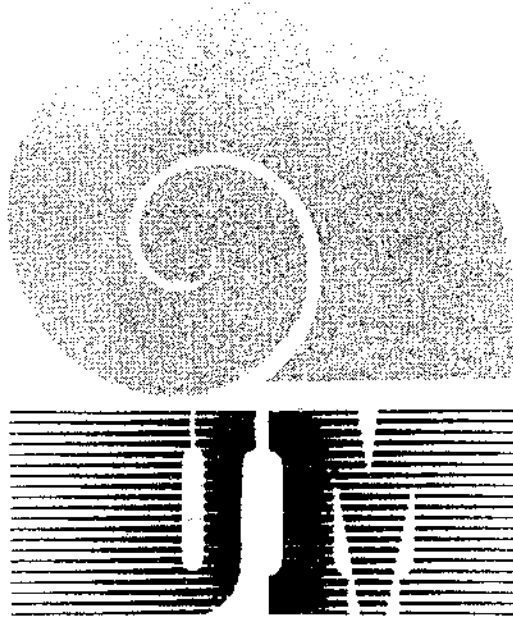


Number 1

July 1987



UNITAS

MALACOLOGICA

**Newsletter**

Dear fellow-malacologists,

Probably all members of UNITAS MALACOLOGICA agree with me that receiving one or more volumes containing the proceedings of international malacological congresses is worth their subscription fees. But since long it has been felt that UNITAS should provide something more than just organizing congresses and distributing proceedings. Certainly every malacologist is in some sort of isolation, which not always can be called splendid.

This is a first attempt at fighting isolation. The UM Newsletter is not another journal, but a means of communication among individuals. Scientific communication will, therefore, not be found in it. It will inform you about what is going on in the malacological world, where new national and regional societies have been founded, where international or supra-regional workshops, symposia or congresses are being planned and so on.

One of its major goals, however, is to offer a forum for opinions and proposals, how to promote cooperation between malacologists.

Finally, you will find short reports of progress in activities, legislation etc. referring to our field of science. As the editor depends on information you have, you are kindly asked to send them in, even without comments. Also relevant newspaper notes are welcome.

We look forward to your contribution to an improved communication among UM members.

Claus Meier-Brook  
President, UM



## UM 25 years old

On 21st September 1987, UNITAS MALACOLOGICA will be able to look back on twenty-five years of existence. There will be no birthday party, at least not an official one. But how about raising a glass of juice, wine, beer - or could you even afford champagne - to celebrate UNITAS' birthday? I suggest that all members raise their glasses at 8 p.m. Greenwich Mean Time. The Central Europeans must wait until 9 o'clock, colleagues in East Europe until 10 p.m., which should still be convenient for them. Our American fellows will have to look up from their microscopes: those working in the Smithsonian or the American Museum could take a break in the early afternoon, at 3 p.m.; those in California might combine their lunch with a toast to UNITAS. For our colleagues in the Far East we cannot but offer a rather inconvenient schedule: 5 a.m. in Japan and - still with a yawn in their faces - those in Sydney and Melbourne at 6 a.m. ...

What a feeling of solidarity - no, why that? - of collegiality - but even that is too cool; why not friendship? This would be quite something: to know that simultaneously several hundred malacologists all over the world are raising a glass in honour of a great society that has brought together scientists from remote countries and given rise to many personal contacts and much cooperation over 25 years!

And before you buy the drink (oh, not Cola please; we want to be a cultivated band), why not consider inviting a fellow-malacologist? After one or two glasses he might be warm enough to enjoy your company and to join UNITAS MALACOLOGICA. Twenty Swiss Francs per year is certainly not beyond him/her. You do not have the latest exchange list? Well, 20 sfr. is no more than 13 U.S.\$ or 8 Pounds Sterling. You will find the appropriate application attached to this newsletter. And do not forget to mark the 21st of September in your calendar!

Cheers! A votre santé! Prospit, UNITAS MALACOLOGICA!

