

PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2017

Activities (that I am aware of) this year are:

- 1) ORSNZ conference in Auckland – including a first attempt at industry engagement via an industry mini-conference;
- 2) Creation of the John A. George Memorial Prize – thanks Grant, John, Vicky, and Bob;
- 3) Mid-year Council meeting with some action items (see email dated 21/6/2017 from Tony);
- 4) Work on Special Interest Groups (thanks Grant and Sarah) with a document prepared for consideration by Council – Branches will be known as geographic SIGs and other SIGs (e.g., Energy) will have a pathway to getting funding for events;
- 5) Some website work led by Golbon with development by Wouter Coppieters (YouDo) – this is progressing too slowly and my personal opinion is that relying on pro bono work for what is both our “shop window” and main engagement point is likely suboptimal;
- 6) Workshops by Prof Kenneth Chelst in Auckland, Wellington, and Christchurch. For teachers, but aiming at promoting OR-type mathematics in schools. I would like ORSNZ to provide lunches for these workshops. Prof Chelst has also asked if an ORSNZ would come and present at these workshops (approx. 30 mins).

There seemed to be more activity in ORSNZ this year, but that may just be due to my role as president and the conference being in Auckland. I would still like to increase activity/engagement within ORSNZ, but feel that the website is a major impediment at this point. That said, if SIGs are adopted this may also increase activity and engagement via smaller, enthusiastic groups.

Thanks to all of those filling roles within ORSNZ, but particularly to Tony (Secretary), Andrea (Treasurer), and Cam (Conference Organiser).