

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS (Monday, 14 March 2016)**

### **New President and Vice-President**

Both President Dr Jan van Tol and Vice-President Professor Daphne Fautin had expressed their intention to resign as officers by the end of 2015. Elections were organised by the Secretariat (London and Singapore) during the month of February. A nomination Committee was formed consisting of the Council members plus Commissioners Dr Alberto Ballerio and Professor Peter Ng. After the one month voting period, votes were counted by Secretary Mr Martyn Low and Scientific Editor Dr Svetlana Nikolaeva. The results were confirmed by Commissioners Ballerio and Ng, and presented to President van Tol, who informed the Commission.

Dr Thomas Pape (Copenhagen) was elected as President, and Dr Mark Harvey (Perth) as Vice-President. We congratulate both Commissioners on their elections, and wish them wisdom and success in these challenging times for zoological nomenclature. Dr Pape took over the responsibilities as President during a meeting in London on 16 March 2016. Since Professor Fautin resigned last December, Dr Harvey effectively took office on 2 March 2016.

### **Secretariat of ICZN: London office closed by 1 April 2016**

After the dissolution of the Trust for Zoological Nomenclature, the London office was supported by the Natural History Museum and the income from subscriptions of the *Bulletin*. The Natural History Museum will be discontinuing their support as from the end of March 2016, which has necessitated the following measures. First, the contract of Dr Svetlana Nikolaeva with the Natural History Museum has been terminated by 1 April 2016. The Commission has insufficient funding to continue the contract. We very much regret that Dr Nikolaeva cannot continue her task as Scientific Editor of the *Bulletin*, which actually involves all tasks related to handling Cases submitted to the Commission. Second, the ICZN archives, library and stock of the *Bulletin* and books, now in London, will be moved to the Secretariat in Singapore. Third, the *Bulletin of Zoological Nomenclature* will no longer be published in print after 2016. Subscribers will be informed of new subscriptions later this



year. Fourth, all tasks involving Cases will now be handled by Secretary Mr Martyn Low in Singapore. The new Council will define new procedures for the administration later this year. This will be announced on the ICZN website.

Finally, on behalf of the Commission we wish to thank Sir Michael Dixon, Director of the Natural History Museum, London, for the many years of support provided to the ICZN. We are extremely grateful to Dr Svetlana Nikolaeva and Mr Steve Tracey, who have ably served the Commission for many years. The Commission, aided by the Secretariat, has instigated a number of important changes over the past ten years. These include the implementation of ZooBank as the official registry of zoological nomenclature, and changes to the *Code* allowing electronic publications to contain available nomenclatural acts. These major achievements will allow the Commission to move with confidence into the future.

On behalf of ICZN Council

Dr Jan van Tol, Outgoing President