

INDIAN SOCIETY OF AGROPHYSICS

Minutes of the 1st Newly Elected ISAP Executive Council Meeting held on November 19, 2010, IARI, New Delhi

The first meeting of the newly elected Executive Council (EC) of Indian Society of Agrophysics (ISAP) was held on 19-Nov-2010 at 15:00 hrs in the library of Division of Agricultural Physics, IARI, New Delhi and following attended:

Executive Council:

1. Dr A.K. Singh, President
2. Dr R. Singh, Vice President
3. Dr (Mrs) U.K. Chopra, Vice President
4. Dr V.K. Sehgal, Secretary
5. Dr (Mrs) Ananta Vashisth, Treasurer

Other Invitees:

1. Dr R.N. Garg, Ex-Treasurer
2. Dr D.K. Das, Past President
3. Dr A.V. Moharir, Editor-in-Chief

Dr S.S. Ray, Joint Secretary and Dr Sanatan Pradhan, Assistant Secretary could not attend.

Agenda Item 1: Welcome remarks by the President

Dr. A.K. Singh President, ISRS chaired the meeting and welcomed all ISAP EC members and other invitees. Firstly, he thanked the Head, Division of Agricultural Physics, IARI for providing necessary facility to host the EC meeting. In his welcome remarks, President emphasized the urgent need to revive the Society as it is the only Society which is physics based and is linked to the Division of Agricultural Physics. He pointed out the need for the Division of Agricultural Physics to play a critical role in the revival and functioning of Society, so that it could become visible and justify the aims with which it was created. He appreciated the recent efforts towards clearing the backlog of journal publication and inducting new members into the Society.

Agenda Item 2: Handing Over by outgoing EC & Taking Over by new EC

The newly elected EC took charge of the Society from the outgoing EC. The outgoing secretary Dr (Mrs) U.K. Chopra handed over the Society papers / documents, two almirahs containing old journals, symposium proceedings, abstract, etc. to Dr V.K. Sehgal. Outgoing treasurer Dr R.N. Garg, handed over the bank passbooks of ISAP account and Dr B.P. Ghildyal Memorial Lecture account, Receipts of bank fixed deposits, Society Receipt book and Audited Statements of ISAP account till 2008-09 financial year to Dr (Mrs) Ananta Vashisth.

Agenda Item 3: Finances and liabilities of Society

Dr (Mrs) Ananta Vashisth, Treasurer, apprised EC the financial position of the Society that it has Rs 14,562/- in saving accounts and FD of Rs 5,80,588/-. The Society has liability of Rs 12,000/- for payment towards printing of 2008 issue of journal. The audit of ISAP account for 2009-10 is overdue.

She further apprised the EC that Dr Ghildyal Memorial Lecture current account has been suspended by the Bank as no transaction has taken place in it since 2005 and the Rs 4724/- balance in it has also been seized by the bank towards their service charges. So, it currently has zero balance. There is a fixed deposit of Rs 1,30,000/- and quarterly interest of Rs 1869/- is regularly going into ISAP saving account. No audit of this account has been undertaken since inception.

Following decisions were taken by EC in respect of finances and accounts:

- The audit of Society accounts for 2009-10 shall be immediately undertaken within two weeks by contacting the Society auditor with all records. (*Action: Dr R.N. Garg, Dr A. Vashisth*)
- A sub-committee comprising of Dr U.K. Chopra, Dr R.N. Garg, Dr V.K. Sehgal, and Dr A. Vashisth under the chairmanship Dr R. Singh was constituted to look into the matter related to Dr Ghildyal Memorial Lecture fund so that a consolidated audit for all years could be completed at the earliest. (*Action: Dr R. Singh*)
- It was decided that the current account of Dr Ghildyal Memorial Lecture shall be closed as it has zero balance. If in future any donation is received towards lecture fund then it will be directly put into fixed deposit. The bank should be contacted for confusion related to the maturity amount of fixed deposit for Rs 1,30,000/-. (*Action: Dr Ananta Vashisth*)

Agenda Item 4: Future Activities of ISAP

Dr R. Singh, Vice President briefed the EC about this agenda item. He recalled the recent efforts undertaken in clearing the backlog of the journal and soliciting new memberships. Following decisions were taken to increase the visibility of Society and enhance the memberships:

