Minutes of the Thirteenth Meeting of the Committee on Electronic Information and Communication (CEIC) of the International Mathematical Union

Oxford, 19–20 December 2008

Present: JB John Ball (Chair) `ball@maths.ox.ac.uk`

    OC Olga Caprotti `Olga.Caprotti@helsinki.fi`

    JHD James Davenport (Notes) `J.H.Davenport@bath.ac.uk`

    MD Mike Doob `mdoob@ccu.umanitoba.ca`

    CH Carol Hutchins `carol.hutchins@nyu.edu`

    PO Peter Olver `olver@math.umn.edu`

    UR Ulf Rehmann `rehmann@math.uni-bielefeld.de`

    WD Wolfgang Dalitz `dalitz@zib.de` in attendance

Apologies:

1. **Agenda**
   Two items were added:

   10. Relationship between mathematics and e-Science;

   11. ICSU Committee nominations.

   JB noted that he would leave the IMU EC after 2010, and that the issue of who would chair the committee would arise then or earlier. As regards future meetings, theoretically CEIC meets 'once every two years', but the practice has been to meet every year, including joint meetings with the EC. The next EC was in China in Spring 2009, and CEIC might wish to meet alongside the Spring 2010 EC meeting (February 2010, La Jolla is the plan). It was noted that the IMU web pages had an out-of-date CEIC membership.   WD

2. **Hyderabad Contract**
It was agreed that authors should retain the copyright, giving the IMU the appropriate rights. A subgroup considered the details of the agreements between the publishers and local organizing committee (LOC) and between authors and the LOC. They produced a draft which was subsequently edited by the whole committee and emailed to IMU President Laci Lovasz, who was in India meeting Raghunathan, the head of the LOC. The drafts are appended below. A commentary sent with the drafts explained the reasons for the authors retaining the copyright, namely

- some authors are not able, by virtue of their employment, to transfer the copyright;
- the request only for the right to publish has become increasingly commonplace;
- in 2001 the CEIC recommended and the IMU endorsed as a best practice that authors retain their copyrights.

(Note: the publishers and LOC subsequently agreed the drafts.)

3. **Web pages**
WD presented the IMU server, the issues surrounding the decision to move to a Content Management System (CMS), and the choice of the Typo3 CMS, which was made in 2003, motivated by stability and the presence of a in-built editor which enabled non-specialists to edit pages. Other important features were the ability to administer multiple sites (e.g. IMU itself and various committees etc.), and an internal search engine.

WD could, in a January timeframe, bring the CEIC pages within Typo3, possibly password-protected in the first instance. JB called for volunteers, and UR agreed to assist WD. UR/WD

It was noted that the IMU had recently invested in a logo etc., and the CEIC web pages, as part of the move to the new server, should also adopt the IMU style. The Commission on Development and Exchanges (CDE), soon to become the Commission on Developing Countries (CDC), and Developing Countries Strategy Group (DCSG) web pages should probably follow suit, but there was no interest expressed at the moment. ICMI had expressed some interest. CEIC **recommended** that these sites should move into the CMS. EC

4. **Archiving**
JB introduced an old (2006) document describing the general archiving needs of the IMU (paper as well as electronic). It was noted that only action 3.g(i) (status of the Helsinki archive) from this document had been carried out. The committee recalled

`http://www.ceic.math.ca/Publications/Minutes/archiving.pdf`,

and said that such a committee had to be established. MG/EC

JHD drew CEIC's attention to

`http://www.dcc.ac.uk/resource/curation-manual/chapters/curating-e-mails/curating-e-mails.pdf`

from the UK's Digital Curation Centre (largely based in Bath). In particular, this mentioned the XENA package from the National Archives of Australia (`xena.sourceforce.net`). JHD could talk to the author of the DCC report, and possibly put her in touch with JB. JHD

An archiving subgroup produced a recommendation, appended below, which was endorsed by CEIC. While debating this, CEIC noted that JB's e-mail correspondence was not encrypted, and **recommended** that IMU look at this as part of the guidelines for Fields' Medal Committes etc. EC

5. **IMU on the Web**
   CH agreed to be the co-ordinator of this column. The following topics were mentioned. CH

   (a) Digital Library of Mathematical Formulae (DLMF). PO introduced this item. PO

   (b) JHD/OC volunteered to do one on MathML/OpenMath. JHD/OC

   (c) What might be 'Facebook for mathematicians'? CH volunteered to do this. CH

   (d) Mathematical blogs.

   (e) A world without paper journals?

6. **Digital Mathematics Library**
   It was asked whether this title was still relevant. The list at `http://www.wdml.org/dml/index.shtml` was out-of-date, but such a list *was* very useful, and IMU/CEIC was the obvious organisation to maintain it. Since there was still some fund-raising potential in the name, it was premature to disband it.

   CH noted that it was difficult to know when such pages were updated, and suggests RSS feeds as an appropriate technology. UR

7. **EWDM/FWDM**
   It was noted that the current IMU web page was not satisfactory in this

respect, offering links to both databases with no guidance. FWDM is currently located at Dalhousie, though there were plans for a mirror at ZIB, which should become the main site. WD/Dalhousie

Since EWDM is one item in the FWDM federation, there is no need for EWDM to be on the IMU front page. WD

The FWDM page should have a listing of the directories involved, and make the rôle of EWDM clearer, and the pages needed some clarification.WD

8. **Issues related to publishing**
CH noted that the financial issues relating to publishing, especially pricing, had not gone away. In her view, it was insane to protect the big bundles against, say, the AMS/SIAM of this world. It depends very much on the extent of departmental input into institutional library policy.

