

# ORSNZ Annual General Meeting 2023

Friday 24 November

## Agenda

- Apologies (to [secretary@orsnz.org.nz](mailto:secretary@orsnz.org.nz))
- Minutes of the previous AGM
- Matters arising from the minutes
- President's report
- Honorary Treasurer's report and financial statements
- Updates from regional and special interest groups
- Future Conferences
- Election of officers and auditor
- Other business

[Minutes of 2022 AGM to follow](#)

## President's report

### PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2023

#### So long and thanks for all the mahi

Tony Downward left the Department of Engineering Science and Biomedical Engineering and the University of Auckland in 2023. Tony has been a critical member of ORSNZ, most recently as secretary for several years. We wish Tony well in his future endeavours and want to recognise his contribution to ORSNZ. Ka rawe!

#### ORSNZ Activities

Activities (that I am aware of) in 2023 are:

- 1) (Actually late 2022) Council Bios: Our Communications Council member Karl Zhu (who has subsequently left Aotearoa | New Zealand to study at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology) posted some bios of the ORSNZ Council:  
<https://orsnz.org.nz/blog/2022/12/21/meet-the-orsnz-2022-council-members/>
- 2) Making Modelling Meaningful for Healthcare: The ORSNZ SIG on Healthcare Analytics (OSHA) combined with the Te Pūnaha Matatini (TPM) Healthcare Cluster to host the Making Modelling Meaningful for Healthcare workshop in Wellington in March, 2023. It went pretty well and there is interest in a follow-up event
- 3) Website refresh: Oomph has worked on understanding ORSNZ and providing the structure for a website refresh. More on this next.

#### ORSNZ website

The very initial version of this is at <https://orsnz2023.oomph.co.nz/>. I think the next step is to work through the pages to confirm the content. Maybe this can be done in batches via the advisory group: Kim Frew, Vicky Mabin, Yi Mei, Andrew Mason, Tony Downward? Feedback from others very welcome.

#### Roles and responsibilities

Documents for ORSNZ roles and responsibilities are on the new website (<https://orsnz2023.oomph.co.nz/about-us/orsnz-processes/>), but probably need a review and revision. I had previously wondered about a strategic retreat for Council (or a subset of Council) to work through this and other strategy for the future of ORSNZ.

#### History of ORSNZ and ORSNZ Kairangi

There is a little on the history of ORSNZ on the new website (<https://orsnz2023.oomph.co.nz/about-us/orsnz-history/>). Now the new website is up and getting content reviewed, I think ORSNZ should invest a little in gathering a history of ORSNZ. My previous comments still stand:

“I have been wanting to document the history of ORSNZ for a couple of years now. Some conversations with some of our older members has led me to think that recognition some of our early influential members is important too. While, e.g., the Hans Daellenbach Prize may not be appropriate, I wonder if we could have a list of ORSNZ kairangi that is developed alongside an ORSNZ history. I feel that ORSNZ should invest in retaining knowledge of our past and the people from it.”

I think we should put out some kind of tender to get this work done by, e.g., a budding historian.

## **Succession planning**

This is my 7<sup>th</sup> year as ORSNZ president and it is time to step down. I still have a lot of belief in the value of ORSNZ and am happy to put energy into projects such as the new website and the history of ORSNZ, but I think someone else needs to be taking the lead now.

I have really missed having Tony being an active secretary this year and I think both strong strategic leadership combined with good organisation are needed for the future of ORSNZ. Maybe Council needs to put together an annual calendar so that future leaders have blueprint of (minimum) activity to keep ORSNZ running.

The future strategy of ORSNZ should, in my opinion, include diversity in the ORSNZ Council (e.g., more involvement from those outside the Department of Engineering Science and Biomedical Engineering, University of Auckland) and attempts to rejuvenate OR outside of Auckland and beyond academia.

As I said in 2022, I think if we don't revitalise the society in the next few years then it may be that the best option is to merge with a more active organisation:

- Optimisation Community (ANZ) group from LinkedIn;
- Analytics Forum;
- New Zealand Statistical Association.

I would be disappointed if this were to happen, but I will also be disappointed to see ORSNZ peter out given, what I think is a rich history and continuing relevance to decision making in NZ.

## Honorary Treasurer's report and financial statements

### Treasurer's Report 2023

The funds available at the start of the period (1/7/2022) were \$66,163.49. At the end of the period (30/6/2023), the funds were \$66,599.94. There is an income of \$436.45.

The 2022 conference made a profit of \$1425.91. As in previous years, we continued to have zero annual subscriptions fees. New members joining the Society (typically via the conference) pay a one-off entry fee for their conference registration.

The Healthcare Analytics SIG (OSHA) and the Wellington branch held an event in Wellington. The catering for this event cost \$664.13.

Further, \$1437.50 was spent on the Website redesign.

\$50851.51 was held on term deposit at the end of the financial year. It is continuing to be rolled over every 180 days. The interest of \$1387.10 earned was significantly higher than in the 2021/2022 period.



Dr Thomas Adams  
Hon. Treasurer

