

MINUTES OF THE INAUGURAL MEETING OF THE BRITISH ACADEMY OF PSYCHOPHARMACOLOGY

held on 22nd April 1974

at the Royal Society of Medicine, 1 Wimpole Street, London.

The meeting was attended by 45 interested persons.

The meeting was opened by Dr. David Wheatley who proposed that it should be the purpose of the Academy to weld together the many disciplines involved in psychopharmacology.

The meeting then proceeded to elect Professor Max Hamilton as first President of the Academy and Chairman of the meeting. This proposal was carried unanimously.

Considerable discussion then ensued concerning the objects of the Academy and the qualifications for membership. In addition to integrating the different disciplines involved, further functions of the Academy were identified, such as: arranging scientific meetings, seminars and study groups; sponsoring research, and publishing a journal.


The meeting then proceeded to elect the officers, as recorded on the separate sheet.

It was decided that officers and members of Council should serve for two years, and that Council should be entrusted with the task of determining the constitution and rules of the Academy.

It was resolved that all those attending the meeting should be invited to become Founder members of the Academy, and that all those who responded to the original letter from the Steering Committee, should be invited to become members without the necessity of formal application. Subsequently, applications for membership would be considered by an appropriate Membership Sub-Committee, whose recommendations to Council would be governed by the applicant's merit, and the desirability of maintaining a balance between the various disciplines represented in the Academy. It was decided that the membership fee should be £10 per annum.

The honorary secretary reported that he had received letters of congratulation on the proposed formation of the Academy from the Presidents of the following Colleges of Neuropsychopharmacology: International (CINP) (Professor H. Hippus); American (ACNP) (Dr. Leo Hollister); Turkish (TCNP) (Professor T. Itil); Germany-Austria-Switzerland (AGNP) (Professor H. Heimann); and Belgium (BCNP) (Dr. J. Collard). Letters expressing interest in the formation of the Academy were also received from the President of the Royal College of Psychiatrists (Sir Martin Roth) and the honorary general secretary of the British Pharmacological Society (Professor J. F. Mitchell).

The meeting was concluded with votes of thanks addressed to the President of the Royal Society of Medicine (Sir John Stallworthy) for providing facilities for the inaugural meeting free of charge; and to the publisher of the British Clinical Journal (Mr. D. M. Morton) for providing the recording and transcribing facilities also free of charge.



Max Hamilton,
President.

2nd July, 1974.