



# **MODELLING AND SIMULATION SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND INC.**

## **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**4.30PM, 8 DECEMBER 2010**

iCAM Projects Room, The Australian National University  
Building 48A Linneaus Way, Canberra, Australia

### **PRESENT**

Tony Jakeman, Wendy Merritt, Barry Croke, David Post, Susan Cuddy

### **1 APOLOGIES**

Michael McAleer, Les Oxley, Rob Argent, Tony Weber, Lachlan Newham, David Mayer, Felix Chan, Pascal Perez, Geoff Adams, Bob Anderssen

### **2 MINUTES OF THE 2009 AGM**

held on 14 July 2009 were approved.

Moved: David Post, Seconded Barry Croke  
**Motion carried unanimously**

### **3 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES**

a) As reported at last AGM, MODSIM printed proceedings (to 2003) are listed by Thomson-Reuters. We have prepared later proceedings for printing, but hope to avoid this requirement. The President will follow up.

b) Corporate membership – making good progress with sponsorship of conferences, with continued growth. Feeling that corporate sponsorship easier than corporate membership. Can still be considered.

Further, it was agreed that sponsorship levels be increased from post MODSIM 2011 to: Platinum \$20K, Gold \$10K, Silver \$5K, and Bronze \$2K.

**ACTION:** Secretary to update Convenors Manual

c) The Sinking Fund has been established at the Commonwealth Bank of Australia, but the constitution has not been amended. This is mainly due to the constitution needing a complete overhaul to justify the paperwork involved in changing the constitution for the inclusion of one new clause.

**ACTION:** The Secretary to call for volunteers to assist with redrafting the Constitution for submission to members at 2011 AGM.

d) The Awards Committee was expanded to include fellows Blair Nancarrow (social), Roger Braddock (mathematics) and Francis Chiew (hydrology/climate) in addition to Dora Marinova (policy), Les Oxley (economics) and Tony Jakeman (integration).

e) Poster papers – the Perth convenors didn't want posters, so the investigation was put on the backburner. They can still be considered for later conferences. Feedback is that the requirement to submit full papers is seen as strength of MODSIM conferences, particularly as papers are freely available from the web, ie as available as a journal article.

f) The Sir Clive Granger Award is addressed in a foreshadowed motion under General Business and the criteria for the Award will be put to members at 2011 AGM.

g) Updating of the Convenors Manual is outstanding. Secretary to follow up.

#### 4 PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The President, Tony Jakeman, reported on several activities that were foreshadowed at the 2009 AGM, and other MSSANZ happenings. Some key points to note:

- MODSIM 2011 going well – an innovation is having separate Organising and Program Committees. Another innovation is the active role of the Program Committee as Stream Coordinators.
- Update of mailing list was most successful with 413 members providing current details. Thanks to Susan Cuddy and Andre Zerger for organizing.
- Planning for MODSIM 2013 is also underway with expression of interest from University of New South Wales being favourably considered.
- Noted that impact factor for the journal 'Environmental Modelling and Software' is now 3.085 (up from 2.659 in 2009). This reflects the contribution of members, both in submitting excellent quality papers and excellent reviewing.
- We are conducting a review of WCMT (Web Conference Management Tool) to ensure it is still the 'right' product for the Society, anticipating an upgrade based on feedback from the last conference.
- Many thanks to Mikaela Giri in the MSSANZ office who has provided invaluable support to the President, Secretary and Treasurer during the year.

The President raised the issue of how best to assist members at Conference. The most favourable suggestion was the provision of childcare facilities at conference.

ACTION: The provision of childcare facilities at MODSIM 2011 to be investigated – Mikaela Giri and Felix Chan.

#### 5 TREASURER'S REPORT

Wendy Merritt tabled a audited set of accounts (statement of income & expenditure and financial position) at 30 June 2010.

Motion: "that the financial statements be accepted."

Moved – Wendy Merritt, Seconded – Susan Cuddy  
**Motion carried unanimously**

A copy of the accounts can be obtained from the Treasurer on request.

## 6 TABLING OF 2009 STUDENT PRESENTATION AWARDS

- Vikram Sunkara The Australian National University, Australia
- Wendy Minato Charles Sturt University, Albury, Australia
- Lisa Lowe The University of Melbourne, Australia
- Fiona Paton The University of Adelaide, Australia
- Baihua Fu The Australian National University, Australia
- Fiona Johnson The University of New South Wales, Australia
- Xin Zhao The University of Canterbury, New Zealand
- Ghialy Yap Edith Cowan University, Perth, Australia
- Joanna Szemis The University of Adelaide, Australia
- Brittany Coff The University of Adelaide, Australia