- Membership drive shall be undertaken by contacting Agro Physics alumni, colleagues in different universities, institutions who have interest related to the subject of Agro Physics. In this respect a brief about the Society aims and activities along with membership proforma shall be sent to all and followed up. (*Action: Dr V.K. Sehgal, Dr S.S. Ray*)
- In order to build institutional membership of Society, the EC decided an institutional/library fee of Rs 500/- per annum. Further, the journal copies of previous issues shall be sent to libraries along with a proforma invoice for seeking their institutional membership. (*Action: Dr Sanatan Pradhan, Dr Ananta Vashisth*)

- It was agreed that a website of the Society shall be launched. The domain name for Society shall be acquired and quotation for developing a static website of the Society shall be obtained. (*Action: Dr V.K. Sehgal*)

Agenda Item 5: Admission of New members of Society

EC approved the admission of 7 life and 23 annual members to the Society. With these inductions, the membership of Society rose to 49 life and 23 annual members. The membership number shall be allotted and receipt of money received shall be issued to newly admitted members. (*Action: Dr Ananta Vashisht*)

Agenda Item 6: Dr B.P. Ghildyal Memorial Lecture

EC suggested the names of eminent persons Dr R.B. Singh and Dr Anwar Alam as possible speakers to deliver the fourth Dr B.P. Ghildyal Memorial Lecture. Tentatively, it was decided to conduct the lecture on 20th Dec 2010. President, ISAP was requested to consult the speakers and Shri Udit Ghildyal for their availability and willingness. (*Action: Dr A.K. Singh*)

Agenda Item 7: Hosting national seminar jointly with ISRS-DC in 2012

EC agreed to suggestion of hosting national seminar with Indian Society of Remote Sensing-Delhi Chapter in 2012. The final decision of ISRS-DC hosting 2012 symposium will be known by December 1, 2010. In case, 2012 seminar is not materialized then ISAP shall plan for holding a silver jubilee symposium in 2011. (*Action: Dr V.K. Sehgal*)

Agenda Item 8: Streamlining the Journal of Agricultural Physics

In the light of observations by Editor-in-Chief and comments by others, following decision were taken by EC for publication of new issues of Journal of Agricultural Physics 2010 onwards:

- Printer shall be cautioned in maintaining the size of copies of journal.
- He shall be requested to provide PDF version of last three issues published.
- Name of printer with contact details shall be printed on the back cover.
- Contact details of office bearers of Society shall be shall be mentioned on the journal. Two dedicated email accounts for President and Secretary shall be opened.
- It was agreed to constitute an Editorial Board of the Journal comprising of eight members, four out of which shall be from IARI and four from outside with different disciplinary specializations. The suggested names from IARI were: Dr K.K. Bandopadyay (Soil Physics), Dr Deb K Das (Agromet), Dr R.N. Sahoo / Dr A.K. Misra (Remote Sensing), Dr A.K. Jain / Dr P. Krishnan (Physics & Biophysics). Suggested names from outside India were: Dr Rangaswamy (CSIRO), Dr Ajit Govind (INRA), Dr S.K. Srivastava (UN-ESCAP). All these persons shall be contacted for their consent.

- It was decided that all manuscripts shall be submitted to Secretary, preferably in softcopy, who after maintaining a proper record will send them to Editor-in-Chief for evaluating their suitability to be printed in the journal of ISAP. Editor-in-Chief, in consultation with Editorial Board, will get the manuscripts reviewed. The Secretary will communicate referee's comments to authors.
- EC decide to amend the mandatory condition of *"All authors should be members of the Society for consideration of the paper for publication"* to *"At least one of the authors shall be member of the Society for consideration of the paper for publication"*.

(Action: Dr V.K. Sehgal, on all above point of Item 8)

- Students of IARI and Society members may be requested to suggest an attractive design for the cover page of the journal and Society logo. The new design shall be printed starting from the silver-jubilee issue of 2010. *(Action: Dr U.K. Chopra)*
- EC agreed to reimburse Editor-in-Chief the postage/courier charges incurred on reviewing/correspondence of manuscripts for the journal. *(Action: Dr Ananta Vashisth)*
- It was agreed that review articles shall be solicited from experts for the 2010 silver-jubilee issue of the journal. *(Action: Dr A.V. Moharir)*

Agenda Item 9: Vote of Thanks

Secretary ISAP thanked all EC members and invitees for attending the meeting and providing valuable inputs for future organization of the activities of the ISAP.

Approved by

Sd/-

(President, ISAP)

Prepared by

Sd/-

(Secretary, ISAP)

To,

All members of EC
All invitees

Copy: Record file