

**Council meeting with Standing Committees and Canadian Division
May 30th 2011**

Continuing Education Committee (Mueller)

See annual report. Discussion related to items in the annual report.

CEC had produced new Summer Course and Workshop requirements and guidelines. CEC wanted to provide URL links between the documents within the PDF, but the correct URLs had not been inserted at the appropriate places in the PDF.

ACTION: ACA Office to insert the correct ACA web-site URLs into the CEC guideline files

Two workshops were held and were both excellent. Katie Forest does not want to Chair CEC in 2012, so Jeanette Kraus will probably take up this role. CEC would sort this out.

(5) CEC want to introduce a cutoff below which travel grants are not awarded, even if funds are available. However, CEC had not heard back from Council if this was acceptable. Council had not heard about this, as apparently only the Treasurer had known. Phillips stated that it was up to the Committee to define this, and Council should accept their recommendation. Mueller stated that some letters of recommendation were attached as text files to the student's application, and some had actually been fabricated. They were altering the guidelines so that letters of recommendation need to be on letterhead and signed. The CEC were unsure of the maximum age allowable for travel grant award. Colquhoun stated that 35 years old was the cutoff, and this was a requirement of the IUCr money. This is currently not stated in the rules so CEC did not apply an age cutoff. Only 3 of the applications were from 35+ years of age, and all 3 failed to make the cut on other grounds. Chris Cahill would apply for the IUCr money for the 2012 Meeting. Kelly suggested asking for an increase; Hackert did not think an increase would be funded.

(6) As CEC has to review travel grants in all disciplines they require a diverse membership. Currently they needed macromolecular crystallographers, and it had been agreed at Council last year that the ballot would alternate between all macromolecular candidates in one year, and all small molecule / powder in the next. However, this was forgotten by Bob Von Dreele, and he did not communicate this to the rest of the Nominating Committee. The nominations had just been made for the coming ballot, and there was one small molecule and one macromolecule crystallographer. Mueller suggests that the Nominating Committee should work with CEC, and perhaps include BioMac SIG in the discussions. Kelly would be on the Nominating Committee next year and would make sure that the Committee began alternating between the disciplines.

ACTION: Kelly to make sure the Nominating Committee know of Council's decision to alternate the background of CEC candidates between macromolecules and small molecules / materials from year to year to balance the expertise within the CEC

(9) The CEC thought that perhaps the ACA could support one of the existing macromolecular courses in the absence of proposals to form a new ACA Summer Course. Wilmot stated that Council had agreed at their Meeting that this was a viable alternative. Mueller suggested some questions that could be put to BioMac and YSSIG members to assess the community's needs. Hackert stated that the BioMac SIG meeting was that day at 5pm. Phillips stated they it should be put on the BioMac SIG agenda. YSSIG would bring this up at their SIG meeting on May 31st. Mueller wondered if the ACA could help financially support the new Small Molecule Summer Course through a matching funds scheme, as this Course will be more expensive than the previous Course organized by Charles Lake. Duax stated that generally the ACA does not have

available funds that could be used to match donations. The USNCCr gives \$5,000 and ACA gives \$6,000. Joe Reibenspies and Vic Young were supportive of this idea and were going to bring the subject of matching funds to the USNCCr. Allen Oliver will need to draw up a formal request. Oliver believes another \$4,000-5,000 is needed to keep the cost acceptable. It will cost \$1,000 per student for 2 weeks rather than \$700 at the previous school (board, tuition costs). They decided not to include food costs as Notre Dame would charge \$60 per day per student. There will be 25 students and 10 faculty. They are hoping to offer some travel reimbursements. Tuition will be fully covered by the registration, and travel and board will be covered for faculty. The budget is balanced over 2 years, as Northwestern is slightly cheaper. Oliver is hoping to get support from vendors. They need to advertise the Course outside the ACA, e.g. the American Chemical Society. Oliver will talk to the ACS person who is at the meeting. Koetzle will pass on information about the Course to his regional ACS group.

Data, Standards and Computing Committee (Reibenspies)

See annual report. Discussion related to items in the annual report.

The Chair of DS&C can be an observer to COMCIFS, pending Council approval. This is not ideal, but a first step. COMCIFS reports to the IUCr. DS&C will report back to Council.

