

Minutes Quaternary Australasia Annual General Meeting 2018
UNSW (Room 552B, Bioscience Building D26), 23rd May 2018

AGM declared open at 11:00 AEST

1. Attendance/Apologies

Voting Attendees: Scott Mooney, Chris Turney, Georgina Falster, Emily Field, Haidee Cadd, Lynda Petherick, Tim Cohen, Heather Haines, Zoe Thomas, Mark Constantine, Lillian Luk, Cameron Barr, Andrew Rees, Xianglin Zheng, Len Martin.

Apologies: Jessica Reeves

2. Proxies:

Philip Hughes, Marjorie Sullivan, Janelle Stevenson, Kathryn Fitzsimmons, Helen Bostok, Carol Smith, Peter Almond, Andy Baker (all to President).

3. Minutes of the 2017 Annual General Meeting

Motion: That the previous minutes be adopted

Moved: Scott Mooney

Seconded: Emily Field

Carried: Unanimously

4. President's Annual Report

Scott Mooney delivered his second AGM Report as President: No major concerns other than long term decline in membership. Losing approximately 50 members per decade. Current membership is 130 (reasonably healthy) – in 1990 it was approximately 230. May reflect that the big postgrad groups in Australia have declined. But we are still financially viable and active.

Motion: That the President's Report be approved

Moved: Scott Mooney

Seconded: Emily Field

Carried: Unanimously

5. Treasurer's report and Financial Statement

Treasurer Georgina Falster delivered her report, highlighting the following from the 2017 financial report: Still in a very good financial position – had a surplus of just under \$1500 all up – higher than previous years (expenditure and income). Subscriptions similar to last year, memberships a little down on the previous year. Expenditure last year was up a little due to giving out more money on travel awards and Science Meets Parliament. But we also received that \$2000 donation. In summary:

- Total income: \$10,997.98
- Total expenditure: \$9597.63
- Total assets on 31/12/2017: \$102,474.08
- Current total assets on 31/05/2017: \$103,874.43
- The **Business Transaction Account** is currently at \$ 6878.82.
- **Term Deposit B** (\$9119.02)
- **Term deposit A** (\$77,419.91)

We have two term deposit accounts – one is the leftover from INQUA (Term Deposit A) which is to fund student prizes to attend INQUA every four years, Term Deposit B funds

AQUA prizes. But both with Commonwealth Bank - possibly not the best way to make money out of these accounts. GF possibly to look into other term deposit options. This can be taken to the next committee meeting. At present our Term A deposit made >\$2000 in interest over the past term. But potentially could put it into an account which had a better return. There have also been calls on AQUA to support smaller meetings which could be supported by a better return on the term deposits- at present we only really support AQUA, INQUA and student prizes.

Motion: That the Treasurer's Report be accepted

Moved: Scott Mooney

Second: Emily Field

Carried: Unanimously

6. Confirmation of annual subscription/joining fees

We don't really need to make up a lot more money. If we increase subscription going by \$5 each member we get >\$600 per year, so in the grand scheme of things it is not a lot. So perhaps not worth it. Possibly something to look into next year, but not now.

It seems like the decline in our membership is students (only ~20 out of our total membership of 130). One idea to encourage students to join would be to advertise a student prize more widely – or perhaps drastically reduce the student fee (currently \$35 for student membership with electronic QA and \$40 for hard copy QA). So revise student and concession membership fee with electronic QA to \$20. Possibly increase number of student prizes to attend INQUA next year (currently \$9000 allocated for INQUA prizes but there is scope to increase this).

Motion: That annual AQUA subscription fees for student e-membership and concessions be reduced to \$20 and look into increased support for AQUA 2018 and INQUA 2019.

Moved: Scott Mooney

Seconded: Emily Field

Carried: Unanimously

7. Election of members of the Executive Committee

All positions were declared open.

President:

Nominees: Tim Cohen

Nomination accepted: Yes

Outcome of voting: Elected unopposed

Position declared

Vice President:

Nominees: Lynda Petherick

Nomination accepted: Yes

Outcome of voting: Elected unopposed

Position declared

Secretary:

Nominees: Emily Field

Nomination accepted: Yes

Outcome of voting: Elected unopposed
Position declared

Treasurer:

Nominees: Georgina Falster
Nomination accepted: Yes
Outcome of voting: Elected unopposed
Position declared

Shadow Secretary:

Nominees: Scott Mooney:
Nomination accepted: Yes
Outcome of voting: Elected unopposed
Position declared

Editor of Publications (Quaternary Australasia):

Nominees: Carol Smith and Sanja Van Huet
Nomination accepted: Yes
Nomination accepted: Yes
Position declared

Information Technology Editor:

Nominees: Haidee Cadd
Nomination accepted: Yes
Outcome of voting: Elected unopposed
Position declared

General Members:

Nominees: Andrew Rees, Jessica Reeves, Peter Almond, Heather Haines, Lily (?)
Nomination accepted: Yes
Outcome of voting: Elected unopposed
Positions declared

Vote of thanks to Scott Mooney for his role as President:

Moved: Emily Field

Seconded: Georgina Falster

Carried: Unanimously

8. Any other business

INQUA life membership:

Australasians are very active in the INQUA community so it would be nice to have a life member from our community. Tim Cohen suggested Alan Chivas. Previous life members from the last three congresses are relatively male-heavy – perhaps nominations for this are something that could be discussed offline. Chris Turney suggested that the NZers nominate Matt McGlone.

AQUA Biennial Meeting 2018 Canberra

Currently we have a poster which is about to go out to people, we have a venue for the conference dinner (Janelle Stevenson working on this), preliminary outline of what is happening on a day by day basis. General plan so far is: talks, and then a keynote after lunch every day. On track in lots of ways at the moment.

Science and Technology Australia

Who sits on our representative bodies – something to discuss amongst the next exec. And formally write to Earth Sciences to express disappointment from the Quaternary community at how the input Jess Reeves put into the five year plan was essentially ignored.

INQUA New Zealand 2023

There has been a big push for INQUA to be in New Zealand in 2023, no nomination at this stage but nominations need to be in by July. INQUA have stated that they are looking forward to a New Zealand INQUA

Zoom subscription

Working out really well for the AGM - \$21 a month, but can be cancelled if we have a period of inactivity. Continue with Zoom subscription for now as it is working better than Skype for meetings.

9. AGM closed at 11:50 AEST

This is an accurate copy of the minutes of the 23/05/2018 AQUA AGM.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'E Field', written in a cursive style.

Emily Field, AQUA Secretary