

CEIC Meeting 2014

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Berlin: 12–13 July 2014

1 Business

Present: Peter Olver (Chair), Martin Grötschel, James Davenport (minutes), Carol Hutchins, Olga Caprotti, Laci Lovász, Thierry Bouche, Ravi Vakil, Tim Cole.

Minutes It was noted that Gauß should also be spelled that way. The Gauß picture is on loan to an exhibition, but the committee was photographed next to Euler.

Terms of Reference have been approved by the EC, and will be reported to the GA in Korea.

WDML The report has now appeared [Nat14].

Journals This item was about a “crowd-sourced” discussion of journal experiences.

No other matters not appearing on the agenda.

Reports 2013 Annual Report done. Note that archiving will be presented to the GA. Otherwise similar to minutes :-).

Quadrennial A synthesis of the four annual reports. Contains the new Terms of Reference.

2 ICM 2014

CEIC was organising three panels on the following dates in August:

18th — Mathematical MOOCs (James Davenport + Bill Barton, Robert Ghrist, Matti Pauna, Angel Ruiz)¹;

19th — The future of Mathematical Publishing (Jean-Pierre Bourguignon + Rajendra Bhatia, Jean-Pierre Demailly, Chris Greenwell, Thomas Hintermann, Nalini Joshi, Ravi Vakil; since J-PB is busy, Ravi would assist with the preparations);

¹This follows an ICMI Panel/Round Table: JHD should probably go to that as well.

20th — WDML (Peter Olver + Thierry Bouche, Ingrid Daubechies, Gert-Martin Greuel, Rajeeva Karandikar, June Zhang).

It was felt to be more efficient if each Panel had a web page prior to the panel², with the brief and biography of participants, to short-cut introductions. During this discussion, <http://www.mathunion.org/ceic/resources/icm-2014-panels/> was created.

**Technician
Moderators**

Another question was the recording/archiving of the panels. The 2010 Round Table [Bal10]³ was felt to set a good target for the outcome of the Panels, but probably required recording etc.

LOC

JHD/RV will attend (RV Panel 1, JHD others) the panels and endeavour to take notes, at least.

JHD/RV

JHD will be in Seoul from 4 August (attending ICMS), and could therefore do any printing of paper copies of the brief required, as prepared by PO.

PO/JHD

The following was required from the local organisers

1. Microphones (plural!) on stage
2. Readable name cards for panellists
3. Roving microphones plus operators
4. Audio recording
5. (ideally) video recording⁴
6. Transcript
7. Table at the door for the panel briefs
8. Notice on door that the panel is being recorded

Panel chairs must ask their members for biography links to be mailed to <mailto:technician@mathunion.org> for inclusion on the web page, and notify that them that the panels will be recorded.

PO for all

WDML One question was what documents should be linked to.

Done

M-MOOC Now links to http://www.mathunion.org/fileadmin/CEIC/Minutes/MOOCs_-_A_Preliminary_Report_for_CEIC_v2_001.pdf.

Publishing Still needs resources.

RV

²From <http://www.icm2014.org/en/program/scientific/panels>.

³<http://www.mathunion.org/ICM/ICM2010.1/Main/icm2010.1.0739.0756.pdf>.

⁴Park e-mailed MG during the meeting to say that they intended video recording of the Panels.

Technician will set up blogs on the IMU's wordpress server for each panel, and tell JHD/PO/RV (who will tell their panels that this is an option) so that, should the panel discussion go that way, the moderators can announce the blogs on the spot.

Done 16/7

3 World Digital Mathematics Library and Publishing

NAS The National Academy of Sciences/Sloan Foundation workshop had been held prior to our last meeting, but the report [Nat14] was formally published in March 2014.

at ICM In early May, 2014, in response to the NAS report, and encouraged and supported by the Sloan Foundation, the DML group at Wolfram sent out an invitation to a select group of experts to attend a meeting at ICM or possibly elsewhere, to discuss the formation of a group of experts to come up with a plan for the construction of a DML. This generated significant controversy, particularly in view of the importance of openness of any DML as set forth in the NAS report. As a result, ID and PO proposed that the IMU and CEIC take the lead in sponsoring the meeting, determining location and date, and issuing invitations. At first, it was not clear to CEIC what benefit would be gained from having such a meeting before the ICM Panel. Following further discussion, it was decided to send out the draft invitation letter written by ID, on behalf of CEIC, for a meeting on Aug 17 in Seoul, to the original Wolfram list plus additional names suggested by members of CEIC.

