

International Pierre Gy Sampling Association (IPGSA)

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There has been discussion for several years whether the informal community attending the series of WCSB conferences would benefit from the establishment of a formal organisational body representing the interests of the international sampling community. An *ad hoc*, pro tem committee, Kim H. Esbensen and Ralph Holmes, has taken it upon itself to test this proposal. In order to kick off the possible establishment of an International Pierre Gy Sampling Association (IPGSA) in conjunction with WCSB8 in Perth in June 2017, the following procedure is proposed. An attempt has been made to keep the organisation of IPGSA as simple as possible.

A proposal for the Constitution of the International Pierre Gy Sampling Association is published here. The Editor will make every effort to reach the largest possible percentage of the international sampling community as well as relevant institutions and organisations. In order to facilitate an appropriate discussion at an inaugural assembly proposed to take place at WCSB8, responses, comments and suggestions on the proposed Constitution are



invited. These must be received by the pro tem committee before 5 May 2017. The following e-mail address should be used: khe.consulting@gmail.com. All comments and suggestions will be made available to all WCSB8 delegates at the opening of the conference (or will be forwarded before the

conference via e-mail, if deemed necessary).

The outcome of the inaugural assembly may be either the establishment of an International Pierre Gy Sampling Association (decided by a simple majority of assembled attendees) or failure of the proposal.

Proposal

Constitution of the International Pierre Gy Sampling Association (IPGSA)

[To be established at the inaugural Association meeting at WCSB8, Perth, 11 May 2017]

1 Preamble

The purpose of the International Pierre Gy Sampling Association (hereinafter referred to as IPGSA) is to oversee various formal activities of the international sampling community and to represent the views of this community as it sees appropriate from time to time. The Association is not a legally constituted body, but is a common-interest, unincorporated association of persons solely bound together for the common purpose of promoting the interests of the international sampling community and its various activities. The Constitution of the Association incorporates the rules

identifying in whom control of the Association and its funds are vested. The Association is headed by a Council, the membership of which is specified in Clause 2 below.

The Council of the Association primarily has the authority to award the right to a country to host the World Conference on Sampling and Blending (WCSB), which draws together the world's leading sampling practitioners, manufacturers and experts to promote, network, discuss and reveal the latest advances in the theory and practice of sampling and blending in scientific research, technology development and industry, including large, medium and

small government, community and private organisations. A special focus of the biennial WCSB conferences is on advancing the Theory of Sampling (TOS), and attendance at the eight conferences held so far has been very active since the first conference in 2003. The conference Proceedings, published by various institutional or learned journal publishers, play an important role in representing and documenting the current state of the art in sampling and blending.

The IPGSA Council informs the international sampling community of all relevant scientific news and the latest organisational matters through the scientific magazine

TOS Forum, which is a free-of-charge publication available from IM Publications (<http://www.impublications.com/tos-forum>) and elects its Editor for a two-year period. The Council also has the responsibility for securing adequate funding for the continued publication of *TOS Forum* (nominally three issues per year), more specifically for the difference between the production costs and the sponsorship/advertising funding successfully procured by the Editor.

With respect to conference Proceedings, the Council is responsible for establishing and maintaining an IPGSA internet portal from which all WCSB Proceedings can be downloaded or can be located if specific publications need to be acquired commercially. The *TOS Forum* and this portal shall work closely together.

Finally, the IPGSA Council is responsible for recognising outstanding contributions and excellence in the teaching and application of the Theory of Sampling via the Pierre Gy Sampling Gold Medal, as well as recognition of distinguished service in the sampling community and encouragement of young authors at WCSB conferences. If necessary, the Council is responsible for securing any additional funding needed for production of the Pierre Gy Sampling Gold Medal.

2 Roles

Chair of the IPGSA Council: elected for a four-year term by the sampling community at a general assembly which takes place at WCSB conferences held approximately every two years.

Vice-Chair: elected for a four-year term in the same way as the Chair of the IPGSA Council and represents the Chairman when required. The Vice-Chair also acts as Secretary of the IPGSA Council.

Council Member: elected for a four-year term in the same way as the Chair and Vice-Chair of the IPGSA Council in accordance with the composition of the IPGSC.

Editor *TOS Forum*: elected for a two-year term by the IPGSA Council.

Pierre Gy Sampling Gold Medal Committee: consists of all past Pierre Gy Sampling Gold Medal recipients plus two additional members elected by Council at each WCSB conference.

