

Minutes Committee of Management Meeting

Venue: Sheraton Hotel, Brisbane

Time: Wednesday 2 October 2002, 5.00pm to 6.10pm

Present: Dr Don Weatherburn (President & Chair & Convenor of 2003 conference), Dr Kathy Daly (Vice President), Dr David Tait (Secretary), Ms Jenny Mouzos (Treasurer), Dr Russell Smith (ACT & Public Officer), Dr John Pratt (Editor ANZJC), Professor Janet Chan (NSW & C0-convenor of 2003 conference), Dr Lorraine Mazzerole (Qld), Dr Jennifer Balint (Vic), Dr Mark Israel (SA), Dr William Tyler (NT), Dr Anita Gibbs (NZ), Professor Kate Warner (Tas), Dr David Indermauer (WA).

Minutes of Meeting of 30 September 2002 confirmed

President's Report

The incoming President thanked those present for their welcome and indicated that he would try to follow the excellent example of leadership of the out-going President.

He indicated further that he would try to secure the agreement of a New Zealand member of the Society to become Second Vice-president as Dr Philip Stenning had declined to take up the position in the short term, although he might re-consider at some later date.

2004 Conference

The question of holding the 2004 conference in New Zealand was discussed and the Committee would discuss out of session how to do this so as to comply with formal legislative requirements for the holding of the AGM. Dr Smith proposed that the AGM could be held in Australia and a further meeting held in New Zealand at some later date.

Copyright Issues

Dr Smith circulated a memorandum of advice from the Society's lawyers, Foster Hart, which he had obtained. The advice indicated, inter alia, that Professor Arie Freiberg was entitled to the payment which the Society had received from the Copyright Agency Limited in respect of an article that Professor Freiberg published in the Society's journal in 1992. The Committee accepted the advice given and authorised payment to Professor Freiberg of the amount received

together with interest from the date the Society received the payment on condition that Professor Freiberg sign the release and undertaking prepared by the Society's lawyers. Dr Smith agreed to have the document signed by Professor Freiberg prior to the payment being made. The Committee further agreed that the Society would pay any legal costs associated with obtaining such advice from Society funds.

In addition, the Committee requested Dr Smith to obtain further advice from the Society's lawyers as to the manner in which similar issues should be dealt with in the future and how the Society's financial interest could best be protected.

The Committee further agreed to convene a Working Group to examine the Society's Copyright Policy. This would comprise David Dixon, Kathy Daly, and Fiona Haines.

Compliance Matters

The Committee asked Dr Smith to check the Society's rules and any relevant legislation to determine: when AGMs must be held, the procedure for holding a Special Meeting, when Committee meetings must be held and if they can be held by teleconference, the quorum for an AGM and Committee meeting, the period of office for Committee Members and Officers, the procedure for electing Committee members and Officers, the number of signatories for Society cheques and if any maximum amount is specified beyond which cheques cannot be drawn, and the procedure for the election of the Second Vice-President. Dr Smith undertook to provide this advice.

Membership Fees

At the AGM held on 2 October 2002, the question of enabling members to pay fees less frequently than on an annual basis was referred to the Committee for consideration. Dr Smith noted that under Rule 4(12) 'annual subscriptions are to be paid in advance on or before 1 July in each year'. Although this would require annual payment, a direct debit authority could be used with a direction that the fee be debited from the member's account each year. Without amending the Rules, two yearly payments could not be made.

Newsletter

It was agreed that Ms Jacqui Fitzgerald from NSW be asked to be the editor of the Society's On-line Newsletter.

The meeting closed at 6.10 p.m.