

Australian and New Zealand Society of Criminology

Annual General Meeting Minutes

- Date:** Thursday 22 February 2001
Location: Commerce Theatre 1, Commerce and Economics Building, The University of Melbourne
Time: 12.45pm to 2.00pm
- Present:** Dr Peter Grabosky (President)
Prof Ross Homel (Vice President)
Prof Allison Morris (Vice President)
Ms Jenny Mouzos (Hon Secretary)
Dr Heather Strang (Hon Treasurer)
(Members) Janet Chan, Russell Smith, John Myrtle, Rebecca Bradfield, Jerry Ratcliffe, Toni Makkai, Fiona Haines, Inez Dussuyer, Joy Wundersitz, Richard Wortley, John Braithwaite, Ross Homel, Gregor Urbas, Kate Warner, Colleen Lewis, Judy Putt, Mark Israel, Anderw Goldsmith, Gabrielle Maxwell, Heather Deane, Tess Newton Cain, Cindy Davids, Frank Morgan, David Indermaur, Kathleen Daly, John Pratt, Shane McKenzie, Rick Sarre, Reece Walters, Susanne Karstedt, Peter Marshall, David Biles, John Dawes, Rod Broadhurst, John Pratt. Also present were Lisa Tickell, David Hart and David Gorman.

Apologies: Bill Tyler, Marlene Morison.

Welcome:

1. The President declared the meeting open and welcomed those present.

Agenda Items:

2. The President read the Agenda which had been previously circulated and called for any additional items for which there were none.

Agenda Item 1: Acceptance of Minutes of Annual General Meeting of Wednesday 29 September 1999

3. Mr David Biles *moved, seconded* by Dr David Indermaur that the previous minutes circulated be approved as a true record of the AGM of Wednesday 29 September 1999. *Carried* unanimously.

Agenda Item 2: Honorary President's Report

4. The President reported that he was pleased that this year he was able to present recipients of ANZSOC Awards with a framed certificate, instead of only a "hand shake" as was the case last year.
5. The President also reported that he was approached by the Chairman of the Criminology Research Council (CRC) to canvass the possibility of senior ANZSOC members assessing and/or referring a number of applications for CRC grants. The President reported that this process was successful.

6. Dr David Indermaur *moved*, and Dr John Dawes *seconded* the motion that the President's Report be accepted. *Carried* unanimously.

Agenda Item 3: Honorary Secretary's Report

7. The Honorary Secretary tendered her report and indicated that as at 15/02/01 there were 287 current members of the ANZ Society of Criminology. A breakdown by members' jurisdiction was also provided (appended hereto).
8. Given the low number of members from South Australia, the President appealed for current members from South Australia to encourage further members from that state.
9. Dr Fiona Haines asked the Honorary Secretary if there was a breakdown available on the number of student members of the Society. The Honorary Secretary replied that the Membership database did not differentiate between student and non-student members, and this suggestion would be considered when updating the fields in the database.
10. Mr David Biles *moved*, and Prof Ross Homel *seconded* the motion that the Honorary Secretary's Report be accepted. *Carried* unanimously.

Agenda Item 4: Honorary Treasurer's Report

11. The Honorary Treasurer tendered her report and also indicated that copies could also be found on the Society's website. She indicated that as at 29 December 2000, the Society bank accounts had a credit balance of \$11,457. On 22 February 2001, they were within \$200 of that figure. The Auditor's Report indicated that at the end of the financial year 1999/2000, the Society had a paper deficit of about \$8,500, however, this was due receipt of a large bill prior to the end of the financial year.
12. The Honorary Treasurer commented that the Society was in a healthy position financially mostly attributable to the royalties received from the publisher of the journal. As a result, there was some money available to the Society to spend, and that she welcomed any ideas for additional expenditure. Dr Toni Makkai *moved*, and Dr Kathleen Daly *seconded* the motion that the Honorary Treasurer's Report be accepted. *Carried* unanimously.

