

Ecological Society of Australia
34th Annual General Meeting Draft Minutes
Held at the Conference 'Interactions in Science'
University of Sydney, Sydney, NSW
4 December 2008

Attendance of Members:

68 members in attendance

Michael Kearney	Sue Murray-Jones	Sarah Hill
Ralph McNally	Meredith Henderson	Glenda Wardle
E. Charles Morris	Peter Fairweather	Alan Crowden
Nigel Andrew	Chris Burwell	Chris Pavey
Nerissa Haby	Eddie Van Etten	Jann Williams
Ian Williamson	Andrew Bennet	Ian Lunt
Michael Bull	Jocelyn Howell	Ann Kerler
Greg Carr	Vanessa Duran	Kerry Bridge
Pep Turner	Alan York	Ifeanna Tooth
Mike Lawes	Peter Macreadie	Anna Richards
Paul Adam	Annabelle Andrews	Guy Castley
Nick Williams	Mark McDonnell	CynthiaRoberts
Catherine Price	Catherine Lovelock	Lucy Hurrey
Helen Waudby	Peter Turner	Carola Kuramoto de Bednarick
Elizabeth Tasker	Edward Narayan	Amadon Comara
Petina Pert	Peter Berney	Andreas Hundt
David Goodall	Ulrike Kloeches	Isabelle Wolf
Dorothy Bell	Penny Watson	Miriam Goosem
Steve Turton	David Keith	Jennifer Taylor
Jennifer Beer	Karen Ross	Owen Price
Eleanor O'Brien	Peter Grimbacher	Aki Nakamura
Andrew Denham	Alan House	Margaret Wheeler
Geoff Bedford	Dan Lunney	Gail Spina, Lyn McCormick & Kirsty Cole (ESA staff)

34th Annual General Meeting Minutes

Meeting commenced 1.05pm

1. Apologies:

Name
1. Paula Peeters
2. Euan Ritchie
3. Alan John Butler
4. Dawn Hawthorn-Jackson
5. Caroline Gross
6. Jann Williams
7. Letitia Silberbauer
8. Brooke Rankmore

2. Declaration of proxies (4). Proxies are attached on file.

- o Anne Rochelle Christian
- o Patricia Anne Werner
- o Peter James Myerscough
- o Ralf Christopher Buckley
- o Raghu Sathyamurthy

3. Motion to Proceed

AGM papers were not distributed to members within the timeframe required by the constitution due to printer's delay.

Motion: That the meeting be allowed to proceed as the Annual General Meeting of the Ecological Society of Australia Inc

Proposed: E. Charles Morris

Second: Peter Fairweather

Motion passed.

4. Previous minutes

3.1 Minutes of the 33rd AGM. (Attachment 1)

The paragraph "That the amended document "The Ecological Society of Australia Incorporated Constitution (1976)" as tabled at this Annual General Meeting be approved." was incorrectly inserted at beginning of minutes document and should be removed.

Motion: That the Minutes of the 33rd AGM as amended be accepted as a true and correct record of that meeting.

Proposed: Sue Murray-Jones

Second: Ian Williamson

Motion passed.

4. Matters Arising from the 33rd AGM minutes

No matters arising.

5. Reports from Office bearers'

All reports were distributed prior to the AGM. Questions and comments from the AGM were sought. Papers are available from the Secretary.

5.1 President's report (Carla Catterall):

CC tabled her written report
No questions or comments.

5.2 Vice President's reports (Glenda Wardle, Paula Peeters, Ian Williamson)

The Vice President's written reports were tabled.
No questions or comments.

5.3 Secretary's report (Letitia Silberbauer)

Secretary tabled written report
No questions or comments.

5.4 Treasurer's report (E. Charles Morris)

Treasurer tabled written report (see below)

Income for the Society in the period was \$321.9K; expenditure was \$321.7K, and so there was a net surplus for the year of \$132.

Income was greater than had been anticipated at the start of the year: this was due to a very strong performance from Journal sales (\$186K) and membership subscriptions (\$95K) both up from the previous year. The Society earned \$29.3K in interest from fixed term deposits.

For expenditure, items that collectively can be called administration totalled \$36K; items related to the Society's paid staff totalled \$62K; accounting/auditing totalled \$18K and travel \$8.5K. These four items combined made up 39% of expenditure. The split between editorial expenses and publication expenses has been changed from previous years: publication expenses (\$99K) and editorial expenses (\$26K) differ substantially from the previous year's totals for this reason (38% of expenditure). The remaining 23% of expenditure covered items such as Grants (\$17.6K), expenditure on Conferences (\$25K), Bayesian Stats Courses (\$13.6K) and Regional activities (\$2.7K).

