

The current composition of ICTV

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Introduction

The International Committee on Taxonomy of Viruses (ICTV) has existed since 1966 to regulate virus taxonomy and nomenclature so as to reflect the wishes and the needs of the virological community [2, 4]. In order to do this, Reports are published at intervals, usually of 4 or so years [1, 5, 6]. These Reports bring together the changes to taxonomy made during the years following the previous Report and represent definitive statements about virus taxonomy at that time. Taxonomic decisions are made at intervals between, as well as at, Virology Congresses. For some of these, discussion papers have appeared in the Virology Division News section (VDN) of *Archives of Virology* before decisions were made. Also, following ICTV decisions, summary papers and some background papers have been published in VDN so as to inform virologists of the changes made. It is the policy of ICTV to engage as many as possible of the virologists who use the results of taxonomic decisions in the deliberations that lead to those decisions. This note is intended to further this aim by listing the people responsible for collating and judging opinions so as to make it more easy for virologists to contact ICTV.

ICTV structure

The membership of ICTV comprises 41 National Members, 12 Life Members, the 18 members of its Executive Committee (EC) and the members, currently 93, of its specialist Subcommittees. Decisions on taxonomic proposals are made by a poll of the EC, the Life Members and the National Members, either by post or at Plenary sessions held at the triennial International Congresses of Virology. The EC consists of 4 Officers, 8 Elected members and 6 Subcommittee Chairs. Each Subcommittee comprises the Chairs of its constituent Study Groups and, in some committees, some “at large” members who do not have specific responsibilities. Most taxonomic business originates in Study Groups that are asked to consider particular taxa. Thus in the six Subcommittees there are many (currently 87) Study Groups that contain more than 400 virologists. The roles of ICTV and its EC are laid down in Statutes approved by the Virology Division of IUMS and its activities are

regulated by an International Code of Taxonomy and Nomenclature [3] that is itself subject to amendment by ICTV. The Statutes also regulate the structure of ICTV. Turnover of the EC is laid down as most members can serve only 6 years in one position and for 12 consecutive years in any position on the EC. The Chairs of the Study groups also normally serve only for six years.

Table 1. National Members

Argentina: Dr. Oscar Grau	Korea: Professor Chang Yong Cha
Australia: Dr. Ian H. Holmes	Macedonia: Dr. Kalajdziska Milka
Austria: Prof. D. Franz X. Heinz	The Netherlands: Dr. D. Peters
Bangladesh: Dr. (Col.) A. S. M. Matiur Rahman	New Zealand: Assoc. Professor James Kalmakoff
Belgium: Professor P.-P. Pastoret	Poland: Professor Dr. K. Malicki and Professor Dr. S. Kryczynski
Brazil: Dr. Hermann Goncalves Schatzmayr	Russia: Dr. D. K. Lvov
Cameroon: Professor Njyou Mounjohou	Romania: Dr. Nicolae Cajal
Canada: Dr. M. A. Chernesky	Singapore: Prof. Chan Yow Cheong
China: Professor Guan Fu Zhu	Slovak Republic: Prof. Fedor Ciampor
Czech Republic: Dr. Marie Bruckova	Slovenia: Dr. T. Avsic-Zupanc
Finland: Dr. T. Hovi	South Africa: Prof. E. Rybicki
France: Professor Marc Van Regenmortel	Spain: Dr. J. J. Borrego
Germany: Professor H. Pfister	Sweden: Prof. Goran Wadell
Greece: Professor A. Tsotsos	Germany: Prof. O. Haller
Hong Kong: Dr. John S. Tam	Taiwan: Dr. Kenneth S. S. Chang
Hungary: Prof. I. Nasz	Turkey: Dr. Emel Bozkaya
Iceland: Dr. Sigridur Elefsen	U.K.: Professor Stuart Siddell
India: Dr. K. Banarjee and Dr. N. Rishi	USA: Prof. Ann C. Palmenberg
Israel: Professor Y. Becker	Zambia: Dr. Mwaka A. Monze
Japan: Dr. Takeshi Kurata	

Table 2. Life Members

Prof. H.-W. Ackermann	Prof. B. D. Harrison
Prof. D. H. L. Bishop	Dr. G. P. Martelli
Dr. F. Brown	Dr. J. Maurin
Dr. J. Casals	Prof J. L. Melnick
Dr. F. J. Fenner	Dr. F. A. Murphy
Dr. A. J. Gibbs	Prof. C. R. Pringle

Communication with ICTV

Despite the structure outlined above, designed as it was to keep contact with the opinions of as many virologists as possible, and various attempts to encourage virologists to communicate with ICTV [2], there remains in the minds of at least some virologists an impression that they do not have access to the decision-making processes of ICTV. To facilitate contact between interested virologists and ICTV, Tables are attached to this note that list the membership of ICTV, the EC and its Subcommittees. Most members of Subcommittees are Chairs of individual Study Groups.