MOTION: Chair of Data, Standards and Computing Committee will be assigned as the ACA Observer to COMCIFS. (Kelly/Wilmot; Unanimous)

CCP14 has no funding for its free database of software, and was run by Lachlan Cranswick. DS&C want to come up with a global plan to keep CCP14 alive and updated.

Communications Committee (Oliver)

See annual report. Discussion related to items in the annual report.

Council thanks the Communications Committee for getting highlights from Meeting abstracts to the American Institute of Physics, which got 700 hits in the first 24 hours on the "Inside Science" web-site. Duax stated that this was great, and the fee of \$500 was money well spent. Koetzle stated that he would make sure he tells AIP that the ACA is very happy with this when he meets the AIP publishing people over the summer. AIP needs the items 2 months prior to the Meeting, but as this was the first time they pushed it through on a much faster time-scale. Oliver had been disappointed in the response from abstract presenters for public-friendly text (only 4 responded). Duax stated that the Communications Committee should make sure that they tell ACA presenters they approach next year about the 700 web-site hits in the first 24 hours. He also suggests getting images from highlighted presenters for use on the "Inside Science" web-site.

Videos of plenary talks and Transactions were being made for archiving at AIP. Oliver had been doing this himself as Santarsiero was originally going to be in charge of the video. The quality was good. Only one speaker would not allow video, although they still agreed to audio. Duax would like the President's formal opening of the Meeting to be videoed showing the exhibit hall to remind exhibitors how central they are to the Meeting.

There had been a lot of problems with the layout of the program book and the new Dashboard system for abstracts. Communications would like all the names of presenters to be listed in the index, even if this meant using a much smaller font. Often people remember the name of PIs, but not presenters, so with just presenters it is difficult to track abstracts down. The session designators were also not logical, so the inside back cover had to be referenced to find the session. Additionally many presenters who had been changed from a poster to an oral

presentation had not been informed. It should be made clear whether it is the responsibility of the Session Chairs or the Buffalo office to inform these presenters. Colquhoun stated that it was the Session Chairs responsibility (it is defined as such in the Session Chair guidelines).

Canadian Division (Murphy)

See annual report. Discussion related to items in the annual report.

The Canadian Division members had agreed to rename the Canadian Division Pauling Poster Prize to the Louis Delbaere Poster Prize, and this had been approved by the Canadian National Committee on Crystallography (CNCCr). They believe that they will definitely have the money to continue with the Prize following the Montreal IUCr Congress in 2014. They need to make sure that only work from a Canadian lab is given the Prize. Normally a Canadian judge is appointed to Pauling Poster Prize panel, and the top ranked Canadian poster within the Pauling list is awarded the Prize.

ACTION: Rose will send Koetzle Carole Delbaere's e-mail address, so that he can check that renaming the Poster Prize is OK with her

There was an initiative to try and promote the Canadian Light Source both outside and inside Canada. Remote data collection was now working well, so researchers did not necessarily need to be on-site.

The Division members strongly support the education-based sessions at the ACA Meeting.

**Council meeting with Powder, Industrial, Small Angle Scattering, Materials, Neutron and
Young Scientists
June 2nd 2011**

Powder and Neutron SIG were absent from the meeting, and sent no annual SIG report. Jim Kaduk (Materials SIG) gave a short verbal overview of the Materials, Powder and Neutron SIGs joint SIG meeting.

Industrial SIG (Sweepston)

See annual report. Discussion related to items in the annual report.

The sessions really need to be kept on time. One session finished 30 mins late June 1st, and ISIG had to begin its SIG meeting in the hallway outside the room. However, they had twice the attendance at the ISIG meeting than in 2010. It was noted that a similar situation had occurred prior to the All-Member Business Meeting that delayed attendees. Koetzle stated that the sessions contained many different length talks (between 10-36 mins), and maybe an effort could be made to make time slots more uniform, particularly in the light of 5 concurrent sessions starting next year. Duax wondered if student workers could operate the timers as Chairs often did not use them. Koetzle stated that the ACA needed to be more proactive and rigorous about time keeping.

Magali Hickey from Alkermes had put together a proposal for a full-day session on crystallographic information and structure analysis in pharmaceutical development for the Boston 2012 Meeting. She had already got commitments from speakers. Hickey envisioned that they would be a half-day more macromolecule based, and a half-day more small molecule based. She hoped this format would continue in future years with different special topics. Colquhoun asked if there was interest in a company sponsoring this, and then it could then be named The xxxx Symposium.

