



## Annual General Meeting 2003 Minutes

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**Date:** Saturday September 27<sup>th</sup> 2003  
**Time:** 16:00 – 18:00  
**Venue:** Hildegardsaal

Members Present numbered 72

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### 1 WELCOME

Les Myatt opened the meeting and welcomed the Membership.

### 2 SECRETARY'S REPORT

#### 2.1 Minutes of the 2002 AGM

Greg Rice tabled the Minutes of the 2002 IFPA AGM . The Minutes of the 2002 AGM were published in the Placenta Blue Pages and posted on the website [www.placenta.cc](http://www.placenta.cc) in November 2002. The Minutes were tabled at this AGM for discussion and ratification by the AGM. Discussion and comment by the Membership was invited. The motion: ***That the Minutes are a true and accurate record of the 2002 IFPA Annual General Meeting*** was proposed by Nick Illsley and seconded by Colin Sibley and unanimously passed by the Membership.

#### 2.2 Website Update

GR reported to the Membership that the web site has been recently updated to incorporate online viewing and editing of members details. This facility can be accessed through the Membership Search button on the home page. The search strategy has been modified to allow "Last Name" searching and "Country" searching. The online editing facility will go live within the next month. This will allow you to change and update your details. A more extensive online review and editing facility are available to Association Executive Committees. The complete membership data is accessed through this interface. The database will be updated with the meeting registrant database from each of the designated IFPA meetings. Meeting organizers from the Melbourne and Mainz meetings were requested to provide complete registrant lists for incorporation in this database. LM thanked GR for efforts during the past year. (Addendum – Following the EPG AGM – the IFPA data will be updated and provided to the EPG (Lopa Leech) to establish a European site of access.)

### 3. TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer's report was prepared and tabled at the AGM by John Aplin. The report was presented by Les Myatt. The Minutes were tabled at this AGM for discussion and ratification by the AGM. Discussion and comment by the Membership was invited. The motion: ***That the Treasurer's Report be accepted as a true and accurate record of the financial activities of IFPA for the 2002-2003 accounting period*** was proposed by Nick Illsley and seconded by Henning Schneider and unanimously passed by the Membership. LM thanked JA for efforts during the past year.

#### 4. STANDING COMMITTEES

- 4.1 Publication Committee. Henning Schneider reported on the publication contract with Elsevier Press, the term of which expires in December 2004. The Contract is currently being reviewed and a report will be present to the Executive at the next IFPA meeting in Asilomar. Several issues need to be renegotiated with the Publisher, including page numbers, journal format, and additional supplements.
- 4.2 Awards Committee. Don Morrish updated the Membership on the current Awards offered by the Association – the Than Award, IFPA Award, Trophoblast Travel (TR) Award and the Loke Travel Awards. The appreciation of the Membership to the Than family and to 'Charlie' Loke was expressed and recorded. The option of continuing the TR Awards through 50% funding by Elsevier and 50% from IFPA funds was tabled and affirmed. Richard Miller commented on the Loke Awards for New Investigators. 27 Travel Awards were awarded this year. It was proposed and agreed by the Membership that the minimum value of these Awards should be set at US\$500 and that the Awards should be awarded on the basis of scientific merit. Anthony Carter encouraged the Membership to apply for these Awards.

#### 5. JOURNALS

- 5.1 Placenta. Gernot Desoye presented a report on the journal Placenta to the Membership, highlighting changes in the journal format and on the successful transition to e-publishing (with 97% of submissions being made online). In 2002-03, the journal received the highest number of manuscripts for a 12 month period. E-publishing was also associated with a reduction in processing times but revision and proofing times by the authors represented significant delays in overall time to publication. The acceptance rate for publication has remained the same, however, the impact factor has decreased slightly (2.5 => 2.35). GD thanked all contributing authors and reviewers. LM thanked GD for efforts during the past year.
- 5.2 IFPA Pages. Anthony Carter reported on the Placenta Blue Pages. Requested copy from the Membership and emphasized the need to have it submitted in good time to ensure timely and relevant publication. AC indicated that the Blue Pages would also be made available on the IPFA website ([www.placenta.cc](http://www.placenta.cc)). Regional meetings and IFPA-designated meetings will also be advertised. The opportunity to publish employment positions in the Blue Pages was discussed but needs to be referred to the Publishers. John Aplin inquired whether or not the names of the winners of the various IFPA Awards were published in the Blue Pages. AC indicated that this has been the case previously but this information should be provided by the Awards Committee.
- 5.3 Trophoblast Research. Kathleen Shiverick reported that the next issue of Trophoblast Research will be published in April 2004. All registrants of the meeting will receive a copy of this issue. The use of Editorial Manager ® to process manuscripts will significantly reduce processing times.

## 6 CONFERENCES

- 6.1 Asilomar 2004. Nick Illsley indicated that meeting plans were running to schedule and further information was available at [www.paa2004.org](http://www.paa2004.org) or via the hyperlink on the IFPA website [www.placenta.cc](http://www.placenta.cc).
- 6.2 Glasgow 2005 Fiona Lyall reported to the EPG AGM that the meeting plan was progressing according to schedule and further information was available at [www.epg2005.org](http://www.epg2005.org) or via the hyperlink on the IFPA website [www.placenta.cc](http://www.placenta.cc).
- 6.3 JPA 2006, Kobe
- 6.4 PAA 2007. venue TBA
- 6.5 EPG 2008. venue TBA

## 7 NEW BUSINESS

- 7.1 Executive Committee Elections
  - 7.1.1 Secretary 2003 The Secretary position was open for nomination and election. GR had agreed to stand for another term. No other nominations were received. The motion that GR be appointed to a further term as Secretary was had been proposed by NI and seconded by SH and passed unanimously by the Executive Committee.
  - 7.1.2 President 2004 Les Myatt indicated that he would complete his term as President at the next meeting of IFPA and that the new President should be a representative of JPG or ANZPRA. Richard Miller reminded the Membership that the Executive should not contain more than one representative from one any Association.
  - 7.1.3 Treasurer 2005 Les Myatt indicated that the term of the Treasurer continues to 2005.

## 8 OTHER BUSINESS

- 8.1 Paul Bischof expressed concern at the rate at which the cost of IFPA meeting registration is increasing and highlighted the need to contain costs, particular as it is important to retain and encourage the involvement of younger members of the Federation. Les Myatt confirmed that the determination of registration costs falls within the bailiwick of the local organizing committee but all effort to minimize costs should be considered.

No further business was raised. A motion that the meeting be closed was proposed (NI), seconded (SC) and passed by the Membership. The meeting closed at 17:56.