



Selysia

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE SOCIETAS INTERNATIONALIS ODONATOLOGICA

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MESSAGE OF THE PRESIDENT

A member wrote to me recently suggesting that the present position of SIO is such that he wished SIO could restart from scratch. He ended "council did not do their job very well. They did not suitably prepare the last meeting, they did not make it clear to all parties how we could act up to 1997, and so on". The blame is addressed to all Council members including myself. Another member wrote to me: "I wonder what the dragonflies think of all this human nonsense".

It is evident that members of Council in Essen failed to evaluate properly the situation of SIO for the pre-Maribor period. They assumed too much in their desire to smooth away difficulties rather than trying to solve them. The most significant outcomes of the Essen Symposium were the "informal" acceptance of Option 1 (now the Odonatologica Editorial Office) and the setting up of a working group to write a new constitution. It is true that we failed to have an official acceptance of Option 1 at the business meeting which caused some uneasiness and concern about the legality of the whole process with some members. We also failed to ensure a smooth transition period when we:

- I. accepted that the present Constitution would hold, apart from Option 1,
- II. without defining what would be invalidated by acceptance of that Option;
- III. accepted that S.I.O. would not receive income during the transition period;
- IV. failed to agree an S.I.O. membership fee;
- V. failed to define the respective assets of ODONATOLOGICA and of S.I.O.;
- VI. failed to underline the necessity for a CONTRACT between the Editor of ODONATOLOGICA and S.I.O.;
- VII. failed to decide the future of ADVANCES IN ODONATOLOGY and S.I.O. RAPID COMMUNICATIONS, which are and which remain S.I.O. publications.

The Essen-Maribor transition period has not been easy for members of the Council because we have to live with all the imprecisions, differing interpretations of the Constitution, conflicting decisions of the various Essen meetings and, in many cases, the lack of definition of the decisions. And all this in an environment of friction and suspicion, to say the least!

If members of S.I.O. want their society to survive and if members of S.I.O. Council do not wish to be accused of not fulfilling their mandate, the following will have to be defined and/or accepted:

1. a formal vote by the members of S.I.O. that will validate or invalidate the result of the referendum on "Option 1" of Prof. Kiauta (see attached voting form, items IV and V);
2. the acceptance of a new Constitution.

In the event of acceptance of Prof. Kiauta's Option 1 by the membership, the following must be discussed and agreed:

1. what are the individual assets of (a) ODONATOLOGICA and (b) of S.I.O.?
2. what will happen to the Editorial Office after the departure of Prof. Kiauta (illness or other causes)?
3. S.I.O. membership fee (with SELYSIA but without journals),
4. harmonization of policies between Editorial Office and S.I.O. especially with regard to lists of members and fees (S.I.O. membership fee and ODONATOLOGICA subscription fee),
5. contract between SIO and the ODONATOLOGICA Editor defining what is acceptable to S.I.O. if ODONATOLOGICA and NOTULAE ODONATOLOGICAE are published for S.I.O. outside S.I.O.,
6. the question of the statement in Option 1 to "give annually for Council's disposal a certain lump-sum, based on the number of membership subscriptions paid in western currencies, and which is to be used by Council for financing of some other S.I.O. activities".

In the event of failure to reach agreement on the above points, it will be necessary to empower the newly appointed Executive Committee to decide on alternative S.I.O. journals and their editorship.

During the Essen-Maribor transitional period S.I.O. had to accept the fact that many members were divided between long-standing friendship for the editor of ODONATOLOGICA and NOTULAE and the wish of others to see S.I.O. evolve in a new framework. The Council was also facing contradictory motions adopted either by the members at the Essen Business Meeting or by Officers at the Council meetings. For example in accepting the President's report in Essen, was the Business Meeting accepting formally and legally the results of the referendum on Option 1 and the fact that the ODONATOLOGICA Editor and S.I.O. were now two separated entities? For many members it appears that all parties are right in their own way. Some think that we should strictly follow the actual constitution as if Option 1 had not been accepted in a referendum. One has to accept the fact that the birth of the Editorial office editing ODONATOLOGICA and NOTULAE outside S.I.O. for S.I.O. has invalidated some articles and by-laws of the present Constitution. For example, Prof. Kiauta cannot be anymore a Member of S.I.O. Council as Editor of ODONATOLOGICA but only as chairman of the Standing Committee of International Symposia and as Coordinator of National Offices and Affiliated Associations if Option 1 is valid. Some members are thinking that "democratic rules say that the elected Council is the only body with the right to make an interpretation of the rules or Constitution until the next election or meeting". Council is certainly mandated by the members to act in their name to the best of their ability between symposia, the Business Meeting sanctioning the decisions taken by Council.

Some members wrote to me saying that they would appreciate if I, as chairman, would start discussions on the items mentioned above so that there will be a properly prepared meeting in Maribor. This is why I decided to proceed in this way.

Since this message will also be my report for the Maribor Business Meeting/General Meeting, I would like to thank very sincerely all those members of the Council for their work during my term, including Mr Martin Schorr. They gave their time freely, have experienced moments of joy and many grim ones. We owe them much. May a new and happy S.I.O. be their reward.

Jean-Guy Pilon
President of S.I.O.
Sainte-Thérèse, April 1997

THE FUTURE OF S.I.O. Comments by Michael Parr

I acknowledge with gratitude the immense effort, skill and amount of time that the Working Group, appointed by the Essen Business Meeting, have contributed in producing the draft of the new Constitution and Bylaws.

Although I have discussed in length the problems faced by S.I.O. and the Society's future with several colleagues, and while the thoughts comprising this article are shared with some of them, I stress that this is a personal view of the current situation.

Events within S.I.O. during the last ten years have severely eroded the confidence of members in the ability of the Society to function in an open, decent, law-abiding and democratic way, and have caused divisions and antagonisms among odonatologists. I believe that unless resolute action is taken forthwith, along constitutional lines, such divisions will deepen and S.I.O. will cease to be an odonatological society worthy of being called 'international' or a 'society'. Of course international odontology existed before S.I.O., and if S.I.O. self-destructs international odontology will exist thereafter; but if S.I.O. ceases to exist some of the wonderful facilities and opportunities it has provided will have been lost, and this would be a great pity, especially as S.I.O.'s death would have happened only because the Society lacked the resolve to respect its own Constitution, and to insist on all members doing likewise.

Whilst I have no hard evidence for this, I suspect that perhaps the majority of members (at least until recently) did not know of the difficulties besetting the Society and, therefore, assumed that all was well. The organisation within S.I.O. was such that free dissemination of information between members was difficult. For example, the majority of members never had access to a membership list of names, addresses, telephone and fax numbers.

Most members are now aware, more or less, of the existence and main causes of the Society's difficulties, and they will soon have to decide what remedial action to take. In the past, as members came to hear of difficulties, or encountered them at first hand, they responded in one of three ways:

- (1) by openly objecting to unconstitutional behaviour and asking Council (as the executive arm of S.I.O.) to prevent and correct it;
- (2) by supporting the unconstitutional behaviour, out of loyalty to the person responsible for it, as distinct from loyalty to the Society; or
- (3) by doing nothing, either through inaction or through purposely remaining uninformed.

Those taking actions (1) or (2) have been in the minority; some of those formerly in categories (2) or (3) have adopted position (1) only after they themselves became victims of unconstitutional attacks. Among Council members, at different times, all three responses have been represented, with the result that Council has been ineffectual as the executive arm of the Society and matters have been allowed to deteriorate. Unfortunately, since the Essen meeting, despite unanimous agreement to support the Constitution, at least one Council member of S.I.O. continued to disregard in practice democratic procedures.

I consider that the only prospect of S.I.O. being redirected along a democratic course is for all members (or

an overwhelming majority) to openly re-endorse constitutional process, which in practice means giving unqualified, explicit support to those authorised by the Business Meeting at Essen to act on the Society's behalf. It also means resisting in every constitutional way all attempts to subvert or circumvent constitutional process. An essential part of such action must be the instant removal from Council of any member who persists in behaving unconstitutionally.

This is not the place to list in detail the many offences committed against the Constitution, and against individual members, but nor is it the place to be less than frank. Suffice it to say that several members of S.I.O. who had formerly contributed a great deal to S.I.O. (e.g. by organising International Symposia) have been threatened, held to ransom, vilified and denied entitlements of membership solely because their views or actions were perceived by one Officer (who had acquired great influence) as differing from his own. Council, even when formally asked to do so, was unable or unwilling to check such behaviour, or to repair the damage it caused. Among the consequences were: loss to S.I.O. of valued members by resignation; personal divisions within S.I.O.; and loss of respect for Council as an effective executive body. Details of these many violations of the Constitution and offences committed against individuals have been deposited with the Council in case they should be needed for reference.

It will of course be for the membership to decide how S.I.O. will proceed, how democratic procedures can be restored, and how the Constitution should be reconstructed to achieve this. If the major objectives can be recognised and shared, and if goodwill and mutual respect prevail, I believe that success can be achieved. If goodwill and mutual respect are lacking, there is negligible prospect of success, regardless of the quality of the provisions of the Constitution. This is in fact what has happened since the Essen agreement. For example, our Secretary-General, like others before him, was in effect forced to resign, his work being made impossible by the actions of another member. Undemocratic bullying cannot have a place in a civilised Society.

