

Modelling and Simulation Society of Australia and New Zealand

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - MINUTES

(6.00pm, Tuesday 3 December 2019)

Bradman Theatrette, National Convention Centre Canberra

Attendees: See Appendix

1 Apologies

Tony Jakeman, Julia Piantadosi

As Julia had announced her intention to stand down from her position as Vice President, members acknowledged her significant contribution to the Society through applause.

2 Minutes of previous meeting

The minutes from the 2018 AGM were tabled – as this was a non-conference year there was no quorum and no decisions were made.

Motion:

"that the minutes of the 2018 Annual General Meeting held on 22 November 2018 be accepted as a true and correct record."

Moved: Sondoss El Sawah; Seconded: Barry Croke ACCEPTED

3 President's report

The President, David Post, thanked session organisers for doing a great job, noting that most of them were in the room. He also reported that iEMSs, our sister society, will be holding its 10th Congress in Brussels in July 2020, with a call for papers likely to be February 2020.

The Winter Simulation Society is going out of the United States & they have asked us to partner with them in Singapore in Marina Bay Sands, Singapore, 11-14 December 2022. David proposed that we act as a technical co-sponsor for WSC2022. This would mean that MSSANZ has a booth (reciprocal agreement with WSC for MODSIM 2021), we make our members aware of the conference via our mailing list, and we organise a 'Track' dealing with NRM / Water Resources. They are a more theoretical society so looking at applied track.

AGM discussion:

- Tony Dekker noted the potential for a Defence stream in WSC2022. This was supported by a Defence stream member who has attended WSC in the past and said it was a good conference
- There was general agreement to go ahead with the partnering. *President to action*.

4 Treasurer's report

The audit for 2018/19 financial year has been completed and the summary of the MSSANZ financial position were tabled. The moderate loss for the 2018-2019 financial year reflects the conference expenses for MODSIM 2019. However, with the MODSIM2019 profit and existing financial assets leave the society in a good position to keep 2021 registration costs at the current level. The profit from the conference reflects the efforts of Sondoss and the team in attracting in sponsorship.

Please contact Barry via email (barry.croke@anu.edu.au) to obtain financial statements or to discuss any aspect of the financial management of MSSANZ.

The 2018/19 financial year audited statements were tabled by the Treasurer, Barry Croke

Motion:

"that the 2018/19 financial year statement, as tabled at the 2019 AGM, be accepted."

Moved: Tony Weber; Seconded: Willem Vervoort ACCEPTED

5 Tabling of 2018 Fellow Awards

A round of applause was given for:

- Dr Freeman Cook, Freeman Cook and Associates Pty Ltd, Australia and New Zealand
- Dr Dean Holzworth, CSIRO, Australia
- Professor Irene Hudson, RMIT University, Australia
- Dr Shawn Laffan, University of New South Wales, Australia
- Dr Stefan Reis, Centre for Ecology and Hydrology (CEH), United Kingdom
- Dr Valerie Snow, AgResearch Ltd, New Zealand
- Dr Greg Summerell, New South Wales Office of Environment and Heritage, Australia
- Professor Jeffrey Walker, Monash University, Australia

6 Tabling of 2019 ECRE Awards

A round of applause was given for:

- Lei Cheng, Wuhan University, China
- Danlu Guo, University of Melbourne, Australia
- Nirosha Hewa-Wellalage, Lincoln University , New Zealand
- Conrad Wasko, University of Melbourne, Australia

7 Tabling of 2019 Biennial Medallists

A round of applause was given for:

- Jeffrey Walker, Monash University, Australia
- Barry Croke, Australian National University, Australia
- Irene Hudson, RMIT University, Australia

8 Election of Committee members

The President thanked those who had served on the various committees over the last two years (or longer).

Julia Piantadosi stepped down from her role as Vice President and Sondoss El Sawah was the sole nominee for the position. All other roles on the Executive received unopposed nominations from the sitting member.

Seven nominations from existing members of the Management Committee were received. Three additional members were nominated and seconded at the meeting. Val Snow and Tony Weber did not stand again as they were standing for the Awards Committee

Motion:

"that the elected members of the Executive and Ordinary Committees serve until the 2021 AGM" Moved: Francis Chiew; Seconded: Jai Vaze ACCEPTED

The 2020-2021 Management Committee:

- President David Post
- Vice-President Sondoss El Sawah
- Association Secretary Tony Jakeman
- Treasurer Barry Croke
- Committee Secretary Susan Cuddy

Ordinary Committee members

• Chia-Lin Chang (returning)

- Leorey O Marquez (returning)
- Yun Chen (returning)
- Ala' (Jordan) Aburumman (returning)
- Heyang (Thomas) Li (returning)
- Willem Vervoort (returning)
- In-Young Yeo (new member)
- Jo Owens (new member)
- Stefan Reis (new member)
- Jai Vaze (new member)

The 2020-2021 Awards Committee (comprised of Fellows)

Nominations were received for 5 members which were uncontested.