## 7 TABLING OF 2010 FELLOWS

- Prof Philip Hans Franses, Erasmus University Rotterdam
- Dr Neil Gribble, Queensland Department of Employment, Economic Development and Innovation
- Dr Lachlan Newham, The Australian National University

## 8 ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS

Nominations were received prior to the meeting in accordance with the Constitution. These nominations were endorsed by the meeting.

|                 |                 |               |
|-----------------|-----------------|---------------|
| President:      | Tony Jakeman    |               |
| Vice President: | Michael McAleer |               |
| Secretary:      | Susan Cuddy     |               |
| Treasurer:      | Wendy Merritt   |               |
| Public Officer: | Tim Peterson    |               |
| Committee:      | Felix Chan      | Bob Anderssen |
|                 | Andre Zerger    | Tony Weber    |
|                 | David Post      | Robert Argent |
|                 | Les Oxley       |               |

The membership of the Awards Committee is ongoing, and will be reviewed at the next AGM. The position of Public Officer is ongoing, until such time as the Public Officer stands down.

## 9 MODSIM 2011 REPORT

### MSSANZ AGM – MODSIM 2011 Progress Report

We are pleased to report that the organisation of MODSIM 2011 is going smoothly. Under the direction of the Organisation Committee, we have made substantial progress towards another successful MODSIM conference. We have secured Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre as the venue for MODSIM 2011. We have been actively promoting MODSIM for the last 6 months using promotional materials such as bookmarks and brochures. Various members have also been advertising MODSIM in various conferences and seminars. Thanks must be given to Susan Cuddy and her team, especially Siobhan Duffy for her design of the materials and Will Francis for putting the website together.

To date, we have received 62 proposed sessions. The distribution of proposed sessions across streams can be found in the Table below:

| Streams  | Number of Proposed Sessions |
|--|-----------------------------|
| Applied and Computation Mathematics                        | 8                           |
| Biological Systems   | 3                           |
| Computer Sciences  | 5                           |
| Economics and Financial Systems                            | 9                           |
| Environment and Ecology                                    | 15                          |
| Global Change  | 6                           |
| Participatory Decision Making and Modelling Social Systems | 5                           |
| Planning   | 1                           |
| Water Resources  | 9                           |
| Special Sessions   | 1                           |

We have also received a healthy number of sponsorships. To date, we have obtained 4 platinum, 3 Gold and 1 Bronze. While this is still an ongoing task for the organisation committee, we would like to express our gratitude to all members, especially Bob Anderssen and Susan Cuddy, for their efforts in obtaining these sponsorships.

We are aiming to call for abstract in late January 2011. The deadline for abstract and paper submission as well as other relevant information can be found on the MODSIM 2011 website at <http://www.mssanz.org.au/modsim2011>.

Felix Chan and Dora Marinova

Co-convenors, MODSIM 2011

## 10 BUSINESS ON NOTICE

- a) Subscription to MSSANZ email list is open to non-members if they are proposed and seconded by members who have published in MODSIM proceedings.

Recommend that this be expanded to include 'or on application to, and by approval of, the Committee'.

Proposed by Secretary Cuddy  
Recommendation endorsed.

- b) The Society periodically receives requests from organisations to deposit conference papers by members of their organisation into their library research banks. We have been approving these on a case-by-case basis. The Society has recently received a request from Copyright Agency Ltd to manage our copyright.

It is apparent that these requests have copyright implications and the Society wishes to open to discuss by and with members, with a view to establishing a members' working group to assist the Society frame its position on these requests. Proposed by Secretary Cuddy.

Recommendation is to ask Vice-President McAleer to look into this as he has expertise in the area. It may be that we need to include better information on the website and proceedings.

c) Proposal for Sir Clive Granger award

The 2009 AGM gave in-principle agreement for a Sire Clive Granger Award and referred it to the Awards Committee to make the decision, as members were not aware of the implications.

The conditions of the award have not yet been established, nor agreed with Sir Clive's widow, Lady Patricia. It is a great honour that Lady Patricia has agreed to allow Sir Clive's name to be associated with MSSANZ and she did so because of Clive's known association and fondness for the Society and furthermore trusted certain considerations would be enshrined, including that

- the title bearing his name should be regarded as highly prestigious
- the recipient should be someone whose standing and status should be such that they would be a worthy recipient of the award and
- the recipient be working in (or have contributed significantly to) the areas that Clive contributed to during his lifetime, namely: time series, econometrics and economics/finance.

Les Oxley has agreed to draft principles for the award, and procedures for selection, and in the first instance seek Lady Patricia's agreement/comments, before putting to the MSSANZ Committee, then to members for ratification at 2011 AGM.

## **GENERAL BUSINESS**

Tony Jakeman thanked the outgoing and incoming Committees for their service to the Society.

Meeting closed 5.30p.