I claim no expert knowledge of the best way to proceed although, like some other members, I have had varied experience of serving on executive boards of national and international societies and institutions. Solely as a contribution to the forthcoming debate I list below some provisions that I consider would help S.I.O. to advance with confidence along a democratic path and at the same time heal some of the wounds caused in the past. Some, though not all, of these provisions are contained in the draft of the revised Constitution prepared by the Working Group. Although for clarity of expression, I use the word 'should', these are only ideas, and not, of course, prescriptions that must be followed.

- (a) The Council of S.I.O. should be small, and therefore able to make decisions within a few days. It should contain a majority of members (possibly 5 or 6) elected by the membership at large, with three more

being appointees. A total number of 8 or 9 would greatly facilitate rapid decision taking.

- (b) All decisions on major issues - apart from those specified by the Constitution - should be by postal ballot, and the results subject to formal scrutiny. (To allow those members who by chance or circumstance attend a Business Meeting to decide major issues affecting S.I.O. is to disenfranchise most members of the Society and so is seriously undemocratic, whereas a postal ballot reduces opportunities for lobbying and otherwise weighting the outcome of the voting. On a different point, the recent 'referendum' leading to the ill-fated Option 1 was unacceptable by conventional standards: neither the wording of the questions nor the decision to conduct the survey was made by Council, despite objections by members at the time, not all members received the questionnaire, and the results were analysed and interpreted independently of Council.)
- (c) The process of formulating a new Constitution is a complex and difficult task which should not be rushed.
- (d) If S.I.O. is to have a journal, the Managing Editor should be fully answerable to Council and the journal should be as inexpensive (regarding costs of production and page charges, if any) as is consistent with acceptable quality of production. This will mean obtaining contemporary, competitive quotes for price, elimination of page charges, if possible, and publication of ODONATOLOGICAL ABSTRACTS elsewhere in a much less expensive format.
- (e) For the time being at least, effort and financial resources should be concentrated on the S.I.O. journal, and ADVANCES IN ODONATOLOGY should be discontinued. Consideration should also be given to the future of NOTULAE ODONATOLOGICAE. Maybe it could be incorporated into ODONATOLOGICA (or whatever the S.I.O. journal is to be called) as 'Brief communications'; or it could become an independent journal under a different editorship.
- (f) S.I.O., through Council, should give priority to supporting diverse initiatives from individuals willing to advance odontology. Although Council should retain executive responsibility, such activities should be decentralised as much as possible.
- (g) S.I.O. should support cordial, two-way, non-directive communication between S.I.O. and national or regional odonatological societies.

If, during the next few years, S.I.O. can make a dignified transition to a self-respecting, democratic, international society it will have inherited a magnificent legacy of publications largely made possible by the remarkable talent, vision and determination of Bastiaan Kiauta, ably assisted by Marianne Kiauta and Janny van Brink, whose achievements have contributed immeasurably to the science of odontology. If Bastiaan and Marianne can now co-operate fully with the new Council to effect a smooth and cordial transition of editorial responsibility for ODONATOLOGICA and NOTULAE, they will have enhanced

their contribution even more and are likely to be remembered, and fully acknowledged, as agents of construction rather than otherwise. I see the present as a great opportunity - perhaps the last - to put the anguish of the past behind us and to strive together towards a friendly, open, democratic association of dragonfly workers, characterised by mutual respect and freedom of expression.

REPORT OF THE WORKING GROUP FOR THE REORGANIZATION OF S.I.O.

Dear members of S.I.O.,

With the February issue of Selysia (Vol. 24, No. 2) you have received a first draft of a new Constitution and Bylaws together with the invitation to send your comments. We have considered all incoming, often conflicting suggestions and proposals up to 10 April 1997. The final version presented now is the result of long discussions between the members of the Working Group, either by telephone, fax or letters. It was not possible to adopt all suggestions and to reconcile all conflicting views. Nevertheless, with the main objectives as outlined in the minutes of the 1995 Essen Business Meeting in mind, I believe we succeeded in preparing a Constitution which, together with the active participation of members and the will to act along constitutional lines, will safeguard the future of S.I.O.

Because of the numerous, often small changes and in order to facilitate comparison with the February draft, members of the working group have decided to publish the complete text of the final version and to put it to the vote by all S.I.O. members. This complies with the wish of many members to base decisions on major and crucial issues of S.I.O. on a full ballot in order to guarantee the enfranchisement of all members. This procedure will also minimize lobbying and the enforcement of prepared results by different pressure groups within S.I.O.

According to information provided by the district court in Lörrach, the procedure chosen to elect a new Executive Committee and the application of article XIV of the draft Constitution and article 12 of the draft Bylaws to ask members at large to vote on the new Constitution and Bylaws is legally correct (cf. also article XVI of the draft Constitution). If members vote for the new Constitution and the Bylaws, they will become effective as of 15 June 1997. To make the final draft more intelligible I would like to comment on some provisions and regulations.

1. From the legal point of view it is very important for S.I.O. to become a registered association ("e.V. = eingetragener Verein") according to German law. Exclusively in order to facilitate the legal procedures we have chosen the seat of the present Treasurer, Rheinfelden, as the seat of the Society. If members vote for the new Constitution, S.I.O. will be registered at the District Court of Lörrach (Germany). Tax Selysia 25(1)

exemption is granted by the revenue office when the constitution contains provisions that meet the legal standards for an association to become charitable. After being granted tax exemption we will be in the position to accept donations from sponsors and to start with such activities as RPF, YIP, INOI, and the Sponsored-member Programme.

2. The aim of some provisions is to ensure that vital Society issues are decided by the whole membership. Clear and strict regulations regarding preparation and conduct of voting are to prevent in the future illegal ballots (such as "Option 1") organized by individual members or pressure groups on their own initiative [e.g. articles VII (5) and XIV (1)]. Some examples: The election of the Executive Committee [Article VIII (2)], amendments to the Constitution (Article XIV), and the Bylaws [Articles 12 (2) & (3)] are decided by postal vote of the whole membership, but only when written nominations and applications reach the committees responsible for the conduct of voting, in these cases the Nominating or Executive Committees.
3. In the previous draft the Executive Committee consisted of only five Officers. We have now added a sixth member, the Past-President (Article VIII (1) of the Constitution). He will perform special duties [Article 1 (6) of the Bylaws] and as a consequence reduce the work load of the other officers.
4. For two reasons we have omitted the Honorary Membership: First, one distinct Honorary Member has been denied his entitlements of membership (free copies of the Society journal), an unjustified and arbitrary act which caused a loss of confidence of members in the ability of S.I.O. to function along constitutional lines. Second, we wanted to repeal all obligations which could mean a financial burden in difficult times. Nevertheless, elected Honorary Members, if they wish, are entitled to keep their status and privileges [Article XVI (1c)].
5. Article VIII (4) was controversially discussed among members of the Working Group. This provision specifies that meetings held by the Executive Committee should be open to all members as non-participating observers whenever possible. Article VIII (4) emphasizes our strong dedication to become a democratic and open society in which decision-making processes are made transparent to all members.
6. In order to consider conflicting views on important issues, such as the fate of the journal ODONATOLOGICA and the assets of S.I.O., the draft contains provisions to avoid a precedent [Articles XII (1c) and XVI (1b)] and to ask the membership for a final verdict (see attached voting form, items IV and V).

Finally I must thank all colleagues and friends for their outstanding contributions and support. I was overwhelmed by the warm, friendly and practical working atmosphere. Again, my very special thanks go to Philip Corbet, Heiner Lohmann, Michael Parr, Asmus Schröter, and Jill Silsby.

Dear members, the Working Party has devoted much time and efforts to fulfil the Essen mandate. Fortunately, in 1995 we were not aware of the many mainly technical difficulties we had to meet and the personal attacks we were facing. With relief and satisfaction I now present the result of our combined efforts. I dare to say, that if the new regulations are accepted, S.I.O. will have one of the finest Constitutions of all entomological societies. Reconciliation between alienated members and different factions is still possible. This is perhaps the last opportunity to heal old wounds and to head for the future. Dear members, I implore you: Your active participation is now required, the fate of S.I.O. is in your hands!

With thanks,
Sincerely yours,

Wolfgang Schneider
Chairman of the Working Group
for the Reorganization of S.I.O.
Darmstadt, 24 April 1997

CONSTITUTION

Final Draft of the Working Group for the Reorganization of S.I.O.

Article I Name and seat

Section 1. The organization known as SOCIETAS INTERNATIONALIS ODONATOLOGICA (S.I.O.), founded on October 23, 1971 in Ghent/Belgium, shall be legally incorporated under German laws in the Register of Associations at the District Court of Lörrach (Germany). After incorporation the Society will bear the addition "e.V." ["eingetragener Verein" = incorporated association].

Section 2. Seat of the Society shall be Rheinfelden (Germany).

Section 3. Fiscal year shall be the calendar year.

Section 4. The official language of the Society shall be English.

Section 5. The emblem of the Society shall be as reproduced in the heading on this document.