Taxonomic opinions can be expressed to anyone in the ICTV structure, although the most effective contact for matters concerning a particular taxon would be the appropriate Study Group because proposals for change would always be considered in the light of the opinions of the relevant Study Group. Members of Study Groups are appointed by the Study Group Chairs, and Subcommittee members are in turn appointed by the Subcommittee Chairs. As for all EC members, Subcommittee Chairs are elected to Office at the ICTV Plenary sessions held at each International Congress of Virology. However, should anyone feel that the constitution of any Subcommittee does not allow their views to be expressed, they are free to contact EC members directly. Contact details for EC members are shown in Table 3; the authors can supply interested virologists with details for others named in the Tables.

As outlined above, it is intended that the memberships of ICTV committees change regularly so as to reflect changing needs and ideas in the virology community. This process necessitates recruitment of virologists interested in taxonomy and any such who are not already active within ICTV are strongly urged to contact the appropriate Study Group or Subcommittee Chair to see how they might become involved.

In 1994, ICTV launched a WebPage, physically located on the server of the National Center for Biological Information (NCBI, National Medical Library, Bethesda) that is the official host for GeneBank. This site provides basic information about ICTV, its Rules and Statutes, and about its membership. It also gives some information on the current Virus Taxonomy and classification with the newly approved taxa from Orders down to the Type Species. The site indicates some relevant information about virus taxonomy, for example ICTV taxonomy meetings and the nature and content of the next ICTV Report, and shows how to submit a taxonomic proposal. Finally the ICTV WebPage links to other interesting sites like ICTVdb, Index Virum and other taxonomically related sites.

Finally, the Virology Division News section of Archives of Virology, as well as publishing information concerning taxonomic activities, provides a forum for papers that discuss taxonomic matters. These should be submitted to the VDN Editor and, if they are judged to contain opinions relevant to a wider audience, they will be published subject to a conventional editorial review.

Table 3. Executive Committee

Officers		
President:	Marc van Regenmortel	Centre National De La Recherche Scientifique, I.B.M.C. Laboratoire Immunologie des Peptides 15, Rue Descartes Strasbourg, 67084, France Ph: (33) 3 88-41-70-22 : Fax: (33) 3 88-61-06-80 E-mail: M.Vanregen@ibmc.u-strasbg.fr
Vice-President:	Jack Maniloff	University of Rochester, School of Medicine & Dentistry, Dept. of Microbiology & Imm. P.O. Box 672 601 Elmwood Av. Rochester, NY 14642, USA Ph: 1 (716)-275-3413 : Fax: 1 (716)-473-9573 E-mail: jkmf@uhura.cc.rochester.edu
Secretaries:	Claude Fauquet	ILTAB/Danforth Plant Science Center University of Missouri St Louis, CME-M308 8001 Natural Bridge Road St Louis, MO 63121-4499, USA Ph: 1 (314) 516-4585 : Fax: 1 (314) 516-4582 E-mail: cmf@danforthcenter.org
	Mike Mayo	Pathology Division Scottish Crop Research Institute Invergowrie, Dundee, DD2 5DA, UK Ph: (44) 38-256-2731 : Fax: (44) 38-256-2426 E-mail: mmayo@scri.sari.ac.uk
Sub-Committee Chairs		
Vertebrate viruses	Mary Estes	Baylor College of Medicine, Texas Medical Center Dept. of Virology and Epidemiology Houston, TX 77030, USA Ph: 1 (713) 798 3585 : Fax: 1 (713) 798 3586 E-mail: mestes@bcm.tmc.edu
Plant viruses	Alan Brunt	Brayton, The Thatchway Angmering, W Sussex, BN16 4HJ, UK E-mail: brunt@hriab.u-net.com
Invertebrate viruses	Andrew Ball	University of Alabama, Dept. of Microbiology Birmingham, Alabama 35294, USA Ph: 1 (205) 934-0864 : Fax: 1 (205) 934-1636 E-mail: andy_ball@micro.microbio.uab.edu
Bacterial viruses	Roger Hendrix	University of Pittsburgh, Dept. of Biological Sciences A340 Langley Hall Pittsburg, PA 15260, USA Ph: 1 (412) 624-4674 : Fax: 1 (412) 624-4870 E-mail: rhx@vms.cis.pitt.edu
Fungus viruses	Brad Hillman	The State Univ. of New Jersey Rutgers, Cook College Dept. of Plant Pathology, Foran Hall 59 Dudley Rd.

