

International Congress on Fracture (ICF)
Executive Committee Meeting, Atlanta, 12th June, 2023, 19:00.

Present: Robert McMeeking (President and Chair), Toshimitsu Yokobori (Secretary-General), Raj Das, Sylvie Pommier, Krishnaswamy Ravi-Chandar, Tong-Yi Zhang (Directors), Alberto Carpinteri (Past President, non-voting).

Apologies: Leslie Banks-Sills (Treasurer), Mimoun Elboujdaini, Francesco Iacoviello, Ares Rosakis (Vice-Presidents), Paulo de Castro, Qi-Xiao Feng, Peter Flewitt, Rhys Jones, Robert Ritchie, William Tyson (Directors), Shouwen Yu (Past President).

Proxies: RMcM had proxy of LB-S, RD had proxy of RJ, KR-C had proxy of PF, RR & WT, T-YZ had proxy of Q-XF.

Observers: Ashok Saxena, Richard Neu (members of the Organizing Committee of ICF15)

1. The President called the meeting to order at 19:00.
2. The roll call was taken as above.
3. The agenda was adopted.
4. The President proposed that proxy votes be admitted for the meeting. The voting members of the Executive Committee present agreed to do so. The President declared that the combination of voting members present plus proxy votes held by voting members satisfied all requirements for quorums at the meeting.
5. The minutes of the Executive Committee meetings held at ICF14 in 2017 were approved.
6. (a) Ashok Saxena, Chair of the ICF15 Organizing Committee, gave a report on the status of ICF15. He stated that the attendance is approximately 400, with approximately 260 at full cost registration and approximately 140 registered at the lower cost graduate student rate. Chair Saxena noted that, while the high number of graduate students reduces the income of the conference, having such a high proportion of graduate students attending and speaking is a positive and lends vitality to the conference. Chair Saxena stated that about 300 intended registrants dropped out without paying, with about 100 doing so in the last week. Chair Saxena attributed this mainly to visa problems, with the attendance from China particularly hard hit. Chair Saxena noted that the conference would lose money, but reminded the Executive Committee that Georgia Tech and the University of Arkansas are guaranteeing any deficit. He also noted that GIT and UA have taken out insurance against loss of registration fees, and that the lawyers for the hotel, the insurers and the universities will have to negotiate the final settlement. He further noted that this will mean that it will be some time before the final financial outcome of ICF15 becomes clear.
(b) Chair Saxena noted that he had been contacted by Anders Blom, Chair of the International Fatigue Conference (IFC), with the suggestion that ICF and IFC should merge. He noted that the supporters of IFC would want it to continue, so that a merged organization would be running two international conferences in different years. Chair Saxena noted that no specific plans had been made and every aspect of a possible merger would be the subject of negotiations between the two organizations. President McMeeking stated that he is in favor of discussions of a possible merger going ahead, but it would be a matter for the new Executive Committee to consider. Chair Saxena suggested forming a

working group of 3 individuals from ICF and 3 individuals from IFC to undertake preliminary discussions of the concept of a merger.

President McMeeking thanked Chair Saxena for his report on the status of ICF15 and for his comments on the concept of a merger between ICF and IFC.

7. Chair McMeeking, in the absence of Treasurer Banks-Sills, presented the financial report for ICF. The summary report is attached to these minutes. The only expenditure in 6 years was €1,500 plus bank fees to support the ICF website. With the income from ICF14, the ICF bank balance on 12th June, 2023 is £16,071.08 in Lloyds Bank in the UK plus £20,000 plus interest in a Lloyds Bank Certificate of Deposit that matures on 16th June, 2023. President McMeeking noted that the Certificate of Deposit had been purchased by Treasurer Banks-Sills on December 16th, 2022 with his approval. President McMeeking also referred to the ICF summary financial report for 2013 to 2017, also attached to these minutes. He stated that this report is unsatisfactory as the figures do not add up and the reasons for expenditure of ICF funds and what they were spent on are not stated.
8. Chair McMeeking noted that the Executive Committee had approved amendments to the ICF Bye-Laws via an e-mail vote that was completed on 8th May, 2023 and conveyed to the ICF Council in the form of an e-mail report by the Secretary-General that was delegated to the President. The attached document entitled “Statutes and Bye-Laws of the International Congress on Fracture,” dated May 9, 2023, contains the amended version of the Bye-Laws with the amendments shown as strikeouts, *i.e.*, deletions, and underlining, *i.e.*, additions. The President stated that this document contains the Statutes and Bye-Laws that govern ICF effective May 9, 2023.

Chair McMeeking also noted that the Executive Committee, via an e-mail discussion in April and May 2023, with all members assenting, had proposed amendments to the ICF Statutes that were circulated to all national delegations on the ICF Council on 9th May, 2023. He further noted that the ICF Council can therefore discuss and vote on the possible adoption of these Statute amendments at its meeting on 14th June, 2023, as the notice period of at least 1 month has been satisfied. The proposed Statute amendments are attached to these minutes.