Article II Objectives

Section 1. S.I.O. shall be active internationally, serving odonatology and both amateur and professional odonatologists, and shall be without political, religious or

ideological allegiance. The Society does not primarily pursue self-economic interests. Its principle aims shall be:

- a) to promote and encourage the study and conservation of dragonflies (Odonata) and their habitats;
- b) to encourage and facilitate understanding, cooperation and friendship among odonatologists throughout the world and promote collaborative research;
- c) to promote the dissemination of odonatological knowledge by means of symposia, publications and other means of communication.

Section 2. The statutory aims shall be particularly realized through the implementation of scientific events and research projects as well as through the award of research assignments and the award of projects in the area of species and biotope conservation.

Article III Non-profit status

Section 1. The S.I.O. is a non-profit association, being organized and operated exclusively for scientific and educational purposes. It shall pursue exclusively and directly charitable purposes within the meaning of the paragraph "tax-deductible purposes" of the German Tax Order (Article 51 ff AO).

Section 2. Resources of the Society shall be used only for statutory purposes. The members shall receive no shares, and, in their capacity as members, no grants from resources of the Society. They shall receive on notice of resignation or at dissolution of the Society no compensation for their membership.

Section 3. No person may be favoured through expenditures, which are foreign to the purpose of the Society, or through disproportionately high compensations.

Section 4. The Society offices shall be honorary.

Article IV Membership

Section 1. The membership of the Society shall consist of Ordinary Members, Student Members, Supporting Members, and Affiliated Members. All fees shall be determined by the General Meeting upon advice from the Treasurer.

- a) Ordinary Members shall be individuals who are interested in Odonata and who support the objectives of the Society.
- b) Student Members shall be pupils, students and other trainees at recognized institutions. Each Student member shall pay to the Society reduced annual dues.

- c) Supporting Members shall be individuals who support the objectives of the Society. They shall pay to the Society increased annual dues.
- d) Any association that is willing to support the objectives of S.I.O. and to pay an annual subscription, as determined by the General Meeting, may become an Affiliated Member. Individual members of such associations shall not be eligible to assume the offices of the Society, they may not vote and they shall not receive the Society publications. An Affiliated Member may send a delegate to the General Meeting and will receive a copy of the Society newsletter.
- e) Life membership may be available to members who choose to make a one-off lump sum payment at a rate to be set by the Executive.

Section 2. Applications for membership shall be made in writing to the Secretary. In extremely unusual circumstances, the Secretary may consider an applicant unsuitable, in which case a final decision shall be reached by a simple majority vote of the Executive Committee. Affiliated members shall be appointed by the Executive Committee by a simple majority vote; they need approval by the General Meeting. Applicants who are not of age require the signature of one of their parents or legal guardians.

Article V

Rights and responsibilities of members

Section 1. Members shall have the right to participate in all events of the Society and to use its services.

Section 2. Each member shall have the right to vote, shall be authorized to make written applications before and verbal or written motions during General Meetings, and, if at least eighteen years old, shall be eligible to hold office (except for Affiliated Members).

Section 3. Each Affiliated Member shall be represented by one delegate with one vote.

Section 4. Each paid-up member shall receive a free copy of the Society newsletter and shall be entitled to receive other Society publications at least at reduced rates.

Section 5. Each member shall pay an annual membership fee, to be paid one year in advance by January 1st. The rate shall be determined by the Executive Committee.

Article VI

Governing Bodies

Section 1. Governing bodies of the Society shall be:

- the General Meeting and
- the Executive Committee.

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Article VII

The General Meeting

(G.M.)

Section 1. The Society shall hold biennial General Meetings.

Section 2. The General Meeting shall be responsible for:

- a) the appointment of the Nominating Committee,
- b) the relief of the current Officers of the Society,
- c) the election of two Auditors,
- d) the appointment of two Minute Recorders,
- e) the appointment of Special Topic Groups,
- f) the appointment of Standing Committees,
- g) the approval of Affiliated Members, and
- h) the establishment of S.I.O. Priority Projects as defined in the Bylaws.

Section 3. Members will receive notification, via the Society newsletter, of the forthcoming G.M. Notification will be sent out in writing no later than three months before the Meeting, together with the agenda, listing motions that are to be voted upon.

Section 4. Under special circumstances the Executive Committee may convene an Extraordinary General Meeting. The Committee shall be obliged to convene such a meeting, should this be demanded by at least 20% of members under specification of reasons and agenda.

Section 5. The duly assembled G.M. shall be quorate regardless of the number of members in attendance. Decisions are made on the basis of applications, motions or amendments by the simple majority vote of those attending members eligible to vote. Each member has one vote. A member who is also the delegate of an Affiliated Member has two votes. In the event of a tie the respective application or motion shall be rejected.

Section 6. The General Meeting may delegate the appointment of a certain Special Topic Group or a certain Standing Committee (except Nominating Committee) to the Executive Committee. Reports will be received from RPF, YIP, INOI, I.O.R.I., Special Topic Groups and each Regional Representative.

Article VIII

The Executive Committee

Section 1. The Executive Committee shall consist of the following Officers:

- the President,
- the President-Elect,

the Past-President,
the Secretary,
the Treasurer and
the Managing Editor.

Section 2. The Executive Committee shall be elected by the membership per postal vote. Nominations for the Officers of the Society shall be made by a Nominating Committee. The President-Elect shall serve for two years and then, automatically, assume the offices of President and Past-President in succession, each for a further period of two years. The retiring Past-President shall not be immediately eligible for re-election as President-Elect. The Secretary, Treasurer and Managing Editor shall each serve for two years and shall be eligible for immediate re-election. Officers whose tenures end upon completion of their term of office shall remain in office until new Officers are duly elected. An Officer shall not hold more than one office.

Section 3. The Society shall be represented legally and out of court (within the meaning of § 26 German Civil Code) by the Secretary and the Treasurer, either of whom shall be authorized to represent the Society.

Section 4. The Executive Committee may hold meetings as may be deemed necessary. They shall be convened by the Secretary. All Officers must participate in any significant decision unless the President decides that any Officer cannot be reached. Then all the rest must participate. These meetings shall be open to all S.I.O. members, and, unless the integrity of a person may be touched, any member shall be allowed to attend meetings as a non-voting and non-participating observer. Should significant matters need to be discussed, Regional Representatives may be invited to participate and also a delegate from each of the associated bodies mentioned in the Bylaws. Apart from meetings, decisions may be reached by telephone, fax, e-mail or mail ballot. Decisions shall be communicated to the membership via the next issue of the Society newsletter.

Section 5. The Executive Committee shall be responsible for the administration of financial and all other affairs of the Society, decisions being reached by simple majority vote, except for those matters that require endorsement by the General Meeting. When necessary, the President shall have a casting vote.

Section 6. Membership fees are recommended by the Treasurer and subject to approval by the Executive Committee.

Section 7. The membership may relieve an Officer from office by vote of no-confidence in the event of grave failure or inability to perform statutory duties. The decision would require a simple majority vote by mail ballot from the membership. In case of need the President shall be replaced by the President-Elect who shall then serve an extra term. Motions for a vote of no-confidence shall be submitted to the Secretary or the

President in writing; they shall be supported by the signatures of at least five members to be valid. Article XIV shall be applied accordingly.

Section 8. At the expiration of his/her term of office, each Officer shall deliver to his/her successor all books, papers, funds, manuscripts, and vouchers belonging to the Society.

Article IX

The Nominating Committee

Section 1. The Nominating Committee shall be composed of the immediate Past-President (or if he/she is unable to serve, the next most recent Past-President) and three other members-at-large, who serve for two years and are eligible for re-election. The Committee will be chaired by the Past-President, who is ex officio and not elected by the G.M. The other members will be appointed during the G.M. The Committee shall decide by simple majority vote (present or by mail ballot). When necessary, the chairperson shall have a casting vote. Except for the Past-President, no member of the Nominating Committee shall be an Officer of the Society.

Section 2. The Nominating Committee will seek nominations for election or re-election and will ascertain that the proposed nominees agree to accept office if elected. In case of vacancies the Nominating Committee normally shall nominate at least two candidates. Elections will be by postal vote. The Nominating Committee will produce a list of nominations and, at the same time, invite further nominations. This will be circulated to members, with the issue of the Society newsletter preceding the edition which will contain the voting form. Nominations must be received by the Secretary within six weeks of the mailing date. Each nomination shall be supported by the signatures of five members and include the written consent of the nominee. Should more than one person be nominated for any office, their names shall be arranged alphabetically on a voting form. This will be included in the newsletter despatched to members at least six months prior to the forthcoming G.M., and completed voting forms must be received by the Secretary within six weeks of the mailing date. Candidates who receive the majority of votes for each office, shall be declared elected by the President during the G.M. Write-ins on ballots are not permitted.

Section 3. The Nominating Committee shall also act as the Arbitration Board of the Society. Any member shall have the right to appeal to the Arbitration Board in the event of any dispute. The Board shall reach a verdict after carefully weighing all known aspects of the dispute. The verdict shall be binding upon the Society and all its members.