There were also budget issues for industrial attendees, and so many could not come (the ISIG Chair-Elect was absent). However, overall ISIG appeared healthy compared to a couple of years ago when there were real fears the SIG might fold.

Small Angle Scattering SIG (Lee, Litterall, Koga)

See annual report. Discussion related to items in the annual report.

There had been 20-40 people in SAS sponsored sessions, and SIG had done well raising \$5,000 to support their sessions. SAS were proposing 8 sessions for Boston, 4 of which would be co-sponsored. Phillips noted that no session Chair names were associated with these in the annual report. There were Chairs identified for all sessions, and Lee was happy to revise the annual report to include these.

Koga wondered if more could be done to attract non-crystallographers to the ACA by advertising in structural biology journals or related conferences. National Facilities would be good places to attract people to attend the ACA Annual Meeting. Does the ACA have a presence at user meetings held by the National Facilities? What about scientific societies, such as the Biophysical Society or American Chemical Society? Colquhoun stated that the ACA had a presence on 6 other society web-sites. If a list of web-sites (scientific societies, National facilities and associated beam-lines) could be sent to Colquhoun, she could make sure the Annual Meeting is advertised there. Koetzle stated that his regional ACS Chapter would also be a good place to advertise. Sweepston suggested NMR meetings. Phillips stated that there was no American NMR society. Koetzle stated that NMR integrates well through the Protein Data Bank, so should we have an NMR SIG? Wilmot felt this was getting outside the bounds of the ACA. Litterell stated that SAS does not involve

crystals and the IUCr runs the SAS international meeting. Perhaps NMR could be introduced via a Workshop? Wilmot stated that NMR spectroscopists had spoken regularly at the ACA, and although enthusiastic about the experience had not shown any indications of wanting to make the ACA a home, or even needing an entity such as an American NMR Society.

Materials SIG (Kaduk)

No written annual report was provided at this time.

Kaduk stated that combined the Neutron, Powder and Materials SIGs were proposing 10 sessions and 2 workshops for the 2012 ACA Annual Meeting in Boston, all with session Chairs. There will be 4-5 people from the three SIGs at the Planning Meeting, and all the proposed sessions are co-sponsored except for a magnetic materials session (Neutron SIG). Nominations Committees had been set up to identify candidates for the upcoming SIG elections.

Speaking just for Materials SIG, Kaduk outlined his efforts to explore the possibility of joint ventures with the Materials Research Society (a Kelly initiative). Although a member for many years, Kaduk attended his first MRS Meeting (about 8,000 participants). Virtually all the speakers use crystallography (mainly powder) and it is treated as a black box with little understanding. During the last two Fall Meetings, Bob Schneider (Panalytical) had run a half-day session on powder diffraction. These assumed that the audience knew crystallography, but this was clearly not the case. Kaduk, Schneider and Julia? were working on making this a full-day, with technical basics in the morning, such as Rietveld refinement, and applications in the afternoon. Deadline is in the next couple of weeks. Is there money for ACA support to support this? Duax stated that they could write an application for financial support to Council.

There had been an evening session at the MRS Meeting on industrial access to National user facilities. Kaduk would be writing a report on this for RefleXions. Industry and National facilities have very different structures and concerns, and so there was low usage by industry due to issues such as intellectual property. National facilities need publicity and measurables, such as publications, and income alone from industry is not enough.

Kaduk was involved in putting together a proposal with Andy Howard for a Macromolecular Crystallography Summer Course at the Advanced Photon Source. Kaduk was told to check the ACA web-site for guide-lines and deadlines, which had changed in the last year (January 15th 2012 deadline for a Course to be held in 2013). A Letter of Intent although encouraged was not required.

Young Scientist SIG (Davis, Montemajor)

See annual report. Discussion related to items in the annual report.

The YSSIG wanted to attract not only graduate students, but postdocs and early career faculty to their SIG.

The Orientation session was well attended and received, with the D1 room being too small. In 2012 it was thought that there could be an orientation for 1st time attendees at 6:30pm, and then at 7pm open the meeting up to all for a presentation on local attractions.

Young scientists were keen to get involved, and a number of committees had been set up. They would send an e-mail to all YSSIG members to see if others wanted to get involved in these and other committees.