- Francis Chiew (returning)
- Michael McAleer (returning)
- Tony Weber (new)
- Val Snow (new)
- Jason Sharples (new)

Motion:

"that the elected members of the Awards Committee serve until the 2021 AGM" Moved: Susan Cuddy; Seconded: David Post ACCEPTED

Members thanked retiring members, Jai Vaze and Wendy Merritt, for their service.

9 MODSIM 2019 – summary

The President reported on conference statistics which had been prepared by Wendy Merritt. The full set is available on request to the MSSANZ office. Some points of interest:

- Full papers continue to decline (<200 and 27% of the total submissions).
- The number of people attending, but not presenting, is increasing can we assume these were policy folk who want to listen and was it a one-off due to being in Canberra?
- We have increased registration from industry and have good student numbers (but could do better at retaining them).

A feedback survey will be emailled out to those who attended – we will also be seeking information on whether people are planning to attend 2021 (and if not, why not). We will seek feedback on the Ex Ordo conference tool that we trialled this year.

Lastly, the President thanked all those involved in organising MODSIM2019 – especially Sondoss El Sawah as convenor and Karen Mobbs as the Technical Manager.

10 MODSIM 2021 – planning

Jason Evans, Lucy Marshall, Willem Vervoot and Alexey Voinov were announced as the convenors of MODSIM 2021 – the winner is SYDNEY!!! This is a partnering of 3 universities (UTS, Sydney and NSW). The conference will be held at the International Convention Centre in Darling Harbour, 28 November – 2 December 2021.

The President reported that MSSANZ is currently in discussion with our sister society, iEMSs, on whether we will have a regional iEMSs / MSSANZ partnership.

11 General business

11.1 Tabling of constitution changes

Susan Cuddy (MSSANZ Committee Secretary) gave a brief history of the MSSANZ constitution. It was redrafted in 2013 to meet the changes required by the *Association Incorporation Reform Act 2012* and approved by members at AGM 6 Dec 2013. The changes were accepted, with minor amendments, by Consumer Affairs Victoria (CAV) on 31/3/2014. At the 2017 AGM, a motion was moved to change the terms of President and

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Association Secretary from 2 to 5, as experience indicated that two terms were not sufficient. Members agreed to these changes to Clauses 30 and 31.

The Executive has taken the opportunity revise the Constitution to include the minor amendments requested from CAV 2014. This was not presented at the 2018 AGM as that is a non-decisions year (off-conference).

The Executive tabled this revised version of the Constitution to members, before it is submitted to the CA Vic.

ACTION: The Association Secretary to submit the revised Constitution to the CA Vic as soon as practicable.

11.2 Indexing

With the reduced number of full papers, the Society may be approaching a grey area in terms of whether 2019 and future congresses will get indexing in the Web of science conference proceedings citation index (CPCI) database. This led to a discussion of the challenges in converting MODSIM papers to Journal articles, including whether there was merit (and was it possible) to index extended abstracts.

ACTION: Wendy Merritt to email Clarivate about indexing of abstracts

Discussion

- There is a difference between overlap (ie between content of a conference paper and its follow-on journal paper) by discipline
- It was noted that some journals, e.g. the Journal of Hydrology, is very strict about what it considers to be self-plagiarism
- Barbara Robson asked whether we could ask stream organisers to reach out to the journals they are connected with to gather informed evidence?
- ASOR members reported that they have not been able to submit to a Springer journal
- Sondoss El Sawah reported that she has run into an issue with Mathematics and Computers special issue from MODSIM 2017 with their 20% self-plagiarism rule
- MODSIM papers are visible, do get cited and this may contribute to problems of converting into a journal paper
- To encourage more full papers, Francis Chiew suggested \$100 off registration fee and give awards to top three papers (to some extent already doing this through invited papers but many of these are extended abstracts)
- Which way do we go? Do we want papers? Or go the AGU way abstract only? Include as question in survey?
- Invited papers could use these to encourage senior people to mentor students on how to write papers

11.3 DOI

The Society has taken out membership of CrossRef which assigns DOIs. Wendy Merritt has completed the assignment for MODSIM2019 and MODSIM2017 papers. Wendy will work back through previous conferences as time permits. This may result in Google Scholar picking up the papers.

Meeting closed 7:01pm

Authorised by Susan Cuddy MSSANZ Committee Secretary Susan.cuddy@csiro.au

Company Secretary (Anthony Jakeman)

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