Article X Verification

Section 1. Proceedings of the Executive Committee Meetings and of the G.M. shall be recorded by one or two Minute Recorders and signed as a true record by the Chairperson, Secretary and Recorders.

Article XI The Bylaws

Section 1. Other matters affecting the conduct of the Society shall be determined by the Bylaws.

Article XII Publications

Section 1. The publications of the Society shall include a newsletter, a Proceedings, and a journal.

- a) The newsletter shall be called SELYSIA. It shall be an informal publication, distributed semi-annually or at other times as considered appropriate.
- b) The Proceedings shall be called ADVANCES IN ODONATOLOGY. It shall be released on a biennial or annual basis.
- c) The journal may be called ODONATOLOGICA or may be produced under another name (subject to decision by the membership), and be published two or four times a year. It will contain original papers covering research in all fields of odontology. Its production (including selection of a printer) shall be in the hands of the Managing Editor. Its distribution and price will be determined by the Executive Committee. The journal may be produced by a publisher.

Section 2. There shall be an Editorial Board, the members of which shall be appointed by the Managing Editor subject to approval by the Executive Committee each for a term up to four calendar years.

Section 3. The Society may in furtherance of its stated objectives, publish such journals, monographs, handbooks, or other publications as the Executive Committee may determine, within the aims of the Society.

Section 4. Back numbers of all S.I.O. publications shall be considered the property of the Society.

Article XIII Termination of membership

Section 1. Membership shall cease by means of written termination. This must be presented to the Secretary at least two months before the end of a calendar year. In

addition membership terminates upon death of a member.

Section 2. A member may be excluded by a unanimous decision of the Executive Committee if the member damages the reputation of the Society, counteracts its aims or does not carry out his/her duties. The person affected may appeal against exclusion to the Arbitration Board.

Section 3. Members one year in arrears in the payment of dues shall be removed from the membership list by the Treasurer. Such members may be reinstated upon payment of sums owed plus the current dues.

Article XIV Enactment of & Amendments to the Constitution

Section 1. A change to the Constitution may be proposed, in writing, by any member of the Society. The proposal shall be circulated with a statement from the Executive Committee to the members in the following issue of Selysia, at least six months prior to the forthcoming G.M. The Constitution or any part thereof may be amended or repealed by a two thirds majority in a postal ballot of the membership, and completed voting forms must be received by the Secretary within six weeks of the mailing date. Write-ins on ballots are not permitted. A quorum shall be defined as 10% of the membership eligible to vote. In case of failing the quorum the forthcoming General Meeting shall decide by a two thirds majority vote of those attending members eligible to vote.

Section 2. The results of the poll shall be stated by the Nominating Committee. All validated changes shall be published in SELYSIA.

Section 3. The Executive Committee may decide on the Secretary's advice that written applications or motions shall be decided by postal vote of the whole membership, provided they are not proposed while the G.M. is in session. The voting procedure shall be carried out according to Section 1.

Section 4. The Constitution, as it is represented here, was adopted by the membership per postal vote, on 15 June 1997, whereupon it became effective.

Article XV Dissolution

Section 1. To dissolve the Society, the agreement of 75% of members attending a duly convened General Meeting shall be necessary. An application concerning dissolution of the Society

- a) may be proposed by the Executive Committee or

- b) may be submitted by any member to the Executive Committee, in writing, at least six months before the forthcoming regular G.M.,

and shall be circulated by the Secretary to the membership well in advance of a duly convened G.M.

Section 2. Upon dissolution of the Society or discontinuation of privileged tax concessions, liquidation shall be carried out by those Officers holding office at the moment of agreement.

Section 3. Upon dissolution of the Society or discontinuation of privileged tax concessions, the remaining assets will be exclusively distributed to the World Wildlife Fund (WWF, German Section) with seat in Frankfurt (on the Main). The WWF shall use these assets exclusively and directly for charitable purposes. Should this body cease to exist, any assets remaining after the satisfaction of any proper debts and liabilities shall be given or transferred, after consent of the appropriate Revenue Office, to such other charitable institutions having objects similar to those of S.I.O. as the Executive may determine and, if and in so far as effect cannot be given to this provision, then to some other charitable purpose.

Article XVI Provisional regulations

Section 1. In compliance with the outgoing Constitution as approved on 21 September 1973 at Karlsruhe, the following sections are included unless or until they are amended or repealed:

- a) According to Art. VI, (1) of the outgoing Constitution, ODONATOLOGICAL ABSTRACTS shall remain the property of the Society unless or until the Executive Committee reaches another decision by a simple majority of votes [cf. Appendix (1)]. (N.B. The journal NOTULAE ODONATOLOGICAE was not mentioned in the old Constitution but it shall be treated in the same manner.)
- b) According to Art. VII (1) and VII (2) of the outgoing Constitution, the assets of the Society, as compiled by the then Treasurer at the Business Meeting on 24 August 1995 in Essen, and as published in Selysia 23(2), shall remain the property of the Society unless or until the membership reaches another decision by a simple majority of votes. [cf. Appendix (2).]
- c) Honorary Members, elected under Art. II(b) of the outgoing Constitution, shall, if they wish, be entitled to keep that status and its privileges for life [cf. Appendix (3).]
- d) The procedure concerning nominations for elected posts, as regulated in Art. 2 (c) of the outgoing By-Laws, shall be valid for the first Executive Committee to be elected in 1997 [cf. Appendix (4).]

- e) The deadline for dispatch of the initial voting forms concerning current Constitution and Bylaws shall be fixed as 2 May 1997. Completed voting forms must be received by the Secretary-General within six weeks of the deadline.

Section 2. In the absence of the Nominating Committee, the Society's "Working Group for the Reorganization of S.I.O." shall be empowered to announce and organize the following procedures in time, according to German Civil Code:

- poll of the 1997 Executive Committee;
- poll of the 1997 Constitution, Bylaws and other written applications or motions.

The Working Group shall carry out the counting of votes and take the minutes at a location open to the membership. The results and all documents shall be disclosed during the 1997 General Meeting at Maribor (Slovenia), and Candidates who receive the majority of votes for each office shall be declared elected by the President.

Section 3. The current Secretary-General shall be eligible to initiate the voting procedures according to Articles XII, Section 1(c) and XVI, Section 1(b), to be dispatched to the membership on 2 May 1997 at the latest.

Section 4. The current President elected at the 1995 Business Meeting in Essen (Germany) shall preside at the 1997 General Meeting in Maribor (Slovenia). After the effective date of the Constitution the current Council elected in 1995 shall not be empowered to make any decisions that may affect future activities of the Society beyond the 1997 General Meeting. Such decisions shall exclusively be reserved to the Executive Committee elected by membership in 1997.

Section 5. For the rest, the outgoing Constitution of Karlsruhe is repealed.

Appendix

(1) Article VI (1) of the outgoing Constitution runs as follows:

"The Society will publish a journal ODONATOLOGICA and ODONATOLOGICAL ABSTRACTS".

(2) Articles VII (1) and VII (2) of the outgoing Constitution run as follows:

"1. Sources of the Society are:

- a) Membership fees; b) Subscription fees to the journal Odonatologica; c) special charges for pages, illustrations etc. for the journal; d) the sale of other publications; e) miscellaneous other sources.

2. All funds collected are the property of the Society, together with all material purchased with revenues mentioned above".

(3) Article II (1b) of the outgoing Constitution runs as follows:

"Four types of membership are recognized: ...
b) Honorary Membership, on election".

(4) Article 2 (c) of the outgoing By-Laws runs as follows:

"Council may produce a list of nominations for the elected posts. These will normally be made available, together with a request for any further nominations, to the membership at least five months before the biennial Plenary Business Meeting. Nominations must be received by the Secretary-General within eight weeks of the mailing date. Each nomination must be supported in writing by two voting members and include the written consent of the nominee. A voting slip will be circulated promptly after the closing date for the receipt of nominations. To be valid all votes must be received by the Secretary-General within six weeks of the mailing date. The results of the election will be announced at the Plenary Business Meeting and the membership duly informed. The new Council will take office immediately following the Plenary Business Meeting".

Darmstadt (Germany), 15 June 1997

Signatures of Members of the Working Group for the Reorganization of S.I.O.:

BYLAWS

Draft of the Working Group for the Reorganization of S.I.O.

Article 1

Responsibilities of the Executive Committee

- (1) The Executive Committee shall regulate all affairs of the Society between successive General Meetings. It shall execute and administer such affairs, paying strict attention to decisions taken at the G.M. and, at all times, abiding by the Constitution.
- (2) The newly elected Officers shall take office immediately after the business session of the biennial G.M. and hold office until the end of the next one. The Officers shall be expected to maintain close communication with one another and, when a decision is required, to respond immediately. Each Officer shall be authorized to represent the Society outwardly. The Executive Committee shall be responsible for authorizing any expenditures by the Treasurer other than regular pay-

ments. It shall be empowered to fill any vacancy on the Executive unless a new Officer has been elected.