Life Member: all past WCSB Chairs and IPGSA Chairs.

Conference Host Country: responsible for appointing a WCSB Chair and establishing an Organising Committee responsible

for organising the next conference and its Proceedings.

WCSB Delegate: a registrant at a conference.

The role of WCSB Chair and Chair of the IPGSA Council may, or may not, be filled by the same person.

3 International Pierre Gy Sampling Association Council

The IPGSA Council shall consist of the current Chair, Vice-Chair (Secretary), Editor *TOS Forum* and three other Members elected by WCSB delegates at the general assembly held at WCSB conferences. Council membership shall be decided upon by ballot conducted by the IPGSA Council at the general assembly based on nominations received from the Council and the sampling community. Outgoing elected members are eligible for re-election. Nominations shall reach the Secretary at least one month before the beginning of the relevant WCSB conference at which elections will be held. The Chair and all other Council members will be elected by a simple majority of votes cast by WCSB delegates. In the event of a tie, the successful candidate shall be determined by a draw from a hat. The term of office for elected Council members is the period between alternate WCSB conferences, i.e. approximately four years.

Council will meet as required but, as a minimum, at each WCSB conference and once between conferences. Council meetings shall be conducted either in person or via video conference, Skype or similar electronic communication means.

The Council is responsible for sampling community policy decisions, selection of the Host Country for the next WCSB conference and all dealings with the Host Country in this context. The Council also develops strategic plans for *TOS Forum* based on proposals from the Editor and takes the necessary actions to secure the funding needed to publish *TOS Forum*. Finally, the Council deliberates and formulates other IPGSA initiatives as it sees fit.

When choosing a Host Country or voting on any other contested matter, voting shall be by a simple majority of those attending Council meetings either in person or via electronic communication means. The Chair shall have a second or casting vote when needed.

In the absence of the Chair, the Vice-Chair will manage Council proceedings and will hold the proxy vote of the Chair, his own

vote as Vice-Chair, and the Chair's casting vote if required.

The procedure for selecting Host Countries is detailed in section 7 below.

Unless otherwise determined, Council members are personally responsible for the costs of attending meetings of Council.

4 IPGSA Taskforces

The IPGSA Council may from time to time establish Taskforces on specific matters which in the view of the Council require review. The Council determines the Taskforce terms of reference and deadline, and constitutes the Taskforce members directly from willing members of the sampling community with the appropriate knowledge and competencies. Taskforces will be required to report formally on their activities at Council meetings. The Chair of a Taskforce should preferably, but not necessarily, come from the Council membership at the time of its establishment. The Council will regularly review the continuation of Taskforces, which generally have a limited lifetime.

5 IPGSA Awards

5.1 Pierre Gy Sampling Gold Medal

The Pierre Gy Sampling Gold Medal (PGSGM) in memory of the father of the Theory of Sampling (TOS), recognises a lifetime of distinguished service and advancement in the teaching and practice of the Theory of Sampling. The PGSGM Committee appointed by the IPGSA Council will select the recipient to be presented with the medal at each WCSB conference, which normally will take place at the conference dinner. Members of the IPGSA Council and the international sampling community may nominate candidates for the PGSGM, and submit nominations to the Chair of the PGSGM Committee. Nominating members must provide a CV of the candidate, the names and contact details of two supporters, and a summary of the achievements and contributions of the candidate. Voting will be by simple majority of the PGSGM Committee. The Chair will have a casting vote, but only when there is no apparent conflict of interest in exercise of the casting vote. In unusual circumstances, the Committee may decide to make the award to a maximum of two candidates.

The Pierre Gy Sampling Gold Medal may be awarded posthumously if decreed by sad necessity.

5.2 Distinguished Service Award

The IPGSA Council may from time to time announce an award, to be known as the "Distinguished Service Award", to persons who over a sustained period have made distinguished and noteworthy contributions to the organisational activities of the Association and/or its conferences. Recipients of such an award may be nominated by any member of Council or individual members of the Association. The Award may only be awarded posthumously when the recipient dies in the period between the decision to make the Award and the presentation ceremony.