Chair McMeeking noted that he now recommends the elimination of one proposed Statute amendment, namely that placing a time limit on the ability of the ICF Council to reject a Bye-Law amendment approved by the Executive Committee. He stated that he now realized that such a time limit would remove the ICF Council’s right to control the Bye-Laws of ICF and is therefore inappropriate. Director Ravi-Chandar moved that the Executive Committee should recommend that the ICF Council should implement the Statute amendments without the imposition of a time limit on the Council’s ability to reject a Bye-Law amendment. The motion was seconded by Directors Das and Pommier. The motion was then carried unanimously.

9. Chair McMeeking proposed the addition of 2 new ICF Bye-Laws. One, to be Article 10, requires Executive Committee approval of any expenditure of ICF funds. The other new Bye-Law, to be Article 11, requires that a detailed financial report shall be provided by the Treasurer to the Executive Committee stating, in detail, what ICF funds were spent on and how much was spent. This amendment also requires that the Executive Committee shall approve or disapprove of the financial report and that the financial report shall be presented to the ICF Council and its status declared to the Council. The two new Bye-Laws were discussed and the consensus of the Executive Committee was that Article 10 should be

truncated to eliminate punitive actions described in the draft of the Bye-Law. It was agreed that the proposed Bye-Laws allows the Executive Committee to create a budget and authorize spending consistent with that budget, so that the Treasurer will not have to seek a vote of the Executive Committee for small, standard expenditures of funds. It was also agreed that the vote to approve expenditures can be held via an electronic vote. Director Ravi-Chandar made a motion to adopt the two Bye-Laws. This motion was seconded by Directors Das and Zhang, and the motion was carried unanimously. The approved new Bye-Laws, Article 10 and Article 11, are attached to these minutes.

The attached document entitled “Statutes and Bye-Laws of the International Congress on Fracture,” dated June 13, 2023, contains the amended version of the Bye-Laws with the amendments shown as strikeouts, *i.e.*, deletions, and underlining, *i.e.*, additions. The President stated that this document contains the Statutes and Bye-Laws that govern ICF effective June 13, 2023.

10. Director Ravi-Chandar, the Chair of the Nominations Committee, gave a report on the nominations received and on the recommendations of the Nominations Committee. The Nominations Committee Report is attached to these minutes. President McMeeking thanked Director Ravi-Chandar for his report.
11. Director Das gave a report on the status of ICF16. He proposed that ICF16 should be held in 2027 to achieve two objectives. One objective is to return the ICF schedule to a conference every 4 years. The other objective is to avoid conflicts with important conferences in Asia and Europe. Director Zhang made a motion specifying that ICF16 shall be held in 2027. This motion was seconded by Directors Pommier and Ravi-Chandar and was carried unanimously. President McMeeking thanked director Das for his report. President McMeeking thanked Director Das for his report on the status of ICF16.
12. President McMeeking, in the absence of Director Ritchie, Chair of the ICF Awards Committee, presented its report. The following awards were recommended by the Awards Committee: **Takeo Yokobori Gold Medal:** Krishnaswamy Ravi-Chandar, Shouwen Yu; **Alan Cottrell Gold Medal:** Anthony J. Kinloch, R. Narasimhan; **George Irwin Gold Medal:** William A. Curtin, Huajian Gao, Norman Fleck; **Paul C. Paris Gold Medal:** Shiro Kubo, David L. McDowell, Huseyin Sehitoglu; **Constance Tipper Silver Medal:** Filippo Berto, Dong Liu, Ashley Spear; **ICF Honorary Fellows:** Robert M. McMeeking, Yukitaka Murakami, L.R. Francis Rose. These awards were previously approved by the Executive Committee via an e-mail vote.

President McMeeking noted that the ICF Council would be asked to pass the following resolution to validate all ICF awards: “The ICF Council resolves that all current and previously awarded ICF Honors, including medals and Honorary Fellowships, are valid, notwithstanding the procedures used to bestow them.” He noted that some of the medals had been introduced without proper approval of the ICF Council and that Honorary Fellows were not being elected in a manner consistent with the Statutes, necessitating the resolution. President McMeeking noted that amendments to the Statutes and Bye-Laws would normalize the situation and enable selection of ICF Honorary Fellows in a less cumbersome manner.

13. No report was presented on Website/Publications. However, President McMeeking noted that the website is in need of updating and that he would e-mail Director Iacoviello about that.
14. No other reports were presented.

- 15.** The new Executive Committee will meet at 18:00 on 15th June, 2023 at ICF15.
- 16.** There was no other business.
- 17.** The meeting adjourned at 20:25.