

**International Academy Report
for Governing Council 17-18 October 2008
and General Assembly 23 October 2008**

IAFoST Activities for the term October 2006-October 2008

1. Fellows' Certificates

Following distribution of Certificates to new and previous Fellows attending at The 4th Fellows' Meeting and Luncheon in Nantes on the occasion of the 13th IUFoST World Congress, Certificates were sent to all remaining Fellows.

2. Fellows' Pins

Following distribution of Fellow's Pins, carrying the IUFoST logo, to new and previous Fellows attending 4th Fellows' Meeting and Luncheon in Nantes, Pins were sent to all remaining Fellows.

3. Fellows' Listserv

Immediately following the Nantes World Congress, a Fellows listserv was created of nearly all Fellows and has proved a valuable interactive communication tool for and among Fellows. For the few Fellows without e-mail addresses, important communications have been sent by post.

4. Executive Council Listserv

Immediately following the Nantes World Congress, an Executive Council listserv was created and this has proved to be a valuable communication tool and means of reaching decisions between face-to-face meetings.

5. Fellows' Database

An Excel file database containing contact details, areas of expertise of Fellows who had volunteered to help IUFoST under four headings (taking part in scientific working groups; speaking: representing IUFoST at CODEX, WHO etc meetings; acting as spokesperson) was extended to include new Fellows' offers. Progress has been made in extending the database to include contact details and areas of expertise of all the other Fellows. It has been agreed by the Executive Council that the database (in the form of an Excel file) would be made available to the Governing Council, the Scientific Council and the IAFoST Executive Council. It will not be publicly available and officers of Adhering Bodies will not normally have access except at the discretion of the Secretary General.

6. Fellows' Questionnaire

The questionnaire form distributed to Fellows attending at Nantes was subsequently sent to all Fellows. The questionnaire asked *How can we as Fellows and as an Academy:*

- *do a better job of recognizing outstanding food scientists?*
- *foster International cooperation?*
- *promote food science & technology around the world?*
- *stimulate international education in food science & technology?*

Some respondents interpreted the questions in the widest sense and raised some matters which were not just for IAFoST but for IUFoST as a whole. A

feedback report was provided to all Fellows and also for transmission to IUFOST Task Forces.

7. Administrative arrangements for electing the 2008 tranche of Fellows.

In 2008 the Statutes permitted election of up to a maximum of 30 new Fellows. The IAFoST Executive Council reviewed the administrative provisions operated for the 2006 elections to fulfil the requirements of the Statutes and determined that these were entirely satisfactory and that no change was needed. The call for nominations went out in January 2008

8. Measures to improve the demographic spread of the 2008 intake of Fellows

→ *An Electronic General Assembly to modify Academy Statute #4* took place in 2007, with the General Assembly delegates being provided with the rationale, and the outcome was a change in Statute #4 to remove the word “international” as shown below

"To be eligible for election as a Fellow, a person must be generally recognized as having established an outstanding ~~international~~ reputation for scientific accomplishments and/or leadership in the area of food science and technology."

→ *Improved instructions to Nominators and Improved instructions to voting Fellows* were confirmed at a meeting of members of the Executive Council during the IFT 2007 Annual Meeting in Chicago and then endorsed by the full Executive Council listserv. These included drawing attention to the foregoing change of Statute #4; to the fact that scientific accomplishments could be achieved in various fields not all of which could be accompanied by publications; and to the fact that the phrase “and/or leadership” implied an acceptable alternative to “scientific accomplishments” and could be exercised in a variety of contexts.

→ *Adhering Bodies encouraged to nominate or endorse nominations by existing Fellows*; in addition to nominations by existing Fellows, the Statutes provide for nominations to be made by the Governing Council and by Adhering bodies. The Governing Council decided to maintain its practice of not itself making nominations, but the Secretary General wrote to Adhering Bodies urging them to nominate or endorse nominations made by Fellows, who were asked to seek endorsement of their nomination by the Adhering Body of the country where the nominee was located.

9. Election of new Fellows in 2008

For 30 available places there were 46 nominations, demonstrating great interest in expanding the Academy both in numbers and geographical representation.

80 Fellows voted. That is about 66% of the Fellows (cf 55% in the 2006 elections). This indicates a high level of interest in our International Academy by Fellows. In most elections for professional societies the usual vote return is reportedly 20% or less, but it is not surprising to find a significantly higher level of responsibility and commitment by Academy Fellows in electing new Fellows.