### UNITAS MALACOLOGICA 1962 - 1987 A tabulated history of congresses

Congresses held by Unitas took place every three years, for one week, usually between August and September. The first six congresses were called "European Malacological Congress", the 7th onwards "International Malacological Congress".

congr.no.	year	place	number of particip.*	countries repres.	Proceed. appeared	as or in
1	1962	London	125	20	1965	"Proc. First European Malacol. Congr."
2	1965	Kobenhavn	120?	18	1966	MALACOLOGIA 5,1 (detailed abstr.)
3	1968	Wien	155	27	1969	MALACOLOGIA 9,1
4	1971	Geneve	174	31	1973	MALACOLOGIA 14,1-2
5	1974	Milano	119	22	1977	MALACOLOGIA 16,1
6	1977	Amsterdam	200	30	1979	MALACOLOGIA 18,1-2
7	1980	Perpignan	262	30	1982	MALACOLOGIA 22,1-2
8	1983	Budapest	188	35	1986	"Proc.Eighth Internat.Malacol.Congr."
9	1986	Edinburgh	336	40	?	?

\* estimated on the basis of lists of participants, which were not necessarily correct, as they may have included people unable to attend.

## THE FOUNDING OF UNITAS MALACOLOGICA

by  
GEORGE I. CRAWFORD

*We have asked one of the founders, at that time President of the Malacological Society of London, to recall the throes:*

The concept of a European organisation of the nature of Unitas appears to have been current at least as early as 1935; but it was not until 1959 that effective steps were taken to bring the embryo to birth. In the summer of that year the Netherlands Malacological Society celebrated its twenty fifth anniversary with a meeting attended by malacologists from many European countries. Scientific papers were read, and expeditions organized, but for my present purpose the important feature of this gathering was the paper read by Dr. Forcart which expressed the need for increased personal cooperation between malacologists, and in particular between curators of the collections of Mollusca in the principal museums of Europe. In subsequent discussion strong interest was expressed in the idea of a European Malacological Union, and of periodic international meetings of malacologists. The follow-up was entrusted to a committee consisting of Dr. C.O. van Regteren Altena (Leiden), Mr. S.P. Dance (London), Professor P.H. Fischer (Paris), Dr. L. Forcart (Basle), and Dr. A. Zilch (Frankfurt-am-Main). Mr. Dance promised to try to arrange the first meeting of European malacologists in Great Britain in 1962 or 1963, and, on his return to London, he reported to the Councils of the two London-based societies (the Conchological Society of Great Britain and Ireland, and the Malacological Society of London).

My own recollection - at least as regards the Malacological Society - was that the immediate reaction to the proposal of a congress in Great Britain was not so welcoming as is suggested by the Rev. H.E.J. Biggs in his introduction to the Proceedings of the First European Malacological Congress (published jointly by the two societies, London 1965). We needed to be persuaded that an organisation of the kind proposed could do much which could not equally well be done by cooperation

by individuals or between societies: (How wrong events showed us to be!) Nor were we confident, even in cooperation between our two societies, of our ability to organize a conference on the necessary scale.

Our misgivings, however, did not prevent us setting up a joint committee of the two societies to consider ways and means. This committee consisted of Dr. L.R. Cox, Chairman, the Rev. H.E.J. Biggs, Mr. C.P. Castell, Mr. G.I. Crawford, Mr. S.P. Dance, and Dr. Joyce Rigby, and held its first meeting on November 8th, 1960. Later Dr. John Peake and Mr. Norman Tebble were coopted. Of these 8 members, 5 were on the staff of the British Museum (Natural History) and Dr. Rigby was a lecturer in Biology at Queen Elizabeth College of the University of London - a small college conveniently situated a mile or so from the Museum.

Both these institutions offered generous help - the Museum providing the use of lecture and conference rooms, and the College providing accommodation and social and refectory facilities.

The Royal Society offered financial assistance, and the two societies were themselves prepared to draw on their own funds. With these assurances the committee recommended the two Councils to go ahead; arrangements for the conference were approved, and invitations issued in the name of the two Societies.

The Congress, which took place from the 17th to 21st September, 1962, was attended by 125 people from 20 countries - mainly from Europe, but with several from the United States and a few from Australia, New Zealand, Canada, and Rhodesia (Zimbabwe). The opening session was an evening reception in Queen Elizabeth College where members and distinguished guests were received by the Principal of the College and members of the Organizing Committee. This pleasant gathering enabled people to renew

old acquaintances and to forge new friendships. Indeed two features of the Congress made this process of getting to know one another particularly easy. One was the fact that the \*great majority of participants were accommodated in Queen Elizabeth College: the other that the Scientific programme, recorded in the Proceedings of the Congress mentioned above, consisted of a single series of lectures by invited speakers so that members did not break up into separate groups pursuing their separate interests.