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Table 3. Continued

		New Brunswick, NJ 08901-8520, USA Ph: 1 (732)-932-9375 x 334 : Fax: 1 (732)-932-9377 E-mail: hillman@aesop.rutgers.edu
Virus database	Tony Della-Porta	Australian Animal Health Laboratories P.O. Bag 24, Geelong, VIC 3220, Australia Ph: (61) 52 26 5222 : Fax: (61) 52 23 1424 E-mail: anthony.della-porta@dah.csiro.au
Elected members	Denis Bamford	University of Helsinki Institute of Biotechnology and Department of Biosciences Biocenter 2 (room 6002) P.O. Box 56 (Viikinkaari 5), 00014 Helsinki, Finland Ph: (358-9) 191 59100 : Fax: (358-9) 191 59098 E-mail: demmis.bamford@helsinki.fi
	Stanley Lemon	Univ. of Texas Medical Branch Depart. of Microbiology & Immunology 4, 142 Medical Research Building, 301 University Boulevard Galveston, Texas 77555-1019, USA Ph: 1 (409) 772 2321 : Fax: 1 (409) 772 5065 E-mail: smlemon@mspo6.med.utmb.edu
	Duncan McGeoch	Univ. of Glasgow, Inst. of Virology, MRC Virology Unit Church Street, Glasgow , J11 5JR, UK Ph: (44) 0 141-330-4645 : Fax: (44) 0 141-337-2236 E-mail: d.mcgeoch@vir.gla.ac.uk
	Colin Ward	CSIRO, Division of Biomolecular Engineering Melbourne Laboratory & Division Headquarters 343 Royal Parade, Parkville, Victoria 3052, Australia Ph: (61) 3 9662 7100 : Fax: (61) 3 9662 7101 E-mail: Colin.Ward@molsci.csiro.au
	Lois Blaine	American Type Culture Collection 12301 Parklawn Drive, Rockville, MA 20852-1776, USA Ph: 1 (301) 770-1541 E-mail: lblaine@atcc.org
	Eric Carstens	Queen's University, Dept. of Microbiology & Immunology 207 Stuart Street, Kingston, Ontario KTL-3N6, Canada Ph: 1 (613) 533-2463 : Fax: 1 (613) 533-6796 E-mail: carstens@post.queensu.ca
	Anne-Lise Haenni	Institut Jacques Monod, Laboratoire des Systemes Vegetaux 2 place Jussieu, Paris 75251 Cedex 05, France Ph: (33) 1 44.27.40.35/36 : Fax: (33) 1 44.27.35.80 E-mail: Haenni@ibbrain.ibb.waw.pl
	Ann Palmenberg	University of Wisconsin Institute for Molecular Virology and Dept. of Biochemistry 433 Babcock Drive, Madison, WI 53706, USA Ph: 1 (608) 262-7519 : Fax: 1 (608) 262-6690 E-mail: acpalmen@facstaff.wisc.edu

