



Minutes
2019 ANZSMS General Meeting
February 1st, 2019
1.00-2.00pm (New Zealand Daylight Time)
ANZSMS27 Conference, Auckland University of Technology

Members in Attendance:

Adam Trevitt, Gavin Reid, Heather Patsiouras, Berin Boughton, Simone Rochfort, Stephen Blanksby, Berwyck Poad, David Marshall, Todd Mitchell, Celine Kelso, Alan Maccarone, W. Alex Donald, David Harman, Angus Grey, Nick Dumaris, Adam Carroll, Sunny Hu, Tara Pukala, Erin Humphries, Anna Radionova, Juliette Nersesyan, Stewart Walker, Trevor Loo, Gill Norris, Eric Thorstensen, Nicole Rijs, Russel Pickford, Margaret Coe, Saras Green, Anitha Jeyasingham

1. Welcome (President)

The President (Reid) welcomed all attendees to the Annual General Meeting starting at 1:00pm. He expressed his very positive impressions of ANZSMS27 to date, and remarked on the impressive breadth of local science, and the positive engagement of the NZ MS community. Reid also reiterated thanks to the conference sponsors and exhibitors.

2. Apologies

No apologies were noted.

3. Acceptance of previous minutes (Annual General Meeting 15/10/18)

Reid noted that the minutes of the previous AGM were provided via the ANZSMS website to the members for tabling at the general meeting. Blanksby moved that these be accepted as a true and accurate record. The motion was seconded by Mitchell with no objections.

4. Business arising

Student coordinator role

Reid reminded the group of the suggestion from the 2017 AGM to include a student representative/coordinator role on the committee, to engage and promote student activity and shape the society. A call for nominations will be made in the coming months (Reid and Pukala to action).

5. 2019 ANZSMS conference convener's report (Grey)

Grey reported on the outcomes to date for ANZSMS27. He expressed thanks to the local organising committee, ANZSMS executive committee, staff at All Occasions Group, and conference sponsors. The local organising committee had aimed for a structure similar to past meetings, while providing some focus on NZ MS users to engage and promote further NZ involvement in the society. The program was largely dictated by abstract submissions, with all presentation requests incorporated into the program. Despite last minute disruptions due to a fire on the planned site (Dec 2018), changes to venue were made with no apparent impact on the success of the meeting. The conference was attended by 153 delegates (134 registered) with 30-40% female representation in areas of attendance, invited speakers, general talks and session chairs. Grey noted most income came from early bird registrations, and main deviations from budget were related to sponsorship (exceeded initial targets) and

exhibitor space (more costly than initial projections). The current budget suggested the conference would make a profit of approximately \$3k (plus a potential additional 3% contingency).

