



Modelling and Simulation Society of Australia and New Zealand

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – MINUTES

(5:30pm ACST, Tuesday 11 July 2023)

Hall 1, Darwin Convention Centre, Darwin, Australia

Attendees: See Appendix 1

1 Apologies

- Fellows: Jason Sharples, Freeman Cook, Brett Bryan, Tony Dekker

2 Minutes of previous meeting

- Tabling of minutes from the 2022 AGM – as 2022 was a non-conference year there was no quorum and no decisions were made

Motion:

“that the minutes of the 2022 Annual General Meeting held on 13 December 2022 be accepted as a true and correct record.”

*Moved: David Post; Seconded: Susan Cuddy
ACCEPTED*

3 President’s report

- The President, David Post, thanked Committee members, congress convenors and stream and session organisers and members for their support and attendance at MODSIM2023
- Thanks to sponsors – CSIRO, ANU Institute for Water Futures, eWater, Alluvium, SelectCarbon, TERN
- Thanks to exhibitors – ICT, LI-COR, DUG Technology
- MSSANZ survey will be sent out for feedback

4 Treasurer’s report

The 2022/23 financial year statements were presented by Susan Cuddy on behalf of the Treasurer, Barry Croke. (Note that due to timing of AGM, the presented financial statements were not yet audited.)

Motion:

“that the 2022/23 unaudited financial year statement, as tabled at the 2023 AGM, be accepted in principle, with members delegating the Executive to accept the statement post audit.”

*Moved: Susan Cuddy; Seconded: David Post
ACCEPTED*

5 Tabling of 2023 Early Career Research Excellence Awards

For ‘emerging international profile and an impressive contribution to the advancement of modelling and simulation in research and/or industry; and attended at least 2 MODSIM congresses’

A round of applause was given for:

- Dr Fiona Tang, Monash University, Australia
- Dr Firouzeh (Rosa) Taghikhah, University of Sydney, Australia
- Dr Siyuan Tian, Bureau of Meteorology, Australia

6 Tabling of 2023 Biennial Medallists

For 'exceptional research contributions to modelling and simulation, and for promoting the aims of the Society'

A round of applause was given for:

- Dr Jai Vaze, CSIRO, Australia
- Dr Valerie Snow, AgResearch, New Zealand
- Prof Yongqiang Zhang, Chinese Academy of Sciences

7 Management Committee nominations

Nominations opened on 6/6 and closed on 4/7. Nominations were received as follows:

Position	Nominee
Management Committee	
President	David Post, CSIRO *
Vice-President	Sondoss Elsawah, UNSW Canberra *
Treasurer	Georgy Sofronov, Macquarie University
Association Secretary	Susan Cuddy, CSIRO *
Committee Secretary	Willem Vervoort, Sydney University *
Ordinary member (13)	Chia-Lin Chang, National Chung Hsing University, Taiwan
	Barry Croke, Australian National University
	Sandy Elliott, NIWA, New Zealand
	Amir Gandomi, University of Technology Sydney, Australia *
	Maryam Ghodrat, University of New South Wales, Australia
	Linh Ho, Lincoln University, New Zealand
	David Marlow, DST Group, Australia *
	Jo Owens, University of Southern Queensland, Australia *
	Stefan Reis, DLR-PT, Germany *
	Val Snow, AgResearch Ltd, New Zealand *
	Emiliya Suprun, University of New South Wales, Canberra
	Tony Weber, Alluvium, Australia *
	Fitsum Woldemekel, Bureau of Meteorology, Australia
Awards Committee (MSSANZ Fellows)	
	Val Snow, Ag Research Ltd, New Zealand*
	Chialin Chang, Taiwan University
	Tony Weber, Alluvium
	Tony Jakeman, ANU
	Sondoss Elsawah, UNSW Canberra

* = returning

- MSSANZ took the opportunity to thank Francis Chiew for his years of service to the Society and the Awards Committee

Motions:

“that the nominations for the Management Committee as received be accepted.”

*Moved: Tony Jakeman; Seconded: Shawn Laffan
ACCEPTED*

“that the nominations for the Awards Committee as received be accepted.”

