



WORLD FEDERATION FOR CULTURE COLLECTIONS

WFCC Annual General Meeting Agenda and summary report ICCC11 Goslar 2007

1. Welcome and approval of the agenda

2. Report by ICC11 Local Organising Committee

3. President and Treasurers report

4. WDCM activities report

5. Secretary's Report

6. Election of the new Board

Result of 2007 ballot

President: Smith

Vice President Suzuki

Board members and votes:

Elected: Rohde 49; Desmeth 44; Stalpers 41; Green 38; Bizet 30; Ma 28

Potential for co-option by new board: Thompson 20; Lima 19; Torok 19;

Garrity 19; Koenig 18

7 Review of Strategy

8. International initiatives

The WFCC and the future of the GBRCN

9. The newsletter

10. Work programmes reports

Work programme	Person responsible
Postal, quarantine and biosafety regulations	Christine Rohde
Quality matters	David Smith
Information Technology	George Garrity
Biodiscovery	Ipek Kurtboke
Capacity building	David Smith
Intellectual property and ownership issues	Philippe Desmuth
WFCC visibility	Erko Stackebrandt
World data centre for Microorganisms	Hideaki Sugawara
Endangered Collections	Peter Green

11. Membership fees – appropriate to Nations

12. Any other business

Report summary of meeting

1. David Smith opened the meeting and welcomed the members and asked for approval of the agenda.
2. ICC11 had been a success with an excellent scientific programme resulting in a number of resolutions (presented below) and a wonderful social programme. Again it had been an opportunity for members to network, renew old friendships and make new; additionally to report on, and plan, new collaborations.

ICCC10 Resolutions

- Type strains must be regarded as the property of the international scientific community and must be made available to qualified workers without restrictions or impediment imposed by MTA
- WFCC will facilitate workable solutions to implement the CBD
- WFCC will seek harmonized technical and management measures to address the issue of biosecurity.
- WFCC will take a leading role in the development of Biological Resource Centre (culture collection) operational standards and work with international organisations and initiatives to establish capacity building programmes
- WFCC will endeavour to represent its members in all key international initiatives that impact on the operations of culture collections e.g. CBD, GTI, GBIF, CODATA, OECD, UN organisations, WHO, UNESCO, WIPO, etc.
- WFCC works closely with the microbiological societies and industry to improve public understanding of the value of the micro-organisms and their impact on human, animal, plant and ecosystem health
- WFCC will work with genome projects and genome database providers to improve the quality and validity of genomic data placed in the public domain.
- WFCC undertakes to set up a strategy to develop networks on a geographical or a thematic basis, encouraging culture collections to start or to join initiatives with the aim to enhance communication and collaboration.
- The time period between International Culture Collection Congresses is too long as science, technology and regulatory environment change so quickly. It is therefore agreed that the time between ICC10 and ICC11 be reduced to 3 years.
- WFCC will draw up a business plan
- The WFCC committees are dissolved and replaced by work programmes under the direct guidance of the Executive Board

3. President's and Officer's reports 2004-2007

The President participated in:

- 4 training courses – Malaysia, India, Indonesia, Africa
- East African Biological Resource Centre (UNESCO/CABI) Workshops in Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda
- IISS/CBACI Biosecurity meeting, London, Washington
- GBIF, Belgium
- OECD BRC Task Force, 9 meetings in Paris
- China: Visits to 6 of the National Collections
- In total visited 20 collections in 12 countries
- China: Attended International Microbiology Day sponsored by CAS, Institute of Microbiology
- 4th Meeting of the New Defence Agenda: *Countering Bioterrorism*, Brussels
- MOSAICS project – representing WFCC partner – attended project meetings, Braunschweig and Taiwan
- Access and Benefit Sharing Experts Meeting, Tokyo 8-9 February 2007 Access and Benefit Sharing Experts Meeting, Tokyo February 2007 Conference of the Parties (COP8)

4 Board meetings
 Focus of WFCC Board:
 Strategy – work programmes too much
 Participation in the OECD BRC Initiative
 Biosecurity issues
 Publications:

Handbook of Fungal Biotechnology, 2004; *Mycological Research* 2004;
Current Science 2005; BIOSpektrum Sonderheft 2005; Die Gesetze im Alltag
 der Mikrobiologen. BIOforum 12, 2005; *Microbiology Australia* 2006; SGM
 web site; DEFRA, UK web site; Croner; Laboratory Safety, 2007