- (3) The Executive Committee shall be responsible for nominating the Society's representative on the Odonata Specialist Group of the Species Survival Commission of the I.U.C.N., and, in consultation with the Director, the Policy Board of I.O.R.I.
- (4) The President shall discharge the usual duties of a presiding Officer at the meetings of the Society and the Executive Committee. He/she shall be member ex officio of all other committees, except the Nominating Committee. He/she may appoint also delegates to other learned societies, congresses, and conventions. The President may chair General Meetings during his/her term of office or appoint a chairman ad hoc, preferably the President-Elect or the Past-President. The President shall also act in an advisory capacity to Regional Offices and Affiliated Organizations, ready to solve any problems to the best of his ability.
- (5) The President-Elect shall perform the duties of the President during any period when the President is unable to fulfil the duties of that office. In the event that both the President and President-Elect are absent at a meeting, the President may appoint another member of the Executive Committee to serve as presiding Officer (for further duties see Article 1[6]).
- (6) The Past-President shall perform some special duties delegated to him/her by the Executive, particularly sharing the following tasks with the President-Elect: Coordinator of the International Symposium of Odonatology; responsibility for RPF, YIP, I.O.R.I. and for the Sponsored Membership Programme.
- (7) The Secretary shall keep the records and files of the Society. He/she shall: produce the minutes of Society and Executive Committee meetings and be responsible for the appointment of minute recorders; attend to all general correspondence; prepare and distribute ballots; perform services delegated to him/her by the Executive; be responsible for notifying members of meetings, deadlines, and all other such items as and when required. He/she shall assist the presiding Officer at the meetings of the Society and the Executive.
- (8) The Treasurer shall receive all monies for the Society and shall deposit them in the name of the Society in such banking institutions as the Executive shall direct. He/she shall: pay therefrom, by draft or cheque, all bills and obligations of the Society; have custody of all funds of the Society; and make routine disbursements as required. Unusual disbursements and/or investments shall be made only with the concurrence of the Executive Committee. He/she shall: keep an account of receipts and disbursements; present a statement of the receipts and expenditures and funds for the past two years at the G. M.; be responsible for the calls for dues, and maintain the record of names and addresses of members. Bonafide expenses of Officers of S.I.O. shall be reimbursed at the discretion of the Treasurer.

- (9) The Managing Editor shall assume editorial responsibility for the publication and quality of Society publications. He/she shall be responsible for selecting and delegating the duties of any subject editors.
- (10) The Officers otherwise shall regulate their allocation of tasks among themselves.
- (11) The Executive Committee shall set up the S.I.O. SECRETARIAT, to be headed by the Secretary. It should act as the central administration office of the Society.
- (12) The Executive Committee shall set up the S.I.O. FINANCE & NETWORK OFFICE, to be headed by the Treasurer. It should act as the finance office of the Society as well as the central coordination office of all S.I.O. network activities.
- (13) The Executive Committee shall be authorized to found, and, if necessary, register an S.I.O. PUBLISHING HOUSE which should serve primarily for editing scientific journals and books, and which shall be headed by the Managing Editor.
- (14) The Executive Committee may, should such a position be deemed necessary and should sufficient funds become available, employ a salaried Manager to be responsible for management of S.I.O. activities. The Executive shall determine the Manager's area of responsibility by employment contract. The Manager shall participate in all Executive Committee meetings in a non-voting capacity and report to the Executive.

Article 2 Regional Offices

- (1) In countries/regions where circumstances make it appropriate the G.M. may appoint a Regional Representative.
- (2) The primary responsibility of the Regional Representative shall be to operate a Regional Office, to assure timely communication of Society business to S.I.O. members in the respective country/region, and generally to assist communication among odonatologists and promote knowledge of Odonata there.
- (3) The Regional Representative may establish a Regional Section of S.I.O. to be registered/incorporated as a non-profit/charitable society under the laws of the respective nation, and, if possible, to be accorded tax-exempt status. The Regional Section shall consist of the whole S.I.O. membership of the respective region.
- (4) The membership of each Regional Section shall be empowered to elect the Regional Representative in place of the G.M., and, if stipulated by national laws, may elect a regional Executive Committee and formulate regional statutes. The statutes shall be in general accordance with the Constitution of the Society.
- (5) Regional Representatives shall have the right to be heard at any meeting of the Executive Committee.

- (6) The structure and operation of Regional Offices otherwise shall be decided by the Executive Committee.

Article 3 Affiliated Associations

- (1) According to Art. IV, Sect. 5 of the Constitution, Odonatological Societies and other Odonatological Associations may become affiliated to S.I.O.
- (2) The Association should be encouraged to produce a circular, newsletter or other serial publication. After affiliation the association shall be empowered to include the S.I.O. emblem in its heading.
- (3) The Affiliated Association should keep its members informed of S.I.O. activities.
- (4) Members of Affiliated Associations are not members of S.I.O. The association as a whole is corporate member of S.I.O., being represented by one delegate (cf. Art. V, Sect. 3 of the Constitution).
- (5) All members of S.I.O. will be encouraged to join any Affiliated Association formed in their country.

Article 4 International Symposium of Odonatology

- (1) The Society shall hold biennial INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIA OF ODONATOLOGY. Each Symposium shall be coordinated by an Officer (Coordinator). It shall be managed by the host country's Organizing Staff, headed by an Organizing Secretary, with support from the Coordinator. The venue of each Symposium shall be decided at least two, and preferably four, years in advance by the Coordinator with the agreement of the Executive Committee. The venue of the following Symposium shall have been arranged by the Coordinator with the agreement of the Executive and finally scheduled at the G.M.
- (2) The Coordinator shall have overall responsibility for the biennial Symposia. He/she shall do everything possible to assist the Organizing Secretary and his/her team with advice, publicity, and backing of the Society in attempts to obtain sponsorship, etc. He/she shall also be responsible for obtaining invitations from members to hold future symposia in their respective countries, and for ascertaining the suitability of offered accommodation, facilities and the capabilities of the proposed hosts. He/she shall ensure that the necessary details of enrolment, accommodation, etc. are in the hands of the Secretary, in order that they may be published at the appropriate time in SELYSIA.
- (3) The Symposium may not conflict in timing with the International Congress of Entomology.

- (4) The biennial G.M. shall be incorporated in the Symposium programme. It shall have been convened by the Secretary and advertised in SELYSIA. The Secretary shall be empowered to reserve the period of time necessary for the G.M. No event is allowed to take place at the same time as the G.M.

Article 5 Publications

- (1) The Society shall publish a newsletter SELYSIA. The newsletter shall be devoted primarily to notices by members, continuous membership list, announcements of nominations, applications and motions to the Society, proposals for changes of Constitution and Bylaws, committee appointments, forthcoming meetings, and other similar matters of interest to members.
- (2) The newsletter shall appear at least twice a year and shall be sent gratis to all members. It shall contain among other matters all decisions and important activities of the G.M., the Executive Committee, the Regional Offices and Regional Sections, the Special Topic Groups, and the Standing Committees.
- (3) The newsletter shall be edited, managed and distributed by the Secretary or by an editor appointed by the Executive Committee.
- (4) Other publications may be produced at regular intervals or from time to time, under the direction of the Managing Editor and with approval by the Executive Committee. In all cases, the print run and price of publications shall be determined by financial considerations.
- (5) The publications of the Society shall be under the charge of an Editorial Board. The Editorial Board shall consist of the Managing Editor, subject editors as appointed, plus two other members-at-large of the Society, to be appointed for a term up to four calendar years, all of whom may be reappointed. The Editorial Board shall determine the broad publication policies of the Society. The Managing Editor shall be chairperson ex officio of the Editorial Board.
- (6) Members of the Society shall not be bound to subscribe to the Society journal or any other publication. Non-members may receive the newsletter at a price to be determined by the Treasurer. The prices of all other publications are to be fixed by the Executive Committee.
- (7) The Executive Committee may appoint a Librarian who shall be in charge of the library of the Society, and of all books, periodicals, reprints, and historical material received by the Society. He/she will report to the Executive Committee. The Librarian will make the rules governing use of the library subject to approval by the Executive.

Article 6 S.I.O. Research and Protection Fund (RPF)

- (1) The principal aims of S.I.O. are the promotion of dragonfly research and dragonfly conservation using all available media.
- (2) To realize its aims the Society shall establish the S.I.O. RESEARCH AND PROTECTION FUND (RPF) as a means of providing grants towards the funding of suitable projects.
- (3) Grants will be allocated on the basis of GUIDELINES FOR THE PROMOTION OF PROJECTS which are set down in the Appendix of the Bylaws.
- (4) Funds to support the RPF will be raised from a portion of membership fees, from donations and from monies obtained from business and charitable activities. Members shall be expected to assist by promoting the Society and soliciting donations. The Executive shall ensure that monies are acquired from business activities.
- (5) Projects shall be limited to cover:
 - a) Research activities in theoretical and applied fields, provided they are of outstanding importance for odonatology;
 - b) Measures concerning biotope and species conservation, preference being given to supraregional significance for the conservation of dragonflies.
- (6) A Standing Committee, to be named the Fund Committee shall be appointed to operate the Fund, in close cooperation with the Treasurer. The Fund Committee shall consist of a chairperson and three members.. The Fund Committee shall report to the G.M.
- (7) The objectives otherwise shall be determined by the Executive Committee.