The number of abstentions (voted neither YES nor NO for that candidate) ranged from 3 to 14. The rule we established was that more than 1/3 abstentions

eliminated that candidate from further consideration. Since $80/3$ (rounded-up) = 27, this rule did not need to be invoked. Nevertheless, it is a valuable rule that should be kept for future Fellows elections.

The IAFoST Statutes require that $2/3$ of the voting Fellows must approve a candidate for them to be elected Fellow. According to the rules established by the Executive Council, as on the previous occasion for each candidate this was calculated as: YES votes/(YES + NO votes) and abstentions were not used in the calculation. The approval votes on that basis ranged from 92% down to 28%. The outcome is that there were 25 successful candidates - which is a 54% yield (exactly the same yield as in the 2006 elections) and 83% of the maximum number permitted (cf 80% in the 2006 elections); and there were 21 unsuccessful candidates.

A letter of congratulation from the IAFoST President (with a copy to their Nominator) was sent to each successful candidate, plus a Fellow's data sheet for each successful candidate to return to the Secretary General. Letters were sent by the Secretary General to the Nominators of unsuccessful candidates and then the formal letters to the unsuccessful candidates; the letters to candidates scoring in the range 60-66% of votes strongly urging them to be nominated again in 2010. Although Nominees and their Nominators were informed in advance that the process is not one of "acceptance" or "rejection" by an appointed jury or committee, but a democratic election in which the existing Fellows are the voting electorate, this important point was again emphasised to the unsuccessful Nominees and their Nominators.

The election outcome was 25 high quality new Fellows of whom 6 are women (24%, compared with less than 10% among existing Fellows). Although Fellows are elected in their personal capacity and not in any sense representing the countries where they are located, the countries are shown below as a reminder of where each is located.

The newly elected Fellows are:

BAMFORTH, Charles (USA)
BRUIN, Solke (The Netherlands)
BUERA, Maria del Pilar (Argentina)
COLONNA, Paul (France)
EDMONDSON, Maureen (UK)
FENWICK, Roger (UK)
HICKS, Alastair (Thailand)
JIANG, Shann-Tzong (Taiwan, China)
LEWICKI, Piotr (Poland)
LIU, Rui Hai (USA)
LIU, Xiumei (People's Republic of China)
McGILL, Albert (Australia)
MELTON, Laurence (New Zealand)
MITCHELL, John (UK)
MOY, James (USA)
NGODDY, Patrick (Nigeria)
PAN, Beilei (People's Republic of China)
PAN, Bonnie Sun (Taiwan, China)
PARK, Kwan Hwa (Korea)

PASTORE, Glaucia (Brazil)
PINGFAN, Rao (People's Republic of China)
RAO, Mohan (USA)
RASPOR, Peter (Slovenia)
TOLDRA, Fidel (Spain)
YEN, Gow-Chin (Taiwan, China)

10. IAFoST as a model

Research has shown that IUFoST is the only International Union adhering to ICSU which has established an elected International Academy. Via ICSU, IAFoST has been offered as a model which other International Unions might wish to use to establish their own International Academies.

11. Fellows' Activities

→ *Scientific Information Bulletins*

All Fellows were invited to suggest topics for the Scientific Council to develop new Scientific Information Bulletins (SIBs). Several offered suggestions and these were passed to the Scientific Council. Some Fellows have been or are helping in drafting SIBs.

→ *Contributions to IUFoST/WHO INFOSAN collaboration*

Fellows have been invited to contribute to the "horizon scanning" for possible adverse events, more particularly as part of a collaboration between IUFoST and WHO's INFOSAN

→ *Papers/articles for The World of Food Science*

Fellows have been invited to contribute papers or articles to the relaunched *The World of Food Science*.

→ *Involvement in other IUFoST Activities*

Individual Fellows have played active parts in progressing the project on Distance Food Education in Sub-Saharan Africa; the IUFoST/FAO Database on research projects relevant to the food needs of developing countries; in developing and editing an on-line Handbook of case studies showing how the application of food science and technology has improved nutrition and promoted national development in developing countries; and as speakers in various IUFoST-sponsored events.

12. IAFoST "Tag"

The Executive Council agreed to adopt a "tag line" for IAFoST. It is "The Global Focus of Food Science Excellence".

This is now on the Academy letterhead under the logo. A tag line needs to be short and snappy anyway, but space considerations on the letterhead also dictated brevity.