9. **Metrics, citations etc.**
This was related to the previous item, but should be discussed again.

10. **Relationship between mathematics and e-Science**
This was discussed under ICSU.

11. **ICSU Committees**
IMU had been asked to nominate to two ICSU Committees:

- Scientific Committee for the World Data System (WDS-SC);
- Strategic Coordinating Committee on Data and Information (SC-CID).

It was agreed that IMU was not immediately concerned with WDS-SC, but should nominate JHD to SCCID. JHD/MG

A Copyright agreements

A.1 EOC–Author

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PUBLISHING AGREEMENT (between EOC and contributing authors)

I/we, the authors of

                 ---- title ----,

referred to hereinafter as "the said article", hereby confirm that I/we
have the authority to enter into this agreement, and do agree that
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i)   Hindustan Book Agency (India), P 19 Green Park Extension, New
     Delhi, referred to hereinafter as "HBA", shall have the world
     publishing rights of the said article for a period of 28 years
     after the conclusion of the International Congress 2010.

ii) The International Mathematical Union (IMU) shall have the
     irrevocable right to electronically publish the said article,
     including placing it on their web site and its
     mirrors, starting two years after the conclusion of the International
     Congress 2010.

iii) The authors, or copyright owner(s) if different from the author(s),
     will retain the full copyright of the said
     article. For a period of 4 years following the conclusion of
     the International Congress 2010, they will not publish the same
     article in the same form in another place except in
     collected works of the author(s) whenever these works are compiled.

iv) Nothing in this agreement shall prevent the copyright owner(s) or
     author(s) from having the full rights to place the material on their
     (or their institution's) web sites and to include their version in
     their other works.

A.2 EOC–HBA

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT (between HBA and EOC)

Hindustan Book Agency (India), P 19 Green Park Extension, New Delhi,
referred to hereinafter as "HBA" and The Executive Organizing
Committee, International Congress of Mathematicians 2010, Hyderabad,
in cooperation with the International Mathematical Union, referred to
hereinafter respectively as "EOC" and "IMU", agree to jointly publish
the work "Proceedings of the International Compress of Mathematicians
2010", referred to hereinafter as "the Work".

The HBA and EOC agree to cooperate in the following manner:

Copyright: For a period of 4 years following the conclusion of the
International Congress 2010, the authors have agreed with the EOC
that they will not publish the same article in the same form in another
place with the exception of their own collected works whenever they are
compiled. The copyright holders to each article will have full rights
to place their version of the article on their, or their institution(s),
web sites, and to include their version in their other works.

Publishing Rights: the EOC hereby grants and assigns to the HBA the world

publishing rights of the Work for a period of 28 years following the conclusion of the International Congress 2010. These publishing rights shall be exclusive for a period of 4 years after the International Congress 2010, except that the IMU will have the irrevocable right to electronically publish the Work, including placing it on their web site and its mirrors, starting two years after the conclusion of the International Congress 2010.

B CEIC Recommendations on Archiving: December 2008

In December 2006 CEIC prepared a document entitled IMU Archiving, which listed the nature of IMU material that needed to be archived and made a number of recommendations, including six action items. To date, only one of these items, namely

g(i) Determination of status of Helsinki archive, including any contractual agreements.

has been acted on. Because of the lack of progress, at its November 2007 Providence meeting CEIC proposed the formation of a small committee to drive the process forward. Such a committee has not been formed. It is worrying, for example, that up to this point no past officers of IMU have been asked to provide their electronic archival material, and there must be a danger of local institutional policies regarding computer accounts threatening the future availability of such material. CEIC reaffirms its belief that the issues involved are far too complicated to be implemented by one person, and that such an archiving committee should be set up as a matter of urgency, ideally so that it can make an initial report to the April 2009 IMU EC Committee Meeting.

Although the archiving of physical material has to be considered alongside that of electronic records, CEIC has concentrated on the latter. It has re-examined the IMU Archiving document and does not wish to make amendments to it, except that 3bii should be replaced by

ii Dark archiving of the electronic archive should be mandatory.

(The purpose of a dark archive is to function as a repository for digital information that is inaccessible to the public and can be used during disaster recovery.) As regards the composition of the committee, the 2007 recommendation was that this should consist of

- The IMU Secretary (Chair)

- The IMU Archivist

- A member of the EC

- A member of CEIC

It may be that the IMU Secretary has so many other duties that the committee would be best chaired by someone else who could devote more time to this task.

Further if it were possible to find an additional member of the committee with professional archiving experience this would be very valuable, and at a minimum advice should be obtained from someone with such experience. In addition to the action items g (ii)-(vi) immediate tasks for the committee should include:

1. Investigating what lessons can be learnt from the experiences of other professional bodies with similar requirements. For example, the Association for Computing Machinery prepared a Request for Proposals outlining their archiving requirements, which eventually led to three bids of which one was accepted from the Charles Babbage Institute at the University of Minnesota (http://www.cbi.umn.edu), an archives and research centre dedicated to preserving the history of information technology.

2. Investigating open source software solutions for electronic archiving, for example Xena (http://www.xena.sourceforge.net).