

**Minutes of the Australian Society for Biophysics Annual General Meeting held in the Gallery Room of the National Wine Centre Adelaide, Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> November 2010.**

Meeting Opened at 5.45pm

**Chair ; A. Dulhunty**                      **Minutes P. Smith**

30 Members Present, 4 Apologies received.

**Minutes** of the 2009 AGM held at Ballarat presented to the Meeting by P. Smith

Business arising: Dr Alan Mark put forward a correction to the spelling of his name in the Minutes of the 2009 AGM, his name was spelled Alan Marks, should have been recorded as Alan Mark.

Minutes of Prior AGM in records have been adjusted accordingly.

Move to accept Minutes with adjustments A Coster Seconded A Dulhunty

Minutes accepted by floor

**Presidents Report: A. Dulhunty.**

Discussed a number of meetings with their relevance and association to ASB.

Discussed Science Meets Parliament Day

Discussed the Gage and Curtin Conferences.

Discussed interactions with the Federation of Associations of Scientific and Technological Societies (FASTS)

Communications are re-established with President of ASB

Discussed the importance of these interactions and communications with FASTS for the ASB.

Discussed the FASTS AGM and the 25 Year Celebratory Dinner – the ASB Society Secretary was in attendance at both.

Discussed the promotion of Forums of Like Societies

Australian Academy of Sciences were able to support the development and undertaking of Forum Meetings with up to \$10000 being available for assistance. Discussed a representative Forum of this like ; Forum on Education in Biomedical Sciences.

Discussed a Young researchers Scheme, attracting Researchers from overseas to visit Australian Labs

Suggested representation for the Society on a Committee, suggestion was R. Norton

Ray Norton responded with input concerning the association of the Australian Biochemical Association.

Discussed the Relationship between the NTEU and the ASB

AND: Presented Ray Norton with the Medal for the Robertson Prize for the Year 2008. Acclaim for Ray was forthcoming from the floor, pictures are available of the presentation.

### **Financial Report: A. Coster.**

Discussed the Financial position of the society with the information that the Books are kept on a Financial Year to Year basis, so some details to November were yet to come in and would be reported in next AGM Financial report.

Numbers of Members was trending up, with 168 Financial Members at that point in time. Asked for the encouragement of Students to join the society.

Discussed Matters in the Balance Sheet

Credit Card facility – used by ASB and for other meetings as assistance

Congratulated the Organisers of the 2009 Annual Conference for a very successful meeting.

Discussed Curtin Conference – assisted by having monies organised through ASB Books

As part of follow up on those who received cheques for payments, a request that those cheques be presented was made. This would assist in finalising the accounting of those cheques.

Discussed the RACI Biophysical Chemistry Workshop organised by R. Clarke

Noted that sponsorship in terms of Student TRAVEL Awards was forthcoming from the ASB.

Discussed the AuPS / ASB Conference, with difficulty of gaining a hand on organisation, had advantages in terms of overseas Speakers

Discussed an amount of Money Presented to the Society by C Critchley, as was left over from the Organisation of the International Photosynthesis Congress in 2001. This was very kindly transferred to the ASB with the intent of assisting with the Organisation of the 2014 IUPAB.

Adelle raised a formal vote of thanks for this transfer of funds, seconded by J. Vandenberg and H. Coster. Vote was carried with acclaim from meeting floor.

**IUPAB: B. Hambley.**

Discussed some history of the ASB being awarded the honour of being the 2014 Host. The 2014 IUPAB is to be held in Brisbane at the Exhibition Centre (the Ekka) likely in August (dates possible 10-14).

Likely the IUPAB will share the very large Facility, likely another Conference will also be there.

For 2010, Planning was needed with actions to keep organisation ongoing.

The Breakeven point in terms of Registrations would be organised to be for about 700 to 800 Participants, but with the IUPAB, the Organisation would be hoping for 1200 or more.