They were exploring the idea of holding a preconference or retreat. Wilmot asked what the timing of this would be. Would it run on the Saturday as a Workshop? YSSIG members often wanted to attend the Workshops. Perhaps on the Friday before the Workshops, or even the day after the Annual Meeting (Thursday)?

The joint Rayonix-YSSIG Mixer had been a great success, and Rayonix had sponsored the event. Often the Rayonix event had competed with the Mixer, and so this joint venture had worked out really well for both parties. The attendees stated that they would like tables removed from the event in future, as many people sat at the tables and did not mix.

The YSSIG is losing the mentor-mentee dinner under the new 4 day format. They have drawn up a letter to send to senior scientists asking them to act as formal mentors. They would be matched with 1-2 mentees prior to the Meeting, with whom they would hook up during the Annual Meeting. Koetzle suggested also taking geographical location into account. This might allow some mentors and mentees to meet up outside of the ACA Annual Meeting.

YSSIG was also supportive of starting up a Macromolecular Crystallography Summer Course. There was a slight bias from SIG members at the YSSIG Meeting towards practical skills over theory. Kaduk stated that there had been some support at BioMac SIG for changing the emphasis from year to year (neophyte crystallographers to more advanced topics on other years). Personally he was not sure about this.

YSSIG were assured that they could appoint Co-Chairs for the Etter Award Symposium if they so wished.

The YSSIG would like to increase publicity of YSSIG events.

Andy Torelli would continue as Secretary/Treasurer in 2012.

Koetzle brought up the topic of young scientists that are not graduate students, postdocs or early career faculty (for example, a technician had given an excellent talk this year). Duax stated that Service SIG don't attract student abstracts, and so were unable to give a Student Etter Award this year. YSSIG should connect up with them, and it is likely that some YSSIG members will become service crystallographers, so they might want to feature this in Professional Odyssey.

Council meeting with Service, Small Molecule, Fiber, General, BioMac and Synchrotron June 1st 2011

Small Molecule SIG (Nichol)

See annual report. Discussion related to items in the annual report.

John Sanders, University of Iowa, won the Small Molecule SIG Etter Student Award.

There had been some confusion surrounding Service and Small Molecule SIGs holding their SIG meetings together. There was an incorrect perception that the SIGs were merging. The reason was purely organizational, as there are members who belong to both SIGs and who wish to attend both meetings. The Service SIG meeting started at 12pm and the Small Molecule SIG meeting immediately followed at 12:30pm. The 2011 SIG sessions were well attended with most sessions attracting 50+ attendees. Unfortunately the meeting rooms, particularly D1, were too small and people were standing, and in the case of "*In situ* Diffraction studies" people had to be turned away. The SIG was very pleased that their "Cool Structures" half-day session had attracted so many abstracts that Chris Cahill had extended this into a full-day.

Amy Sarjeant noted an error on page 2, point 4 of the SIG report - Charlotte Stern is a Summer Course organizer, not Jeanette Krause. The topic was raised of creating a Summer Course Fund to help support the costs of Summer Courses to which members could contribute when paying their dues. Wilmot stated that this suggestion had been well received by Council at the All-Members Business Meeting, and a motion to create this would be raised at the Fall Council Meeting.

General SIG (Olmsted)

See annual report. Discussion related to items in the annual report.

~70 people attended the "General Interest I" session on Sunday morning. Many attendees were interested in the crystal growth and computational chemistry themes of the session, which were not covered well by other sessions this year. Thursday's "General Interest II" session would be more technical in nature. The Etter Student Award winner, Jason Mercer, gave a provocative talk that generated a lot of audience interest. Mercer is not a crystallographer, and the talk enabled him to set up some collaborations. General SIG also organized an Education session that was very well received. They would like to run another such session in 2012 that would focus more on undergraduate education in both small and macromolecular crystallography.

The 2012 Transactions would be co-sponsored with Small Molecule in honor of Bruce Foxman.

Koetzle mentioned that Steve Sheriff had heard an excellent talk by a technician, and wondered whether awards could be broadened to include technical staff. Koetzle stated that this person would actually be going to graduate school next Fall. Phillips stated that this type of presenter is rare, and so they would need to self-identify, or be put forward in some way.

BioMac SIG (Rose)

See annual report. Discussion related to items in the annual report.