Financial report for period 2004-2007

- The WFCC is operating well within its means
- 2002 balance of US\$23058.28 currently 41160.18
- Further expenses to be processed including:
 Skerman Award (2007) and associated travel expenses
 Audit charge and account certification (£200)
 2007 secretarial expenses
- US\$30000 of the US\$35531.10 transferred from ICC9 was transferred to ICC11 to support travel
- US\$9183.21 spent to print Swings and Kurtboke *Microbial Genetic Resources and Biodiscovery* book
- US\$14000 Secretariat – consumables, secretary support, travel etc.
- US\$4002.11 on the 2004 Skerman Award
- Only regular income is membership fees
 Only 95 of the 522 registered collections and 37 ordinary members regularly pay their fees; Actual income US\$9000 per year - potential US\$52640

Accounts

WFCC Dollar Account	Expenses	Income/balance
Account opened 23April2002		20532.28
Transfer from NL		2526.00
Subscriptions 2002-2007		47048.97
Secretariat expenses	14000.00	
Transfer to open £ account	2000.00	
Postage Leaflet	743.13	
Workshop Australia	1000.00	
Travel Smith Course Malaysia	1119.44	
Travel: UN Committee; Sigler	2229.21	
Transfer from ICC9	35531.1	
Printing Book Swings & Kurtboke	9183.21	
Skerman Award 2004	4002.11	
Bank Charges	201.07	
Totals	34487.17	105638.35
Certified Audit balance		71160.18
Post audit transactions		
Transfer to ICC11	30000	
Current US\$ account balance		41160.18
Sterling Account		
Current balance £ Account		2502.87

4. WDCM report: Revitalisation of the WFCC website

The screenshot shows the WFCC website with a navigation menu at the top: Home | About us | What's New | Data center | Newsletter & documents | Home page of CC | Networks of CC | Statistics of CC | Contact us | Site Map. Below the navigation is a breadcrumb trail: HOME > Site map. The main content area is titled 'Site map' and is divided into three columns:

- TOP page**
 - What's New
 - Data center
 - Home page of CC
 - Networks of CC
 - Statistics of CC Contact us
- About Us**
 - About WFCC
 - Please join us (WFCC)
 - WFCC Executive Board
 - Task Forces and Activities
 - WFCC Statutes
 - WFCC Bylaws
 - The Endangered Collection Task Group (ECTG)
 - WFCC membership application
- Newsletter & documents**
 - WFCC Newsletter
 - Publication and documents by WFCC
 - Documents on bioterrorism and biosecurity
 - Other references

At the bottom of the page, it says: Copyright 2006 World Federation for Culture Collections All rights reserved.