IUPAB regularly attracts 1000+ participants, with it held in Australia, being a significant tourist attraction, numbers may be above this by 30 to 40%, as is the manner for other International Conferences.

R. Norton suggested Caution on expecting numbers of any amount.

The PCO (Principle Conference Organiser) is to be Mike Pickford. This was put to tender for a PCO and it was awarded to Mike Pickford, from two tenders of interest.

Brett Hambley made a presentation of the Conference venue and an outline of Hotels, location and access to the City.

P. Smith outlined the reason for Brisbane was from an AGM vote as a choice, the AGM (2007/8) voted that Brisbane be the venue.

Discussed Program structure- assistance in development by G. King in 2007 / 8

Preliminary Programme structure was discussed ; Sunday Opening (possibly Nobel Laureate (?))

4 full days, Thursday would be Full day to Closure

Programme would be series of big lectures with series of lectures and seminar sessions.

May need Half Day for Sightseeing events during the Conference.

Current Program Organisers G. King and J. Vandenberg as coordinators.

Commented on success of the Conference, asked Members to generate contacts for encouragement of overseas people to come to the Conference. This contact development was hoped to be similar to the emailing from the original IUPAB Bid.

Discussed the program of locking in speakers, End of 2012 to start actively organising, with ASB members encouraged to email contacts through to early 2013.

Need Overseas Liaison person, with suggestion for F. Separovic to be this person. Frances was asked and seemed Compliant.

Discussed commitment from other Australian Institutions for funding prominent speakers, These would anchor seminar sets. Organisations named ASBMB, ANSTO, AINSE

Other organisations are interested in participation with CXS via L Tilley, and ANZMAG via R Norton.

Discussions were ongoing with AuPS.

Commented that the scale of ASBMB and AuPS Conferences, involvement with these organisations on a standard Conference would present close to breakeven numbers

P. Barry talked for AuPS involvement, with similar science and views to the ASB.

H. Coster discussed the level of involvement, where this level would need negotiation.

F Separovic discussed AuPS being close to ASB in Science.

Discussed Satellite Meetings associated with the Conference, need to set numbers , too many would detract from Main Meeting, Concrete in ideas in 2012.

A Dulhunty Discussed many sites of Tourist value that would attract attendants

R Norton Discussed sources for sponsorship, Government Inputs and International inputs

A Coster discussed IUPAB Student awards, tended to encourage student to attend

In Beijing 2011, IUPAB, is a first milestone, with a Progress report to be made to the Meeting.

P Smith asked for input from the PCO in terms of discussing his views on organisation and the Role of the Society in this Organisation and how this can enhance the organisation progression.

R Norton and A Mark discussed financial projection in terms of encouragement of overseas delegate attendance.

### **Elections of Officers of the Society**

In 2010, a change in President was due, roles within the executive have moved on, A Dulhunty now becomes Immediate Past President, J Vandenberg becomes President.

Nomination was received for Vice President: F Separovic, whom accepted the nomination

B Martinac discussed future presidents for 2012 in terms of IUPAB 2014. G King and R Norton discussed the comments.

No other Nomination was forthcoming for the role of Vice President

A Coster noted that a vote need not occur, but a vote for support was required

F Separovic was elected by acclamation from the meeting floor.

F Separovic responded and questioned her stature, but accepted her election.

J Vandenberg took the Chair for the remaining part of the meeting.

A Coster called thanks for the Immediate past president and vice president for their roles in the society, acclaim from the meeting in thanks.

### **ASB 2011.**

Proposed , location – University of Wollongong, in collaboration with RACI Biophysical Chemistry.

J Vdb noted good overlap and synergy between ASB and RACI Biophysical Chemistry.