Two further evening sessions in the College were well attended; and the Field Excursions, either to Boxhill (a chalk down near Dorking) or to Burnham-on-Crouch (Essex) to visit the Government Laboratory for Commercial Fisheries, were enthusiastically supported.

Throughout the week, apart from the Scientific activities of the Congress, work went on for the establishment of a European Union. Immediately after the participants had assembled in the Museum and been welcomed by the Director, they went into plenary session for broad discussion on the needs which such a union should meet, and the kind of constitution which would be appropriate. Twenty one members contributed to this discussion, and it was clear that the proposal was strongly supported. Speakers also gave general guidance on the kind of union that was desired. A representative committee was appointed to draw up a draft constitution for discussion and its possible ratification, at a final plenary session at the close of the Congress.

Although I was chairman of that Committee my recollection of who were the members is disconcertingly vague. They are not recorded anywhere that I can find, nor have enquiries from other original members revealed a full list. The best attempt at a list of members that I have been able to construct appears to be: Dr. van Regteren Altena, Dr. Forcart, Dr. Schlickum (Köln), and Dr. Toffoletto (Milano), besides, very probably Professor Fischer.

Perhaps some reader of this account can complete the picture.

The committee met several times during the week, missing much of the Scientific programme, but enjoying a welcome breath of fresh air on the excursions. We worked in an atmosphere of friendly cooperation and mutual understanding, and a draft constitution was ready for the final plenary session in Queen Elizabeth College on Friday. This began at 20.00 hours and continued late into the evening, finishing only just in time for members from outer London, like myself, to catch the last train home.

An immediate problem was one of language - The draft was presented in English, and French- and German-speaking malacologists, very reasonably, needed to be assured of the precise meaning of the proposed clauses, and satisfied that these met their wishes. This difficulty was overcome by the nomination of Dr. Adolf Zilch and Dr. Eugene Binder to join me on the platform so that every controversial point could be discussed in three languages. After that all went well, if a trifle laboriously, until quite late in proceedings, when final agreement seemed close, but when we were all very tired. I cannot remember what was the sticking point, but suddenly it looked as if all our efforts might come to nothing. At this moment, when I was at my wit's end how to bring matters to a successful conclusion, Dr. Anna Bidder of Cambridge leant across from her front row seat and in a sufficiently penetrating whisper suggested that I should call for a brief adjournment. I did this. Members split up into groups for detailed discussion, and when the meeting was resumed, all difficulties were resolved and a final version of the Constitution was speedily agreed. Before the Congress broke up it was agreed that the next congress should take place in Copenhagen in 1965: and Dr. Zilch and Dr. Forcart were appointed Secretary and Treasurer, respectively.

This original constitution has, naturally, been amended since - at the congresses of 1965 and 1977. Most amendments have been clarifications of the original draft to make it easier to understand and operate. The most fundamental was the extension of UNITAS world wide, and the dropping of the adjective EUROPAEA from the title, in 1977. Most of the basic features remain - the legal domicile in Switzerland, the three year interval between congresses to be held in a different country each time, and the requirement that the Committee holding office between one congress and the next shall be widely representative of the countries involved in membership.

I think it can fairly be said that the original constitution, so laboriously hammered out, has provided a sound foundation on which our present lively association (now coming up to its 25th birthday and its 10th congress) has been able to grow and flourish. For this, credit is due to all those who took part in initiating the idea of a malacological union, and later in the long and detailed discussions in London, and who finally agreed and signed the constitution late at night on Friday, September 21st, 1962. I was delighted to see so many original members in Edinburgh 24 years later, and taking a lively part in proceedings.

Several of these original members have been consulted and asked for help by me in preparing this account. To all of these I am most grateful; but I need not name them, since the responsibility for errors and omissions is mine alone. If any reader of this Newsletter can correct errors or fill in gaps this would be much appreciated.

G.I.Crawford  
Hall Close Cottage  
81 Main Road  
Grendon, Northampton NN7 1JW  
England

#### TRUST FUND

At a meeting of the Council of Unitas Malacologica, during the 8th International Malacological Congress in Budapest, 1983, it was decided to establish a committee to investigate the possibility of setting up a Trust Fund.

The committee has since held meetings discussing the problems involved and setting up rules for the Fund. It was suggested that the Fund be based in Denmark because the interest is generally higher than in nearly any other country.

The Fund should be used for the following purposes:

- (a) to contribute to specific expenses of the Malacological Congresses or other meetings of UM;
- (b) to provide financial support for the publications of UM;
- (c) to provide subventions towards the travel and accommodation expenses for malacologists from eastern Europe and the developing countries participating in UM congresses.