PO/Done

This meeting will need a venue, and ID suggested the following.

We can use the leftover Sloan funding (if there is some); we should try to find also something that would not be too expensive. Maybe we should explore several possibilities: at COEX, or at the flagship hotel. Another possibility would be at the Science Museum where Bridges is held – this would provide an opportunity for the participants in the meeting to visit the Bridges exhibit before or after the meeting, which would probably be of interest to several of us (it would to me).

Governance It was noticed that NSF Institutes have a governance set-up (Board), appointing the director, all of which ties back to NSF as the funding source. What should the WDML governance be? Should it be an independent body, or part of IMU, or what? MG noted that IMU itself did not have the resources to do this. It was noted that Greg Kuperberg was very active in this area — maybe too busy to take charge of this, but worth asking at least to look any proposals over. It was noted that the level of resources required was very dependent

on the extent of governance/centralisation involved. For example, the Wikipedia Foundation essentially does no authoring, but is still vital for the governance of Wikipedia. TB noted the EuDML governance at <https://project.eudml.org/news/eudml-initiative-established>, and RV the SAGE example <http://sagemath.blogspot.de/>.

MG felt that IMU can provide continuity, and that the EC is a good body to provide JHD was not sure what a WDML might be: was it actual infrastructure and servers or just co-ordination, was it existing content, existing content and new metadata, or new data (as eCF [Wei14] seemed to be).

WDML Web Pitman had commented that the CEIC web pages on this were out-of-date.

Open Access It was noted that there were multiple interpretations of the phrase “Open Access”. TC noted that Illinois would pay more for Gold OA than it currently pays in Library subscriptions. JHD noted the U.K.’s Research Councils’ policy <http://www.epsrc.ac.uk/links/external-documents-and-publications/policy-on-open-access-and-supporting-guidance-pdf-279kb-rcuk/>, and the fact that the 2018 REF will only allow Open Access publications: <http://www.hefce.ac.uk/whatwedo/rsrch/rinfrastruct/oa/>. The Committee noted Pitman’s input. The question was whether CEIC should produce an OA “Best Practices”. It was noted that there was also an ICSU document being prepared (currently in advanced draft). RV would do some preliminary work, notably contacting Henry Cohn.

TC/RV

WWW TC drew attention to www.w3.org/dpub: a result of a recent W3C reorganisation. See groups at www.w3.org/dpub/IG — especially the second case study. There were concerns about the long-term viability of PDFs, especially those “containing tricks”. There are also concerns about proprietary formats such as the Kindle⁵. The new draft of CSS includes much more powerful controls over glyph/box placement.

4 Future Membership

The membership of CEIC is decided by the Executive ommittee of IMU. The Committee discussed its membership, being conscious of the need for geographical balance and the rquirement to have a variety of scripts represented. Suggestions were forwarded to the EC.

PO/done

⁵Amazon have *not* joined W3C.

5 CEIC Web Pages

JP had noted that the CEIC pages are somewhat behind-hand. It was noted that Gerhard was very responsive, but neither had the time nor knowledge to be *writing* content. RV volunteered to have a pass at updating it. **RV**

MG noted that German law required the “imprint” item. We should add some kind of “feedback” mechanism. The item “basics” was unusual, so should probably be “about”. Although it was possible to get back to the (CEIC) home page, this was via clicking a logo rather than being explicit. RV produced a list of changes, all implemented during the meeting.

Unfortunately, the CEIC web pages are not currently subject to analytics investigation, but RV had collected the CDC analytics, which showed reasonable coverage from the third world.

