

MINUTES OF BUSINESS MEETING, 28th AUGUST 1987, SYDNEY

This meeting of the Serotonin Club was held in conjunction with the 10th International Congress of Pharmacology. The Club meeting commenced at 8:00 p.m., at the Imperial Peking Harbourside Restaurant.

Present: The acting President, Prof. P.M. Vanhoutte, and 43 members as recorded in the Attendance Register.

Apologies: Dr. L.A. Chahl, Dr M. Cohen, Prof. I.S. de la Lande, Prof. A.E. Doyle, Dr. M. Dzoljic, Dr G. Engel, Dr J.R. Fozard, Dr D.L. Nelson, Prof. N. Toda. It was noted with regret that Dr I. Medgett was unable to attend because of a serious accident.

Dr James A. Angus of the Baker Institute, Melbourne, presented a lecture on "Serotonin and blood vessel function" before the commencement of general business matters.

General business

1. Adoption of the Constitution of the Serotonin Club

Prof. Paul Vanhoutte outlined the developments since the proposal to form the Club in July 1985, to the preparation of the present suggested Constitution. The initial draft was prepared following discussion at the first meeting of the Club in St. Louis on 14th April 1986 (in conjunction with a FASEB meeting). Discussions of the draft and amendments continued at the second and third meetings of the Club, in Washington, D.C. on 12th November 1986 (in conjunction with a Neuroscience meeting), and in London on 19th December 1986 (in conjunction with a British Pharmacological Society meeting), respectively. Prof. Vanhoutte ensured that drafts and comments were circulated to all members, who were invited to suggest modifications or to express their approval by mail. From all of these discussions and comments, and after further consideration at the fourth meeting of the Club (in Washington D.C. on 30th March 1987), the final suggested form of the Constitution (dated 23rd December 1986) was prepared.

The meeting unanimously agreed to adopt the suggested Constitution (dated 23rd December 1986, as circulated to all members; copy incorporated into the Minutes Register) without further amendment (moved Prof. G. Burnstock/ Prof. M.D. Gershon).

Prof. Paul Vanhoutte read a message of welcome and blessing from Dr Irvine Page.

2. Election of Officers of the Club

Prof. Paul Vanhoutte reported that at the most recent meeting of the Club in Washington, D.C. in March 1987, Dr. Ray Fuller was elected Vice-President with responsibilities for North America. The meeting unanimously ratified the election of Dr. Fuller (moved Prof. P.R. Saxena/Prof. M.D. Gershon).

Nominations for Vice-President with responsibilities for Europe had been sought from members before the meeting. The meeting elected Prof. Pramod Saxena to this office (moved Dr. E.J. Mylecharane/Dr. J.A. Angus).

As the election of Prof. Saxena to the office of Vice-President created a vacancy amongst the four European Councillors, a replacement Councillor was elected. The meeting elected Dr. Jan Van Nueten as a European Councillor (moved Prof. P.R. Saxena/Prof. R. Paoletti).

Prof. Paul Vanhoutte was then nominated for election as the first President of the Serotonin Club (moved Dr. P.P.A. Humphrey/Dr. J. Van Nueten). There were no other nominations, thus Prof. Vanhoutte was unanimously elected as President.

Dr. Ewan Mylecharane was then nominated as Secretary/Treasurer (moved Dr. J. Van Nueten/Prof. M.D. Gershon). There were no other nominations, thus Dr. Mylecharane was unanimously elected as Secretary/Treasurer.

As Dr. Mylecharane had been elected as a Councillor from outside North America and Europe, a replacement Councillor was elected. The meeting elected Prof. N. Toda as a Councillor (moved Prof. P.M.

Vanhoutte/Prof. G. Burnstock).

Prof. Paul Vanhoutte then reported that the Councillors of the Club were:

North America: Dr. M.L. Cohen (U.S.A.; April 1986), Prof. E. Sanders-Bush (U.S.A.; April 1986), Dr. E.C. Azmitia (U.S.A.; November 1986), Dr. D.L. Nelson (U.S.A.; November 1986).

Europe: Dr. J.R. Fozard (Switzerland; December 1986), Dr. A.R. Green (U.K.; December 1986), Dr. P.P.A. Humphrey (U.K.; December 1986), Dr. J. Van Nueten (Belgium; August 1987).

Outside North America and Europe: Prof. I.S. de la Lande (Australia; August 1987), Prof. N. Toda (Japan; August 1987).

3. Election of the Nomenclature Committee

Nominations had been sought from members before the meeting. On the recommendation of the Councillors, the following were elected to the Nomenclature Committee (moved Prof. P.M. Vanhoutte/Prof. G. Burnstock):

Dr G.K. Aghajanian (U.S.A.), Prof. P.B. Bradley (U.K.), Dr. M.L. Cohen (U.S.A.), Dr. J.R. Fozard (Switzerland), Prof. J.P. Green (U.S.A.), Dr. P.P.A. Humphrey (U.K.), Dr. J.E. Leysen (Belgium), Dr. E.J. Mylecharane (Australia), Dr. S.J. Peroutka (U.S.A.), Dr. B.P. Richardson (Switzerland), Prof. P.R. Saxena (The Netherlands).

Dr Humphrey was elected as Chairman, Prof. Green as Vice-Chairman, and Prof. Bradley to liaise with the IUPHAR Committee on Receptors.

4. Future meetings

Prof. Paul Vanhoutte and Prof. Pramod Saxena reported on plans for international meetings on serotonin in September/October 1988, in Florence (in association with the Lorenzini Foundation) and Amsterdam (in association with the Dutch Pharmacological Society), respectively. Negotiations on appropriate dates were continuing. Serotonin Club meetings would be arranged in conjunction with these meetings.

The next meeting of the Serotonin Club will be in Las Vegas in May 1988 (in conjunction with a FASEB Meeting).

The meeting closed at 9:10 p.m., and was followed by dinner.

E.J. Mylecharane
Secretary/Treasurer.