SIG1: Macromolecular Crystallography

Reported Period: 2021-2022

Report Date: 17 August 2022

Reported by: Marjolein Thunnissen, Jan Dohnalek and Ronan Keegan

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1. Introduction. (50 words max.)

The principal objectives of the Macromolecular Crystallography SIG are to support advances in macromolecular crystallographic research by both theoretical and experimental methods and their applications, and to represent and bring together researchers interested in these areas.

2. SIG web site:

SIG1 url: https://ecanews.org/groups/sig-01/.

3. Number of ECA individual members registered with the SIG according to (http://www.xray.cz/eca/im-payment.htm**)**

SIG1	Macromolecular Crystallography	315 (2021)

According to ecanews.org

SIG-01	Macromolecular Crystallography	73

4. Existence of a SIG mailing list : Yes

Address of the mailing list: https://groups.google.com/forum/#!forum/sig1eca

Number of members in the SIG mailing list : 30

5. Approximate total number of researchers involved in the SIG (please indicate the basis for the estimate)

SIG1 currently has 315 registered members **(**from http://www.xray.cz/eca/eca-sig.asp?id=SIG1), while meetings are normally attended by ~30-50 individuals. Several dozen researchers are involved in SIG1 activities, especially in the organization of courses and workshops.

6. NA

7. Past Activities other than Microsymposia at ECM

No major activities have taken place in the reporting period due to travel restrictions and other problems caused by the ongoing pandemic. It was also an IUCr year. Several workshops took place at the last meeting of the ECM in Vienna (2019).

8. Future/Programmed Activities.

SIG1 has been actively involved in the planning of the microsymposia for the ECM33 meeting in Versaille, France. Jan Dohnalek is currently the main contact from SIG1 for this activity, but will step down from the role due to other commitments in the near future. A list of microsymposia were proposed that balance the different interests of SIG1 regarding science as well as methods and instrument development.

As for past activities, a large panel of workshops and courses are foreseen for the coming year, depending on a return to normality. A specificity of SIG1 is the fact that sample preparation is an important part of structural biology and the theme of many courses goes well beyond crystallography. Many of the activities will be organised by INSTRUCT, http://www.structuralbiology.eu/, the network for structural biology in Europe as well as iNEXT (http://www.inext-eu.org/).

9. Other matters. The next annual meeting of SIG1 will take place at the ECM33 meeting in Versailles. It is anticipated that there will be discussion on the microsymposia for ECM34 (2024) as well as the election of new SIG officers.

10. Brief annual activity report (100 words max.)

The main activity of SIG1 involves the organization of the microsymposia and keynote speakers for the individual European crystallographic meetings. The aim is to offer a wide variety of topics to structural biologists with a view to increase the attendance of our current and potential members at the annual meetings. In addition, individual members participate in organizing workshops and conferences of interest to European structural biologists.

11. List SIG officers, name and e-mail, and specify their main function in the SIG:

Chair: Marjolein Thunnissen, Lund, Sweden, Marjolein,Thunnissen@maxiv.lu.se

Vice-Chair: Jan Dohnalek, Prague, Czech Republic, dohnalek007@gmail.com

Secretary: Ronan Keegan, Oxford, UK, ronan.keegan@stfc.ac.uk