

**Minutes of Australian Society for Biophysics General Meeting held in Room E07\_133, Education Lecture Theatre, The University of New England, Armidale, NSW, 2351 on 23<sup>rd</sup> November, 2015.**

Meeting opened at 18:25

**Chair:** P. Moens

**Minutes:** A. Battle

**Attendance:** Andrew Battle, Adelle Coster, Till Bocking, Elizabeth Hinde, Peter Barry, Danny Hatters, Mary Beilby, Katherine Gauss, Ian Newman, Hans Coster, Trevor Smith, Chris Garvey, Philip Kuchel, Gary Bryant, Thomas Berry, Bruce Cornell, Charles Cranfield, Marie Antoine Sani, Miro Janco, Tobias Rosenkrenz, Stephen Holt, Anton LeBrun, Alexandra Schumann-Gillett, Megan O'Mara, David Poger, Bertrand Caron, Frances Separovic, Jamie Vandenberg, Kela Xiao, Haibo Yu, Louise Brown, Nishank Shah, Marc Kvensakal, Matthew Barten, Toby Bell, Narissn Ali, Shatha Ahmad, Pierre Moens, Boris Martinac, Evelyne Deplazes, Ronald Clarke, Ray Norton

**Apologies:** Renee Ryan, Adam Hill, Glenn King, Alan Mark

**Minutes of 2014 AGM:**

Move to accept minutes- B.Martinac, Seconded, J. Vandenberg. Carried by meeting.

**Business Arising from the Minutes-** None

**President's Address: P.Moens:** P. Moens thanked office bearers for all the support and work performed during the year, including the IUPAB meeting. Thanks extended to J. Vandenberg for his work at Science Technology Australia (STA), and E. Deplazes for her work on the ASB website.

Thanks were also extended to the Biophysical Society of Japan for providing speakers for a joint session and for the good relationship between the societies. P. Moens expressed hope that the relationship between the society and ASB will continue to strengthen. P. Moens also thanked everyone for attending the conference in Armidale.

M. O'Mara was thanked for representing ASB at Science meets Parliament. A. Coster was also thanked for attending on behalf of the ASB for the upcoming STA dinner.

Several nominations for the Hope meeting in Japan and the National Committee for Biosciences.

**IUPAB:** B. Hambly: Meeting held in Brisbane, Aug 2014, just under 1000 delegates, very successful meeting. Thanked G. King and J. Vandenberg as program chairs, and the theme leaders who put the themes for the meeting together.

Conference made a loss of \$1000, \$800,000 budget. P. Moens thanked B. Hambly for his outstanding effort for the success of IUPAB, met with acclaim from floor.

**Financial Report: R. Clarke:** R. Clarke- 151 current members, slight decrease in membership. Very successful meeting 2 years ago, organised by G. Bryant, which boosted membership numbers. IUPAB had no discount for ASB members, so no incentive to join for cheaper registration which may have played a role in reduction of numbers.

R. Clarke encouraged members to be up to date with membership fee payment.

**Balance sheet: As of 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2015**, 53,417.05 in cheque account, 70,949.09 in term deposit. Total equity \$124,366.144, down from \$129K

Profit and loss:

Nett income, \$5,109.38 in 2014-15, but there was a loss of money from membership levels falling.

Mechanosymposium- loss of \$3928.41

Small profit expected from 2015 ASB meeting in Armidale. Applause met from floor.

Move to accept financial report: F. Separovic, Seconded A. Coster

**Business arising from the president's and treasurer's reports:** None

**Women in ASB:** Update on the overview of women in science and ASB, such as invited speakers. E. Deplazes to assist in studying gender balance.

F. Separovic - Lorne conference published % attendance and % of women compared to men speakers at the meeting. D. Hatters: Lorne, active push for 50% of women speakers at the conference.

F. Separovic noted she had been written to about a conference that had no women speakers, and wrote to chair about this fact, but was informed 35% of the attendees at the meeting were women, but none speaking.

Motion moved, floor in favour.

**Science Technology Australia (STA).**

J. Vandenberg- Encourage early and mid-career researchers to attend Science meets Parliament and Science meets Business. If any member requires further information please contact J. Vandenberg.

**AuPS/ASB Joint meeting 2016, Adelaide:** P. Moens: I. Koeper is happy to drive this if meeting approved.

Move to accept joint meeting: Carried by floor.

J. Vandenberg: AuPS has a much more formal process for nominating speakers at meetings. P. Moens, has emailed members about theme and speaker nominations.

Two major themes received (1) Symposium on structural and computational analysis of ion channels, (2) B. Cromer suggested symposium to honour Shin-Ho Chung, who is retiring at the end of 2015. (3) T. Allan- Symposium on minimising use of animals in biomedical research- for more information, please talk to Medical Advances without Animals (MAWA).

J. Vandenberg suggested symposium on fluorescence.

**Asian Biophysics Symposium:** R. Norton: To be held in Australia in December 2018. Asian Biophysics Association: Proposal for joint meeting with ASB in 2018, 2-6<sup>th</sup> December 2018. Expected to be a success. Proposal – hold at a University Campus- Monash University. Suggestion to avoid a PCO. Any profit will go to ASB.

Discussions with the Japanese and Chinese Biophysical Societies to promote meeting and through the Japanese-Australian society relationship fund two Japanese representatives to the meeting.

Australian representatives, R. Norton and B. Martinac. Both have been in discussion with other representatives about this. The gender balance also needs to be more in sync than it currently is. R. Ryan also keen to be involved.

It will be a fully integrated meeting between the societies.

J. Vandenberg- asked if there will need to be multiple sessions?

R. Norton: Yes

D. Hatters- Length of meeting?

R. Norton: Suggested length to run from the Sunday to the Thursday

F. Separovic: Suggested an ASB stand-alone meeting in 2017.

Move to accept motion for ABA 2018: Motion carried.

**Passing of two ASB long term members:** G. Hanson and J. Anderson (who was also president of the society). Minute's silence held.

**Business arising for which Motions have been submitted:** None

**Election of retired members:** 40 years of society. Members who attended first meeting of society were presented with life membership: H. Coster, I. Newman, M. Beilby and P. Barry. All four members thanked for supporting society for 40 years. Met with acclaim from the floor.

**Other business:** A. Coster- Vote of thanks to P. Moens for the huge effort for organising a very successful meeting in Armidale. Met with general acclaim from floor

E. Deplazes: Gender balance, 70% male, invited speaker at ASB 2015 conference, 60% male. ECR, slightly higher balance of women.

**Meeting closed 19:06**