

EUROPEAN CARBON ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the ECA Meeting held during the CARBON2008 Conference in Nagano, on Monday 16, 2008.

Participants

Prof. Dr. R. Menéndez (Spain, presiding)
Prof. Dr. W. Klose (Germany)
Dr. M. Monthieux (France)
Prof. Dr. J. Mirasol (Spain)
Prof. Dr. J. Machnikowski (Poland)
Dr. G. B. Neighbour (Great Britain)
Dr. R. Wolf (Germany)
Prof. Dr. E. Frackowiak (Poland)
Dr. O. Öttinger (Germany)
Prof. Dr. F. Beguin (France)
Prof. Dr. D. Cazorla (Spain)

The meeting started at 17,00 on Wednesday 16, July 2008.

1. Welcome from the Chairman.

2. Opening and Adoption of the Agenda

3. Approval of the Minutes of ECA meeting at Seattle on Monday 16, July 2007. Prof. Klose made some comments about point 9 of the Minutes, indicating that funding for the ECA award was not decided in the meeting of Seattle. In the participants list, Dr. Machnikowski was deleted as he was not present and Dr. Frackowiak added. Afterward, the representatives of the national carbon groups adopted the Minutes of the meeting with the small modifications.

4. National and shared meetings of the ECA Groups

Dr. Garreth Neighbour commented that the British Carbon Group had organized the British Nanotech Conference and that a congress on Graphite will be organized in November. Dr. Öttinger indicated that the German Carbon Group was going to organize two meetings, one in fall on New Carbon Forms lasting two days and the other one would be a four days German-Turkey meeting on Development and Technology of Carbons. Professor Klose appended that the Turkish Carbon Group is in the way to be organized with a view to ECA for the future.

Professor Beguin informed that the French Carbon Group was organizing a Short Course for Young Researchers, 3 days on all aspects of carbon research, where Ph D students will have an important weight. He also indicated that as the French Carbon Group was organizing the Carbon 2009 conference, they will not have any other research meeting along the year.

The Polish Carbon Group representative commented on the different conferences organized during this period, a combined coal/graphite science meeting with about 100 members and an important participation of the young society; the organization of CESEP'07 meeting in Cracow, with 200 participants

and 40 companies, the organization of a carbon network between different institutions to get some financial support from the EU, a new web-site on carbon related materials, linked with the other European and American Carbon Society, a new local conference on New Materials and Carbon Composites and the regular national meeting on carbon/coal materials organized every 2 years. From the Spanish Carbon Group, Dr. Rosa Menéndez informed that a national meeting on carbon/coal related materials was organized in Teruel in October 2007 and that the Spanish Group is organizing the CESEP'09 in October 2009.

5. Suggestions on ways to strengthen interactions between the European Carbon Groups and to promote carbon research. Young scientists think tank.

Rosa Menéndez explained the idea of having an international Carbon Think Tank for young researchers. Dr. Öttinger commented on the idea of a Carbon Calendar in Europe. Professor Beguin suggested that the meeting should be longer, at least 4-5 days. After a short discussion on the different aspects of the Think Tank, it was suggested to take some time to look at in more detail to define the targets of the workshop. The draft document will be analyzed and comments will be sent back to the chair that will inform to the young researcher in charge of the organization of the workshop.

6. Preparation of a data-base of European industries related to coal and carbon.

Dr. Rosa Menéndez commented the possibility of preparing a data-base of European industries. In this respect, it was agreed to do it at national level, including carbon/coal related industries in each country, through the National Carbon Groups web sites.

7. Procedure for selection of Thrower's Award nominees.

After different comments on decision or criteria for the award nominees, it was decided to postpone any action for the moment. It could be reconsidered in 5 years time.

8. Organization of Conferences: CARBON meetings, Biarritz. and Krakow ; CESEP 2009, Málaga, Spain. Others

Professor Marc Monthieux informed about the organization of CARBON 2009. He showed some concerns about the financial and economic problems and on the dollar/Euro situation. Aspects related to screening of short abstracts, to select oral and poster and key notes were commented by Professor Beguin. He suggested no consideration of referring extended abstracts because it could be an enormous work. It is planned to have 24 key notes.

Dr. Rodríguez-Mirasol informed about the organization of the CESEP'09 conference in Torremolinos (south of Spain) by the Spanish Carbon Group. He commented that he was going to present this Conference next morning at the Carbon 2009 congress.

9. Any other business.

It was suggested to include the new version of the ECA logo in the web.