6 IMUNet

DOI CH reported that IMUNet had no persistent URLs, e.g. DOIs. The same applied to various IMU documents, such as the “Best Practices” and the “Citations” report. TC noted that small (< 25/year) DOI registration cost 150Euro/year with www.medra.org. as well as the financial cost, there was the challenge of managing the metadata, and applying for the registration. We set up a working group to investigate this. **TC/OC/CH**

This will probably involve a reorganisation of the way IMU (as a whole, not just CEIC) stores and manages publications etc. A “newest first” would not be a bad idea.

IMUNet CEIC’s column in IMUNet is entitled “IMU on the Web”, which confuses many people, not least PO. We would like the column called “The CEIC column” (or some such) in the future. We need to ask Mireille Chaleyat-Maurel. **CH**

7 Archiving

Web It had been reported in 2013 that all IMU web pages (not just CEIC) were being archived weekly. This was confirmed as a genuine archive of pages as HTML etc., not just a backup of the CMS. Hence “CEIC’s home page on 17 February 2013” is a feasible request.

e-mail Named lists and (most) named officers are being archived.

Document passed by EC in Princeton (MG to make one change). Currently only physical EC material is being archived.

ICMI is part of IMU such after WWII, though originally an older body.

CH reported that the Babbage Institute had a means of archiving, started with the person's hard drive.

8 ICM Proceedings

Panels There should be discussion with the proceedings publishers to ensure that the panels have space for the proceedings. Park has now confirmed this (at most 25 pages) with a closing date in October 2014.

Copyright MG recalled that the agreement with the proceedings provided for transfer to IMU, and Open Access, after a decent time, but can't recall the details. Park confirmed "Our contract with the proceedings publisher allows the electronic proceedings to be made available on the IMU site right after the opening of the congress."

9 Copyright

2001 "Best Practice" document was looking dated. It needs updating to cover items such as Green/Gold Open Access, Creative Commons licences (which version?), copyright in items such as \TeX macros, interaction between ArXiv and publishers' policies. One open question was "non-traditional" means such as blogs and MathOverflow.

PO to ask ID to ask Doug Arnold, Victoria Stodden and Ulf Rehmann to form such a WP. If EC feels that a member of CEIC should be on the WP, JHD volunteered.

10 Secure Communication

ID had recommended the software underlying MathJobs. PO and RV had had good experience with MathJobs. ID had arranged for Fields Committee to use it. LL noted that if he wrote such [Fields medal evaluation] a letter, even if securely communicated, it was on his hard disc, and his hard disc's backups etc. Many people spoke of the convenience of "regular" e-mail.

Recommendation 1 *A system based on MathJobs should continue to be used for the Prize Committees, and be available for EC use if there is a particularly sensitive issue, but the EC could (and probably should) continue to use the `ec14@mathunion.org` etc. e-mail addresses.*

11 ICSU/World data

CEIC is an Associate Member of the ICSU World Data System.

OC reported that the consultation, to which CEIC had responded, resulted in recommendations which would be discussed at the ICSU GA in September 2014. It was noted that various documents were being produced, and they should probably be linked from the CEIC web site. We should link to ICSU/WDS immediately. **RV**
See `codata.org` for a list of the task groups.

JHD noted that [SBC⁺10] was a good description of the problems that arise from poor control of data.

PO drew attention to Image Processing On Line `ipol.im` (an Isle of Man web site), as a journal with a different, and much more rigorous, attitude to the reproducibility issue.

12 Any Other Business

As this was his last meeting, the Committee recorded its thanks to PO for his chairmanship.

References

- [Bal10] J.M. Ball. Round Table: The use of metrics in evaluating research. In *Proceedings ICM 2010*, pages 739–756, 2010.
- [Nat14] National Research Council. Developing a 21st Century Global Library for Mathematics Research. *The National Academies Press*, 2014.
- [SBC⁺10] Sir Muir Russell, G. Boulton, P. Clarke, D. Eyton, and J. Norton. The Independent Climate Change E-mails Review. <http://www.cce-review.org/pdf/FINAL%20REPORT.pdf>, 2010.
- [Wei14] E. Weisstein. Computable Data, Mathematics, and Digital Libraries in Mathematica and Wolfram—Alpha. In S.M. Watt *et al.*, editor, *Proceedings CICM 2014*, pages 26–29, 2014.