13. President's Communications

In addition to numerous items of correspondence with individual Fellows, President's communications to all Fellows were sent in

- October 2006 (re various topics resulting from Nantes meeting)
- January 2007 (re Fellows' database and *World of Food Science*)
- February 2007 (Fellows' questionnaire results feedback)

- April 2007 (re collaboration with WHO INOSAN)
- June 2007 (re World Food Prize Award to Fellow Philip Nelson; FAO/WHO framework for the provision of scientific advice on food safety and nutrition; and joint IUFoST/FAO database of research projects relevant to the food needs of developing countries)
- July 2007 (re Fellow and IUFoST Past President Joe Hulse on his appointment as Foreign Fellow of the Year in the National Academy of Sciences of India, honoured "For his contributions in Industrial Biochemistry"; and soliciting Fellows' interest in Joe's IUFoST Task
- Force on Integrated Food Systems for Food Security and Rural Agroindustries)
- August 2007 (re positive outcome of electronic General Assembly to amend IAFoST Statute #4)
- August 2007 (notifying death of Fellow Ralston A Lawrie).
- September 2007 (seeking Fellows' inputs to the presentation that Prof Albert McGill would be making on IUFoST's behalf at the International Conference on Food Security and Environmental Change in Oxford, UK, on 2-4. April 2008
- September 2007 (re IAFoST Annual Report as presented to the IUFoST Governing Council)
- December 2007 (request for suggestions for Distinguished Lecturer for 14th World Congress)
- December 2007 (re new IUFoST website, 14th World Congress, World of Food Science and Season's Greetings)
- February 2008 (re ICSU draft updated document on "Freedom and Responsibility in the Conduct of Science"
- March 2008 (re election of 2008 Fellows)
- April 2008 (re Padma Shri Award to Fellow and IUFoST Past President Joe Hulse; Election of Fellow Paul Singh to the US National Academy of Engineering; and election of IAFoST Fellow and President Elect V Prakash as IFT Fellow)
- April 2008 (letters to all successful candidates for Fellow)
- July 2008 (re IAFoST events during the 14th IUFoST World Congress; the joint IAFoST-French Academy of Technology- Chinese Academy Engineering Symposium during the World Congress; and William C Haines Dairy Science Award to Fellow Harjinder Singh)

14. President's Activities

In accordance with IUFoST Bye-Laws, the President of IAFoST is a member of the Governing Council and of the Scientific Council and has played an active part in the ongoing work of both bodies. He has also given papers at a number of IUFoST-sponsored symposia.

15. Newslines

Articles about IAFoST appeared in *Newslines*:

International Academy of Food Science & Technology
 Report for the Term July 2003 - September 2006
 by Professor Malcolm Bourne, 2003-2006 President
 November 2006 (64), 8.

The International Academy of Food Science & Technology (IAFoST)
 Progress Report since the Nantes World Congress
 by Professor J Ralph Blanchfield, MBE, 2006-2008 President

April 2007 (65), 12-13.

16. IAFoST arrangements at 2008 World Congress

The Executive Council reviewed the administrative arrangements and facilities at the Nantes World Congress for the recognition of Fellows, recognition of new Fellows, presentation of Certificates and Fellows' Pins to new Fellows and the Fellows meeting and luncheon, and found these eminently satisfactory; and has requested similar arrangements and facilities to be incorporated into the planning for the 2008 World Congress in Shanghai. Arrangements were made as follows:

- Recognition of all Fellows during Opening Ceremony on Sunday, 19 October 2008, approx. 17.30.
- New Fellows Recognition and Induction Ceremony on Monday, 20 October 2008, morning approx. 08.30.
- Joint IAFoST/ French Academy of Technology/Chinese Academy of Engineering Symposium on "Vision of the future – Impacts of science and technology advances on the food chain by 2030", on Wednesday morning, 22 October 2008.
- 5th Academy Luncheon and Meeting on Thursday, 23 October 2008, Time TBD

17. IAFoST Executive Council 2006-2008

President: Prof J Ralph Blanchfield
President Elect: Dr Vishweshwaraiah Prakash
Immediate Past President: Prof Malcolm Bourne
Council Members: Dr Daryl Lund, Prof Dr-Ing Walter Spiess
Secretary to the Executive Council: Judith S Meech

18. IAFoST Executive Council for 2008-2010

President: Dr Vishweshwaraiah Prakash
President Elect: Dr Daryl Lund
Immediate Past President: Prof J Ralph Blanchfield
Council Members: Prof Delia Rodriguez-Amaya
Prof Walter Spiess
Secretary to the Executive Council: Judith S Meech

Respectfully submitted.

JRB/18 August 2008