



INTERNATIONAL
UNION OF
MICROBIOLOGICAL
SOCIETIES

IUMS

To All National Committees/Member Societies

Utrecht, July 30, 2007

Dear Colleagues,

With this letter, I am sending a number of items requiring attention by your Committee/Society. These items are:

1. A call for nominations for membership of the IUMS Executive Board. Please note that two copies of the completed form are required for each nomination. The IUMS statutes, C10, which describes the procedures for the nominations and election of Executive Board members, can be found at http://www.iums.org/about/about_us-statutes.html. Nominations close on **December 15th, 2007**.
2. An invitation to host the IUMS Congresses in 2014. The "Guidelines for IUMS Congress Organisers" which must be consulted in making your bid and can be found on http://www.iums.org/about/about_us-congresses_guide.html. All bid documentation must be sent to all IUMS Executive Board members to be received by **April 1, 2008**.
3. A call for nominations for two IUMS Awards; The Stuart Mudd Award for Studies in Basic Microbiology, and The Arima Award for Applied Microbiology. Nominations must be sent to Professor Joan Bennett and received by **September 30th, 2007**. For more information visit <http://www.iums.org/awards/awards.html>
4. A letter concerning the Code of Ethics. The IUMS Executive Board approved the adoption of the IUMS Code of Ethics to prevent the misuse of scientific knowledge and resources and recommended that each of the member societies of IUMS who do not already have a similar code develops one or adopts the IUMS Code of Ethics to prevent the misuse of scientific knowledge and resources.

I would also like to draw your attention to the IUMS website <http://www.iums.org>. The website contains the IUMS Statutes, details of the Divisions and COMCOFs, a list of all Member Societies and National Committees, and information on awards and fellowships. Exact details about the venue and time for the General assembly in Istanbul will be posted as soon as details become available.

Could you also check the details of your entry on the website, and send me any corrections which need to be included. We would also appreciate receiving any information about your own website if you have one so that it can be linked to the IUMS site.

Yours sincerely,

Robert A Samson
IUMS Secretary General
CBS Fungal Biodiversity Centre,
PO Box 85167, 3508 AD Utrecht, The Netherlands



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Memorandum: Nomination Members of the IUMS Executive Board

To: IUMS National Committee and Member Society Secretaries

From: IUMS Secretary General: R A Samson

Date: July 30 2007

Nominations, containing a biography of the nominee and a statement indicating a willingness to serve, are sought from National Committees and from Divisions for the offices of

President-Elect,
two Vice- Presidents,
Secretary-General,
Treasurer,
two Members-at-Large.

It is important that members of the Executive Board will be responsible for specific portfolios and that nominees are aware about their duties and responsibilities.

The nomination forms are enclosed and can also be downloaded from
[http://www.iums.org/Assembly/ Gen-Assembly.html](http://www.iums.org/Assembly/Gen-Assembly.html)

New members for the Executive Boars of the Division (Virology, BAM and Mycology) will be sought by their Secretary/treasurer.

Robert A Samson
IUMS Secretary General
CBS Fungal Biodiversity centre,
PO Box 85167
3508 AD Utrecht, The Netherlands



Nomination form

For the election of officers of the IUMS Executive board at the General Assembly, August 2008

Nomination submitted by:

IUMS National Committee

IUMS Member Society:

We hereby nominate for the position of:

Name of Candidate proposed:

Candidate's agreement:

I hereby agree to serve if elected

Signature Date

Name and signature of representative submitting nomination:

Name:

Position

Signature Date

Please supply biographical details of nominee on the form included

Nominations, which **MUST** arrive by **April 15 2008**, should be sent to the following address:

Dr R A Samson – IUMS Secretary General
CBS Fungal Biodiversity Centre, P.O. Box 85167, 3508 AD Utrecht , The Netherlands

Phone + 31 30 2122600 - Fax + 31 30 2512097. Email r.samson@cbs.knaw.nl

(These forms can also be downloaded from <http://www.iums.org/Assembly/Gen-Assembly.html> . If sending by email or fax the original form must be forwarded to confirm acceptance signature)



Nomination form

For the election of officers of the IUMS Executive board at the General Assembly, August 2008

Name of Candidate:

Nominees Biographical Details

Name: Date of Birth:

Current Position

Address

Scientific Position:

Education:

Professional Positions held:

IUMS Positions held:

Professional memberships:

Elected positions and Awards:

Please list 5 major publications:



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Memorandum: **BID TO HOST IUMS CONGRESSES 2014**

To: IUMS National Committee and Member Society Secretaries

From: IUMS Secretary General: R A Samson

Date: July 30 2007

If you wish to make a bid to host the 14th International Congresses of Bacteriology and Applied Microbiology (BAM) and Mycology and the 16th International Congress of Virology, to be held during July/September 2014, a bid should be submitted through your National Committee (or Member Society for the member countries with only one member society) to the IUMS Executive Board Members.