The Trust Fund has not yet been established; in due time a leaflet will be prepared explaining the purpose of the Fund and asking for contributions. Those interested already now may turn to the undersigned.

Dr. Jørgen Knudsen  
Zoological Museum  
Universitetsparken 25  
DK-2100 Copenhagen

#### UM Council 1986 - 1989

President: Dr. Claus Meier-Brook  
Wilhelmstr.31, D-7400 Tübingen  
Vice-President: N.N., Spain  
Secretary: Dr. Edmund Gittenberger  
Postbus 9517, NL-2300 RA Leiden  
Treasurer: Dr. Jackie Van Goethem  
Vautierstr.29, B-1040 Brussel  
Retired President:  
Dr. David Heppell, Edinburgh, GB  
Councilors-at-Large:  
Dr. Alison Kay, Honolulu, Hawaii  
Dr. Albert R. Mead, Tucson, Arizona  
Dr. Jon-Arne Snelli, Trondheim, Norway  
Ms. Susan M. Wells, Cambridge, GB

## UM FORUM

## WHAT IS YOUR OPINION?

In this column, we hope to have lively discussions of current problems in the life of UNITAS or concerning the work and cooperation of malacologists in general.

We start with a letter addressed to the Secretary of UM, by Dr. Winston Ponder. Since this letter is rather extensive, this is an excerpt.

".. from my position of relative isolation, I see the problems as follows:

1. UNITAS is still essentially a European organisation and yet states that it is international. I appreciate the logistics make it difficult for the Council to get together for meetings (...) but this could be overcome by having a core council and a wider council of more international representation. The broader council could be circulated an agenda before each meeting and thus be able to comment on items of interest or concern in time for the actual meeting. (...) probably a doubling of the present non-office bearing council members would allow a reasonable spread.

2. Elections.

(Here the author suggests a more even geographical distribution of council members. This, in the editor's opinion, could be discussed in detail in this column and during the next general assembly.)

3. I would like to see UNITAS more relevant - we have a world with increasing population and wealth but relatively smaller amounts of money are being spent on malacology. UNITAS should be out there in the international forum selling malacology to governments. It should also be seen to be the body from which advice on major issues is sought and should be effective in lobbying organisations relevant to malacology (e.g. UNESCO, WHO, ICZN etc.). Fund raising could be one area that an organisation such

as UNITAS could be successful - imagine UNITAS grants being available to assist with publication costs, funding worthwhile projects etc.

4. In order that the sorts of functions outlined in 3 can be carried out UNITAS must effectively speak for the malacological community. (...) At the same time it must effectively communicate with members and nonmembers (...)."

W.F.Ponder, Australian Museum, Sydney, NSW 2000, Australia

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During the last meeting of UM Council in Leiden, Netherlands, (June 12 - 14, 1987) the above letter was discussed. It was stressed that in the ICZN malacology has already been represented through Unitas. The Council also intends to propose that an Advisory Board be established within Unitas. The function of the Advisory Board will be to represent disciplinary and regional interests within malacology and to advise Council on programs, policies, and ideas relevant to Unitas. In anticipation of this proposal being submitted at the Tenth Congress in Tübingen, Council now invites nominations for the Advisory Board from societies, institutions and/or groups of five or more individuals.

Any nominations and inquiries should be addressed to the Secretary.

\*

Le Bureau de l'Unitas Malacologica a l'intention de vous proposer d'établir au sein de notre association un Comité Consultatif. Le rôle de ce Comité Consultatif serait de représenter les intérêts des différentes disciplines malacologiques ainsi que les différentes régions et de renseigner le Bureau sur les programmes, les lignes

de conduite et les idées susceptibles d'intéresser l'Unitas Malacologica. En attendant que cette proposition soit soumise au Dixième Congrès à Tübingen, le Bureau demande dès maintenant des nominations de représentants émanant des Sociétés, des Institutions et/ou de groupes d'au moins 5 personnes pour ce Comité Consultatif.

\*

Der Vorstand beabsichtigt, die Einrichtung eines Beirats in der Unitas Malacologica vorzuschlagen.

