

Annual General Meeting 2007

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Held on Monday, 27th August, 2007, commencing at 10.00 am, via teleconferencing at the University of Melbourne, with nodes at the University of Sydney and the University of Wollongong.

1. Present

ANZSMS financial members: Richard O'Hair (President), John Traeger (Past-President), Simin Maleknia (Secretary), Stephen Blanksby (Treasurer), Kevin Downard (Convenor, ANZSMS22), Keith Fisher, Michael Guilhaus, Patrick James, Oliver Bernhard, Andrew McAnoy, George Khairallah.

Others: Charlene Thum, Ben Harris, Tom Waters.

2. Apologies

Craige Trenerry, Christina Athanassiou, Bruce Tattam.

3. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the [2007 General Meeting](#) held at the University of Canterbury, Christchurch, New Zealand, Thursday, 25th January, 2007 and previously circulated, were accepted as a true and correct record of the meeting (Downard/Maleknia).

4. Business Arising from the Minutes

See [Item 7](#) and [Item 8](#).

5. Society Reports

a. President's Report

The President's Report was presented by Richard O'Hair. Richard moved a vote of thanks to the outgoing Vice-President, Professor Margaret Sheil for her outstanding contributions and many years of service to ANZSMS. On behalf of the Society, Richard wished Margaret all the best for her important new job as CEO of the Australian Research Council. All present gave a hearty round of applause.

Richard noted that since the January conference, ANZSMS had hosted Professor Paul G. Wenthold from the Department of Chemistry at Purdue University as the ANZSMS Interconference Speaker. Paul visited both the Universities of Melbourne and Wollongong, where he had presented talks "Mass Spectrometric Studies of Nitrenes and Nitrene Anions" and met with members.

b. *Treasurer's Report*

Stephen Blanksby presented the 2006-2007 financial statement. Traeger/O'Hair moved that the annual financial statement be accepted. There were no objections. The report was signed by Blanksby and O'Hair.

c. *ANZSMS22 Report*

Kevin Downard reported that ANZSMS22 is planned for Sydney from January 27-30, 2009 (Tuesday - Friday) post Australia Day. The conference is to be held at the Music Conservatorium of the University of Sydney on Macquarie Street. This will be the first time the conference is held in the centre of Sydney. Several new innovations and themes are planned and the conference will aim to value add for registrants and vendors. It will also aim to engage researchers in mass spectrometry not well represented at recent meetings. A conference committee will be formed and invited speakers will be solicited in 2008. A conference web page is active at: <http://www.mmb.usyd.edu.au/ANZSMS22/>

Kevin added that ANZSMS22 would coincide with, and will celebrate, 60 years of mass spectrometry in Australia with Jim Morrison's experiments at CSIRO, Melbourne.

6. Election of Office Bearers

The following members were elected to the committee:

Richard O'Hair	<i>President</i>	(J. Traeger/K. Downard)
Stephen Blanksby	<i>Vice-President</i>	(J. Traeger/R. O'Hair)
Samantha Nelis*	<i>Secretary</i>	(R. O'Hair/S. Maleknia)
Simin Maleknia*	<i>Treasurer</i>	(R. O'Hair/K. Downard)
Carolyn McKinlay*	<i>Committee Member</i>	(R. O'Hair/K. Fisher)
Mark Buntine*	<i>Committee Member</i>	(R. O'Hair/K. Fisher)
Michael Guilhaus	<i>Committee Member</i>	(K. Downard/K. Fisher)

*Nomination received prior to the AGM.

As there were no further nominations, all of the above were elected unopposed.

Carolyn McKinlay was reappointed as the Public Officer. John Traeger is the immediate Past-President and Kevin Downard is the ANZSMS22 Convenor.

7. Constitution Change

Carolyn McKinlay reported in an email to the executive committee that the proposed change to the Constitution ([Item 7, January 2007 General Meeting](#)) had been rejected. John Traeger has since revised the Constitution further to meet the Associations Incorporation Regulations guidelines. These revisions were made available to the Executive committee on July 27th 2007.

