

08 April 2015

Working Party Report – Red Cell Immunogenetics and Blood Group Terminology



1. Chairperson and committee

Dr Jill R. Storry (Chair), Prof Dr Lilian Castilho (vice-Chair), Dr. Qing Chen, Dr Geoff L. Daniels, Dr Masja de Haas, Dr Greg Denomme, Prof Dr Bill (W)A Flegel, Dr Christoph Gassner, Dr Catherine Hyland, Dr Margaret Keller, Ms Christine Lomas Francis (Treasurer), Dr Joann M. Moulds, Dr Nuria Nogue, Prof Dr Martin L Olsson, Dr. Thierry Peyrard, Prof Dr C. Ellen van der Schoot, Dr Yoshihiko Tani, Ms. Nicole Thornton, Dr Franz Wagner, Dr Silvano Wendel, Dr Connie M. Westhoff (Secretary), Dr Vered Yahalom

2. Membership information

The current committee consists of 22 members representing 13 countries. Dr LC Yu resigned from the WP, and three new members: Qing Chen (Nanjing, China), Margaret Keller (Philadelphia, USA) and Nicole Thornton (Bristol, UK) were elected to the WP at the meeting in Seoul.

3. Meetings and Telephone conferences

The Working Party held a half-day meeting in conjunction with the International meeting of the ISBT in Seoul, 2014. The meeting was well attended, with 14 of 20 members and 14 guests. Reports of changes to blood group systems, collections and series were discussed, and two new blood group systems ratified. We also continued to discuss blood group allele nomenclature and how to move forward with this project. No telephone conferences were held.

4. Activities during the period

A very successful Molecular genotyping workshop was held again, this time in collaboration with NEQAS (BLP) Ltd, UK. NEQAS coordinated sending out the samples, collecting and reporting the data. The results were reported at the meeting in Seoul as part of the educational program and have been posted on the ISBT website. Fifty-five laboratories registered, of which 52 returned results. This was organized as a pre-pilot scheme by NEQAS, and despite the same price structure as previous workshops, it generated sufficient profit to offer another exercise, which will be sent out to interested participants in 2015.

We have continued to update the various blood group systems as information becomes available. Members have continued to collect information on new blood group alleles, antigens and systems and have been active at various conferences.

5. Finances

No finances to report.