

APPENDIX 2

THE REPORT OF THE ORSNZ PRESIDENT FOR 2001

Membership

The current membership of the ORSNZ is as follows:

	This Year	Last Year
Corporate Members	3	5
Corporate Sponsors		2
Life Members	2	2
Corporate Representatives	5	10
Standard Members	82	82
Overseas Members	12	12
Members (no branch)	12	11
Retired Members	4	3
Student Members	41	35
Total People	158	155

Even though it has been offset by an increase in student membership, the loss of corporate membership is disturbing. It is, of course, desirable that all membership category numbers increase. To this end incentives have been offered to sign up new members. It is hoped that funds can be found in the foreseeable future for the production of posters and a brochures.

Finances

At first glance, it appears that the Society made a loss of \$3958.27 in the last financial year, after a surplus in the preceding year of \$6911.48. However, if all tardy payments had been made in the right year, the surplus of the preceding year would have been \$2624.23, resulting in a surplus this year of \$328.98. In either case, the Society had a closing balance of \$32198.18. It has been known for some time that the Auditor has encouraged the Society to reduce its reserves. To this end, the Visiting Lecturer stipends were increased in value, the Grants-in-Aid for student conference attendance were increased, and, for the first time, the Daellenbach Prize was awarded and a Summer Vacation Project was funded. However the relatively large reserve does not highlight the fact that the ongoing expenses of the Society are beginning to exceed revenues. For this reason, a budget for the Society was devised for the first time. A study of it made financial decision making far more straightforward. Some of the decisions are reflected below. It is planned to construct, at the appropriate juncture, a budget for each forthcoming financial year.

Conferences

The 35th ORSNZ Conference was held in Wellington. The Council would like to thank the Organizing Committee, including Yu Hyakawa, John Davies, Bob Cavana, Kerry Mayes, James Wiley, Tricia Lapham, Sophie Lum, and Linda Walker for their splendid work in making it such a success. The 2001 conference venue is Christchurch. The cycle of the past four years suggests a provisional sequence of future sites:

Auckland in 2002,
Hamilton, in 2003,
Wellington, in 2004 (being the 40th anniversary of the founding of ORSNZ),
Christchurch, in 2005.

Visitors

The Visiting Lecturers funded by the Society in 2001 were Professor Larry Wein (Stanford, USA) and Professor Stein Wallace (Molde, Norway). The Council is soliciting nominations for 2002.

Newsletter

The base of operations of the newsletter moved from Wellington to Christchurch during the year. The Council is grateful that the high standards that the Wellington group inherited from Hans Daellenbach for this vital service to members were maintained, and are being sustained by the Christchurch group.

Council Meetings

Meetings were held in July and November, 2001. At the July meeting, the processes concerning sponsored visiting lecturers, branch and conference cost reimbursement, and the Summer vacation project were formalized. The decisions made at the November meeting will be discussed at the AGM and subsequently published in the next newsletter.

The ORSNZ Hans Daellenbach Prize

This prize will be awarded for the first time at the 36th conference in Christchurch this year. This is a prestigious and joyous event for the Society. The Council will seek nominations for the next award in 2003.

The Summer Vacation Project

For the first time, ORSNZ constituted a mechanism to donate some OR expertise over the summer. This was the Summer Vacation Project, for which applications were called in July.

Membership Database Development and the Documentation of Society Processes

There has been a pressing need for some time to alleviate the burdens of the Treasurer and the Secretary by improving the ORSNZ membership database. The Society would also function more efficiently if its major activities and the portfolios of its officers were documented. An endeavour has been begun to make these goals a reality.

The Council, The Presidency, and the Future

It is gratifying to learn that most Council members are willing to remain in office in 2002. My first year as President has been hectic. I would like to thank all members, especially those on the Council, for their patience and support as I learnt the ropes. As there is likely to be a quorate core of Council Members in Hamilton, I am happy to continue, if elected, as President in 2002.

Les Foulds
President
ORSNZ