

Minutes of the Thirty-Fifth Annual General Meeting

Date: Friday 10th December 1999

Time: 5:02pm to 6:29pm

Venue: MSB 1.01, University of Waikato

Minuted by: Phil Neame

Present: Andrew Philpott (President), John George (Vice-President), Philip Neame (Hon Treasurer), Kerry Mayes, Kevin Broad, Mark Johnston, Shane Dye, Catherine Rivers, Ross James, Mark Craddock, Curt Hjorring, Vicky Mabin, Les Foulds, John Buchanan, John Raffensperger, Nicola Petty, Grant Read, Yu Hayakawa, Tiru Arthanari, Alastair McNaughton, Ray Hoare, Gary Eng, John Crequer, John Paynter, Jay Sankaran.

1.0 Apologies

Apologies were received from Hans Daellenbach, Bob Cavana, Chuda Basnet, Tony Vignaux, Tapas Sarkar, David Robb, Lukas Visagie, Grant Read (late) and Vicky Mabin (late).

2.0 Minutes of Previous AGM

A. Philpott proposed that the minutes of the previous AGM (as sent out to all paid-up members) be accepted as true and correct. Seconded: C. Rivers. Carried unopposed.

3.0 Matters Arising from the Minutes

J. Raffensperger re-raised points 7.3 and 7.4 of the 34th AGM (lowering membership rates for students, and free membership after graduation). A. Philpott pointed out that student members are eligible for 1 year's membership at student rates after graduation. Matter dropped.

4.0 President's Report

The President's report was sent out to all members with the notice of the AGM. A. Philpott summarized this to the meeting.

L. Foulds raised the matter of the timing of the conference. Deferred until further business.

G. Read suggested thanks to Andy Philpott for the job so far. Seconded by J. Raffensperger.

V. Mabin raised the issue of troubles getting a quorum at council meetings.

A. Philpott: There has been much email between council members and consensus reached before meetings.

J. George: Conference calls?

V. Mabin: Prefer email.

G. Read: Chairing a conference call meeting would be tough, but if there was a major issue, council could consider it.

A. Philpott: If it works as is, why change?

L. Foulds: What is a quorum?

A. Philpott: 4 or 5 [**Note:** It is 5 – Phil.]

V. Mabin: Email discussions worked well, but we may need to formalize the system – put to AGM that we accept this?

M. Craddock: Could email all members of ORSNZ.

A. Philpott: Would often be boring...

After much debate, A. Philpott moved that "in future, people physically at council meetings will make a provisional decision. All council decisions will be ratified via email to entire council, and accepted by simple majority, provided a quorum of votes is received."

G. Read: Concept of quorum is out of date.

K. Mayes: It's in the constitution – need to be careful.

A. Philpott moved that “we defer discussion of quorum to next AGM in order to allow constitutional change.” Carried without dissent.

5.0 Treasurer’s Report

The financial report for the 1998-99 financial year was sent out to all members with the notice of the AGM.

In addition, prior to his departure, Shane Henderson prepared the following report on the 1998 conference, which was presented by A. Philpott in his absence (the notes are S. Henderson’s).

Profit/Loss Statement for the 33rd Annual Conference of the ORSNZ

<i>Income</i>			
Conference Fee - Member	36	\$175.00	\$6,300.00
Conference Fee – Non-Member	5	\$205.00	\$1,025.00
Conference Fee - Student	18	\$75.00	\$1,350.00
Late Fees	11	\$20.00	\$220.00
Dinner Guests	3	50	\$150.00
Accommodation			\$329.00
Air NZ YPP Dinner Sponsorship			\$300.00
Hoare Res. Soft. Sponsorship			\$225.00
Total Income			\$9,899.00
<i>Expenses</i>			
Dinner Cruise			\$3,948.80
YHA Accommodation			\$305.00
Printing – Proceedings			\$-
Other printing			\$50.30
Catering	Lunch		\$2,761.53
	Brkfast		\$248.83
	Social		\$225.00
Misc			\$83.10
Stale Chq for Brkfast written back into books			\$(105.25)
Total Expenses			\$7,517.31
Profit/Loss			\$2,381.69
<i>Conference Related Items Not Included in the Above</i>			
Proceedings (190 copies)			\$2,648.64
Travel Grants			\$490.00
YPP Prize – sponsored by Air NZ			\$1,000.00
Folders – sponsored by Hoare			Unknown

Notes:

1. The 1998/99 annual report lists \$10,271.20 total expenses (\$600 paid in 1997/98).
2. This matches the above if the proceedings expense of \$2,648.64 is included in expenses, and the stale

cheque is not included (it was written back in after the end of the financial yr).

