

## **MDO Scientific Advisory Committee Meeting**

*May 19, 2014, Stuttgart, Germany*

**Chair:** Magnus Ingelman-Sundberg;

**Notes:** David Waxman

### **MDO SAB Members in Attendance:**

Magnus Ingelman-Sundberg (SE, Chairman)  
Xinxin Ding (US)  
Frank Gonzalez (US)  
Jim Halpert (US)  
Eric Johnson (US)  
Peter Mackenzie (AU)  
Urs A. Meyer (CH)  
Masa Negishi (US)  
Rachel Tyndale (CA)  
David J. Waxman (US)

**Others in attendance:** Uli Zanger, Aiming Yu

(1) MDO has an unspent balance of approx. \$49,000, carried over from prior meeting surpluses.

(2) MDO2012, which was held jointly with ISSX, had a net deficit of approx. \$38,000, which was covered by ISSX, per contract between ISSX and MDO. The total attendance was high, at 618 individuals, but economies of scale were not realized because the fee structure set up with the hotel and conference management company did not provide for that. Many people registered late, which made planning difficult.

(3) MDO2014, in Stuttgart, presently has 405+ participants and includes 206 posters. Registration includes 226 academics, 92 industry participants and 82 students. Uli Zanger and his team were commended for excellent organization of the meeting and for putting together an outstanding program. MDO2014 also experienced the problem of many late registrations, including late registration for many of the exhibitors. At present, there is a nominal deficit of approx. 33,000 Euro, but Uli indicated that amount will be covered by a special grant from the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft. It is anticipated that some funds will be available for partial reimbursement of speaker travel expenses.

**Innovations at MDO2014** - One novel feature was the P450 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary session to be held Tuesday morning, which has an outstanding speaker line up. Another novel feature of MDO2014 was the inclusion of 3 educational workshops on the opening day (Sunday May 18), with a total of approx. 50-60 participants and net income of approx. 10,000 Euro. There was some discussion that participation might

have been higher if the workshop fee (250 Euro) were lower ('price elasticity of demand' concept). Uli indicated that the workshop organization required a fair amount of work, and stated that it was not clear whether it was worth the effort. Another "innovation" was to make the printed Abstract book available for free in pdf form or available at the cost of 12 Euro for advance purchase. Some committee members indicated a strong preference for the traditional printed Abstract book available to all. Other innovations include a special "speed dating" evening social event for students, to be held on Monday night, and also poster and oral presentation awards for young scientists. The MDO Committee thought these were both excellent additions to the meeting.

(4) MDO2016 will be held in Davis, California on October 2-6, 2016. The meeting is to be organized by Aiming Yu and will be held at the conference center of U.C. Davis, which can hold 420 participants. There was some concern that the total number of hotel rooms in Davis is rather small - approx. 500 - so it will be essential to get a firm "hold" on a large majority of those hotel rooms soon to know whether this is a workable arrangement. The program will follow the traditional format: Sunday night through Thursday mid-day, with one afternoon open for an excursion.

(5) MDO2018 is proposed to be held in Kanazawa Japan, in October 2018 jointly with JSSX. The meeting will be arranged by Prof. Ikumi Tamai in collaboration with Prof. Tsuyoshi Yokoi. The Shinkansen high-speed railway lines from Tokyo will be available to reach to Kanazawa in approx. 2.5 hr. The number of participants at the JSSX meeting is usually about 900-1000.

(6) Recruitment of younger scientists to the MDO SAB Committee: All agreed that this was essential to do. Urs Meyer and Frank Gonzalez kindly volunteered to retire from the MDO committee to make room for new, young leadership. Suggestions for new members are to be forwarded to Magnus, who will propose a new committee in several weeks.