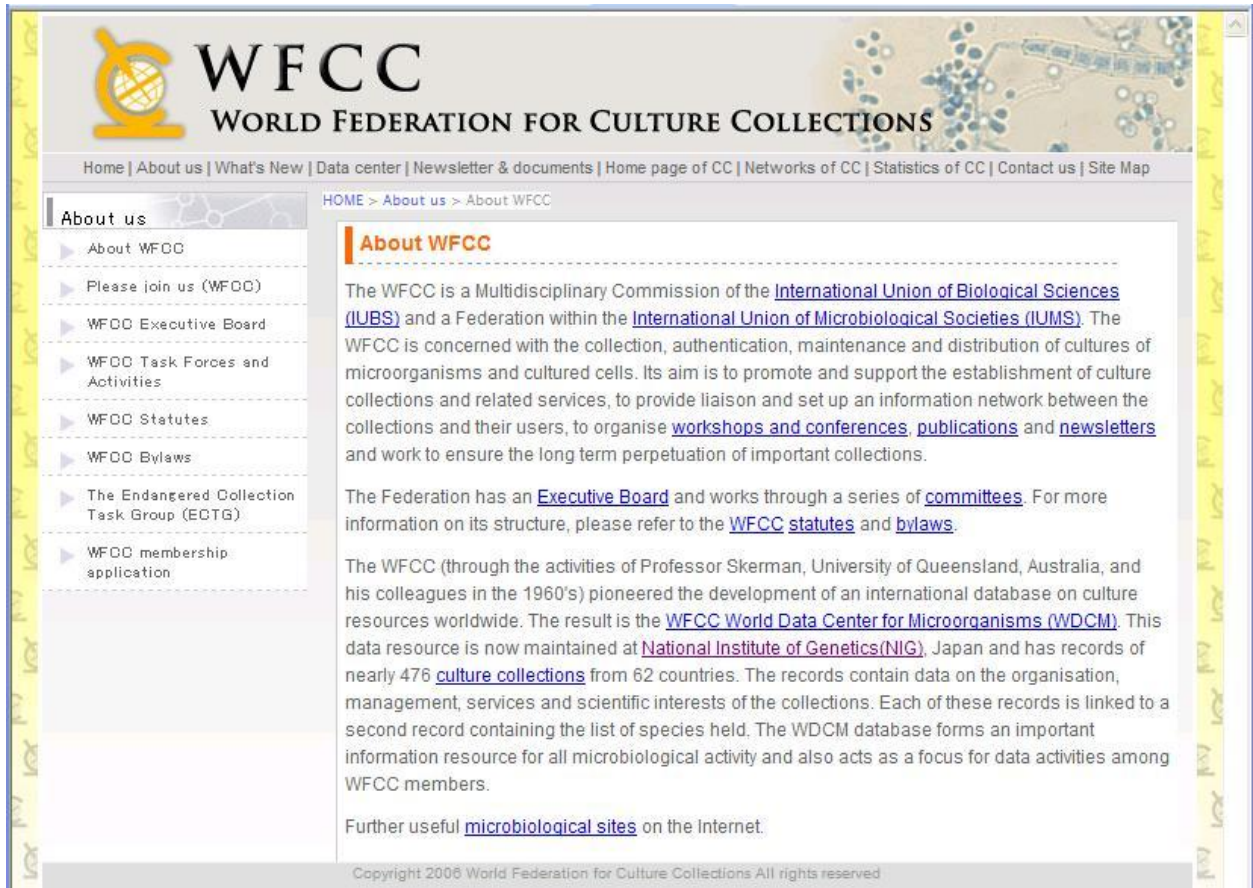
The screenshot shows the WFCC website with a navigation menu at the top: Home | About us | What's New | Data center | Newsletter & documents | Home page of CC | Networks of CC | Statistics of CC | Contact us | Site Map. Below the navigation is a breadcrumb trail: HOME > What's New. The main content area is titled 'What's New!' and features a 'MORE INFO' button. The content is as follows:

- Oct 05.2007 The homepage was renewed.
- Oct 07.2007 11th International Congress on Culture Collections (ICCC-11) 7-11 , GOSLAR, GERMANY
- Jun 25.2007 OECD Best Practice Guidelines for Biological Resource Centres
- Oct 12.2005 Annual Conference of the Association for General and Applied Microbiology (2006/3/19-22)
- Nov 07.2005 The Biology of Vibrios: Biodiversity, Genomics, Disease/Epidemiology, Ecology, and Applications, Ghent, Belgium (2005/11/07-08)

Below the 'What's New!' section is the 'About WFCC' section, which is divided into two columns:

- About WFCC**
 - About WFCC
 - Please join us (WFCC)
 - WFCC Executive Board
 - WFCC Task Forces and Activities
 - WFCC Statutes
 - WFCC Bylaws
 - The Endangered Collection Task Group (ECTG)
- Other links**
 - WFCC membership application
 - WFCC Newsletter
 - Other References
 - Documents on bioterrorism and biosecurity
 - Home Pages of Culture Collections in the world
 - Statistics on Culture Collections in the world
 - Networks of CC

At the bottom of the page, it says: Copyright 2006 World Federation for Culture Collections All rights reserved.



WDCM Statistics by WDCM as of October 1st, 2007

525 culture collections in 67 countries
149 of them are supported by government.
30 of them are semi-governmental.
131 of them are supported by university.
6 of them are supported by industry.
18 of them are private
194 collections produce catalogues of holdings.
2,746 people work in these culture collections.

5. Secretaries report

The Skerman Award went to:

Wen-Jun Li Ph.D
Laboratory for Conservation and Utilization of Bio-Resources,
Yunnan Institute of Microbiology,
Yunnan University,
Kunming,
China

6. Election of new Board

David Smith, President
Ken-ichiro Suzuki, Vice President
Christine Rohde
Philippe Desmeth

Joost Stalpers
Juncai Ma
Peter Green (Treasurer)
Chantal Bizet

Co-opted: Nelson Lima; Gina Koenig; Vera Weihs; Lindsay Sly
Ex officio:
Past President: Jean Swings
WDCM Director: Hideaki Sugawara

7. WFCC strategy

The board had agreed to focus on activities that implemented the ICCRC resolutions and where possible address aspects of the agreed work programmes.

