

ORSNZ Annual General Meeting 2022

Monday 28 November 2022

Attendees:

Cameron Walker, Mike O'Sullivan, Andrea Raith, Andrew Mason, Melanie Reuter-Oppermann, Sarah Marshall, Tom Adams, Isaac Cleland, Kevin Jia, Andy Philpott, Oscar Dowson, Karl Zhu, Michael Leon, Amos Rada, Dominic Keehan, Maryam Mirzaei, Peter Crosbie, Christina Lin, Uwe Langenmayr, Param Iyer, Lahiru Gunasekara, Mazyar Zarepour, Mahdi Mahmoudzadeh, Ehsan Izadpanahi, Adam Clifford, Michael Zhang, Ali Sohrabi, Preston Ferreira, Tony Downward.

Apologies:

Vicky Mabin, Grant Read, David Robb

Meeting opened at 1:46pm

Minutes of previous meeting

The minutes are shown on the screen and briefly discussed. It is noted that Robyn Moore and Cam Bradley should be contacted by Mike.

Mike discusses special interest groups (SIGs); there are no new SIGs. Mike says that people are free to suggest new SIGs and access funds.

There are no other matters arising from the minutes.

Mike moves that the minutes are a true and accurate record of the 2021 AGM. Andrea seconds the motion; it is passed unopposed.

President's report. (<https://orsnz.org.nz/AGMDocuments/PresidentReport202122.pdf>)

Very little has been happening within ORSNZ over the last year. APORS were active, but ORSNZ members didn't engage. Mike asks whether ORSNZ would wish to subsidise people to engage with groups such as APORS.

Vicky received a lifetime achievement award from Theory of Constraints – International Certification Organization (TOC-ICO). She gave a keynote address to their conference.

(<https://youtu.be/X6ss00TFCOE>.)

Mike visited Vicky Mabin at the Victoria University of Wellington, where he met Bronwyn Howell. Bronwyn and Mike are planning a joint ORSNZ/Te Pūnaha Matatini Healthcare event in Wellington.

Oomph is progressing the website design. Mike is hoping to make the website a hub for activity, increasing engagement between conferences, with more in-person ORSNZ events.

Mike was hoping to update and revise the roles and responsibilities, but hasn't had time to do this yet.

Mike is keen for the history of ORSNZ ought to be captured, and suggests engaging a history student. Making sure we acknowledge some of our early influential members is important, and ORSNZ should invest in retaining knowledge of our past and the people from it. He suggests highlighting the history of OR in Wellington and Christchurch.

Mike notes that Dr Raymond Jonathan Lermitt and Dr Hugh Barr both passed away in 2022.

In terms of succession planning, Mike has been president since 2017, and Tony has been secretary for the whole time. Mike has a number of other responsibilities which limits the time he can devote to ORSNZ. Andrea keen to be more involved. It would be good to get more involvement from outside Engineering Science.

ORSNZ seems to be petering out, especially in Wellington in Christchurch. Mike is open to ideas to increase engagement.

Comments about President's report

Andy comments that the old website has a lot of history on it. Andrew did a lot of the original website, and the current wordpress site, and we should try not to lose any of the information that's currently there. Mike comments that the new website will be wordpress as well.

Andrew notes that some of the old conference websites are not accessible. Mike would like to convert everything across, otherwise it makes it hard to access, and notes that we have approved spending money to invest in the upgrade.

It is suggested that one option could be to join with another society, if we think that ORSNZ will peter out.

It is noted that in South Africa the OR society is divided into regional chapters, but is more commercially focused. Andrew comments that Analytics Forum had a meeting, that was well attended.

Andrea thanks Mike for doing what he's been doing.

Melanie asks if the society should consider about how to engage more with PhD students. For example, funding students to go to conferences. It is generally agreed that the society should be trying to build connections in some way.

Treasurer's report

Tom presents the balances, income and expenses; there was a loss of \$669.28 from 01/07/2021 to 30/06/2022. He notes that the accounts are not yet audited, but will be audited by Lloyd Austin.

Karl asks how the money can be spent and Mike describes the process for requesting money for SIG / RIG events. Tony talks about ENRE sessions that have run at the past two conferences Mike comments that OSHA is running an event in Wellington to get in front of government.

Andy suggests that there should be a way to spend the money. For example, sending someone free of charge to INFORMS. Andrea says that it would be good to open something like that to other major OR conferences.

Oscar was considering running a conference on Julia, but it didn't make sense to run in NZ due to costs of the participants flying to New Zealand.

Hans Daellenbach Prize

Mike discusses the Hans Dallenbach, and states that Grant Read has suggested a new system. Mike says that people should be notified that the Hans Dallenbach award is available. Andy agrees.

ORSNZ has established an awards committee to make recommendations with respect to the award of the HGD prize, that will:

- 1. Stand ready to receive, and where necessary solicit, suggestions with respect to suitable recipients.*
- 2. Maintain an ordered list of potential recipients, considering the alignment between their achievements and the prize criteria, and also the alignment of award timing with career events such as retirement.*
- 3. Pro-actively request suitably placed individuals to prepare formal nominations for persons on that list, and to provide supporting documentation, with the aim of making one HGD award every 3 years, on average.*
- 4. Form an ad hoc sub-committee, adding suitably qualified persons if required to avoid conflicts of interest, to make a recommendation with respect to each nomination.*

Currently:

- 1. The committee consists of all past HGD awardees who are still active in ORSNZ, and it is envisaged that members will be added as new awards are made, and will retire when they cease ORSNZ activity.*
- 2. Awards have been well below the target rate in recent years, so further awards may be made within the next 3 years*

Sincerely, Prof Vicky Mabin, Prof Andy Philpott and Prof Grant Read (Awards Committee)

Conference 2023

Mike suggests that it will be likely at Auckland, and asks Sarah about AUT hosting. She suggests that there's a lot of uncertainty at the moment, so AUT wouldn't be able to host. There are no volunteers to host the conference next year.

Council Members

Mike shows the current council. There are no volunteers for the president or secretary positions. Karl Zhu volunteers to coming into communications, is the only change. Mike moved that the change be accepted. Oscar seconded. It is passed without objection.

Meeting closed at 2:37pm.