Kevin and Simin identified the following points, which were discussed:

- i. Adding "electronic format (i.e. email)" for Clause-14 related to "nominations must be made in writing ..."
- ii. Recommend changes that would provide "a format for the right of appeal" for members removed from the Society (Clause 4e). Keith Fisher, Michael Guilhaus and Richard O'Hair further suggested that the normal course of events could include notifying a member in writing with the opportunity to the "right of appeal" at the next AGM.
- iii. The format for the "Election of the Central Committee" was discussed. Simin Maleknia, Keith Fisher, Kevin Downard and Michael Guilhaus agreed that "election by proxy" would be a more acceptable and a preferred format, provided members of the committee would be active in advertising the positions and recruiting candidates. Suggestions were made to change the wording for this section to incorporate "nominations provided by members or as suggested by executive committee" and "voting by proxy" prior to the AGM. In the absence of enough nominees prior to AGM, "nominations could be made" at the AGM.

It was decided to:

- a. modify the Constitution to take into account the points raised above.
- b. post the modified Constitution on the ANZSMS website and invite all ANZSMS members to comment.

8. ANZSMS Medals

O'Hair reported that he had received two quotes for the medals (one from Stokes, the other from Mezaros) and that these had been presented to the executive. It was decided to go with the more expensive option (Mezaros). Michael Guilhaus suggested that the initial cost of medals could be considered as a long-term investment for ANZSMS.

9. Any Other Business

9.1 T shirts:

In an email sent to Richard O'Hair, Samantha Nelis had noted that most of the T-shirts had been posted to members who had renewed their membership. She suggested that we consider sending them to the attendees of the Jan conference. She noted that she had a few requests from some of the instrument companies service engineers for a shirt if some were left, and suggested granting these requests. This item would be reviewed by ANZSMS Executive after receiving the stocktake report.

9.2 Review of ANZSMS membership terms:

The terms of ANZSMS membership were briefly discussed. ANZSMS currently offers annual membership at a cost of \$25/year, which provides a discount registration fee for the ANZSMS conference. Simin and Kevin noted that with these current membership conditions, some members ONLY renew their memberships for the conference (i.e. odd years). It was proposed to offer a discounted two-year membership with a cost of \$40 for two years that would commence in 2008. This new membership condition would provide a more consistent numbers during the years when ANZSMS conferences are not held. Only new members joining during the odd years (i.e. 2009, etc) would qualify for a yearly fee of \$25. This would enable new students joining for the first time to be considered for ANZSMS travel awards.

Steve Blanksby commented that two-year membership would be preferred. Richard and John Traeger agreed with the two-year format. John suggested a two-year membership format starting on first of January. Kevin suggested providing a substantial discount to members for ANZSMS conference as an incentive for their membership dues. Renewal of ANZSMS membership should also occur a few months prior to the conference (for example by the end of May to be qualified for discount conference registration). Changes to membership format would be in effect in 2008.

9.3 Appointment of an industry executive committee member:

Simin Maleknia noted that she had sent an email to the Executive regarding the possibility of appointing a new "industry" member to the executive committee. This would provide the ANZSMS executive committee with suggestions and views of our industry members. This was suggested by Kevin Downard during AGM in Christchurch

since some industry members had commented on their under representation at our ANZSMS conferences. John Traeger noted that ANZSMS should be independent of any commercial interest and that this might be hard to avoid if there was a specific company representative on the committee. Keith Fisher commented that industry members could be nominated for any positions within the executive committee and therefore could not be excluded. Richard O'Hair suggested that with a third regular member on the executive committee, it might be possible to make this person an "industry liaison officer" who would be proactive in informing industry members of key issues and canvassing them for input to our society. Michael Guilhaus suggested that having a committee member who works closely with our industry partners would be a better approach. Members agreed with this option and appointed Michael as our "Corporate Liaison Committee Member" responsible for industry liaison. Kevin Downard suggested incorporating this information on the ANZSMS website.

There being no further business, O'Hair declared meeting closed with thanks to all who made our first AGM via teleconferencing a success, and welcomed the new executive members.

The meeting closed at 11.15 am.

Richard O'Hair
President