ICCC11 Resolutions

1. WFCC will take a leading role in the development of the Global Biological Resource Collections Network to facilitate collaboration between Culture Collections.
2. WFCC will improve its capacity building efforts exploring new tools (e.g. e-learning) .
3. WFCC will make an effort to propose a standard minimal MTA safeguarding the interest of all stakeholders
4. WFCC will make an effort to create a workable solution for curators to aid in risk assessment imposed by biosecurity regulations (dual-use).
5. WFCC will collaborate with initiatives such as Straininfo.net and Mycobank to improve the quality and validity of strain data placed in the public domain
6. WFCC will work with ICSB to deposit long-term preserved type strains of fungi in minimal two different collections in different countries.
7. As type strains are the property of the international scientific community the WFCC will work to ensure they remain available to qualified workers without restrictions or impediment.

8. International activities

Covered by President's report above; The board had agreed to minimise collaboration with GBIF with Hideaki Sugawara being the main conduit having an active role there. Interaction with GBRCN, Biosecurity guidance and collaboration in MOSAICS had been key activities.

9. Newsletter

The work of the WFCC Newsletter Editor Ipek Kurtboke was greatly appreciated and the board thanked her for superb efforts with this difficult task. 5 issues (40-44) were published in the period 2005 to 2007.

10. Work programmes

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There was insufficient time for full reports of all the work programmes and most issues were covered in the Newsletter or in the officer's reports above. Christine Rohde had continued her

sterling work with regulatory impact on collections with a new version of the shipping requirements posted on the website and participation in biosecurity meetings and initiatives. Quality matters had focussed on collaboration with the GBRCN and Intellectual property issues had focussed on WIPO activities. The World Data Centre was discussed separately and the Endangered collections work 2004 – 2007 is outlined below.

Collections benefiting from grant aid and an expert visit

2005 - University of Chiang Mai Culture Collection, Thailand (UCM)

2006 - Philippine National Collection (PNCM)

2007 - Indonesian Centre for Biodiversity & Biotechnology (ICCB); University of Indonesia Culture Collection (UICC)

Summary of collections visited and funding raised over past 6 years

Countries	Collections	Grant(£)	Source
Uzbekistan	1	5.0K	SGM
Cuba	1	2.5K	SfAM
Costa Rica	1	5.2K	SfAM
Thailand	1	2.5K	SfAM
Indonesia	2	2.5K	SfAM
		3.0K	SGM
Philippines	1	2.5K	SfAM
TOTAL	7	23.2K	

Benefits and achievements

Establishment of regular grant funding mechanisms

- Expert assessment and advice to enable best use of resources
- Expert visit
- Basic equipment (chills/freezers)
- Repairs, parts, backup for preservation equipment
- Culture media
- Other consumables
- Books
- Workshop/culture collection management/capacity building

Collections under major threat

- Russian bacteriophage collection, Tblisi
- Edible mushroom collection, Mexico
- World Phytophthora collection, UCLA
- National soybean pathogen collection, Urbana IL.

11. Membership fees: proposal to change fee structure to reflect country GDP

Current situation

Collection membership (potential affiliates)	522
Affiliate Members paying	95
Total paying members	132

Current Fees

Affiliate membership	US\$100
Ordinary membership	US\$20

Income

Actual for 2002-2007 (all members)	US\$47049
If all members paid	US\$263000

Proposed fee according to GDP

GDP	Proposed fee (\$)	
	Collections	Individuals
0 to 5000	0	0
5,000 to 10,000	50	10
10,000 to 20,000	100	15
above 20,000	200	25

Projected income from WFCC affiliate collections with new fees

	Actual	Potential	Difference
Current rate	9500	51900	
New rate	13600	61900	+4100

12. Any other business

ICCC12 Venue

- Brazil October 2010; Organising committee to be chaired by Vanderlei Canhos and WFCC participation would be maintained by David Smith, Vera Weihs and Lindsay Sly.
- In collaboration with the Brazilian Society of Microbiology and Brazilian Society of Mycology
- The organisation committee is looking to involve the Federation for Culture Collections in Latin America
- Side meeting on microbial ecology and taxonomy in Latin America

Organisation

- Similar format to ICC11
- Central Theme Role of culture collections in the 21st Century
- Global and local issues:
 - Management
 - Quality Guidelines
 - Information systems
- Uptake of developments in science
- Interaction with users

Summary

- Congratulations to DSMZ for a wonderful conference
- The Executive Board are committed to continue the good works of the WFCC
- We would like to hear more from the membership and opportunities for better communication will be opened