

Educational Techniques Group Trust

Notes of a Meeting at Nottingham Monday 10th November 2008

- 1) **Present:**
Prof. AJ.Rest (Chairman), R.Murray (part time), Dr.N.Burdett,
Mr.G.Sleightholme, Dr.R.G.Wallace, P.E.Curry (Secretary).
- 2) **New Members**
A warm welcome was extended to Geoffrey Sleightholme and Newman
Burdett who have expressed interest in joining the Committee.
- 3) **Apologies**
Other members of the ETGT (which has about 260 members) who have
expressed interest in the Committee but were unable to attend were:
Vanessa Bird, Tony Johnson, Michael Baldwin, Justin Dillon, and L.Pollock.
D.Brattan was also unable to attend.
- 4) **Minutes of Meeting 7th November 2007**
Approved.
- 5) **Matters Arising**
A renewed attempt would be made for ETGT funds to be forwarded from the
RSC.

A new Treasurer is required following Bob Murray's retirement.

Inquorate Meeting in July 2008. A Meeting was due to be held in July 2008
but not all the remaining Committee could attend and so the Meeting was
cancelled. It was resolved that all Members be written to in order to recruit
more Committee Members.

Re-Election of Committee Members. The RSC was sympathetic about the
problems of finding new Committee Members and hence the need for
members to continue serving beyond the prescribed length of time.
Nevertheless the RSC asked that we make every effort to recruit new
Committee Members. This provided a second reason for a letter to be sent
to all Members in August 2008.

Reports to RSC. It appears that a General Report and a Financial Report
have not been sent in for 2007.

The RSC has not distributed "Education in Chemistry" to ETGT Committee
members (who are not on the RSC teacher list).

6) Chairman's Report

In November 2007 the Pan African Chemistry network was launched in London with visitors from sub-Saharan Africa. A project team from Malaysia visited the UK in May. Funds for such ventures, around £1m. over five years, will be made available from the RSC and Syngenta. A further launch was made in May 2008 in Nairobi. Kenya have applied for a "Chemistry Bus" (cost £77000) which will visit schools, and it is felt that such projects will be repeated.

It was agreed that the proposed £6 fee mentioned in a recent RSC letter was reasonable as it is in line with other groups and minimises pressure to abolish them.

Mention was made of a new web site which is a Word document and is expected to be of great educational benefit including help with Podcast. Ray Wallace and Tony Rest will join the ACS to see how this [project is accepted in the USA.

Tony Rest reported that he is operating from home at present. Telephone 02380 472985, e-mail: ajr@soton.co.uk.

7) Secretary's Report

Due to the very long period of service of the existing ETGT Committee members over 200 letters have been sent out to ETGT members asking whether they are interested in joining the Committee. 8 positive replies have been received so far.

8) Treasurer's Report.

£1510 is in the current account, but this does not include money that has not

Following Dr. Bob Murray's retirement a new Treasurer is needed. Mr. Geoffrey Sleightholme volunteered to take over this post.

A very warm vote of thanks was extended to Bob Murray for all his services to the Committee.

9) Newsletter and website

Favourable comment was made concerning the site www.rsc.org/educational techniques group trust and the work on this by Don Brattan's son.

10) **Projects in Hand**

Work is ongoing on the African and Malaysian projects and **AJR** will send details to the Committee. The work includes using mobile phones to distribute lessons via Broadband and training techniques for handling large instruments. A pamphlet has been given out at the 4th .IUPAC Congress.

11) **A.O.B.**

AJR will provide a list on the web site concerning proposals to raise money.

UNICEF seem unlikely, but although other charities might help AstraZeneca seem more hopeful. **NB** will see whether the BBC offer any possibilities.

AJR will attempt to obtain RSC agreement to fund Teacher Cover where this is necessary for Committee members who need this.

12) **Next Meeting.**

London at Easter. The choice of a London location is thought to help potential members who cannot manage to get to Nottingham.