Der Beirat soll der Vertretung fachlicher und regionaler Interessen innerhalb der Malakologie dienen und den Vorstand in Unitas-bezüglichen Programmatik-, Verfahrens- und Inhaltsfragen beratend unterstützen. Schon bevor dieser Vorschlag auf dem 10. Kongreß in Tübingen eingebracht wird, erbittet der Vorstand Nominierungen für den Beirat von einzelnen Gesellschaften, Institutionen und/oder Gruppen von mindestens fünf Einzelpersonen.

BACK NUMBERS OF PROCEEDINGS of Malacological Congresses are obtainable from the Secretary after paying the respective amount plus sfr. 6.-- per order for handling and postage. Send your order to the Secretary indicating that you have paid on the UM account. The Treasurer will inform him of your payment, and your order will be handled immediately. The following volumes are available:

Congress no.	appear- ed in pap- ers	no. pages	book- sell.: sfr.	p r i c e s		remarks
				UM mem- bers: sfr.	bers: sfr.	
1 London 1962	1965	16	266	43.--	30.--	
2 Copenhagen 1965	1966	29	93	21.50	15.--	detailed abstr. only
3 Vienna 1968	1969	68	338	43.--	30.--	
4 Geneva 1971	1973	73	478	115.--	70.--	restricted supply
5 Milan 1974	1977	55	331	71.50	50.--	
6 Amsterdam 1977 (1979)	87	622	out of stock			
7 Perpignan 1980	1982	117	765	129.--	80.--	restricted supply
7 " Sympos.vol.	1981	16	430	86.--	60.--	"Evolut.&Adapt.Radiat."
8 Budapest 1983	1986	78	342	43.--	30.--	
8 " Sympos.vol.	1984	19	289	23.--	23.--	"Biogeogr.Non-Marine M."

WHO has a spare copy of the AMSTERDAM Proceedings and could enable us to offer a few complete sets? This should apply to all those who were both members of Unitas and subscribers of MALACOLOGIA at that time. Could you, please, search your book shelves and contact the Secretary? The value of 60 Swiss Francs can be passed to your account.

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#### U M M a r k e t

Who is able to provide alcohol material of the planorbid snail genus *Gyraulus* from Indonesia? Write to Dr. C. Meier-Brook, Wilhelmstr. 31, D-7400 Tuebingen, F.R.G.

THE LAST INTERNATIONAL MALACOLOGICAL CONGRESS assembled 336 malacologists from 40 countries in Edinburgh, Scotland, where the retired President of UM, Dr. David Heppell, provided the facilities of the Royal Museum of Scotland and the University of Edinburgh and created an excellent atmosphere which facilitated contacts and relaxed and fruitful exchanges among malacologists.

At the General Assembly, two council members of many years' standing retired, namely Dr. Peter Jung as Treasurer and Dr. Oliver E. Paget as Secretary. They served *Unitas* for 15 or 18 years, respectively. Deep gratitude was expressed to both of them.

As usual, the Wednesday was the excursion day, and was favoured by nice weather. The other six days of the congress, from August 31 until September 6, 1986, were filled with papers and a number of contributions to eight special symposia. One of the symposia commemorated the late Sir Maurice Yonge, whose widow attended many of the activities of the congress. An unforgettable banquet on Friday evening, climaxing in performances by Scottish pipers and dancers, formed the highlight of the many social events.

Thanks again to Dr. David Heppell and the staff members behind him!

Claus Meier-Brook

THE NEXT INT. MAL. CONGRESS is to be held in Southwest Germany from August 27 to September 2, 1989. A first circular is attached to this newsletter. Otherwise address your inquiry to the current president of UM (Address see "UM Council", p.5).

## Malacological Calendar

The FIRST INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS ON MEDICAL AND APPLIED MALACOLOGY was held on 2 - 6 June 1987 in Monterrey, Nuevo Leon, Mexico. It was organized by the newly founded INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR MEDICAL AND APPLIED MALACOLOGY. Information can be obtained from M. en C. Fernando Jimenez-Guzman, Lab.de Parasitologia, Facultad de Ciencias Biologicas, UANL, A.P.22, San Nicolas de los Garza, Nuevo Leon, C.P. 66450, Mexico.

### LATINAMERICAN MALACOLOGICAL CONGRESS

Scheduled for February 1988 in Cali, Colombia. Address inquiries to Dr. Jaime Cantera K., Universidad del Valle, Dep. de Biologia, A. A. No. 25360, Cali, Colombia, S. America.