Article 7 S.I.O. Youth Incentive Programme (YIP)

- (1) The Society shall work to establish a scheme to encourage and reward young people studying Odonata. The scheme shall bear the name S.I.O. YOUTH INCENTIVE PROGRAMME (YIP). The range of awards shall be at the discretion of the Executive Committee.
- (2) THE S.I.O. YOUTH INCENTIVE PROGRAMME shall be based on an annual award programme, established primarily to support young enthusiasts, graduate students and young professionals with awards each for significant basic research in Odonata and given innovative presentation of findings.
- (3) The Fund Committee [see Article 6 (6)] shall operate the YIP, in close cooperation with the Treasurer. Two

judges, appointed by the Fund Committee, shall be responsible for the identification of suitable contestants and the annual awards. They shall announce annual calls for applicants.

- (4) Operational details will be decided upon by the Fund Committee and Treasurer, following Executive approval.

Article 8

The International Network of Odonatological Information (INOI)

- (1) The Society aims at promoting the diffusion of scientific knowledge concerning Odonata by means of publications and other methods of communication. For realization of this purpose the Society shall establish THE INTERNATIONAL NETWORK OF ODONATOLOGICAL INFORMATION (INOI).
- (2) Main purpose of INOI shall be to set up an S.I.O. homepage, including major information about the Society and links to other Odonata homepages, and to establish an Odonata Database (ODAT), containing among other things:
 - the Odonata World Checklist and other information on dragonfly systematics;
 - the Odonata World Bibliography;
 - electronic publications, e.g. newsletters, journals, abstracts of papers, outstanding publications, etc.;
- (3) The aim of INOI is to become the centre of major information about S.I.O. and about Odonata on a computerized basis. Each professional and amateur member should be able to communicate with INOI on different levels: on the one hand providing ODAT with information, on the other hand getting information from the database. Information shall be available mainly via electronic media (internet, e-mail, CD-ROM, diskette), but also via printing media.
- (4) The S.I.O. Finance & Network Office shall be defined as INOI coordination centre. The Office may appoint webmasters and assistants for setting up internet and other network activities, if necessary.
- (5) The objectives otherwise shall be settled by the Executive Committee.

Article 9

Sponsored-member Programme

- (1) Salaries in some places are not only very low, they are sometimes not paid at all. The Society shall establish a programme which should provide dues for fellow members, where funds are limited or western currencies

are difficult or impossible to obtain. This programme shall bear the name SPONSORED-MEMBER PROGRAMME.

- (2) Sponsored membership may be available to individuals who find it difficult to join or to remain in the Society because of currency or other restrictions. Their membership shall be supported by the Society, largely through payments made on their behalf by S.I.O. members. They can do this either by paying for a named individual or by donating a sum to be used at the Society's discretion.
- (3) The objectives otherwise shall be settled by the Executive Committee.

Article 10

International Odonata Research Institute (I.O.R.I.)

- (1) The Society shall maintain the INTERNATIONAL ODONATA RESEARCH INSTITUTE (I.O.R.I.), which shall house the collections and library of the Society.
- (2) The I.O.R.I. is an integral institution of S.I.O. and as such is subject to S.I.O. regulations. Although financially autonomous, it may receive financial support from S.I.O.
- (3) Further details are set down in separate regulations.

Article 11

Finances

- (1) All funds collected by the Society must be spent for the benefit of the Society and its activities. A detailed account of all revenues and expenses shall be prepared by the Treasurer on a biennial basis, approved by a regularly convened General Meeting. This account shall be audited by two members elected at the G.M. The Auditors should reside within a reasonable distance of the Treasurer, and, if possible (i.e., if willing members meeting the residence requirement are available), should have professional financial experience. They will hold office during the entire period between two consecutive G.Ms of the Society.
- (2) Loans will be accepted by the Society only with unanimous prior approval of the Executive Committee. Any loan shall require precise specification of its terms, including rate of interest and the date at which repayment will be expected.
- (3) Apart from donations received for specific projects within the framework of RPF, all other donations will be accepted by the Treasurer only if given unconditionally. If a gift is accompanied by conditions, it can be accepted only by approval of the Executive.
- (4) The Society shall not make any financial gift or bonus to any of its members.

- (5) The annual dues to the Society shall be recommended by the Treasurer and subject to approval by the Executive. In case of non-payment of dues by March 1st of the year for which they apply, publications may be withheld until payment is made; publications may not be withheld from members in good standing for any other reason. Dues may be waived or reduced upon request at the discretion of the Executive.

Article 12

Enactment of & Amendments to the Bylaws

- (1) The Bylaws and their appendices, as they are presented here, were adopted by the membership per postal vote, on 15 June 1997, whereupon they became effective.
- (2) Any member may propose in writing a new Bylaw to the Executive Committee. Such a proposed Bylaw shall be submitted with a statement of the Executive to the members.
- (3) The Bylaws may be amended or repealed in a postal ballot of the membership by simple majority vote. Mail ballots shall be included in SELYSIA dispatched to members at least six months prior to the forthcoming G.M., and completed voting forms must be received by the Secretary within six weeks of the mailing date. A quorum shall be defined as 10% of the membership eligible to vote; in case of failing the quorum the forthcoming General Meeting shall decide. All validated changes shall be published in SELYSIA.
- (4) The outgoing S.I.O. By-Laws are hereby repealed.

Appendix

GUIDELINES FOR THE PROMOTION OF PROJECTS

1. General principles

- (1) Three types of project fall within the aegis of Bylaw Article 6's S.I.O. Research & Protection Fund (RPF):
 - a) General projects are those that can be accomplished on the initiative of persons or groups of persons, and which deserve to be promoted.
 - b) Donated projects originate through a sponsor who makes a donation with a specific project in mind. The sum donated which should not be less than the equivalent of DEM 500, shall be treated as a separate fund that can be augmented by further donations but which can be used for no other purpose than that specified, without the agreement of the donor or in the event of the project being satisfactorily accomplished.
 - c) S.I.O. Priority Projects are projects of outstanding importance which require endorsement by the G.M. For such projects a special fund shall be raised.

- (2) It is assumed that applicants for the funding of projects will apply to other sources, such as research societies and nature conservation bodies, before applying to S.I.O.

2. Granting regulations

- (1) The award of a grant requires the approval of the Fund Committee in each individual case.
- (2) Applicants for grants may approach the Fund Committee who will advise them of the necessary procedures.
- (3) Grants shall be considered upon receipt of five copies of a written application giving full and comprehensive details of what is proposed.
- (4) Grants are awarded with the provision that they may be withdrawn at any point at the discretion of the Fund Committee.
- (5) Grants may be used only for the purpose described in the application. A change of the intended purpose is permissible only with consent of the Fund Committee and should consent not be given, the grant shall be repaid.
- (6) The Fund Committee is authorized to check the expenditure of grants. The recipient may be required to submit receipts and to disclose any relevant information regarding progress.
- (7) On conclusion of the project, a summary is to be submitted for publication in SELYSIA.
- (8) In a long-term project, interim reports may be demanded at the discretion of the Executive.
- (9) A full report on the results of a promoted project should be published in an appropriate S.I.O. publication.
- (10) Members of the Fund Committee shall not benefit financially from RPF grants.

3. Promotion

- (1) Projects will be examined by the Fund Committee who may call upon experts to judge whether a project is worthy of promotion.
- (2) The measures needed to promote each project shall be determined by the individual circumstances.
- (3) Approved "Donated projects" and "S.I.O. Priority Projects" will be announced in SELYSIA.
- (4) The Fund Committee shall determine the measures needed to be taken to promote a project, judging each project on its own individual merits.

Darmstadt (Germany), 15 June 1997

Signatures of Members of the Working Group for the Reorganization of S.I.O.:

INTERNATIONAL ODONATA RESEARCH INSTITUTE (I.O.R.I.)

CHANGES TO THE APPLICATION OF THE WORKING GROUP (SEE SELYSIA 24[2], PP. 27-28)

The text of respective paragraphs is to be replaced by the following text:

(2) The I.O.R.I. will harbour the S.I.O.'s Odonata collection, library and archives (in cooperation with the S.I.O. librarian), and may ultimately also encompass the primary concentration of the S.I.O.'s research activities.

f) The basic publication of the I.O.R.I. is its "Biennial Report". Other incidental and serial publications may be produced when required. The coordination of the publication programme with that of the general S.I.O. publication programme shall be subject to agreement between S.I.O. Executive and the I.O.R.I. Director.

(5) Benefits of the association with the Florida State Collection of Arthropods (F.S.C.A.) include free and complete access to F.S.C.A. collections and the opportunity to liaise with F.S.C.A. staff and research workers.

(6) [correct the word "Unterstanting" by "Understanding"]

NOMINATIONS FOR ELECTED POSTS OF COUNCIL / EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The following nominations arrived at the Caretaker Secretary-General in time:

A. Nomination for Council exclusively according to the old Constitution of Karlsruhe, 1973:

1. Secretary-General: Reinhard Jödicke (Germany). The nomination was proposed by Kiyoshi Inoue, seconded by Syoziro Asahina and Mladen Kotarac.

According to the old Constitution, the current President-Elect, Kiyoshi Inoue, will automatically become the future President.

