

Acta A meeting

Euroforum Infantes, San Lorenzo de El Escorial, Spain

20 August, 15:00-18:00, Sala10

CHAIR: Dieter Schwarzenbach

Attendees: Acta A Editors and Co-editors

IUCr staff attending: Nicola Ashcroft

JOURNAL SCOPE AND DEVELOPMENT

Walter Steurer proposed ideas for changes to the scope of the journal and ideas for the development of the journal.

It was concluded that the scope of the journal needs to be widened. 100 years after von Laue's discovery, a journal devoted only to the Foundations of Crystallography has become obsolete. New subtitles, such as 'Advances in Crystallography' or 'Frontiers of Crystallography', were suggested.

These subtitles would allow the inclusion of any timely topic that is not already covered or at least not in the focus of the other IUCr journals. In addition to the areas already covered by Acta A, new areas could be photonic and phononic crystals, crystal physics (if not applied) and nano crystals.

It was also suggested that Acta A could be turned into an open-access journal. A first step could be to have two sections in the journal, e.g. letters (open access) and articles (closed access). The open-access fee could be kept low by requiring that authors use a template for their submissions.

It was agreed that these suggestions would be sent to the Editor-in-Chief. They could then be discussed by the Journals Review Committee set up by the Executive Committee. Once approval for the changes has been obtained, the new subtitle and journal structure could be introduced, and Notes for Authors modified accordingly. New co-editors covering the new fields should be invited, and review and original articles from well known experts in the new fields should also be sought.

INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF CRYSTALLOGRAPHY - 2013 (IYCR 2013)

It was concluded that 2013 would be an appropriate time to launch the new form of the journal.