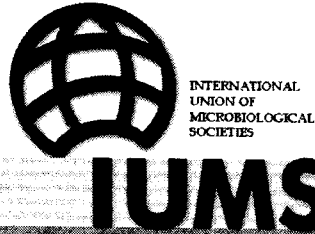
For more detailed information consult the 'Guidelines for IUMS Congress Organisers' (http://www.iums.org/about/about_us-congress_guide.html). All bids must include a letter from the responsible officer in the National Committee or Host Society giving an undertaking that they will adhere to all the IUMS Congress Guidelines. This letter must be included in the copy of the bid documentation sent to the Secretary-General of IUMS.

The deadline for submission of your bid is **April 1 2008**.

The submitted proposals will be reviewed and the future site will be chosen by the IUMS Executive Board at their meeting to be held in conjunction with the IUMS Congresses in Istanbul August 2008. The decision will be announced at the same IUMS Congresses in Paris.

If you need further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Robert A Samson
IUMS Secretary General
CBS Fungal Biodiversity centre,
PO Box 85167
3508 AD Utrecht, The Netherlands



Memorandum:

To: IUMS National Committee and Member Society Secretaries

From: IUMS Secretary General: R A Samson

The IUMS Executive Board in its 2006 meeting held in Istanbul unanimously approved the adoption of the IUMS Code of Ethics to prevent the misuse of scientific knowledge and resources. The Executive Board of the IUMS recommended that each of the member societies of IUMS who do not already have a similar code develops one or adopts the IUMS Code of Ethics to prevent the misuse of scientific knowledge and resources.

The IUMS Code of Ethics can be found in our webpage at www.iums.org. For your convenience, we enclose copy of it.

We would very much appreciate if you could send us a reply indicating whether your Association/Society/Institution adopts the IUMS Code of Ethics against Misuse of Scientific Knowledge, Research and Resources or plans to develop an equivalent Code of Ethics.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "R A Samson", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized and somewhat cursive.

Robert A Samson
IUMS Secretary General
CBS Fungal Biodiversity centre,
PO Box 85167
3508 AD Utrecht, The Netherlands

on behalf of Karl Schleifer, IUMS President and
Daniel Sordelli, IUMS President-Elect and Chair of the IUMS Public Policy Committee.



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IUMS Code of Ethics against Misuse of Scientific Knowledge, Research and Resources

Presented to the IUMS General Assembly 7/27/05 - Revised 9/30/2005 and 11/4/2005 and approved by the EB 28 April 2006

There has always been the potential for dual application of scientific knowledge for beneficial or malicious purpose. However, current societal and geopolitical changes have increased the risk of the misuse of this knowledge. The IUMS reaffirms its major goal is to promote research and the open exchange of scientific information for advancement of the health and welfare of humankind and the environment and strongly discourages any uses of knowledge and resources to the contrary.

IUMS is opposed to the misuse of microbiological knowledge, research and resources. In particular, IUMS also strives to promote ethical conduct of research and training in the areas of biosecurity and biosafety so as to prevent use of microorganisms as biological weapons and therefore to protect the public's health and to promote world peace

Additional information

Objective

IUMS seeks that all its member societies adopt or develop a Code of Ethics to prevent misuse of scientific knowledge and resources.

Background and Rationale

Rapid advances in the biological sciences offer significant benefits to mankind while posing new challenges to the scientific and security communities. Whereas biological research has greatly contributed to the improvement of human health, the same knowledge can also be used to produce potentially dangerous agents and toxins for harmful use. Nevertheless, excellence in scientific research depends on open interactions among researchers, including the exchange of scientific data and methodologies and open access to biological resources.

The objectives of the International Union of Microbiological Societies (IUMS), one of 26 Scientific Unions of the International Council of Science (ICSU), are to: 1) promote the study of microbiological sciences internationally; 2) initiate, facilitate and coordinate research and other scientific activities which involve international cooperation; 3) ensure the discussion and dissemination of the results of international conferences, symposia and meetings and assist in the publication of their reports; 4) represent microbiological sciences in ICSU and maintain contact with other international organizations. Above all the major objective of the IUMS is to constantly advance the knowledge of the microbiological sciences in order to enhance human and animal welfare globally.

The IUMS having 113 member societies and 14 associate members representing well over 100 countries is in a unique position to play a leadership role in promoting responsible stewardship in the biosciences. Specifically IUMS is also in a unique position to provide guidance for avoiding potential abuse of research and resources and specifically to develop educational programs in the area of biosecurity and biosafety that can be offered through member societies and sister Unions.

The science community voluntarily conforms to codes of conduct on issues such as research ethics and professional conduct. Self-regulation has worked well in these and other areas. Many initiatives are underway in many different countries to apply a self-regulatory approach in the context of balancing scientific freedom and biosecurity. The augmentation of existing regulatory frameworks with self-regulation is the approach most likely to succeed. It was within this spirit that the Executive Board of the International Union of Microbiological Societies reviewed and supported the position statement of the American Society for Microbiology and the recently revised ASM Code of Ethics presented at the meeting of the States Parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (/Biological) and Toxin Weapons June 16, 2005 in Geneva. It is within this context that the Executive Board in its meeting in 2006 in Istanbul unanimously approved the adoption of the IUMS Code of Ethics to prevent the misuse of scientific knowledge and resources. The Executive Board of the IUMS recommends that each of the member societies of IUMS who do not already have a similar code develops one or adopts the IUMS Code of Ethics to prevent the misuse of scientific knowledge and resources.