Table 4. Subcommittee Members

Virus database Subcommittee	Tony Della-Porta (Chair) Lois Blaine Cornelia Buchen-Osmond Charlie Calisher Mike Dallwitz Adrian Gibbs Brian Mahy Jack Maniloff Alan Brunt Marian Horzinek
Bacterial virus Subcommittee	Roger Hendrix (Chair): Tailed phages/phage evolution Hans Ackermann: Tailed phages: Enterobacteriaceae Tapani Alatossava: Tailed phages: <i>Lactobacillus</i> Sherwood Casjens: Tailed phages: Enterobacteriaceae Michael S. DuBow: Tailed phages: Enterobacteriaceae Victor N. Krylov: Tailed phages: <i>Pseudomonas</i> Martin J. Loessner: Tailed phages: <i>Listeria</i> Horst Neve: Tailed phages: <i>Streptococcus</i> and <i>Lactococcus</i> Seiya Ogata: Tailed phages: <i>Clostridium</i> Maggie Smith: Tailed phages: Actinomycetes Dennis Bamford: <i>Cystoviridae</i> , <i>Tectiviridae</i> Mike Dyall-Smith: Archaeal viruses Loren Day: <i>Inoviridae</i> Nino Incardona: <i>Microviridae</i> Jack Maniloff: Mycoplasma viruses Robert S. Safferman: Tailed phages: Cyanobacteria Jan van Duin: <i>Leviviridae</i>
Fungus virus Subcommittee	Brad Hillman (Chair) Jeff Boeke (<i>Pseudoviridae</i>) Ken Buck (<i>Narnaviridae</i>) Tom Eikbush (<i>Metaviridae</i>) Jim Van Etten (<i>Phycodnaviridae</i>) Said Ghabrial (<i>Partitiviridae</i>) Don Nuss (<i>Hypoviridae</i>) C. C. Wang (Protozoan parasites viruses) Reed Wickner (<i>Totiviridae</i>) Peter J. Wright (<i>Barnaviridae</i>) Pete Romaine J. Bruenn
Plant virus Subcommittee	Alan Brunt (Chair) Cleo D'Arcy (<i>Luteoviridae</i>) Phil Berger (<i>Potyviridae</i>) Mike Edwards (<i>Marafivirus</i>) Ricardo Flores (Viroids) Gary Foster (<i>Potexvirus/Carlavirus</i>) Roger Hull (<i>Caulimoviridae</i>) Olivier Le Gall (<i>Comoviridae</i>) Denis Lewandowski (<i>Tobamovirus/Tobravirus</i>) Steve Lommel (<i>Tombusviridae</i>)

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Table 4. Continued

	Giovanni Martelli (<i>Closteroviridae</i> and allies)
	Marilyn Roossinck (<i>Bromoviridae</i> and allies)
	John Stanley (<i>Geminiviridae</i>)
	Mikhail Taliany (<i>Umbravirus</i>)
	Lesley Torrance (<i>Furovirus/Pomovirus/Pecluvirus/Benyvirus</i>)
	Jo Vetten (<i>Nanovirus</i>)
	Bob Milne (Unassigned viruses)
	Ken Buck
	Jim Dale
	Rob Goldbach
	Satoshi Ohki
	Ed Rybicki
Invertebrate virus Subcommittee	Andrew Ball (Chair)
	Brian Frederici (<i>Ascoviridae</i>)
	David Theilmann (<i>Baculoviridae</i>)
	Peter Christian (CrPV-like viruses)
	V. Gregory Chinchar (<i>Iridoviridae</i>)
	Annette Schneemann (<i>Nodaviridae</i>)
	Bruce Webb (<i>Polydnaviridae</i>)
	Terry Hanzlik (<i>Tetraviridae</i>)
	Eric Carstens
Vertebrate virus Subcommittee	Mary Estes (Chair)
	Mario Benko (<i>Adenoviridae</i>)
	Maria Salvato (<i>Arenaviridae</i>)
	Eric Snijder (<i>Arteriviridae</i>)
	Linda Dixon (<i>Asfarviridae</i>)
	Susan Matsui (<i>Astroviridae</i>)
	Jo-Ann Leong (<i>Birnaviridae</i>)
	Kathy Carbone (<i>Bornaviridae</i>)
	Richard Elliot (<i>Bunyaviridae</i>)
	Marion Koopmans (<i>Caliciviridae</i>)
	Danny Todd (<i>Circoviridae</i>)
	Luis Enjuanes (<i>Coronaviridae</i>)
	Sergei Netesov (<i>Filoviridae</i>)
	Heinz-Jurgen Theil (<i>Flaviviridae</i>)
	William Mason (<i>Hepadnaviridae</i>)
	Andrew Davidson (<i>Herpesviridae</i>)
	Suzanne Emerson (HEV-like viruses)
	Yoshihiro Kawaoka (<i>Orthomyxoviridae</i>)
	Ethel-Michele Villiers (<i>Papillomaviridae</i>)
	Bob Lamb (<i>Paramyxoviridae</i>)
	Peter Tattersall (<i>Parvoviridae</i>)
	Glyn Stanway (<i>Picornaviridae</i>)
	E. Major (<i>Polyomaviridae</i>)
	Mark Buller (<i>Poxviridae</i>)
	R Frank Ramig (<i>Reoviridae</i>)
	Maxine Linial (<i>Retroviridae</i>)
	Noel Tordo (<i>Rhabdoviridae</i>)
	Scott Weaver (<i>Togaviridae</i>)
	Robert Shope (Unclassified viruses)

Acknowledgements

MAM is supported by the Scottish Executive Rural Affairs Department and CMF is supported by the Donald Danforth Plant Science Center, St. Louis, Missouri.

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