International Committee on Systematic Bacteriology Subcommittee on Numerical Taxonomy

Minutes of the Meeting, 4 September 1978

Munich, F.R.G.

Minute 1. Call to order. P. H. A. Sneath called the meeting to order at 8:45 p.m. on 4 September 1978.

Minute 2. Past activities. Activities of the Subcommittee since the last Congress were reviewed. The Subcommittee has been relatively inactive, although it is available to the parent committee for programs and advice.

Minute 3. Future projects. Statistics of test reproducibility was considered an area suitable for activity for the Subcommittee. Several taxonomic subcommittees of ICSB have started work on test reproducibility. Test reproducibility is, indeed, a serious problem. Mathematical and systematic methods, i.e., tests, techniques, should be studied, with respect to reproducibility.

There are, also, real problems in deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA)/DNA homology, for example, highly stringent versus less stringent methods for assessing homologies. The effects of having too few reference strains, in light of statistical applications, should be considered. The relationship of DNA homologies and phenotypic similarities also needs to be examined.

A project that the Subcommittee also might consider is a publication on numerical identification for distri-

bution as an educational module for teaching identification methods.

As a result of the discussion, it was decided that objectives of the Subcommittee should include; (i) preparation of a "state of the art" report on numerical identification and (ii) preparation of concise lists of groups for which reasonably reproducible and useful matrices are available. Sneath agreed to circulate a report presently available on state of the art in computer identification and to make enquiries on information on taxonomic groups for which there are good matrices.

Minute 4. New members. Membership on the Subcommittee was discussed, and the Secretary is to send letters of invitation to various workers.

Minute 5. Current membership. Current membership of the Subcommittee is as follows: P. H. A. Sneath (Chairman), Leicester, U.K.; R. R. Colwell (Secretary), College Park, Md., U.S.A.; G. J. Bonde, Aarhus, Denmark; D. J. Brenner, Atlanta, Ga., U.S.A.; P. A. Grimont, Bordeaux, France; L. R. Hill, London, U.K.; O. Lysenko, Prague, Czechoslovakia, V. D. B. Skerman, Brisbane, Australia.

R. R. COLWELL, Secretary

International Committee on Systematic Bacteriology Subcommittee on *Pasteurella*, *Yersinia*, and *Francisella*

Minutes of the Meeting, 4 and 5 September 1978

Munich, F.R.G.

Minute 1. Call to order. W. Knapp, Chairman, called the closed meeting to order at 2 p.m. on 4 September. A second open meeting was held at 2 p.m. on 5 September. Minutes 8 and 9 contain the transactions of the open meeting.

Minute 2. Record of attendance. Members present on 4 and 5 September were: W. Knapp (Chairman), N. S. Mair (Secretary), E. L. Biberstein, W. Frederiksen, H. H. Mollaret, G. Wauters, J. E. Phillips, and B.

Rowe. The corresponding members H. Bercovier (Paris, France) and B. Hurvell (Stockholm, Sweden) were also present. Nonmembers present on 5 September were: D. J. Brenner (Atlanta, Ga., U.S.A.), A. Hewstone (Parkville, Australia), K. Tamura and R. Sakazaki (Tokyo, Japan), and J. Vandepitte (Leuven, Belgium).

Minute 3. Minutes of the previous meeting. Minutes of the meeting held in London on 17 and 18 September