Agenda Item 5: Journal Editor's Report

13. Associate Professor John Pratt then spoke to his Report as Editor of the Australian and New Zealand Journal of Criminology and indicated that he was pleased with the new publishers of the journal, and that he cannot speak too highly of them. He also indicated that the content of the journal had increased significantly this year with a record number of papers received. Currently the waiting list from the acceptance of a paper to final print is about one year. The Editor also appealed to the referees present at the AGM to please send papers back to him with comments within the six-week period allocated for review. He was also pleased to indicate that he had received papers from all over the English speaking world.
14. The Editor also wanted to thank specifically a number of people for their assistance in the production of the journal, and in particular, Stephen May as the

publisher, Reece Walters as the Book Review Editor, Frank Morgan, Statistical Consultant, and Andrea Napier who worked as the editorial assistant.

15. Dr Kathleen Daly asked the Editor whether it was possible to shorten the six-week review period so that reviewers have less time and do not “forget about the paper”.
16. Prof David Biles also queried whether there was an ANZSOC policy which only allowed contributions or material relevant to the Australian or New Zealand context. The Editor indicated that there was no such rule, and that relevant contributions / papers would be reviewed, however, the paper should more or less be relevant to the Australian or New Zealand context.
17. Dr David Indermaur *moved* to include the Honorary Editor’s Report on the ANZSOC website. This motion was *seconded* by Prof David Biles, with Dr Toni Makkai *opposed*. Motion *carried*.
18. Mr Rick Sarre *moved*, and Dr David Indermaur *seconded* the motion that the Editor’s Report be accepted, which was *carried* unanimously. The President thanked the Editor for his efforts over the year.
19. The President mentioned the latest edition of the ANZSOC Newsletter, and thanked the Editors Dr Toni Makkai and Dr Margaret Cameron. Dr Makkai requested that members present provide their email address so as they may receive the Newsletter electronically. The President raised the motion that the Editors be thanked for the production of the Newsletter. The motion was *moved* by the Honorary Secretary and *seconded* by Dr Jerry Ratcliffe. The motion was *carried* unanimously.

Agenda Item 6: Website Progress

20. Dr David Indermaur requested that comments on any website related problems or queries, please be emailed to him directly, or to any of the Executive members. Mr John Myrtle suggested that ANZSOC Conference presenters be given the opportunity to make their papers available on the Society’s website. This motion was *moved* by Mr John Dawes and *seconded* by Dr Mark Israel. The motion was *carried* unanimously.

Agenda Item 7: Matters Arising

7.1 Incorporation of ANZSOC

21. The President called upon Dr Russell Smith to provide members with an overview concerning the Incorporation of the Society. Dr Smith indicated that on the advice of the lawyers Foster Hart the incorporation of the Society was a good idea, mainly because it included the benefit that if the Society were to be sued, “incorporation” shifts the burden of legal liability from the Executive members. He also reviewed the arguemnts in favour of incorporation as an Incorporated Association rather than under the provisions of the Corporations Law and also discussed the question of which state the Society should be incorporated in. He indicated that, as a matter on convenience, it should be incorporated in Victoria as

this was where the Honorary Lawyers and Auditor both were located and that it would be preferable for it to be incorporated under the provisions of the *Associations Incorporation Act 1981 (Vic)*.

22. Dr Smith also reported that the lawyers Foster Hart, namely David Hart had agreed to act on behalf of the Society on a *pro bono* basis.
23. Mr John Myrtle indicated that Dr Russell Smith should be congratulated for his efforts regarding the preparation of documentation for the Incorporation of the Society and for liaising with the lawyers, given that the Incorporation of the Society had been previously raised at previous AGM and nothing had eventuated.
24. Mr John Myrtle also raised the issue as to why it was necessary for the Society to take on a more “rigid” structure, and whether liability insurance cover would be acceptable to protect the Society and its Executive should it be sued in the future. Mr David Hart replied that although public liability insurance is available and could provide cover for the Society and the Executive should they be sued, the cost of such insurance would be considerable for the level of cover required. In addition, the insurers would be likely to impose rigid obligations on the Society, such as renewing the policy should there be a change of address for the Executive, whereas Incorporation would allow for greater flexibility.
25. Dr John Dawes moved that Dr Russell Smith, being a person who has attained the age of 18 years, and who resides in the State of Victoria, be authorised to incorporate the Australian and New Zealand Society of Criminology as an incorporated association pursuant to the *Associations Incorporation Act 1981 (Victoria)*. The motion was *seconded* by Dr Toni Makkai and *carried* unanimously.
26. Dr Russell Smith also pointed out that under the Rules of Incorporation, the election of ANZSOC Office Bearers should be done at Annual General Meetings. Mr Gorman pointed out that the Treasurer’s Report needed to be tabled at the AGM, which should ideally be held within five months of the end of the financial year. A question was raised as to whether the AGM’s would continue to be held at ANZSOC Conferences. The President replied that a brief AGM could be held to conform to the legislation (a quorum of only five members was required), and that most business could be adjourned to be discussed at a meeting held during the next ANZSOC Conference. Dr Kathleen Daly *moved* and *seconded* by Mr Reece Walters that the motion that the election of ANZSOC Office Bearers be held in conjunction with ANZSOC Conferences be accepted. The motion was *carried* unanimously.
27. The President also indicated that under the requirements of Incorporation a Public Officer needed to be appointed. Dr Smith indicated that the first Public Officer of the incorporated association would be the person who lodged the application for incorporation. The President *moved* and *seconded* by Prof Ross Homel that Dr Russell Smith be confirmed as the person who would become the Society’s first Public Officer once incorporated, which motion was *carried* unanimously.
28. The President also referred to the need to approve the proposed Rules and Statement of Purposes of the Association as posted on the Society’s Web site. Dr

