International Committee on Systematic Bacteriology
Subcommittee on the Taxonomy of Staphylococci and Streptococci

Minutes of the Meeting, 8 September 1986, Manchester, England

Session 1. Closed meeting.

Minute 1. Call to order. The Chairman, K. H. Schleifer, called the closed meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. on 8 September 1986.

Minute 2. Record of attendance. The members present were K. H. Schleifer (Chairman), M. Kocur (Secretary), G. Colman, A. L. Coykendall, J. Fleurette, J. M. Hardie, J. Henrichsen, D. Jones, E. Stackebrandt, and A. Torres Pereira. Apologies for absence were received from W. Kohler and J. B. Evans.

Minute 3. Minutes of the previous meeting. The minutes of the meeting held in Boston, Mass., on 6 and 11 August 1982, were approved.

Minute 4. Changes in officers and membership. M. Kocur resigned as Secretary but remains a member of the subcommittee. K. H. Schleifer continues as Chairman, and J. M. Hardie was elected Secretary. The subcommittee accepted with regret the resignation of J. B. Evans. R. R. Facklam was proposed to fill the vacancy on the subcommittee. Other new members elected since the 1982 meeting are G. Colman, A. L. Coykendall, J. M. Hardie, J. Henrichsen, and J. Rotta.

Minute 5. Past activities. The activities of the subcommittee since the last International Congress were reviewed by the Chairman. The subcommittee is now concerned with the “Taxonomy of Staphylococci and Streptococci,” but not micrococci. There is a continuing need to improve the minimal standards required for adequate description of new species of staphylococci and streptococci. The report of the Staphylococcus Working Group is awaited with interest. The Chairman proposed a vote of thanks to the retiring Secretary, M. Kocur, for his excellent contribution to the subcommittee over 15 years.

Minute 6. Scientific matters. J. Henrichsen discussed the need to establish a method for organizing the work of the subcommittee on streptococcal taxonomy, since the previous Streptococcus subcommittee had been inactive since 1974. G. Colman described some of the current problems within the viridans group streptococci and proposed the formation of a Streptococcus Working Group. Other subcommittee members outlined their particular research interests. It was agreed to constitute a Streptococcus Working Group at the end of the open meeting.

Minute 7. Plan of future activities. The Streptococcus Working Group will commence work and meet to discuss progress, probably in Cologne, West Germany, on 5 September 1987. The activities of the Staphylococcus Working Group will continue.

Minute 8. Current membership. The current membership of the subcommittee is as follows: K. H. Schleifer (Chairman), Federal Republic of Germany; J. M. Hardie (Secretary), United Kingdom; G. Colman, United Kingdom; A. L. Coykendall, United States of America; R. R. Facklam, United States of America; J. Fleurette, France; V. Hajek, Czechoslovakia; J. Henrichsen, Denmark; L. R. Hill, United Kingdom; D. Jones, United Kingdom; W. E. Kloos, United States of America; M. Kocur, Czechoslovakia; W. Kohler, German Democratic Republic; D. A. Mosset, The Netherlands; J. Rotta, Czechoslovakia; E. Stackebrandt, Federal Republic of Germany; and A. Torres Pereira, Portugal.

The meeting was adjourned at 8 p.m. on 8 September.

Session 2. Open Meeting.

Minute 9. Call to order. The open meeting was called to order by the Chairman, K. H. Schleifer, at 8:05 p.m. on 8 September 1986.

Minute 10. Record of attendance. In addition to those attending the closed meeting, approximately 30 guests were welcomed.

Minute 11. Scientific matters. Short presentations were given by E. Stackebrandt (The Phylogeny of Spherical Gram-Positive Eubacteria), K. H. Schleifer (Overview of the Molecular Systematics of Streptococci), A. K. Coykendall (Review of the Relationships among “Viridans” Streptococci as Shown by DNA Hybridization: Results on S. mitior, S. mutans, S. sanguis, and S. milleri), J. M. Hardie (Recent Observations on the “S. milleri-anginosus-constellatus-intermedius” Group), and A. Torres Pereira (Mannose Effect on Staphylococci). Following the general discussion, the proposed Streptococcus Working Group was set up with the following membership: G. Colman (Convenor), United Kingdom; A. L. Coykendall and R. R. Facklam, United States of America; P. S. Handley and J. M. Hardie, United Kingdom; J. Henrichsen and M. Kilian, Denmark; R. Kilpper-Balz, Federal Republic of Germany; and R. A. Whiley, United Kingdom.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 p.m. on 8 September.

K. H. Schleifer, Chairman
J. M. Hardie, Secretary