The WESTERN SOCIETY OF NATURALISTS is sponsoring a meeting with several symposia of interest to malacologists June 26 - July 3, 1988, in Hong Kong. Of special interest is a symposium on Pacific biogeography organized by Dr. Alan Kohn. Participants include Winston Ponder and Alison Kay. Details of the meeting can be obtained from Dr. David Montgomery, Secretary, Western Society of Naturalists, California State University, San Luis Obispo, California, U.S.A.

SECOND EUROPEAN MEETING ON LITTORINID BIOLOGY, July 4-8, 1988; Tjarno Marine Biological Laboratory, Stromstad, Sweden. Contact Kerstin Janson, Bo Johannesson, or Marianne Saur, Tjarno M.B.L., P1 2781, S-452 00 Stromstad, Sweden.



RULES OF THE UNITAS MALACOLOGICA

1. The u n i o n shall be called the Unitas Malacologica. Its legal domicile is Basle in Switzerland.
2. The o b j e c t of the Unitas shall be:  
to further the study of Mollusca by individual malacologists, and by interested societies and institutions all over the world.
3. M e m b e r s h i p is open to individuals (personal members) and societies or institutions (collective members); at the discretion of the Council the additional category of student member may be established.
4. A p p l i c a t i o n for membership shall be made in writing to the Council and shall be subject to confirmation by the Council; applicants who have not been accepted as members by the Council shall be entitled to appeal to the next General Assembly. On payment of the current dues, the applicant shall be entitled to receive communications of the union and enjoy the rights of membership, including attendance at the General Assemblies, but shall not be entitled to vote, until his membership has been confirmed.
5. T e r m i n a t i o n of membership shall take place

- (1) on receipt by the Secretary of a letter of resignation;
- (2) on the death of a personal member, on dissolution of a collective member;
- (3) if a proposal by the Council to cancel the membership of an individual, society or institution is accepted by the majority of ordinary members voting at the General Assembly;
- (4) at the discretion of the Council, in any given period between General Assemblies, when a member has not paid his dues for the previous two years; but any member whose membership has been terminated in this way shall be entitled to appeal to the next General Assembly.

On termination of membership, a member loses all rights against the Unitas.

6. The C o u n c i l of the Unitas shall be formed from personal members, of whom not more than two shall be from the same country, and shall consist of

The President                      The Secretary  
The Vice-President              The Treasurer  
Four Members of Council

The retiring President: ex-officio member

Officers shall take up office immediately after the termination of the General Assembly and, together with the retiring President, shall hold office until the termination of the next. Two Members of Council shall be elected at the General Assemblies; the other two retaining office until the subsequent Assembly. Only the Secretary and Treasurer can be re-elected in the same capacity.

Meetings of the Council shall immediately proceed and succeed each International Congress; additional meetings shall be called only by the President.

Resolutions of the Council shall be passed by simple majority of the entire membership; the President (or in his absence the Vice-President) shall have a casting vote .

7. In legal matters the President and Secretary jointly shall sign for the Council.
8. General Assemblies and International Congresses . The Council shall organise periodical International Congresses in Europe , if possible every three years, and elsewhere intermediary Congresses when the need arises or if ten or more members request the Council to do so. Non-members may attend the International Congresses and receive the proceedings on payment of additional fees. A General Assembly shall be held at each International Congress, and shall deal with the domestic affairs of the Unitas. The year and place of each Congress shall be fixed at the preceding General Assembly. Consecutive Congresses shall always take place in different countries. The Council may arrange for a committee in the country where a Congress is to be held to organise the Congress. Notice of time and place of each General Assembly and International Congress shall be mailed to all members at least three months before the date of the General Assembly, together with a statement of affairs to be considered. The cost of International Congresses shall be met partly by contributions from participants, partly by funds raised for that purpose.
9. Extraordinary Assemblies may be called by the Council at any time. On the request of at least 10 personal members the Council must call an Extraordinary Assembly to be held within four months of the receipt of the request. Extraordinary Assemblies can conduct only the internal business of the Unitas. A notice of time, place, and business to be transacted shall be mailed to all members at least two months before the date of the assembly. No business, apart from that notified, shall be transacted. The conduct of Extraordinary Assemblies shall be subject to the same rules of procedure as General Assemblies.
10. Voting . Only personal members are entitled to vote. As a general principle the right of voting will be confined to those present at assemblies, either on their own behalf or as authorised proxies on behalf of those not present, with a maximum of three per member present. These proxies should be presented to the secretary before the General Assembly.  
The following are the exceptions to this principle:
  - (a) all voting for the election of the Council shall be by mail, except as laid down in Rule 11;
  - (b) all voting for the dissolution of the Unitas shall be by mail as laid down in Rule 17.
11. Election of Council . The Council is obliged to nominate members for the new Council. In addition, any other group of at least five personal members has the right to make nominations. Nominations must be made not less than three months before the next General Assembly. Voting papers with the names of persons nominated and the capacity in which they are nominated shall be mailed to personal members at least 30 days before the General Assembly. Election shall be by simple