David Indermaur *moved* that the Model Rules as set out in the Associations Incorporation Act 1981 (Vic), Schedule 5 (as amended with separately listed modifications), be approved for adoption as the Rules of the Association and that the proposed “Statement of Purposes of the Association” be approved as the Statement of Purposes for the proposed incorporated Association and the motion was *seconded* by Dr Russell Smith and was *carried* unanimously.

29. Dr Russell Smith *moved* that the lawyers Foster Hart be appointed as the honorary lawyers representing the Incorporated Society. *Seconded* by Dr David Indermaur, and *carried* unanimously.
30. Dr Russell Smith also *moved* that the firm of Griffiths Gorman be appointed as Auditors of the Incorporated Society. *Seconded* by Dr Kathleen Daly, and *carried* unanimously.
31. The President thanked both David Hart and David Gorman for the generosity of their respective firms in agreeing to assist the Society in an Honorary capacity in this way.

7.2 Conference Revenues

32. The President proposed a system for the Society to receive a share of the profits from ANZSOC Conferences. If an ANZSOC Conference runs at a loss then the Society would not receive any revenue. However, if the Conference does make a profit then the Society would be entitled to either \$5000 or 25 per cent of the net profit whichever is less. Mr Rick Sarre *moved*, *seconded* by Dr Fiona Haines that this motion be accepted. The motion was *carried* unanimously.

7.3 Code of Ethics

33. Prof Ross Homel *moved* that the motion that the circulated Code Of Ethics as drafted by Dr Russell Smith be accepted as the Code of Ethics for the Incorporated Society. This motion was *seconded* by Mr Shane McKenzie, and *carried* unanimously.

7.4 Membership Lists

34. The President raised the possibility of placing the Membership list on the Society’s Website. Some members raised the issue of privacy, however. Dr Russell Smith responded that only email addresses of members would be made available on the Society’s Website. Dr Fiona Haines *moved*, *seconded* by Dr Russell Smith to accept the motion that the list of consenting Members’ email addresses be placed on the Society’s Website. The motion was *carried* unanimously.

8. Other Business

8.1 Election of new ANZSOC Office Bearers

35. The President noted that there had he had received the resignation of Prof Ross Homel as one of the Vice-Presidents. Dr Don Weatherburn had been nominated to fill this position. The President noted that Dr Gayre Christie was not in attendance and that Associate Professor Kathleen Daly had been nominated to succeed him as Queensland Representative on the Society’s Executive. The President also put his name forward for a second and final term as President. Mr

John Myrtle *moved* that these nominations be approved. This was *seconded* by Prof Ross Homel, and *carried* unanimously.

36. The President also indicated that the Honorary Secretary and the Honorary Treasurer would change positions, with Dr Heather Strang being nominated as the Honorary Secretary and Ms Jenny Mouzos as the Honorary Treasurer of the Society. Dr Kathleen Daly *moved* that these nominations be approved. This was *seconded* by Prof Ross Homel, and *carried* unanimously.
37. All other business was adjourned to be discussed at the Executive Meeting of the Society.

The meeting thereupon concluded at 2.00pm.

Ms Jenny Mouzos
Honorary Secretary
23 March 2001