3. The 1998/99 annual report lists \$9,599.00 as total income.

4. The 1998/99 annual report lists the \$300 Air NZ Sponsorship separately from the conference.

5. When this is taken into account, the total incomes match.

6. Total registered attendees 59.

G. Read suggested that the relation between the conference profit/loss statement and general accounts was not clear.

A. Philpott said that council will review the conference profit/loss statement at a later date.

J. George moved that the AGM accept the financial statement.

Seconded by L. Foulds.

Passed without dissent.

6.0 Election of Officers

Position	Nominee	Nominated	Seconded
President	A. Philpott	L. Foulds	V. Mabin
Vice-President	J. George	G. Read	V. Mabin
Secretary	J. Sankaran	J. Raffensperger	J. Paynter
Treasurer	P. Neame	J. George	K. Mayes
Council (Membership)	T. Arthanari	A. Philpott	P. Neame
Council	R. James	G. Read	N. Petty
	B. Cavana (unsure of acceptance – dropped)	V. Mabin	
	J. Buchanan	A. Philpott	
	L. Foulds	A. Philpott	J. George
	K. Mayes	G. Read	P. Neame
	C. Rivers	A. Philpott	
	Y. Hayakawa	A. Philpott	
	S. Dye	C. Rivers	J. Raffensperger

[Note: I've assumed that a nomination/proposal from the chair doesn't need seconding. The constitution doesn't appear to mention seconding at all, so I think this is fine – Phil]

A. Philpott proposed that all accepting nominees be elected to those positions. Carried unopposed.

7.0 Subscription Rates

A. Philpott suggested that subscription rates should be held at the same level as for the previous year. This was carried unopposed.

8.0 Other Business

8.1 2000 Conference

A. Philpott: Provisional agreement from VUW to host next year's conference. Raised the question of whether it should be held in December as in 1999, or in August as in previous years.

J. Buchanan: Worked quite well this year, saw no reason not to hold it in December again.

Y. Hayakawa: Would need to fit in with VUW's timetable.

V. Mabin: December busy time – for those with families and for industry.

J. George: Commented that there were few students this year

G. Read: Liked Dec, after marking etc

S. Dye: Also after student projects completed.

G. Read: Suggested student papers could perhaps be accepted later – abstract in proceedings, student papers in separate handout?

A. Philpott: End Nov/early Dec?

J. Raffensperger: Marking end Nov

R. James: Fri/Sat okay?

It was generally accepted as okay.

N. Petty: Dec 1 & 2.

Y. Hayakaya: Seems okay.

A. Philpott proposed Dec 1 & 2 as provisional dates. Accepted without opposition.

8.2 Name/Future of Society

A. Philpott commented that B. Cavana had wanted to raise the issue of broadening the scope of the society, including the possibility of changing the name. Also suggesting we investigate an ORSNZ deal on “Interfaces”

A. Philpott: Many members of INFORMS anyway, but “Interfaces” good for practitioners.

C. Rivers: Suggested changing the name would be a sign of failure.

V. Mabin: Need to offer a better service for members instead.

N. Petty: Need to attract good students. Could perhaps design a website to promote OR to high school students – attract the top maths students to OR.

V. Mabin: Could have links to all related departments/courses with OR content.

J. George: What does “broadening focus” mean – to what subjects?

A. Philpott: Unsure of what B. Cavana meant – management?

J. George: If we lose focus, we lose where we’re going. He opposed that, and the name change.

G. Read: Critical element – services. Members should get newsletter (very good these days!), proceedings and “OR/MS Today”

J. Sankaran: Should be more support for special interest groups or clusters e.g. one day conference in operations management?

G. Read: Web/email lists of special interest groups.

N. Petty: Send people a year of newsletters, “OR/MS Today” for free

R. Hoare: Offered access to his list of names of New Zealanders interested in quantitative analysis.

A. Philpott: Agreed to discuss this further later.

L. Foulds: Could send newsletter unsolicited to many businesses.

V. Mabin: How much would this cost? Need to select businesses carefully.

M. Craddock: Need to grow into people doing OR, not by merging with other groups.

A. Philpott: The website idea is good. Also like the “OR/MS Today” idea, but unsure of expense. He will investigate that and R. Hoare’s idea.