

Report of the Meeting of the Commission for Crystal Growth and Characterization of Materials at the IUCR Conference, Madrid, August 23rd, 2011.

First of all I would like to congratulate with Hanna Dabkowska for being elected as Ordinary Member of the Executive Committee of IUCR. I think this was another recognition for her incomparable work as Chair of the CCGCM.

Secondly, I would like to briefly summarize the discussion of the Commission at the open meeting on August 23rd in Madrid.

Many of the members/consultants of the commission were present, namely H. Dabkowska, A. Moreno, J. M. Garcia-Ruiz, J. Wang, A. Zappettini, J. Newman, A. Glikin, E. Talik. Other colleagues interested to the work of the CCGCM were also present, among them R. Fornari, president of IOCG, S. Cuffini, S. Bocharov, O. Cambon.

The meeting was started by Hanna Dabkowska who invited everybody to introduce himself and described briefly the work of the Commission during the last years. She also reported about the results of the recent meeting of Hanna and me with the IUCR Executive Committee. The Executive Committee opinion of the work of the Commission in general, and of the Chair in particular, had been very high.

Then, Hanna asked me to go on, as the designated Chair of the Commission to be confirmed by the General Assembly during the Conference.

The first topic for discussion was the possible actions for the International Year of Crystallography 2013. The explanations of the aims of IYCR and suggested actions are summarized in the slides in attachment. In particular, the EC asked to promote the visibility of the advanced crystals together with a stronger effort to spread programs and concepts related to crystal growth. After some discussion, most of the people agreed that could be really a hard work to organize a completely new web site delivering both crystal pictures and educational support. It seemed to everybody very interesting the idea that the Commission could suggest IUCR to give support to a previously existing platform, for example a web site that is under development. Juan Ma suggested to consider the web site that is under development at "La Factoría de Cristalización". He also suggested to create an advisory board selecting the best pictures and the necessary teaching elements. In the next weeks, Juan Ma and me will send you more info and a more complete scheme of the possible proposal.

In the 2013 there will be also the IOCG Conference in Warsaw. It was discussed the possibility to suggest topics related to the IYCR. Eva Talik will discuss with the local organizers the chance to organize symposia that give some evidence to IYCR.

Any suggestions about initiatives for the IYCR are welcome.

Another topic also related to IYCR is to evaluate the possibility to organize schools of crystal growth in Africa. A general comment was that the political situation in that area is difficult at present. In any case, please, take into account the importance of the subject.

An important point for CCGCM is the organization of crystal growth schools and conferences. So, all of you are encouraged to organize such events. It was underlined the importance to avoid the superimposition of events. In order to avoid this to happen, it is necessary to improve the coordination of the efforts.

Finally, I want to thank everybody for their presence at the meeting.

Sincerely yours

Andrea Zappettini

Chair CCGCM