6. President's report (Reid)

- Formal thanks was provided to Angus Grey, the ANZSMS27 local organising committee and All Occasions Group for the fantastic meeting.
- ANZSMS members (and past members) were acknowledged and congratulated on recent success, namely; Kliti Grice, elected to the Australian Academy of Science.
Margaret Sheil, appointed as Vice Chancellor of Queensland University of Technology.
Stephen Blanksby, awarded the RACI Graeme Batley Medal recognising excellence in analytical chemistry
- Reid highlighted the recent appointment of the two new ANZSMS Fellows, Noel Davies (UTas) and Stephen Blanksby (QUT), awarded for their sustained contributions to the MS field and ANZSMS. A page is to be added to the ANZSMS website highlighting all ANZSMS Fellows (Maccarone to action).
- ANZSMS27 student travel awards were awarded to Ezaz Ahmed, Jiawei Li, Siqi Li, Howard Ma, Samuel Marlton, Benjamin McKinnon, Giang Thi Huong Nguyen, Priyanka Reddy, Venkateswara Reddy Narreddula, Yepi Hardi Rustam, Huixin Wang and Chia-De Ruth Wang to offset costs associated with travel to the conference.
- Carolyn McKinlay travel awards (for research support staff/technical officers) were awarded to Alan Maccarone and Ancy Thomas to offset costs associated with travel to the ANZSMS27 conference.
- A recent call for nominations was made for the 2019 Morrison medal and applications were assessed by the executive committee. The medal was awarded to Prof Christian Hartinger (University of Auckland) who presented a keynote lecture at ANZSMS27.
- 5 nominations were received for the 2019 Bowie medal (4 male, 1 female) which were assessed by an external review panel of international and national experts. The panel commended the high quality of all applicants, with the award made to Alex Donald (UNSW).
- 3 nominations (2 male, 1 female) were received for the 2019 Guilhaus award which offers \$10k to support research innovation, which were assessed by an external committee. The award was made to Berin Boughton (Uni Melb). Reid commended and thanked George Khairallah (Accurate Mass Scientific) for financial support as well as an anonymous donor, and reiterated a need for the ANZSMS to consider how to continue to support this award.
- Prompted by a donation of funds for the Guilhaus award, the committee is exploring the possibility to change accounting practices to enable tax free donations. Donald informed the group he has sought accounting advice regarding paperwork to register as a non-for-profit organisation and will follow up with legal advice. A question of whether this will also apply for NZ donations was made and will be explored with the society accountants (Donald to action). The timeframe for this process is unknown, however when complete there will be a call for fundraising with an initial goal to provide ongoing support for the Guilhaus award, with notification to the Guilhaus family.
- Financial support was provided for a visiting ANZSMS fellow (Scott McLuckey, Purdue University) to cover domestic travel expenses to attend state-wide MS symposia (held in Wollongong, ACT, Brisbane, Melb in late 2018). While there is currently a funding policy for the travelling fellowship, typically in a non-conference year, Reid raised discussion regarding this being linked formally to ANZSMS affiliated symposia. Key points of discussion included a need to run the fellowship in non-conference years to avoid detracting from the conference (timing of the major conference was discussed and an informal vote indicated preference for Jan rather than mid-year) and there was a general consensus to coordinate local symposia where possible (including NZ) to best capitalise on the visiting speaker's contributions. Reid proposed those planning local symposia communicate in coming months to coordinate timing of a 2019 ANZSMS supported visiting fellow.

7. Treasurer's report (Donald)

- Donald summarised the current financial status of the society, which will be formally reported at the end of the auditing period in March. Nominally there is \$70k in cash after providing \$20k in seed funding for the conference. \$6k has been provided for travel awards plus \$2.5k for the Guilhaus award. With projections from the conference, the current position is approx. \$85k, which is an increase of at least \$4k since March 2018.

8. Other Business

- Stewart Walker highlighted 2019 as the year of the periodic table (with mass spectrometry critical to element identification) and August 2019 as the 100 year anniversary of Aston's first successful mass spectrometry experiments. He suggested this is an opportunity for the society to promote the role of mass spectrometry in society, and encouraged members to host events at their institutes, possibly linked with local symposia and ANZSMS travelling speaker aligned to this theme. A proposal was made to establish a group to develop marketing and coordination of events (Walker to action).
- Alan Maccarone raised the recurring issue of membership timeframes and member registration rates for the biannual conference, given membership is currently linked to the calendar year. Possible models discussed included 2 year rolling memberships or pro-rata rates for ad-hoc membership, although there was little support for either model, except in the case of pro-rata corporate membership. A grace period was proposed for new members only who join late in the year before the conference to attend at member rates. This issue will be revisited at the AGM after ensuring the proposal is compliant with the constitution considering lapsed memberships.
- Reid called for expressions of interest to host the next ANZSMS conference. A formal call will be announced before the next AGM, requesting proposals describing the convenor, local organising committee and possible themes, speakers and venue for evaluation by the executive committee (Reid to action). There was an interest to maintain geographical representation in conference location, with WA, TAS and the ACT currently underrepresented in hosting past conferences. Engaging with growing WA metabolomics and phenomics fields could be pursued for the 2023 conference. An informal expression of interest and support was received for Canberra.
- Suggestions to celebrate the 50th year of ANZSMS conferences included re-releasing the 1971 conference abstract book, and generating a co-authorship network plot of the community (Adam Carroll to action). Blanksby proposed employing a commercial archiving company to digitally archive the conference proceedings which was supported (Reid to action).
- Reid emphasised the importance of engaging with the Asian MS community, and encouraged attendance and student travel award nominations for the AOMSC meeting in Hong Kong, Jan 5-7 2020.

9. Next Meeting

Annual general meeting to be scheduled for October 2019.

10. Thanks and close

Reid thanked everyone for their participation. The meeting was closed at 2:20 pm.