MINUTES OF THE WORKING GROUP 1 MEETING OF CCP4 HELD AT YORK ON JANUARY 3, 1996

Present:

Neil Isaacs (Chairman)	Glasgow University
Eleanor Dodson	York University
Phil Evans	MRC, Cambridge
John Helliwell	Manchester University
David Moss	Birkbeck College
Hilary Muirhead	Bristol University
Lindsay Sawyer	Edinburgh University
David Stuart	Oxford University
Jennifer Littlechild	Exeter University
Christine Cardin	Reading University
Colin Reynolds	Liverpool John Moores University
Keith Wilson	York University
Jim Naismith	St Andrews University
Simon Phillips	Leeds University
Ben Luisi	Cambridge University
Debbie Harding	BBSRC
Susan Bailey (secretary)	Daresbury Laboratory

Apologies: Garry Taylor, Peter Artymiuk, Brian Sutton, David Rice, David Moss.

1 Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted.

2 Matters arising from the minutes

§5. Reorganisation of committees. The chairman said that this has taken place as described in the minutes and seems to be successful so far.

§6. Commercialisation of software. Zeneca agreed to pay the £3,000 requested for a second site.

§7. Next study weekend. Keith explained that he had investigated the position of CCP4 applying for an EU grant for the study weekend, but we do not fit the criterion for these grants.

3 Report from the executive committee

The chairman presented the report from the executive committee (enclosed with the minutes) and asked for any questions. Points discussed were:

- Executive director. In March 1996 the executive committee had decided not to appoint an executive director and monitor progress after a year. At the executive meeting yesterday (2nd Jan 1997), the executive committee thought no change was needed at present, but the option of having an executive director was still available if required.

- IURc. A successful exhibition was held in Seattle.
- New appointments. Garib Murshudov was appointed on the BBSRC grant, and the chairman explained that there had been delays applying for a visa. The chairman asked Debbie Harding if we will lose some of the grant money due to the delay. Debbie thought it should be possible to get the full three years salary. Liz Potterton had been appointed for two years to develop a GUI and Alun Ashton had been appointed for two years to help with maintenance and development at Daresbury. A casual appointment for 6 months had been given to Dr Yao to develop MAD methods using direct methods. Hilary questioned what would happen after 6 months. John Helliwell said that he and Michael Woolfson were applying for a grant from BBSRC for Dr. Yao. The chairman confirmed that there was no intention to emply Dr Yao for longer than 6 months, although the option is available if we want to at a later date.
- Support for meetings. It was suggested that the present position of supporting workshops be extended to CCP4 organising its own workshops. The chairman asked if the working group would endorse the proposal of CCP4 organising short intensive courses for approximately 20 candidates at a cost of around £10,000 per course. The idea was very popular and WG1 members were asked to consider what courses should be run and to volunteer to help in the organisation. WG2 would be asked to organise the courses. Suggested courses were a MAD workshop (based at a synchrotron with demonstrations of real data collection), and a refinement workshop. There was some discussion about a MAD workshop, and it was agreed that there should be one, but not this year as there will be a workshop on MAD at ESRF. It was agreed that Jim Naismith and Eleanor should organise a CCP4 refinement workshop to take place during 1997, based at York University where there are suitable facilities. A MAD workshop will be held in 1998.
- Finances. An estimated financial statement for the 1996/97 year showed a healthy balance sheet. An updated end of year statement is enclosed with these minutes

4 Voting for post of Chairman

The current chairman, Neil Isaacs left the room and Phil Evans took the chair for this item. Phil explained that the only nomination so far was for Neil to continue as chair. Phil asked if there were any other nominations and there were not. Neil was unanimously elected as the chairman for the next three years. Neil was told the results and resumed his role as chairman

5 Voting for one member of the executive committee

Eleanor was standing for re-election to the executive committee, and left the room during voting. There were no other proposed candidates and Eleanor was reappointed to the executive committee and rejoined the meeting.

6 Next Study Weekend

There was some discussion over the date of the next Study weekend. Although the 9/10 January were proposed, the York venue would not be available for these dates as term would have started and Keith suggested the dates of 4/5 Jan Sun/Mon 1998. Many other University venues would not be available on 9/10.. It was agreed that a number of dates and venues be investigated before the WG2 meeting at the end of January when a decision could be made. It was suggested that the executive committee discuss holding the meeting at a different time of year for future years (ie after 1998). Keith was prepared to be local contact at York if the meeting is held there. The chairman asked for suggested topics. Keith suggested Data collection/Synchrotrons/Detectors. Phil suggested crystallisation and Ben Luisi suggested a topic of exploiting databases. Databases was a popular choice and the chairman asked who should organise the meeting. Ben was felt to be a possible organiser.

7 Role of CCP4 in 1999 at Glasgow

The chairman explained that Chris Gilmore is the local organiser for the Glasgow IUCR meeting and that the BCA are playing a role in the organisation. It was agreed that the obvious place for CCP4 to be involved is in the computing school. No one was sure who was organiser of the computing school and the names of Anne Bloomer and Gerard Bricogne were mentioned as possibilities. It was agreed that CCP4 should contact the organisers of the computing school and offer assistance.

action Sue, Neil

8 Any other business

Prof. Tony North had written to the secretary resigning from WG2 as he is retiring. The chairman said that we should thank Tony for his contribution to CCP4, especially during his years as chairman of WG1, and it was agreed that a letter would be written to Tony expressing our thanks.

Simon Phillips asked for clarification of who is on WG1, and the chairman explained that the heads of all PX laboratories are invited to WG1 meetings.

9 Venue and date of the next meeting

The next meeting will be on the first morning of the next study weekend, in the same place as that meeting.

— Sue Bailey (secretary)

17-1-97