At the close of the financial year, the Society's net assets were \$620,867 (up \$132 from the previous year). The ratio of net assets to expenditure was 1.9 (x1.5 required).

A number of changes have been made to financial reporting to Council meetings at the Auditor's request.

Formulation of the financial model for the Business Plan, and consulting with Council on the Investment Strategy have been two major tasks for 2006 – 07.

I would like to thank Lyn McCormick for management of the Society's financial affairs during the year.

E. Charles Morris

Treasurer

Ecological Society of Australia 23rd November 2007

5.4.1 Presentation of accounts

The 2007/2008 Audited accounts and the Auditors letter were presented to the members at the AGM by the Treasurer.

Motion: that the 2007/2008 audit be accepted as a true and correct record by the membership.

Proposed: Glenda Wardle **Second:** Sue Murray-Jones **Motion passed.**

5.4.2 Presentation of Jill Landsberg Trust Fund accounts

The Jill Landsberg Trust fund 2007/08 accounts were presented to the membership.

5.4.3 Election of Auditors

Motion: That Deloitte Touche Tomatsu of Alice Springs office be appointed as the auditors for 2008/2009 financial year.

Proposed: E Charles Morris **Second:** Meredith Henderson **Motion passed.**

5.5 Membership Manager (Lyn McCormick, Kirsty Cole)

Written report tabled.
No questions or comments.

5.6 Executive Officer (Gail Spina)

Written Report tabled.
No questions or comments.

5.7 Austral Ecology (Mike Bull)

MB tabled his written report

Congratulations and many thanks to Mike Bull for his 21 years as Chair of the Austral Ecology Editorial Board.

5.8 Ecological Management and Restoration (Jann Williams & Tein McDonald)

The EMR written report was tabled
No questions or comments.

5.9 ESA Bulletin (Sue Murray-Jones)

Written report tabled.
No questions or comments.

5.10 Conference organiser (Well Done Events)

Conference report will be presented to Council post conference. Many thanks to Judy Potter and Dee Hewish from Well Done Events for their hard work coordinating the ESA annual conference over the past five years. This is the final year Well Done Events will be the ESA preferred conference organiser.

ESA 2009 conference will be held in conjunction with INTECOL10 in Brisbane, QLD.

6. Election of Office Bearers for 2008

Council Position

Bulletin Editor
Chairperson of Editorial Board - Austral Ecology
Chairperson of Editorial Board - EMR
President
Public Officer
Regional Councillor - ACT
Regional Councillor - NSW
Regional Councillor - NT
Regional Councillor - QLD
Regional Councillor - TAS
Regional Councillor - VIC
Regional Councillor - WA

Nominee

Sue Murray-Jones
Mike Bull
Jann Williams
Carla Catterall
Debbie Saunders
Jason Cummings
Liz Tasker
Christine Schlesinger
Andrew Hayes
Kerry Bridle
Sarah Bokessey
Eddie Van Etten

Regional Councillor - SA
Secretary
Treasurer
Vice President
Vice President
Vice President

Nerissa Haby
Petina Pert
Nigel Andrew
Glenda Wardle
Paula Peeters
Ian Williamson

Changes:

A very big vote of thanks to our out-going Treasurer, E. Charles Morris, our outgoing secretary, Tish Silberbauer, and outgoing Regional Councillors:

- o Meredith Henderson
- o Oberon Carter
- o Brooke Rankmore
- o Euan Ritchie

Incoming Treasurer – Nigel Andrew

Incoming Secretary – Petina Pert

New Regional Councillors:

- o Nerissa Haby SA
- o Kerry Bridle TAS
- o Christine Schlesinger NT

All ESA office bearers were elected uncontested.

CC welcomed all new members to Council, and thanked out-going members for their contributions.

7. Other Business

ESA Business Plan:

Motion: "That the amended document "The Ecological Society of Australia Incorporated Constitution (1976)" as tabled at this Annual General Meeting be approved."

Proposed: Peter Fairweather **Second:** E Charles Morris **Motion passed.**

No other items of business were raised.

8. Next AGM

CC informed that the 2009 AGM will be held as a separate event to the annual conference due to INTECOL10 being held in August 2009. Members will be advised of date and location early 2009.

AGM Closed.