5.3 Young Author Awards

The Organising Committees of WCSB conferences may arrange Young Author Awards for the two most outstanding papers presented to encourage the participation of young authors in WCSB conferences. To qualify, the principal author must be less than 33 years of age at the date of the conference. The Award will be a scroll signed by the Chair and all other members of the Council which may, at the discretion of the Organising Committee, be accompanied by a monetary prize the cost of which will be met by the Organising Committee. The Organising Committee shall ensure that it is communicated clearly to all authors submitting papers for a conference that Young Author Awards are proposed. In this case, authors who consider themselves as a potential recipient shall submit a document, signed by a senior colleague, confirming that the author is eligible in terms of the age criterion and is the principal author of the paper submitted. The Organising Committee may choose not to make a Young Author Award. The Award can be made only once to any person and no Award can be made posthumously.

6 IPGSA Financial Arrangements

The IPGSA has no permanent source of income. However, in order to support the role of the Chair and the administrative costs of the informal IPGSA secretariat, a levy of EUR35 per WCSB delegate shall be paid to the IPGSA by the Host Country within six months of the end of a WCSB conference. This levy may also be used to cover part of the costs of the Pierre Gy Sampling Gold Medal. The IPGSA Council will review the amount of this levy from time to time.

7 Host Country Selection Procedures

The IPGSA Council will call for proposals to hold the next WCSB conference at least one year in advance of each awarded conference. Issues to be addressed in bids include:

- The name of the professional/scholarly/scientific organisation under which the Congress will be organised.
- The person most likely to head the Organising Committee as Chair.
- The probable structure of the Organising Committee.
- The ability to finance and underwrite the cost of the Congress.
- Previous experience in organising similar international conferences.
- Availability of a suitable conference venue and appropriate accommodation.
- Availability of international and domestic flights to the host city.
- Potential to obtain sponsorship from industry and government.
- Any specific topics/themes for the conference.
- Visa regulations of the host country.
- Estimated cost of delegate registration.
- The likely person to act as the Editor of the WCSB conference Proceedings.
- Processes to be used to referee abstracts and final papers submitted for the conference.
- The proposed timing for submission of abstracts and full papers.
- Proposed Keynote speakers.
- Any other matters which the bidding country considers relevant.

Bids are to be received by the Chair of the IPGSA Council by the date indicated in the Call for Proposals. The call should, as a minimum, be made public in an issue of the *TOS Forum* at an appropriate time determined by Council. The Council will then meet, either in person or via video conference, to review and discuss all bids and whether they meet the selection criteria.

The final decision on the successful bid will be by a ballot of Council members. In the event of a tie, the Chair, having no conflict of interest, shall have the deciding vote and choose between the tied bids. If the Chair has a conflict of interest, the Vice-Chair shall have the casting vote.

8 WCSB Conference Organising Committee

The Conference Organising Committee as broadly outlined in the successful

conference bid is responsible to the IPGSA Council for implementing an enabling structure to ensure effective planning and carriage of the conference. While the structure of the Organising Committee is not predetermined, it shall be established so that its composition and operation is appropriate to carry out all the necessary duties and meet its responsibilities. The Organising Committee will regulate its own affairs in accordance with internal rules and procedures. In the interests of continuity, the Organising Committee is encouraged to co-opt the Chairs of previous WCSB conferences. These persons do not need to physically attend meetings, but should be kept informed of deliberations to enable provision of advice and other assistance as required.

The Organising Committee is required to fund production of the Pierre Gy Sampling Gold Medal as well as the Young Author Awards if a monetary prize is included by including these costs in the WCSB conference budget.

9 WCSB Conference Proceedings

Copyright of WCSB conference papers will be held by the authors and not the organising body. Consequently, authors will be free to submit their work after the conference to a journal of their choice. The journal will apply its own reviewing rules to such submissions. Notwithstanding the above, the organisers of a conference may publish a book of Proceedings for the conference. The Organising Committee must as a minimum provide delegates with copies of all abstracts accepted for the conference in an appropriate electronic form with a hard copy version for use at the conference. Furthermore, the Organising Committee must undertake to make the Proceedings of WCSB conferences publicly available after the conference in an appropriate way, e.g. via the IPGSA internet portal.

10 Amendments to the Constitution

Proposals for amendments to this Constitution can be submitted by any member of the IPGSA Council with at least ten supporting signatures from the international sampling community. Such submissions must reach the Chair of the IPGSA Council at least one month prior to the next meeting of Council. A two-thirds majority of those present at the Council meeting either in person or via video conference is required to approve an amendment.