*Moved: Susan Cuddy; Seconded: Jai Vaze
ACCEPTED*

8 MODSIM2023 summary

- Registrants – 539; 117 from outside Australia, including 46 from China; 97 from Victoria, 83 from NSW, 79 from ACT, 71 from QLD, 44 from SA, 23 from WA, 18 from NT and 7 from TAS
- # presentations 2017, 2019, 2021, 2023
 - o A breakdown of the numbers of orals/posters and full papers/extended abstracts for the past 4 MODSIMs was displayed in graph form; number of full papers continued downward trend
 - o Special thanks noted to Julien Lerat and the Student Awards Committee

9 MODSIM2025 planning

- MODSIM2025 will be held at the Adelaide Convention Centre from Sunday 30 November to Thursday 4 December 2025
- Convenors:
 - Dr Kate Holland, CSIRO
 - Dr John Boland, University of South Australia
 - Dr Seth Westra, University of Adelaide
 - Dr Okke Batelaan, Flinders University

10 General business

10.1 Constitution changes

- Several changes to the constitution previously approved by members were tabled (see Appendix 2 below). These changes apply to the version of the constitution that CAV approved in 2013
<https://mssanz.org.au/documents/MSSANZConstitution.pdf>

Motion:

“that members endorse the changes made to the Society’s constitution, as tabled in the 2023 AGM agenda.”

*Moved: Susan Cuddy; Seconded: David Post
ACCEPTED*

ACTION: Constitution changes to be submitted to Consumer Affairs Victoria so the Society can meet its obligations under the *Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012*.

10.2 iEMSs 2024

- (Stefan Reis) The 12th International Congress on Environmental Modelling and Software (iEMSs 2024) will be held at Michigan State University from 23 to 27 June 2024. The theme is *Addressing global environmental challenges through intelligent modelling!*

10.3 Statement acknowledging Indigenous people in Australia and New Zealand

- (Susan Cuddy) Sue started work on a draft of a statement and New Zealand colleagues did not think draft applied well to New Zealand. Potential for two separate statements.
- Members are invited to help work on this if interested

10.4 SIGs update

- (Sondoss Elsawah) First Special Interest Group (SIG) for MSSANZ was for Water Quality, started in 2015
- WQ group currently working on writing a paper together, led by Danlu Guo
- Health SIG is starting up, led by Louise Freebairn, Cindy Peng, Simon Chiu and Will Jones
- Members are welcome to put forward ideas for further SIGs
- Tony Jakeman noted potential for MSSANZ to support SIG meetings outside of MODSIMs

10.5 Potential joint conference with the Winter Simulation Society

- (David Post) The Winter Simulation Society is interested in running a joint conference with MODSIM in 2029
- Current idea is for both conferences to run concurrently at the same venue, with registration for either conference allowing attendance at both; has advantage of sharing some costs
- Members are invited to provide feedback

10.6 Open Modeling Foundation (OMF)

- (Takuya Iwanaga) MSSANZ is now a member of the Open Modeling Foundation (OMF), an international meta-organisation – an organisation of organisations – that work to coordinate and administer a common community developed body of standards and best practices to enable the next generation of modeling of human and natural systems.
- They do this across a few working groups, pertinent ones including
- Standards Working Group – Developing standards for code/data access, documentation, reusability, and interoperability
- Certification Working Group – Develops and administers programs to certify model code that meets OMF standards for modeling best practices
- Education and Outreach Working Group – Developing material to train next generation scholars and ensure proactive outreach to groups and nationalities that are underrepresented in modeling science
- Early Career Scholars Working Group – Aiming at encouraging involvement and discussion around open modeling issues which early career scholars (or researchers) face.
- Please visit <https://openmodelingfoundation.org> for more information.

Meeting closed 6:25pm

Authorised by
Susan Cuddy
MSSANZ Association Secretary
office@mssanz.org.au

Confirmed as true and correct record at 2024 AGM, 26 November 2024.

