

**The 65th Annual General Meeting of the Physical Crystallography Group of the British
Crystallographic Association and Structural Condensed Matter Group of the Institute of
Physics**

11:45 Wednesday 9th April 2008, York

There were 25 members present. Committee members present: Paolo Radaelli, Dave Allan, Matt Tucker, Ivana Evans, Andrew Goodwin

1. No formal apologies for absence were received.
2. Minutes of the 64th AGM held at Canterbury were circulated and accepted as an accurate record of the meeting.
3. There were no matters arising from minutes
4. Chairman's report: Paolo Radaelli reported on another active year for the PCG/SCMP. Specific topics discussed were:

a) Training & Teaching

For the first time, we were able to organise three major training events –the **Magnetic Structural Workshop 2007**, which took place at the Cosener's House on 14-17th January 2008, the **Powder Diffraction and Rietveld Refinement School 2008** on March 30th to April 3rd 2008 in Durham and the **BCA 2008 Satellite: PDF Workshop**, which took place before the start of the main BCA spring meeting here in York.

b) Winter Meeting 2007

The **PCG-SCMP Winter Meeting 2007** was held in conjunction with the Magnetic Structure Workshop. The meeting was focussed on magnetic neutron and X-ray magnetic diffraction, giving the Workshop attendees the opportunity to hear about state-of-the-art applications of the techniques they have been learning over the previous days.

c) Communication with Members

The third issue of the **PGC-SCMP newsletter** has just been published, edited by Ivana R. Evans (thanks to Ivana). The new **PCG web site** which was produced last year and now takes the form of a "WIKI" continues to grow. This is potential a very useful tool since it contains all the links to our teaching and training material.

d) Future activities

Earlier stages of planning the winter meeting for next year and are very happy to receive suggestions of themes for this. At the moment a possible theme is 'Beyond the hkl, incommensurate structures and diffuse scattering'.

e) Next BCA

The **BCA Spring Meeting 2009** will be held in Loughborough and the current tentative title is "Dynamic crystallography".

f) Vacancies

Three **Committee vacancies** (Chairman, Vice Chairman and one Ordinary Members) are announced. The election will take place at this AGM.

g) Prizes

This year, the PCG awards three prizes: The prize lecture for physical crystallography was held yesterday and won by Laurent Chapon, the PANalytical Thesis prize in Physical Crystallography and the PCG Poster prize. The winners of the later two prizes will be announced tonight at the Banquet. I would like to stress that this year the competition for the main prizes was very intense and we had excellent quality candidate, all of which would have been worthy winners. (Thank you to my colleagues in the committee for their efforts in publicising these prizes)

h) Concluding remarks

I have been Chairman for three years and Vice chairman for three years before that. Looking back at the activities this year and in the previous years, I was really pleased by the the quality of the training we have provided. We have made a conscious decision to focus the efforts of the committee on this aspect and think that has paid off handsomely. Several generations of students have gone through our training, both from the UK and overseas, and these young people will form the backbone of the next generation of Facilities users, and will provide the key human component required to deliver returns on the considerable infrastructure investments in this field.

However, I must also take stock of the fact that neither the BCA conference nor the CMMP conference, to which we actively and enthusiastically contributed over the years, have quite managed to become the national focal points we were hoping to create for our constituencies. The ambition of PCG-SCMP is to represent the UK community employing physical structural science as a principal tool. This community is large and diverse, spanning aspects of physics, chemistry and materials science, and has an internationally recognized track record of excellence, yet is still does not have a UK "home". Completing this home will be one of the main tasks of the next Committee.

5. Honorary Secretary/Treasurer's report:

- a. The secretary/treasurer presented the annual activity report to the meeting and the financial summary appended.
- b. Applications for student bursaries are now handled by the IOP on our behalf (for both BCA/PCG and IOP/SCMP members) and they allocate us a set amount each in year

in our budget for this. The decision of who gets the money is still made by the PCG/SCMP committee.

- c. This year the IOP have 'validated' the prizes each group awards. Since the PANalytical Thesis prize is funded externally this was not an issue, however, the IOP only want to fund £500 for the prize lecture in future years, so if we wish to keep this at £1000 we will have to look for a source of extra funding by 2010. The idea of having a separate bank account to store money was raised. (MT and the committee will look into this)
 - d. The funding bid submitted to the new IOP funding model was described and details are given in the financial summary appended.
6. Committee posts for Chairman, Vice Chairman, two ordinary members were available (retirement of Paolo Radaelli as Chairman, Dave Allan as Vice Chairman, at the end of their three year terms). Nominations for posts are detailed below. All were elected unopposed.
- a. Chairman: Dave Keen. Proposed Ivana Evans; Seconded: Paolo Radaelli.
 - b. Vice Chairman: Ivana Evans. Proposed Matt Tucker; Seconded: Andrew Goodwin.
 - c. Ordinary Member: Dave Allan. Proposed Paolo Radaelli; Seconded: Matt Tucker.
 - d. Ordinary Member: Peter Hatton. Proposed Dave Allan; Seconded: Paolo Radaelli.
7. Future meetings are detailed in the Chair's report above.
8. Any other business:
- a. John Evans thanked Paolo Radaelli on behalf of the PCG/SCMP membership for his hard work and very valuable contribution to the group.
 - b. The issue of reliability of emails list, particularly in the delivery of the newsletter was raised. (The committee will look into this)

Financial summary 2007

Balance as of 1.01.2007	£0.00
Group income for 2007	£3,410.00
Group expenditure in 2006	-£3,391.59
Balance as of 31.12.2006	£18.41

Details of Spending in 2006 Accounts

Miscellaneous

Committee expenses	£0.00
Speaker expenses	£258.63
Postage/printing	£41.64
Total misc	£300.27

Prizes in 2007

Alistair Davidson	£50.00
Total Bursaries	£50.00

Bursaries in 2007

None awarded	£0.00
Total Bursaries	£0.00

Meetings

2007 Magnetic Rietveld School	£1,350.00
2007 Winter meeting	£1,000.00
Total winter meeting expenses	£2,350.00

2007 Meeting support

Protein powder workshop at ESRF	£691.32
Total meeting support	£691.32

Total expenditure 2007	£3,391.59
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IOP bid for project spend in 2008

Committee Expenses	£300.00
Newsletter & Communications	£60.00
PCG prize support	£50.00
Group Grant	£590.00
Student Bursary	£595.00
Winter meeting underwrite	£1,000.00
Rietveld school support/bursaries	£1,000.00
Total approved budget for 2008	£3,595.00

Notes:

The new IOP system is now in place, so the 2007 account will be clear and the 2008 budget awarded on the bidding system