majority of all voting papers received by the Secretary up to the date of the General Assembly. In any case of equal votes, the General Assembly shall decide on a simple majority vote.

12. *Casual vacancies in Council*. In any case of decease or resignation of an officer or other member of Council, the remaining members of Council shall appoint a successor until the next Congress, subject to Rule 6.
13. Subscriptions shall be fixed at each General Assembly in the currency of the country of legal domicile. Subscriptions shall be annual, covering a period from October 1st each year.
14. *Communications* of the Unitas containing announcements of meetings, accounts, lists of members etc. shall be sent to all members. These communications shall not contain any matter which will qualify them as scientific publications.
15. *Committees* for special purposes may be appointed by the General Assembly. These committees are elected in the first place for the same period as the Council. Members are eligible for re-election. Such committees must report through the Council to the General Assembly.
16. *Alteration of this Constitution*. Proposals can be considered only at General Assemblies. Such proposals may be placed on the agenda by the Council at any time, and must be placed on the agenda if not less than 10 members request the Council to do so at least six months before the next General Assembly.
17. *Dissolution* of the Unitas requires the consent of at least 2/3 of the total number of personal members voting by mail. In the event of dissolution, the assets of the Unitas shall be shared equally between the publication funds of printed malacological periodicals, which are themselves members or the publishers of which are members.

Amsterdam, 21 August 1977

*La version française peut être demandée par le secrétaire:*

*Die deutsche Fassung kann beim Sekretär angefordert werden:*

*Dr. Edmund Gittenberger, Rijksmuseum van Natuurlijke Historie,  
Postbus 9517, NL - 2300 RA Leiden, Netherlands*

## THE TREASURER'S COLUMN

Some time ago, as the newly elected treasurer, I took over all the documents and archives of my predecessor, Dr. Peter Jung, of Basle, Switzerland. Peter kindly explained to me the operation of accounts, and the perfect order of all his records and files permitted me to easily understand the functioning of the system. I wish to thank you again, Peter, for all your help.

From previous Council meetings in Edinburgh, I quickly understood that my principal task is to collect, at regular intervals, the annual membership dues so that we can properly finance the official activities of our organization. About 75 members have already paid their dues for 1986/87, and I wish to thank them for their spontaneous action. But I have to ask the majority of members to pay their annual fee of 20 Swiss Francs for the period 1986 to 1987. This is especially addressed to the large number of members who joined UNITAS in Edinburgh but have not yet paid. Your prompt action will save me much time, correspondence and money.

Members who are in arrears for more than one year have, in the meantime, received a personal reminder. Those who have not paid for more than three years have received a personal letter. You can help me a lot by giving prompt attention to this matter. As far as I am concerned you can trust me to do my very best to serve UNITAS MALACOLOGICA.

May I, please, remind you that accounts are payable in Swiss Francs in the following ways:

1) By post giro addressed to "Basel 40-5", Swiss Bank Corporation, CH-4002 BASEL, Switzerland, made out in favour of "E.H. 941.085" (the Unitas Malacologica bank account no.);

2) By bank draft made out in favour of "E.H. 941.085" (the Unitas Malacologica bank account no.) and sent care of the Swiss Bank Corporation, CH-4002 BASEL, Switzerland.

Eurocheques are also acceptable. Do not forget to mention your name and the purpose of your payment, especially in cases of collective payment.

Please, note that congress proceedings can be sent only to those who are not in arrears with their payments.

If you decide to pay for more than one year, all the better. Prepayment for future years has obvious advantages for both you and me, and you are encouraged to do so.

Let me hear from you soon.

Jackie Van Goethem  
Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences  
Vautierstraat 29  
B-1040 BRUSSELS, Belgium

Is your ADDRESS, as used on the label of this letter, still correct? If not, notify the Secretary. He is preparing a current list of members, which will probably be distributed with the next UM Newsletter.

## IMPRESSUM

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