Based on the large number of abstracts in 2010, Structural Enzymology had been expanded to 3 half-day sessions in 2011. Some of the BioMac sessions had been standing room only (PSI, membrane protein crystallization, maximizing synchrotron science). BioMac was most excited about the "mini-workshops" to take place on Thursday, where data with specific problems were

available ahead of the meeting, along with different software, and people could try identifying and solving problems prior to the meeting. Software developers and experts would then go through how to identify and solve problems using specific software packages. Data processing and phasing/refinement formed the themes for the two half-day sessions. BioMac SIG had also been able to arrange a bag lunch for those going to both workshops. This was viewed as an exciting new direction that would attract and help young scientists and graduate students. Ed Collins has spear headed this effort with the enthusiastic support of YSSIG, and deserves a great deal of thanks. He wishes to run a data collection mini-workshop next year, but has further ideas for 2013, so expect this to become a regular feature for BioMac sponsored sessions.

The Phenix workshop had also been a great success with ~ 60 participants.

Members who attended the SIG meeting felt that a Summer Course in Macromolecular Crystallography was needed. Bill Furey stated that the Cold Spring Harbor (CSH) course takes 11 students from ~200 applications. Bob Sweet's RapiData is also over subscribed. Ogata stated that there was enthusiasm for an ACA Summer Course organized by Andy Howard and Jim Kaduk at APS. Andy had a lot of experience running the previous ACA Summer Course in Macromolecular Crystallography, and Jim Kaduk would sort out the organizational aspects of the Course. The Course is envisioned to be ~ 10-12 days long, and thus fall between the time ranges of RapiData (a week) and CSH (16 days held in October). Duax suggested that we get a list of unsuccessful applicants from CSH to let them know of other opportunities, such as other Courses and the ACA Annual Meeting. Ogata stated Nukri Sanishvili was running a CCP4 workshop at APS following the ACA Meeting. Phillips mentioned a Pennsylvania school. Colquhoun stated that the ACA advertises meetings of interest to ACA members for free on the ACA web-site. Organizers should be encouraged to send information to the ACA for posting on the web-site.

Due to the new 4 day Annual Meeting format, BioMac decided to only propose two Structural Enzymology half-day sessions in 2012. The focus for the 2012 proposed session (4) would be on molecular biology and protein preparation for neophytes, whilst session (5) might include the chance to carry out some remote data collection at a synchrotron as part of the session, and (10) would include applications at both shorter and longer wavelengths that the normally used range. Duax and Wilmot thanked BioMac for also identifying sessions that could be held concurrently as they were expected to attract different audiences to help fit into the 4 day format. Rose will be at the 2012 planning meeting.

Synchrotron SIG (Bellamy, Ogata)

Discussion related to a short document given to Council.

Their SIG meeting was well attended. They will send a final annual SIG report with updated information. The SIG was keen to include free electron laser and LCLS developments and science within their SIG. They proposed a full day session in this area chaired by Keith Moffat (U. Chicago) and Marius Schmidt (UW, Milwaukee), an extended wavelength session (co-sponsored with BioMac), radiation decay (Chair Steve Ginnell (APS) co-sponsored with BioMac), membrane proteins, and complementary methods (co-sponsored with BioMac).

Service SIG (Sarjeant)

See annual report and addendum. Discussion related to items in the annual report.

Service is often thought to be synonymous with small molecule crystallography, but the SIG feels it also covers BioMac and Synchrotron SIG areas, and would like to attract these people to Service SIG. Phillips stated that the Protein Structure Initiative is essentially a service, and so

crystallographers involved in this would be appropriate Service SIG members. Also crystallographers at National facilities often have a significant service component to their work. Attracting these crystallographers might help to associate student abstracts with Service SIG. Unfortunately no student abstracts were associated with Service SIG sessions, and thus they had been unable to make an Etter Student Award. However, the sessions were well attended. Duax suggested that Service SIG members should get involved in mentoring young scientists, as some of them may enter these important sector of the job market.

SIG members worried about ACA holding an Annual Meeting in 2014 and its attendance. Normally Service SIG members could not afford to go to IUCr Congresses, but in 2014 they may be attracted to the IUCr Congress in Montreal. The SIG members had no solutions, but wished to bring this concern up. Kelly informed the SIGs about the economic necessity of holding a Meeting in 2014.

Service SIG wanted to propose a Workshop for the 2012 Boston Meeting. The ACA web-site has the deadlines and guidelines.