These nominations cease to be valid in case the new Constitution comes into effect.

Neither the Caretaker Secretary-General nor the Second Secretary were informed of further nominations for any post concerning old Constitution. Therefore the posts of President-Elect, Second Secretary and four Ordinary Council Members remain vacant.

B. Nominations for Executive Committee exclusively according to the new Constitution (draft of the Working Group for the Reorganization of S.I.O., printed in present issue of Selysia):

1. President-Elect: Mike Parr (United Kingdom), proposed by Wolfgang Schneider, seconded by Philip Corbet and Jürgen Ott.
2. Secretary: Jill Silsby (United Kingdom), proposed by Wolfgang Schneider, seconded by Werner Piper and Hans-Ruedi Wildermuth.
3. Treasurer: Heiner Lohmann (Germany), proposed by Wolfgang Schneider, seconded by Jean-Guy Pilon and Asmus Schröter.
4. Managing Editor: Henri Dumont (Belgium), proposed by Wolfgang Schneider, seconded by Heiner Lohmann and Hans Klaus Pfau.

According to the new Constitution, the current President-Elect, Kiyoshi Inoue, will automatically become the future President; the current President, Jean-Guy Pilon, will automatically become the future Past-President. These nominations cease to be valid in case the new Constitution does not come into effect.

VOTING PROCEDURE FOR THE NEW CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

According to Article XIV, Section 1 in context with Article XVI, Sections 1e, 2 and 3 of the draft Constitution, published in the present issue of SELYSIA, the new statutes may be accepted by a two thirds majority (Constitution) respectively a simple majority of votes (Bylaws) in a postal ballot of the membership. Write-ins on ballots are not permitted. A quorum has been defined as 10% of the membership eligible to vote by 2 May 1997 (date of dispatch). If a quorum is not achieved the 1997 Business Meeting in Maribor has to decide by a two thirds majority vote (Constitution) respectively a simple majority of votes (Bylaws) of those attending members eligible to vote.

Completed voting forms must be received by the Caretaker Secretary-General within six weeks of the mailing date. Therefore the deadline of receipt has been fixed by the Working Group to be 13 June 1997.

After having validated the draft Constitution, the appropriate authority at the court of competent jurisdiction declared the above voting procedure legal. The old Constitution does not matter for the voting procedure any more.

If the Constitution is accepted the Working Group will immediately apply for incorporation in the register of

associations at the District Court of Lörrach (Germany) and for tax-free status at the Revenue Office in Lörrach.

VOTING ON THE ASSETS OF S.I.O.

According to Article XVI, Sections 1b and 3 of the draft Constitution, published in the present issue of SELYSIA, the assets of the Society as compiled by the then Treasurer at the Business Meeting on 24 August 1995 in Essen, and as published in SELYSIA 23(2), shall remain the property of the Society unless or until the membership reaches another decision by a simple majority of votes. The Caretaker Secretary-General has initiated the voting procedure on the assets of the Society. The three alternatives laid down under position IV of the enclosed voting form reflect the different main opinions and proposals of Council Members, option 2 representing the position of the Working Group for the Reorganization of S.I.O. The decision of the membership shall be binding upon the Society and future actions of the Executive Committee. The decision shall repeal the so-called "option 1 referendum" of Prof. Kiauta as published in SELYSIA 23(2), footnote p. 16.

VOTING ON THE FATE OF THE SOCIETY'S SCIENTIFIC JOURNAL

According to Article XII, Section 1c in context with Article XVI, Section 3 of the draft Constitution, published in the present issue of SELYSIA, the Society's journal may be called ODONATOLOGICA or may be produced under another name (subject to decision by the membership). The Caretaker Secretary-General has initiated the voting procedure on the fate of the journal. The three alternatives laid down under position V of the enclosed voting form reflect the different main opinions and proposals of Council Members, option 1 representing the position of the Working Group for the Reorganization of S.I.O. The decision of the membership shall be binding upon the Society and future actions of the Executive Committee. The decision shall repeal the so-called "option 1 referendum" of Prof. Kiauta as published in SELYSIA 23(2), footnote p. 16.

RESULTS OF THE VOTING (POLLS)

According to Article XVI, Section 2 of the draft Constitution, published in the present issue of SELYSIA, the Working Group for the Reorganization of S.I.O. is empowered to announce and organize the following procedures in time, according to German Civil Code:

- poll of the 1997 Executive Committee;

Selysia 25(1)

- poll of the 1997 Constitution, Bylaws and other written applications or motions.

The Working Group will carry out the counting of votes, state the results of the polls and take the minutes at the "Hessisches Landesmuseum" in Darmstadt (Germany), Friedensplatz 1, on 15 June 1997, under the chairmanship of Wolfgang Schneider. The location will be open to the membership, and any member is welcome to participate; participants are requested to notify the Chairman. All voting results and all documents will be disclosed during the 1997 General Meeting in Maribor (Slovenia), and candidates who receive the majority of votes will be declared elected by the President, Jean-Guy Pilon.

S.I.O. PRIORITY PROJECT FOR RPF: "MATING SYSTEMS IN ODONATA" in memoriam Peter Miller†

Application to the Maribor General Meeting by Philip Corbet and Heiner Lohmann

If the new statutes will have been accepted by membership, the Society shall establish an S.I.O. Priority Project, according to Article 6 of the new Bylaws (S.I.O. Research and Protection Fund, RPF), and in connection with the Appendix to the Bylaws "Guidelines for the Promotion of Projects", item 1c. The project shall bear the title "Mating systems in Odonata" and be dedicated to Peter Miller†. It requires endorsement by the General Meeting.

Outline of the project:

Mating systems describe the way individuals enhance their inclusive fitness through reproductive behaviour. Research on mating systems includes study of morphology, behaviour and physiology related to topics such as:

- localisation and territorial behaviour;
- male-female encounter;
- recognition of species and sex;
- copulation;
- function and evolution of genital structures;
- sperm competition;
- pre- and postcopulatory behaviour, including guarding;
- lifetime reproductive success.

In the applicants' opinion the proposed project could strengthen a field of central importance in research, and merits special funding.

One of our intentions in proposing this Priority Project is to mark the immense and distinguished contribution made by the late Peter Miller, whose elegant research has illuminated this field of odonatology. To establish this Project would, we believe, be in keeping with Peter's

personal dedication to helping other odonatologists to pursue research of high quality.

Prof. Dr Philip S. Corbet, Crean Mill, Crean, St Buryan, Penzance, Cornwall TR 19 6HA, U.K.
Heinrich Lohmann, Basler Str. 11, D-79618 Rheinfelden, Germany

S.I.O. GOES INTERNET

S.I.O. now goes internet, by an attractive homepage and 30 webpages including the last two issues of SELYSIA, a list of current Council Members, contents of ODONATOLOGICA etc., most constituent items being still under construction. Within two weeks more than 140 persons visited the new homepage and four of them are interested in joining S.I.O. The new homepage has been established as a pilot project of the Working Group for the Reorganization of S.I.O. According to Article 8 of the Working Group's draft of the Bylaws an International Network of Odonatological Information (INOI) shall be established. The main purpose shall be to set up an S.I.O. internet homepage. This project shall not compete, but shall be linked, with other S.I.O. homepages, e.g. those excellent S.I.O. websites established by Bill Mauffrey and Mladen Kotarac. Bill already offered his cooperation in the INOI project and probably will take over some of its tasks. Perhaps we might be able to establish a World Species Checklist based on the Bridges Catalogue and to start with the World Odonata Bibliography as part of the Odonata Database (ODAT) in a few months or even weeks.

Life has now been put into this project, which should grow to be one of the pillars underpinning S.I.O. activities.

Comment of a homepage visitor (Roy Beckemeyer, USA):

"Congratulations! The SIO website is a great step forward for SIO. Thanks you for the work and dedication to the organization."

Of course, first of all the new statutes have to be accepted by the membership to start the INOI project officially and under the leadership of the S.I.O. Finance and Network Office to be defined as the INOI coordination centre. Any member who is willing to participate in this project will be welcome.

Internet main WWW addresses of S.I.O.:

<http://home.t-online.de/home/odonata> (pilot project of Working Group)
<http://www.afn.org/~iori/siointro.html> (SIO/IOI homepage of Bill Mauffrey)

<http://www.2.arnes.si/guest/mbsodonad1/16e.html>
(Maribor Symposium homepage of Mladen Kotarac)
<http://www2.arnes.si/guest/mbsodonad1/18e.html>
(ODONATOLOGICA contents of Mladen Kotarac)

New e-mail address of S.I.O.:

odonata@t-online.de

NEW SPONSOR FOR S.I.O.

The whole sponsorship project of the Rheinfelden Aluminium Plant now will be transposed again from the International Dragonfly Fund (IDF) to S.I.O. This means: S.I.O. will get 5.000.- DEM per annum from the sponsor exclusively for charitable purposes, starting in 1997 and extending to the year 2000. The 1997 grant will be in our hands within a few weeks; so S.I.O. will not become bankrupt.

