

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE MEETING OF THE
ANZ SOCIETY OF CRIMINOLOGY
HELD AT THE CRIMINOLOGY DEPARTMENT
UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE
FRIDAY 22ND MAY 1992

Present: C. Alder, S. James, S. Ross, K. Polk, J. Wundersitz.

Apologies: J. Braithwaite, P. Eastal, R. Homel, B. Murphy, J. Pratt.

The meeting commenced at 11.00 am.

Minutes of the two Previous Meetings

Minutes of the two previous Executive Meetings on 13/12/91 and 31/1/92 were passed, with a minor change to the third line on page 2 of the minutes for the December meeting; the year on that line should be 1992.

Conference Report

A report by Kathy Laster, Conference Convenor, was tabled and is appended to these minutes. Several further items were discussed in this section. A request from an overseas academic to be provided with some support by the Society to enable her to attend the 1992 conference was discussed. However, the principle of maintaining registration fees as low as possible while not offering general subsidies for attendance was reconfirmed. It was proposed that the Convenor be asked to explore the feasibility of offering institutional registrations for the conference which would be transferable amongst institutional staff. Thus, an agency which might not otherwise pay for registrations for members of its staff would be offered a general registration, set at a higher level than normal registration, which would be used by different agency staff at different sessions of the conference. A figure of \$200 was provisionally established for this institutional registration. Normal registrations are of course not transferable.

The last matter discussed in relation to the conference concerned the venue for conferences in future years. The Committee was reminded of the interest expressed by the New Zealand representative to hold the conference in New Zealand, while representations from C. Cuneen and M. Findlay to run the conference in 1993 in Sydney were noted. Other possible venues for 1993 discussed included Western Australia and Queensland. It was decided to write to the respective state, territory and NZ representatives inviting expressions of interest and a draft conference plan, to be available for discussion by the Committee at the next scheduled meeting of the Committee in August 1992.

President's Report

The President raised a number of issues concerned with the membership drive for 1992, and with representations from Brian Coe. The first of these is discussed in the following Secretary's Report, while the second is discussed under Other Business.

The President drew attention to the success of the recent Society seminar with Professor Del Elliott from Colorado hosted by the Victorian representative.

Secretary's Report

The Secretary reported that 184 membership renewals for 1992 were in hand or anticipated in the near future. Seven resignations, largely from members who had retired in 1991 or 1992, had been received. Correspondence to Butterworths clarifying some anomalies between the Society's 1991/2 membership list and Butterworths' subscription list, and other costing problems, was tabled.

Following the report, considerable discussion took place concerning strategies for the 1992 membership drive. Several proposals were made:

1. State representatives to be contacted encouraging them to renew lapsed state memberships. To this end, state representatives to be provided with past state membership lists. State representatives to be encouraged to reach a target figure of 15 renewals/new members for 1992.
2. State representatives to be encouraged to submit seminar proposals to the Secretary, designed to provide a service to existing state members and to recruit new state members. Following proposals, an amount of up to \$100 to be provided to state representatives to host seminars.
3. State representatives to be forwarded extra copies of the Journal and the updated Society brochure (see below) for distribution at seminars and in other recruiting strategies.
4. Members of the executive based in Melbourne or who usually attend Executive meetings to 'shepherd' the various state recruitment drives in consultation with state representatives:

C. Alder:	Queensland
J. Wundersitz:	Western Australia/Tasmania/South Australia
S. Ross:	New South Wales
S. James:	Northern Territory/New Zealand
K. Polk:	Victoria/ACT

It was proposed that the Society brochure, produced to coincide with last year's conference, be updated and made available to the Conference Convenor for distribution in the next conference mail-out.

The last issue discussed under the Secretary's Report was the need to begin the process of renewing memberships for the following year much earlier, around October/November, so that non-renewing members do not receive the first number of the following year's Journal.

Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer reported that the renewal rate to date for 1992 indicates that the Society will exceed its target membership of 200 for this year. It was proposed that the Treasurer explore the utility of placing an amount (between \$5,000 and \$7,000) of the Society's funds in a short-term fixed interest account to increase the Society's funds.

Editor's Report

The Editor's Report was tabled. The July issue is full and on schedule; the December issue is nearly full, but there is some space left and the deadline for submissions for that issue is the end of July 1992. L. Hancock is to continue to be Book Review Editor, to be succeeded by K. Hazelhurst when Linda relinquishes the post.

The Editor reported that the number of submissions to the Journal has fallen off recently, and members are encouraged to submit articles and to encourage others to do so. The possibility of including a 'Research Notes' section in the Journal, to encourage the authors of government research to publish their findings, was raised.

New Members

S. Cowling, T. Henning, R. Meeve, D. Paterakis, P. Morton and R. Smith were accepted as new members and welcomed to the Society.

Other Business

The President reported upon correspondence with member B. Coe, who has raised three issues. First, he recommended that the Society hold its general meeting annually, to coincide with the Conference. Subject to the Constitution, this proposal was endorsed, and it is planned to have a Special Meeting of the Society during the 1992 Conference to ratify this proposal. It was also proposed that office bearers of the Society continue to be elected biennially. Second, Mr. Coe recommended that the Society write to the leader of the federal Opposition to object to the planned abolition of the Australian Institute of Criminology under coalition policy. The Committee agreed that the President write to Dr. Hewson, expressing the Society's concern with the policy. Third, Mr. Coe recommended that the Society comment publically upon a recent Victoria court case. The Committee rejected this on the grounds that while the Hewson letter raises a matter of general criminological concern to the professional body, commentary on specific cases is beyond the brief of the Society. It was proposed that Mr. Coe be thanked for these and other contributions, and that he be congratulated for his on-going interest in the Society.

The meeting closed at 12.20.