

AHDA AGM minutes 25/10/19 via Zoom

Present

Annette Henderson, Paul Jose, Sue Walker, Melanie Zimmer-Gembeck, Jaimee Stewart, Riley Scott, Linda Hand, Jacki Henderson

1. Apologies:

Michelle Hood, Thomas Zudendorf (spelling?)

2. Confirmation of 2018 AGM Minutes

Minutes passed proposed Paul, seconded Sue

3. Matters arising

Julie Robinson's name was incorrectly spelt.

4. President's report

With respect to the Online Conference, Paul thanked Dave for his support and the University of Wellington, thanks also to Riley for all her wonderful work in organisation. Thanks to everyone who submitted, all presentations were of high quality and hopefully there will be even more next time. Thanks to those who joined early and sticking around and thanks for supporting the Zoom conference.

Summary of activities in 2019, the idea of a Zoom conference was what the executive has spent most of the time on. First time that the treasurer, Jaimee in role. A new gmail address and mail chimp (thanks Riley).

General challenges transitioning of the executive and figuring out ways to communicate better with our membership and how we can better promote our association.

23 presenters, 2 keynotes, 52 registrations & 10 institutions across NZ and Aust, thanks to Susan and Melanie for the keynotes

Update on Newsletter position - Riley Scott is to take on the role. Need members to keep us notified about what should or could be included in the newsletter. Great that Riley is involved as a graduate student to promote greater involvement of early career and graduate students.

5. Secretary's report

Sue gave an update on the AHDA website redevelopment.

Recordings from the conference to go on website? - how to make these accessible to those who have registered for the conference.

6. Treasurer's report

There has been a handover from Michelle as previous Treasurer and Jaimee expressed thanks to Michelle and folk who have undertaken the role in the past. We have raised a small amount of money from the conference and there have been some outgoings related to the employment of Riley to help with the organisation of the conference.

The conference is the first step in a more formal membership process. The membership fee will be requested from those who didn't attend / register for the conference. Encourage colleagues to join as we hope that there will be resources set up in the online environment that will be available to member. We want to grow our membership and give back to members.

7. General Business

The role of regional representatives and vacancies was discussed - we have regional representatives from Australasia. Our regional representatives have played important roles in reaching out to folk in their areas and it would be great to have more involvement from regional representatives. Thanks to those who have retired or stepped down for their contribution.

Jaimee asked whether we could open up representation more widely in the Australasian region. Perhaps we could look to the Pacific Islands to be involved, Malaysia is also not represented and should be, Tasmania is also not on the list. A call for members to put their hands up but also to talk to colleagues. Melanie is trying to find a list of attendees from ISSBD which might help to identify potential representatives.

Ongoing need for membership director/administrator, Riley helped with this in the lead up to the conference. Possibly linking this with the newsletter role and dependent on the amount of time/work required. Is this too much for one individual? Paul suggested that there needs to be some synergy between the two roles as they overlap but is it too much work? Need to have some further discussion, perhaps there may be more graduate students who might like to be involved. The executive will talk about the role a little more.

New process for membership renewal and registration - annual renewal, membership fee. We can't just rely on conference registrations to fund ongoing work of AHDA. We did this with registration for this conference so those who registered for the conference have already paid membership.

Riley is happy to set up and distribute a survey for feedback about the conference (in response to Linda Hand's question regarding providing feedback and suggestions for the future)

The difference between renewal and the membership fee was clarified. For \$10 per year has been paid for those who registered for the conference, we will be sending out a reminder for renewal after 2 years.

ISSBD funds - can we use these funds for our next in person conference to help with some travel scholarships? AHDA has always appreciated the support of ISSBD and Annette formally thank ISSBD and Melanie for their support.

2021 in-person AHDA conference, host and venue? Paul, over the last four to five years we have had a bit of a chaotic time as with ISSBD coming to Australia it has put us a little off course on conferences. The face to face conference is essential. Paul suggests perhaps an annual conference, one face to face and one online every second year (even years) to provide a sense of continuity and build a community.

Annette, students in Australasia have to travel a long way to attend face to face conferences.

Concept supported by Linda Hand.

Face to face conferences are a lot of work and doing that every two years makes sense but doing an online conference in the off year could be good.

Jacki Henderson also supported the idea, ensuring continuity is really important on multiple levels for the society.

This will go into the survey to ask members what they think.

In the survey, to ask whether anyone might consider hosting the 2021 conference. Perhaps hold another online conference next year to keep the momentum prior to 2021.

Melanie suggests to ask Lynette Vernon at Murdoch about the next conference as the next one was planned for Perth.

In the survey, ask for suggestions of what members would like to see on the website, what would be helpful or useful.

Annette thanked everyone for supporting the online conference and thanked Paul for all his support and to Sue, Jaimee and Riley. Annette looks forward to working with everyone to keep the continuity and momentum going.

Meeting Closed