2003.** The Committee might like to suggest a potential Sturgeon Lecturer to Bill Crossland. Nomination forms will be sent out as usual for the GW Gray Medal and the Young Scientist Prize.
- 6. BLCS Meeting 2003.** Confirmed for 7<sup>th</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup> April at Fitzwilliam College, Cambridge. Costs are £160 for students and £205 for others. Needs to be an opportunity to present medals at the conference dinner and perhaps the other dinner (RS to liase with George Gray). The web site will be hosted in Engineering; TW will liase with Mark Wilson to a link with the BLCS site. Invited talks include Sturgeon Lecture and 2 others (WC to decide) plus the Young Scientist.
- 7. Other one-day meetings.** None of those mentioned previously are running, though the status of the electroluminescence meeting (MO'N) is unclear. The Committee should seriously consider the issue of 1-day meetings at the next Meeting (e.g. consider bidding for a RS meeting). Georg Mehl has organised a RTN meeting on dendrimers in York in September (Denselsys), but this is not a BLCS meeting.
- 8. Newsletter.** Have 75% of an issue ready. It will include articles by the Young Scientist (Lesley Parry Jones) and the Sturgeon Lecturer (Harry Coles). Various people should provide articles on people or things in the news: Jim Emsley on Geoffrey Luckhurst (GWG medal); Roy Sambles (himself - FRS); Sally Day (the meeting at UC and Steve Elston winning SID

Sturgeon Prize); Harry Coles (COMIT); John Goodby (death of Jay Patel's wife). Mikhail to produce a short report on Edinburgh.

**9. Membership matters.** 123 full and 118 student members. More to come from UCL meeting.

**10. Use of BLCS lists.** There have been requests to use the BLCS mailing lists (RSC advertising the Tilden Lecture and Taylor & Francis). The Committee felt that it could not provide copies of the list (concern was expressed about remaining within Data Protection Act), but can include flyers with BLCS mailings in return for the cost of mailing and/or sponsorship of the BLCS meeting. Alternatively, we would apply address labels to stamped, addressed envelopes in return for sponsorship.

**11. Report on banking arrangements.** Bank has been changed to Yorkshire Building Society which is the only building society that will pay interest on charities (currently 3.5%)

**12. Any other business.**

(a) The UCL meeting will probably make a very small loss (£84 currently). There may be some payments outstanding. Includes any membership payments taken at the meeting. SD has given MN full list of those who had attended who claimed they were members or have paid membership fee. SD to send invoice or cheque to MH as necessary.

(b) SID prize. CJ and SD have been in contact about this. Was previously awarded to Steve Elston. Some nomination may be necessary. TW will put details in the newsletter.

(c) In April 2003, SD and CJ complete terms on the Committee, so there is a need for an industrialist and an SID representative. There is some concern over lack of industrial representation at meetings,.

(d) HG and JG to come up with form of words to change constitution in case of resignation of officers for the AGM.

**13. Dates of next meetings.** 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> April, 12.30pm at Fitzwilliam College in Cambridge. AGM on the evening of the 7<sup>th</sup>.

**Actions from the meeting.**

- HG to discuss the web site with Mark Wilson and to liase with TW and AC.
- RS to write again to Steve Elston to try to get a final report for BLCS 2001.
- Suggestions for the Sturgeon Lecturer to WC.
- RS to contact George Gray regarding preferences for presentations of GW Gray medal(s) at BLCS03.
- TW to liase with Mark Wilson to ensure a link from BLCS to Conference web sites
- RS to contact MO'N to find out status of Electroluminescence meeting.
- SD to finalise accounts of UCL meeting and liase with MH.
- MN to contact RSC and Taylor and Francis regarding use of member ship list.
- HG and JG to come up with form of words to change constitution in case of resignation of officers for the AGM.
- CJ and SD to check situation with regard to SID prize.
- TW to produce newsletter as soon as possible.