R Clarke discussed organisation of the Conference and timetable, with the Conference preceded by a Workshop

JVdb to represent ASB on organising Committee

Dates for the Conference were discussed

Concern over timing and of overlap with ANZMAG and IUPAB

Concern for Academic Year timing, needed to be outside of this time

Discussed possibility of September – AGM and plan for 2011 IUPAB

Possible September or week before ANZMAG, just after IUPAB

The Motion that the ASB 2011 be held with RACI Biophysical Chemistry was moved and carried by vote, with timing to be determined by the Organising Committee.

### **ASB 2012.**

A proposal from AuPS for a Joint Conference at UNSW was raised.

P Barry discussed organisation

On UNSW Campus, to use UNSW facilities (Theatres. Colleges)

Discussed the science overlap of the societies and the accessibility of the site from other cities.

Discussion over the depth of the interaction between ASB and AuPS was held, input from G King, F Separovic, P Barry and H Coster

HC discussed that the posture of the ASB needs to be set

Discussion over the Special talks was had.

Motion that the ASB 2012 Conference to be held in collaboration with AuPS at the UNSW was raised, vote carried by the floor of the meeting.

### **ASB 2013**

With IUPAB in 2014, suggestions for the 2013 were raised within the meeting

PS suggested possible interaction for a Melbourne Meeting with the Australian Synchrotron group to expand the breadth of Biophysical interactions and provide attraction to IUPAB

AC suggested ASB 2013 should be ASB coordinated and organised.

## **Life Members.**

Proposed for ASB Members with distinguished service and prominence in the Society.

Nomination for C Curtain:

P Barry talked on the role C Curtain played as Society secretary

A Coster talked on C Curtain role in ASB Incorporation and his role in organisation in AGMs.

R Norton – ASB needs formality of the process, rather than just a nomination and vote

B Martinac suggested notice in ASB Newsletter, a Page of Life Membership as an announcement to the Society

Motion put forward to Award Life Membership to C Curtain

Carried with acclaim by the Floor of the meeting

## **FASTS**

P Smith discussed the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner

Discussed the FASTS AGM

FASTS undertaking review of itself and its role in lobbying for science

Advocacy of Science as a Business role

Discussed the FASTS Questionnaire – many ASB members made input responses

Discussed Review of the results – FASTS raised Branding concerns

Discussed FASTS improving communication role with Societies and Umbrella organisations

From the AGM – suggestions – a second SmP day

1<sup>st</sup> – Big Media event

2<sup>nd</sup> Regional Science with the Public in the electorates – local Science Media events

Input – Broadcasting of Events of SmP

Main Lunch – Press Club broadcast

## **Other Business:**

1. P Smith discussed loss of emails due to a major computer hard drive failure and connection with Mail Host.

Discussed how the Secretary deals and works with the emails

Discussed emails lost, with significant content and loss

Output a request for Members to send copies of important emails to the Secretary for records.

2. Curtin Conferences

Discussed extra duties provided by ASB, reorganisation of registration, online payment options, access to travel awards.

A Coster gave input as notice for organisers of any conference that has an association or synergy with the ASB

Can apply for assistance with organisation and registration processing

Students can apply for travel awards to the meeting or Conference

This would be dependent on the Conference

Requests for seed funding would be considered by the ASB Executive.

3. Conference Abstract Books

H Coster discussed a continuous set of Conference proceedings as a record for the ASB and for the ASB Website

P Barry suggested extraction of ASB Member talks from the Website

A Coster and b Hambley discussed specially prepared books only for ASB for the Newcastle combined ASB AuPS meeting

A Coster asked for an opt in or out Abstract set, printed or on CD

R Norton discussed pdf accessibility for printing saving costs

A Coster replied the printing of Abstracts was a conscious decision of the Organisation Committee

P Smith discussed formatting of pdf for access – need a discussion of formatting and sizing for output



Suggestion arose – Print limited number of copies – Approach D Davey of AuPS when the Conference is combined with AuPS

4. A motion of thanks for the Conference Organisers was raised and carried with acclaim from the floor of the meeting

Meeting Closed 7.05pm.