Louise Dawe and Sarjeant would be at the 2012 Planning Meeting on Friday.

Fiber Diffraction SIG (Orgel, Antipova)

Annual report was submitted on June 2nd by current SIG Chair Paul Langan, who was absent from the meeting.

2011 was an "off year" for Fiber Diffraction, but the SIG was meeting on Thursday. They would be at the 2012 Planning Meeting, and felt they needed a presence every year at ACA. They held two sessions in 2010 that were well attended, particularly the session on amyloid. They are co-sponsoring another amyloid session with BioMac (and possibly Synchrotron SIG) at the 2012 Meeting in Boston. Nichols asked why they only organized a session every other year, and Orgel explained that this was in the SIG charter. He also stated that in the IUCr international database of crystallographers, only 17 primarily identified themselves with fiber diffraction. Thus they were a small community. They also were featured on two covers of RefleXions in the last year. They were also hoping to organize another medical-linked session on biological connective tissue that would include the carbohydrate fiber diffraction community. Duax suggested that Fiber SIG could co-sponsor sessions in the "off years", and Orgel thought that was a good idea.

General feedback and discussion by all SIGs on ACA Annual Meetings:

Sarjeant asked if the posters could be up all the time. Orgel stated that the beer at the posters stopped after 30 mins. Colquhoun stated that both were an issue of cost; posterboards and the additional space were expensive, and they could only afford a beer keg a night at the current registration rate. She also stated that many members objected to having alcohol costs in the registration fee. Olmsted suggested they could have a cash bar, and Orgel and Wilmot thought this was fine. Colquhoun said that indeed this was the way it was heading. John Rose asked if the poster sessions would be affected under the new 4 day meeting, and Colquhoun stated they would not, and they were considering having the session go on 30 mins longer. It was noted that there were a lot of empty poster boards. Were these students who did not turn up? Colquhoun stated that she did not know if they were students, but half of the undergraduates who had registered did not turn up. David Rose stated that he asked to do an oral presentation and was not selected, but he was assigned a poster board.

Nichols stated that the ACA Annual Meeting was becoming less affordable for small molecule crystallographers to attend. Would the ACA reconsider holding the Meeting at a university campus? Kelly and Koetzle stated that the hotel contract finished in 2012, and the ACA would

revisit the hotel vs. university question. Duax stated that the size and power required for the exhibitors had been a problem in the past, and for the 4 day meeting they would require 5 session rooms. The ACA was happy to send a delegation to view a suitable university site whilst a similar sized conference was being held to check out the site. Orgel and Wilmot stated that their universities had become as expensive as hotels. John Rose also said that there could be a problem with the distance between the airport and the university, which can be considerable. Antipova suggested National Lab sites such as APS. Wilmot asked about visa issues. Antipova stated that 5 day passes could be issued. Ogata felt that the National Labs were in the middle of nowhere, and so everyone would need to rent cars to go out to eat. At the APS the Guest House would not be able to accommodate all the attendees, again necessitating car rental for travel to hotels. Overall National Labs were not thought to be viable for an ACA Meeting that would have ~1000 attendees. Colquhoun asked what part of the conference was viewed as too expensive by attendees. Bellamy and Wilmot stated the hotel; Orgel the registration. Duax suggested sending out a list of questions that the ACA would need answering to evaluate a site. This could be sent to a limited number of universities to evaluate whether universities were now viable possibilities. Phillips suggested that Council and the SIGs could provide the conference contact at their own university (providing they thought it might be able to handle a conference the size of the ACA). Everyone thought this was a great idea.

ACTION: ACA office to put together a series of questions that address the requirements of an ACA Annual Meeting. These would be sent out to possible university sites provided by Council and SIG Officers.

Duax reminded the SIGs that Boston would be a 4 day Meeting. Duax also brought up the American Institute of Physics (AIP) "Inside Science" on-line news service. Allen Oliver (Communications Committee) had been through the Meeting abstracts and had picked out some he thought were newsworthy. He had then asked the presenters to write a short summary that would be understandable to the public. Only 4 presenters provided anything. AIP thought two were of particular interest and retooled these. In the first 24 hours the stories had 700 hits, which was fantastic publicity. SIGs should let their members know, and encourage them to provide short pieces to the Communications Committee at least a month before the Annual Meeting.