ISoP Extraordinary General Assembly – Minutes
Wednesday 8 June 2016, 7.15 pm
UCL School of Pharmacy (Maplethorpe lecture hall)
29-39 Brunswick Square, London WC1N 1AX - UK

Present: Society President Prof Herve Le Louet, Past President Alex Dodoo, Treasurer Dr Brian Edwards, Vice-Secretary General/vice-Treasurer Prof Ian Wong and Priya Bahri, member of the Society.

The meeting was convened under the presidency of Prof H Le Louet.

The Agenda consisted solely of the approval of the revised statutes sent to the membership on 8 May (see annex)

President H Le Louet kindly thanked Ian Boyd who has assessed and produced the revised version of the Statutes, and Brian Edwards for his support. H Le Louet informed the participants that pressure and criticisms had been expressed by an ISoP member (not present at this GA meeting) about the established procedure to change the statutes; this showed poor insight into the complexity of change needed to reform the organisation of the Society, the mandate given to the Executive Committee to act, and the urgency to arrange elections in time for the Annual Meeting in Agra in October 2016. He said that these criticisms of the legal basis of our processes for change have been discussed with our lawyer in Geneva who confirms unequivocally that we are acting totally within the current statues and that there is no basis for legal objection. As a democratic and open society, President wants to encourage ISoP members to continue submitting comments and suggestions about the revised statutes which are all very welcome and useful. He was happy that members expressed their opinions on the constitution.

Priya Bahri presented the comments she had submitted and while agreeing overall with the changes made by the Executive Committee, she wondered e.g. about whether it would be useful to define roles of various entities in the statutes (and not in the by-laws). This was discussed and it was agreed that by-laws will contain the details about the Board including its exact Membership and that this will be matter for the new Board and Executive Committee to discuss. Similarly, how a corporate entity might be a benefactor without creating undue influence will be matter for the new Board and Executive Committee. H Le Louet reassured the participants that the by-laws will be adopted by a future General Assembly.

Some comments from the membership were received (see annex) and briefly presented to the participants.

All comments will be passed to the future new Executive Committee which will have the task to draft the Society by-laws and new operations. As regards the request to the
Statutes concerning the method of changing the statutes in the future, this will be for the new Executive Committee to discuss and act upon accordingly. All the different options for canvassing the opinions of Members need to be examined taking into account feasibility and cost-effectiveness.

H Le Louet suggested, and this was agreed, that in the future the by-laws needs 'a code of conduct' describing 'conflict resolution' should a dispute arise between different parties of the Society and/or the membership. This recommendation will be passed to the new Executive Committee.

Recommendations arising from comments about the Statutes:
The suggestion from the membership that the primary selection of candidates by Past President be removed has been accepted. The Past President should not ‘choose’ candidates but should remain as an adviser at the discretion of the Executive Committee (with no voting rights during Board meetings). AGREED
The suggestion that past Presidents could have the title ‘President Emeritus’ has also been accepted (conferring the title of President Emeritus on past President encourages them to maintain their association with and support of the Society). AGREED

The President explained that our lawyer in Geneva has acknowledged the Statutes and made some suggestions to tidy up the legal meaning of some of the articles.

The Extraordinary General Assembly was declared inquorate in accordance with Article 15.2 of the Statutes, and it was further declared that the motion be postponed until the next General Assembly which is to be held on Friday 8 July 2016 at 2.00 pm, in London at the UCL School of Pharmacy, 29-39 Brunswick Square, London WC1N 1 AX.

It was noted that, in accordance with Article 15.2 of the Statutes, any decision taken in relation to the proposed revised statutes would then be valid whatever the number of members present, if approved by a majority of the members present.

There was no other business.

The meeting concluded at 8.25 pm

Signed: ………………………… ………………………

Professor Herve Le Louet, President Prof Ian Wong, Vice-Secretary General

Date: 8 June 2016