International Committee on Systematic Bacteriology Subcommittee on the Taxonomy of Clostridia and Clostridium-Like Organisms

Minutes of the Meeting, 6 July 1994, Prague, Czech Republic

Minute 1. Call to order. The Acting Chairman, J. Wiegel, called the open meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. on 6 July 1994.

Minute 2. Record of attendance. The members present were J. Wiegel (Acting Chairman), F. A. Rainey (Acting Secretary), M. D. Collins, and W. Ludwig. E. Stackebrandt was present as the Secretary for Subcommittees of the International Committee on Systematic Bacteriology.

Minute 3. Approval of subcommittee. E. Stackebrandt informed the members that establishment of the Subcommittee on the Taxonomy of Clostridia and Clostridium-Like Organisms had been approved by the board of the International Committee on Systematic Bacteriology.

Minute 4. Current membership. The current membership of the subcommittee is as follows: M. D. Collins, Reading, England; R. L. Gherna, Rockville, Md.; C. L. Hatheway, Atlanta, Ga.; H. Hippe, Braunschweig, Germany; M. K. Jain, Lansing, Mich.; J. L. Johnson, Blacksburg, Va.; S. Leschine, Amherst, Mass.; W. Ludwig, Munich, Germany; D. Lyerly, Blacksburg, Va.; L. Moore, Blacksburg, Va.; B. Patel, Brisbane, Australia; F. A. Rainey, Braunschweig, Germany; R. Tanner, Norman, Okla.; and J. Wiegel, Athens, Ga.

Minute 5. Election of officers. A postal ballot will be distributed to all members to seek approval for the election of J. Wiegel as Chairman and R. Tanner as Secretary of the subcommittee.

Minute 6. Minimal standards for description of genera and species. The subcommittee discussed minimal standards for the description of genera and species belonging to this extremely diverse group of bacteria. M. D. Collins presented his most recent 16S ribosomal DNA sequence analysis data. It was agreed by all of the members present that 16S ribosomal DNA/RNA sequence analysis data should be highly recommended for inclusion in descriptions of new taxa. In order to outline the current problems concerning the taxonomy of the genus *Clostridium* and related taxa for the general scientific community, a taxonomic note will be prepared by members of the subcommittee and submitted to the International Journal of Systematic Bacteriology.

Minute 7. Future subcommittee meeting. The next subcommittee meeting will be held during the 94th General Meeting of the American Society for Microbiology in Washington, D.C., on 21 to 25 May 1995. It was proposed that this meeting could take the form of a 1- or 2-day discussion on minimal standards and possible taxonomic rearrangements.

Minute 8. Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m. on 6 July 1994.

Fred A. Rainey, *Acting Secretary*