Appendix 1

Meeting attendees

David	Post
Susan	Cuddy
Karen	Mobbs
Fei	Ji
Eugene	Tam
Jin	Teng
QJ	Wang
Justin	Hughes
Russell	Crosbie
Cherry	Mateo
Steven	Marvanek
Linda	Merrin
Shaun	Kim
Chi	Nguyen
Rebecca	Doble
Lisette	Austen
Sarah	Marshall
Lillie	Haddock
Matt	Gibbs
Seline	Ng
Durga	Shrestha
Jean-Michael	Perraud
Durga	Kandel
Sushil	Lamichhane
Santosh	Aryal
Andrew	Schepen
Tanya	Dooddy
Ashkan	Shokri
Lucy	Marshall
Conrad	Wasko
Tony	Jakeman
Stefan	Reis
Sondoss	Elsawah
Val	Snow
Simon	Watt
Konrad	Miotlinksi
Felix	Chan
Chia-Lin	Chang
Ranjodh	Singh
Simon	Dunstall

Dean	Holzworth
Malcolm	McPhee
Keirnan	Fowler
Sergei	Schreider
Peter	Khaiter
Maria	Schreider
Takuya	Iwanaga
Georgy	Sofronov
Melanie	Roberts
Janneke	Remmers
Rodney	Stewart
Emiliya	Suprun
Firouzeh Rosa	Taghikhah
Zaved	Khan
Margarita	Saft
Jodie	Pritchard
Murray	Peel
Rory	Nathan
Sreekanth	Janardhanan
James	Bennett
Shawn	Laffan
Channa	Rajanayaka
Keith	Matthews
Min	Chen
Linh Tu	Ho
Andrew	Western
Sandy	Elliott
Simon	Chiu
Julien	Lerat
Jing	Yang
Karan P	Singh
Sejong	Bae
Louise	Freebairn
Dylan	Irvine
Bill	Kaye-Blake
Patrick	Quaine
Willem	Vervoort
David	Marlow
Francis	Chiew
Jo	Owens
Mick	Hartcher
Patricia	Saco

Leorey	Marquez
Fazlul	Karim
Mayya	Podsosonnaya
Leon	Van Der Linden
Jeffrey	Newman
Jason	Evans
Rohan	Eccles
Adyn	de Groot
Tony	Weber
Jose	Rodriguez

Confirmed

Appendix 2

MSSANZ Constitution changes

Clause	Change (additions bolded, removals struck out)	Motivation
26	The Committee is made up of the following positions, separately elected at the Annual General Meeting	CAV request Passed by members at 2019 AGM
30	The term of the President cannot exceed two (2) five (5) terms of the Committee, except if the position is vacant and only if there is not an endorsed nominant.	Experience & passed by members at 2017 AGM
31	The term of the Secretary and the Office is as determined by the Executive, but may not exceed three (3) terms of the Committee. Replaced by 31a and 31b	Experience & passed by members at 2017 AGM
31a	The term of the Secretary cannot exceed five (5) terms of the Committee, except if the position is vacant and only if there is not an endorsed nominant	Experience & passed by members at 2017 AGM
31b	The term and location of the Office is as determined by the Executive	Experience & passed by members at 2017 AGM
32	Election of the Committee has been expanded to include:	
32b	If only one member is nominated for a position, the Chairperson of the meeting must declare the member elected to the position	CAV Passed by members at 2019 AGM
32c	On election, the new President may take over as Chairperson of the meeting	CAV Passed by members at 2019 AGM
36.1	New Clause 36.1 – A member is eligible to be elected or appointed as a Committee member if the member- a. Is 18 years or over; and b. Is entitled to vote at a general meeting.	CAV Passed by members at 2019 AGM
43	The Chair of Executive Meetings is the President, or if the President cannot attend, the Vice President or the Secretary.	Tidy-up Passed by members at 2019 AGM
45	The President and the Secretary and at least one other of the Executive must be present (either in person or through the use of technology) for the meeting to be validly held (the quorum).	Tidy up Passed by members at 2019 AGM
46	The Secretary must give 7 days' notice of a Committee Meeting to Committee Members unless the meeting is an urgent meeting., specifying the date, time and place of the meeting.	CAV Passed by members at 2019 AGM
57	Notice of general meetings, including special general meetings , must be provided to members at least 21 days before the meeting in writing to each member's postal or email contact address listed on the members register.	CAV Tidy up Passed by members at 2019 AGM
58	Notice of general meetings, including special general meetings , must include proposed matters to be dealt with at that meeting.	CAV Passed by members at 2019 AGM