

## **Minutes of the Business Meeting, InterRad XII (Nanjing, China)**

By Giuseppe Cortese

The scientific session of the InterRad XII meeting was followed by the business meeting for the InterRad association. This was held in the Conference Center of the Liu Yuan hotel on the late afternoon of Thursday, September, 17<sup>th</sup>. A total of ca. 70 members of the association were present.

The secretary of the association (Giuseppe Cortese) announced the upcoming changes in the main officers of the association, as several members had decided to step down. The retiring members were Annika Sanfilippo (Cenozoic/Recent Working Group Chair), Patricia Whalen (Mesozoic Working Group Chair), and Giuseppe Cortese (Secretary).

Several rounds of consultations among members of the association and within the three active workinggroups had been held over the previous days, and had resulted in the selection of candidates whose candidature was then voted and approved during the business meeting. This resulted in the following changes in the structure of InterRad:

Secretary: Sarah-Jane Jackett  
Paleozoic Working Group Chair: Taniel Danelian  
Mesozoic Working Group Chair: Atsushi Matsuoka  
Cenozoic/Recent Working Group Chair: Giuseppe Cortese

During the meeting, Taniel Danelian has acted as Treasurer on behalf of Elspeth Urquhart. He collected membership renewals at the meeting, and also presented the current budget of the association, showing a positive balance just before the beginning of the meeting in Nanjing. Taniel also communicated Elpeth's intention to step down from her treasurer duties, as she has held this position since 1994. The question was discussed in the assembly but, due to the excellent job she has done so far, the fact that no reasonable alternative seemed to exist, and some concerns on moving the account of the association from U.K. to another country, it was proposed that she continues as treasurer of InterRad.

During budget discussions, it was also brought to the attention of the assembly that the registration fees for the website "Radiolaria.org" are paid personally by Jane Dolven. As this site represents a vast resource and reference for radiolarian studies, it has been decided that this payment be refunded to Jane, by waivering her InterRad fees (corresponding to approximately the same amount).

Prizes for the best student talk and poster were presented just before the business meeting, and went to Yu-Xi Jin (for her talk "Permian (Guadalupian) radiolarian faunal variations in the Lamar Limestone, Delaware Basin, West Texas (USA) and their paleoclimatological implications from geochemical proxies"), and Masayuki Ikeda from the Department of Earth and Planetary Science, the Univercity of Tokyo, Japan for his poster "Milankovitch cycles detected from the sedimentary rhythms of bedded chert and its ralation to diversity dynamics of radiolarian fossils". These prizes were sponsored by The Micropalaeontological Society (TMS), and David Lazarus (member of the judging committee together with Kjell Bjorklund, Rie Hori, Giuseppe Cortese, and Haoruo Wu) pledged for members of InterRad to subscribe to this society.

Taniel Danelian asked for some economic support from InterRad for two students to attend an upcoming TMS meeting in London (including a special session organized by him). This was briefly discussed, but no decision reached.

The current President (Hui Luo) then communicated plans for the proceedings of the InterRad XII Meeting to be published on "Palaeoworld" (an Elsevier journal, jointly published by the Nanjing Institute of Geology and Paleontology and the Chinese Academy of Sciences). Concerns about page limits of papers and the size of the total volume were addressed by Luo by suggesting the possibility of two volumes of the same journal, and by referring to the guidelines to authors from the Elsevier electronic system (<http://ees.elsevier.com/palwor/>).

The final communication was the location of next InterRad meeting, to be held in Spain, and organized by Luis O'Dogherty (who thus automatically becomes the new President of InterRad). The exact date will be communicated at a later stage.