Item 14.2 Continuation of the Joint Commission on Biochemical Terminology

Under Bylaw 4.302, the Bureau recommends that Council continue the Joint Commission on Biochemical Terminology during the 2002-2003 biennium.

This Joint Commission works with the International Union of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology [IUBMB] to maintain and develop the Enzyme List, a very substantial and ongoing project, and it is increasingly involved with standards for bioinformatics, facing huge challenges in the handling of the explosion of information on biopolymers. In addition, JCBN has traditionally dealt with work on specialist biochemical nomenclature systems (*e.g.* carbohydrates, lipids, polypeptides), where a close link with the proposed Division of Systematic Nomenclature and Structure Representation will be important.

During the next biennium, IUPAC will consult with IUBMB and interested parties in the field of nomenclature to determine whether such a Joint Commission is likely to provide the optimum long-range mechanism for collaboration. If so, a request will be submitted to Bureau and Council for reestablishment of the Commission under Bylaw 4.301.