The Aluminium Plant decided in November 1995 to sponsor S.I.O. and already had transferred DEM 10.000.- to the Society's account. The Revenue Office informed the Treasurer that this grant was not tax-free, because S.I.O. was not accepted as a non-profit organization; so gifts were in danger. Therefore the idea of establishing a new body was born, in order to save the gifts for odonatology. The International Dragonfly Fund received the S.I.O. monies after acceptance of non-profit status by the Revenue Office. Nevertheless it was the Treasurer's clear intention to let the gifts flow again into S.I.O. after successful reorganization. The plant became a dragonfly sponsorship exclusively by the Treasurer's efforts. The Revenue Office recently signalled acceptance of the new S.I.O. Constitution; so a reorganized S.I.O. will acquire non-profit status. Recently the Treasurer talked to the manager of the Plant on the phone. The manager at once agreed to reassign the gifts to S.I.O. Therefore we will be able to start some of our funded projects (RPF, YIP and Sponsored Membership Programme).

The sponsorship will only come into force upon acceptance of the new Constitution. In case of non-acceptance the monies have to be repaid to the sponsor.

ADDITIONS AND CHANGES TO THE LIST OF S.I.O. MEMBERS

New Members

Takayoshi Asano, c/o Dr Takashi Saitou, Animal Ecology Lab., Institute of Biological Sciences, Univ. of Tsukuba, Tennoudai 1-1-1, Tsukuba, Ibaraki Pref., 305, Japan

Mariah Blackhorse, 17612 NE 88th Pl., Redmont, WA 98052, USA
 Dr Seung-Mo Lee, 620-48 Gil-Eum-2 Dong, Seong-Bug-Gu, Seoul, 136-112, Korea
 Kate Miller, 68, Blenheim Drive, Oxford, OX 2 8DQ, United Kingdom
 D.J. Pryce, Moneybrook Lodge, Hereford Rd, Meole Brace, Shrewsbury SY3 9LB, United Kingdom

Change of address

Motoaki Eguchi, Wakunami 4-1-41, 306, Kanazawa, 920, Japan
 Dr. Urs Fränzel, Helleweg 10, D-56729 Langscheid, Germany
 Dr. S. Gorb, Department of Insect Physiology, Schmalhausen Institute of Zoology, Ukrainian Academy of Sciences, B. Chmelnickogo 15, UKR-252601 Kiev, Ukraine
 Takeshi Ide, 190-12, Yodo-kizu-cho, Fishimi-ku, Kyoto, 613, Japan
 Koichiro Izumi, 30-18, Nishi 17-jo Kita 2-chome, Obihiro, 080, Japan
 Dr. Norbert Lenz, Franz-Moser-Str. 2, D-78465 Konstanz, Germany
 Tokihiro Nishida, C-12, Mubanchi, Iwases, Matsudo, Chiba Pref., 271, Japan
 Dr. Hans-Klaus Pfau, Rathenastr. 14, D-65326 Aarbergen, Germany
 Asmus Schröter, Buckweg 4, D-79540 Lörrach, Germany
 Shigekazu Uchida, Lake Biwa Museum, 1091 Oroshimo, Kusatsu, Shiga Pref., 525, Japan
 Dr. Robert Wegmüller, Weinbergstr. 110, CH-8408 Winterthur, Switzerland
 Shinobu Yabu, Faculty of System Engineering, Wakayama University, 930, Sakaedani, Wakayama, 640, Japan

Cancellation of membership

T. Andoh, 5-24 Otowa 1-chome, Ichinomiya, Aichi Pref., 491, Japan
 G. Bechly, Breslauer Str. 30, D-71034 Böblingen, Germany
 D.T.E.A. de Fonseca, 14, Coleridge Road, North Finchley, London N12 8DE, United Kingdom
 S.M. Henson, 26, Blofield Road, Brundall, Norwich NR13 5NN, United Kingdom
 T. Koyata, 2-20-12 Kami-tsuruma, Sagami-hara, Kanagawa Pref., 510, Japan
 Y. Mimura, 70, Mie 7-chome, Yokkaichi, Mie Pref., 510, Japan
 N. Shimizu, 6-4, Meiji 2-chome, Minami-ku, Nagoya, 457, Japan

Current address unknown (Please help with finding the new address!):

Dr. Kenneth W. Knopf, 4108 NW 16th Blvd, Gainesville, FL 32602, USA
 Miss Indu Malhotra, Patiala, Punjab, India

Curt Nimz, P.O. Box 766, Manitou Spring, CO 8029, USA
 Dr Alfonso Ramirez, Apdo Postal 1643-3000, Heredia, Costa Rica.

AGENDA OF THE S.I.O. BUSINESS MEETING/GENERAL MEETING

MARIBOR, 17 JULY 1997

According to old and new statutes, the Secretary-General is obliged to convene a properly advertised Business Meeting or General Meeting. The Agenda is difficult to construct because it differs depending on the results of the polls about new Constitution and Bylaws. Items 1 - 18 are independent of voting results. Case I is valid if the old Constitution remains effective; case II is valid if the new Constitution becomes effective.

1. Appointment of minutes recorders
2. Approval of minutes of the Essen Business Meeting, 1995
3. Modification and/or approval of agenda
4. Results of the votings on Constitution/Bylaws, on the assets of S.I.O., and on the fate of the Society's scientific journal
5. Report of the President
6. Report of the Treasurer
7. Report of auditors
8. Report of the Chairman of the Working Group for the Reorganization of S.I.O.
9. Report from National Offices
10. Report from representative of I.U.C.N. Species Survival Commission
11. Report of the Chairman of Standing Committee of International Symposia
12. Report of the Coordinator of National Offices & Affiliated Associations
13. Discharge of the Council
14. Report of the Secretary of the Symposium Organizing Committee
15. Report and appointment of Special Topic Groups (Working Groups)
16. Report on I.O.R.I.
17. Written applications and motions to be decided:
 - a) I.O.R.I. (Application of Working Group)
18. Approval of Affiliated Members

Case I:

Business Meeting

19. Amendments to Constitution and By-Laws
20. Membership fees and financial estimates, 1997-1999
21. Election of new Council (1997-1999)
22. Election of new Members of Honour
23. Election of auditors (1997-1999)
24. Other business

Case II:**General Meeting**

19. Announcement of the President: Newly elected Executive Committee Members
20. Discussion on the new Constitution and Bylaws
21. Membership fees and financial estimates, 1997-1999
22. Publication programme
23. Report on I.N.O.I. network activities
24. Election of auditors (1997-1999)
25. Appointment of the Nominating Committee (1997-1999)
26. Appointment of Regional Representatives
27. Appointment of the Fund Committee and establishment of S.I.O. Priority Projects for RPF
 - a) Application "Mating Systems" by P. Corbet and H. Lohmann
28. Other business

Heinrich Lohmann

Treasurer and Caretaker Secretary-General

COUNCIL DECISIONS

The Council decided by mail ballot on 31 March 1997:

- (1) "Applicants or Ordinary Members who don't wish to subscribe to Odonatologica shall be accepted as members by paying a 1997 membership fee of DEM 20.-. This Council decision shall be effective provisionally, at the latest, up to the end of the Maribor Business Meeting." (14 Members accepting, 5 Members not accepting, 1 abstention.)
- (2) "After resignation of Martin Schorr as Secretary-General, Mr Heinrich Lohmann shall be caretaker Secretary-General in order to secure preparation of the Maribor Business Meeting as well as to regulate statutory matters concerning the reorganization of

S.I.O. His main tasks will be to convene the properly advertised Maribor Business Meeting via Selysia to be published in April 1997 (cf. Article V of the [old] Constitution) as well as to manage the nomination and election of Council Members, according to Article 2 (c) of the [old] By-Laws, and to initiate the referendum according to Article 13 of the [old] By-Laws. The current President shall preside at the forthcoming Maribor Council Meeting, assisted by the caretaker Secretary-General". (13 Members accepting, 6 Members not accepting, 1 abstention.)

SELYSIA**A NEWSLETTER OF ODONATOLOGY**

Edited by the Working Group for the reorganization of S.I.O., c/o Dr. Wolfgang Schneider, Hessisches Landesmuseum, Zoologie, Friedensplatz 1, D-64283 Darmstadt, Germany.

SELYSIA is designed to disseminate facts and news about the activities of Odonatologists and Odonatology. The name is based upon that of the "Father of Odonatology", Baron Edmont de Sélys-Longchamps. SELYSIA was founded in 1963 by Dr. B. Elwood Montgomery at Purdue University, edited from 1970-1986 by Dr. Minter Westfall, Jr, at the University of Florida, Gainesville, from 1987-1993 by Dr. Dan M. Johnson, at the East Tennessee State University, in 1994 by Dr. M. J. Westfall, and from 1995-1996 by Martin Schorr, Zerf, Germany & Jill Silsby, Purley, U.K.

SELYSIA is issued semiannually, normally on 1 February and 1 August. Items submitted should reach the Editors not later than two months before publication date.

IMPORTANT MESSAGE TO EVERY MEMBER OF S.I.O.

The future of S.I.O. is in your hands!

Your participation is now needed to consolidate the progress made since the Essen Symposium.

So please:

- 1. Record your vote today.**
- 2. Post the completed voting form either immediately or within the next 48 hours.**

Thank you.