

Report of the BG business meeting 2006.

The meeting was attended by 22 people.

Agenda:

- 1) Welcome by the Division President
- 2) Report on the 2006/2007 BG Activities
- 3) Suggestions for the EGU 2008 Programme
- 4) BG Publications
- 5) Candidates for the Vladimir Vernadsky 2008 Medal + OYSA
- 6) Suggestions regarding the Activities of the Union, such as Meetings, Publications and Outreach Activities
- 7) AOB

1) The president welcomed the participants and reported that all actions identified on the 2006 business meeting had been taken care off.

2) Report on the 2005/2006 BG Activities

a) President and secretaries:

Frances Westall stepped down as vice president and Jan Toporski stepped down as Exobiology secretary. Both were thanked for their help. Gert-Jan Reichart remains a secretary for palaeo-biogeosciences and takes over vice-presidency. Antje Boetius and Emmanuelle Javaux become secretaries for “Geomicrobiology and extreme environments” and “Exobiology” respectively. Both are warmly welcomed.

Council had suggested that one person per division should establish contacts with the outreach committee. Since Jelle Bijma is already member of this committee he will be responsible for this

The BG secretaries are now defined as follows:

President: Jelle Bijma * (D) assisted by Gert-Jan Reichart, NL)

7 sub-groups (secretaries):

1. Terrestrial biogeosciences (Jürgen Kesselmeier, D)
 2. Marine biogeosciences (Jack Middelburg, NL)
 3. Freshwater biogeosciences (Tom Battin, A)
 4. Earth System biogeosciences (Tim Lenton, UK)
 5. Palaeo-biogeosciences (Gert-Jan Reichart, NL)
 6. Geomicrobiology and extreme environments (Antje Boetius, D)
 7. Exobiology (Emmanuelle Javaux, B)
- * outreach

b) Sessions, orals, posters, etc.

	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Sessions (Co-organised)	9	17	13	23	25	21 (0)
Co-sponsored Co-organised	2	~28	9	-	3	many 11
Oral presentations (Co-organised)	71	230	178	204	152	202 (39)
Percentage	71%	35%	54%	29%	35%	36%
Posters (Co-organised)	28	376	149	468	287	361 (105)
Total presentations	99	579	327	661	439	563

Action:

- During the Assembly of 2008, BG will try to stay in Rooms 19 and 20 and again organize their Poster sessions in that Area.
- Maybe the walls can be used; no art on the walls!!!
- Coffee should be served in the foyer.
- Attention should be paid that a poster session is NOT distributed over different foyers.

3) Suggestions for the EGU 2008 Programme

The procedure and important dates for next years assembly was explained and people were invited to propose new sessions.

4) BG Publications

Jürgen Kessemeier presented the success story of BG and BGD. Indexed in ISI, listed in Web of Science, several current contents, Google Scholar and Scopus; Impact factor expected by summer 2007 and predicted to be around 1.4. A total of 233 manuscripts have been submitted so far. The overall rejection rate is ca. 20% and the median time between submission and BG publication is 194.5 days!

5) Candidates for the Vladimir Vernadsky 2008 Medal + OYSA + YSOPP

People were asked to nominate colleagues for the medal and award and the procedure was explained:

BG Medal Committee: G.J. Reichart (Chair), J. Bijma (ex-officio), Jack Middelburg, J. Kesselmeier, Emmanuelle Javaux, Tim Lenton, Tom Battin, Antje Boetius and Jaap Sinninghe Damsté.

Jelle Bijma reported on the procedure of the YSOPP, which was run for the second time this year and reminded the audience that such an award may be important for the nominees

6) Suggestions regarding the Activities of the Union, such as Meetings, Publications and Outreach Activities

No response.

7) AOB

Several suggestions were made:

Frances Westall pointed out that astrobiology had been scheduled on a Friday afternoon for the 3rd time in row and asked this to be taken in consideration for the next schedule. Care should also be taken to make sure that the astrobiology session is scheduled back to back with the “mars sessions” from Planetary Sciences.

A question was raised concerning the decision making on support requests. The council should explain the grounds for rejection. The president will ask the council.