

NZSA Executive Committee Meeting: Minutes

1-2pm, Thursday 2 April 2015

Present: Martin Hazelton, John Haywood, Howard Edwards, Harold Henderson, Ian Westbrooke, Alain Vandal, Richard Penny, James Curran, Alasdair Noble, Ivy Liu, Carl Scarrott, Thomas Yee.

Apologies: Jennifer Brown, Vanessa Cave, Steffen Klaere, Kylie Maxwell, Peter Smith.

1. Minutes of the previous meeting: (20 October 2014; see website).

Approved. Also noted the 2014 AGM minutes, which had been circulated. These are for approval at the 2015 AGM.

2. President's Report (Martin Hazelton):

Martin welcomed the members of the new Executive and apologised that due to a very busy first half of the year, activities would be relatively sparse during that time. Suggested that we should look at new types of outreach, including the possibility of a social media presence, and looking into ways to make Statistics more visible in the face of increasing activities in the Big Data/Computer Science/Analytics fields. This was enthusiastically agreed to, and will be discussed again at the next Exec meeting.

3. Secretary (John Haywood):

John circulated by email his summary of what happened at the RSNZ forum for Constituent Organisations (COs) and Branches on Wednesday 10 December 2014 in Wellington, where John represented NZSA. Here's that summary:

There was a general sense among the attendees that in the past communication has been from RSNZ outwards, often asking for fees etc. and not much else, whereas information going to RSNZ from COs or members of panels wasn't necessarily being heard, or at least not being acted on. So one of the main resolutions from the day was that the RSNZ (and in particular the new CEO, Andrew Cleland, who took over in September 2014) will try to be better at listening to, and acting on, input from COs and others. Andrew Cleland asked anybody who had a problem or wanted to raise an idea with RSNZ to please contact him: andrew.cleland@royalsociety.org.nz.

Regarding the suggestion that the RSNZ could play a future role in the online open-access world of publishing science journals (and perhaps ANZJS in particular), I raised that. Most societies who were represented at the forum do publish journals. However, there was relatively little support for moving this open-access publishing suggestion forward with any speed at this stage. One or two others thought that publishing was reaching a crossroads, and the RSNZ should widen the appreciation of the choices we are faced with, but again there was only minor support for doing that. So I think this is one of those topics we should keep communicating with them about, depending on how our own views coalesce as time progresses.

Harold Henderson raised the issue of correspondence received from members, asking for ways to support them in finding jobs within statistics. This was discussed, and seen to be one of the things the new outreach initiatives that Martin suggested (in point 2)

might consider. It was agreed we did not want to promote individual job-seekers, but we may be able to promote a range of employers, with an emphasis on the wide range of jobs and job types that need skills in statistics.

4. Financial Report (Howard Edwards): See attached.

The President thanked Howard for taking over the Treasurer's duties and for trying to sort out various financial issues which had arisen over the last year or two. There was some discussion about some of these issues, including that we had not received the \$5,000 sponsorship from SAS for the 2013 conference until very recently, finally obtained thanks to follow up work by Howard and Harold Henderson.

5. Membership (Harold Henderson): See attached. New members approved.

6. ANZJS (Management – Ian Westbrooke and/or Editorial – Martin Hazelton):

Editor-in-Chief Alan Welsh has indicated his intention to stand down. James Curran has been suggested as a replacement, with the change still to be discussed/approved by the ANZJS Management Committee. A new NZ working group has been set up (comprising Ian Westbrooke, Beatrix Jones and Hadley Wickham) and were 'ready to go'. There were some delays in the formation of a similar group from Australia, but this will occur soon.

7. 2015 Conference (Richard Penny):

We have tentatively decided on dates but are having trouble finding suitable and available rooms at the University of Canterbury. Likely to move to the Dovedale site, but this is to be confirmed. Once rooms have been found we will announce the date. We have made contact with ORSNZ and now have an ORSNZ chair – John Crequer – to liaise with. ANZJS have provided sponsorship for a keynote speaker, who is to be finalised once we have dates for the conference confirmed.

8. Newsletter (Steffen Klaere):

Nothing to report; Steffen not present, and has been away on parental leave following the birth of his son on 21 March 2015. Congratulations to Steffen!

9. Awards Committee (James Curran): Nothing to report.

10. Education/Science fairs (Alasdair Noble):

Science fairs are currently a "work in progress".

The education committee have made a submission to: Consultation on Review and Maintenance Programme (RAMP) for Mathematics & Statistics and Science Learning Areas of The New Zealand Curriculum.

We are working on a response to "The ASTTLE assessment system".

Draft response prepared on:

2014 exams:

Level 1 C&D 2014 exam

Level 2 Prob 2014 exam

Level 3 Stats Reports 2014 exam

Level 3 Prob 2014 exam

Level 3 Distns 2014 exam

<http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/assets/scholarship/2014/93201-qbk-2014.pdf>

Sampling: A draft collection of thoughts prepared.

Mike Camden has retired from Stats NZ and is now fully employed on education matters!

The circulation list for the Education Committee includes the following teachers, who would be a good link for the Association into stats teaching in schools:

Tim Burgess < T.A.Burgess@massey.ac.nz >;	Teachers College
Derek Smith < derek.smith@otago.ac.nz >	Teachers College
da@cashmere.school.nz ;	Teacher
msteel@eggs.school.nz ;	Teacher
Jeanette Chapman < ch@otagogirls.school.nz >;	Teacher
Ruth Kaniuk < ruthkaniuk@gmail.com >;	Teacher
Jeremy Brocklehurst < jb@lincoln.school.nz >;	Teacher
Dave Phillipps < d.phillipps@middleton.school.nz >;	Teacher

11. **R groups (Shirley Wu)**: Nothing to report; Shirley not present.

12. **Website (Vanessa Cave)**: see attached.

The NZSA website temporarily disappeared a few days before the meeting, and instead our address pointed to the website for 'using ANIMALS in Science'. This was eventually resolved about a week later.

13. **Local Groups**:

Wellington (John Haywood):

Planning for the 5th Wellington Workshop in Probability and Mathematical Statistics (WWPMS5) is underway. The workshop will be held at Victoria University of Wellington, 19-20 November 2015.

Contact John Haywood (Organising Committee Chair) or Estate Khmaladze (Program Committee Chair) for more details.

Canterbury (Carl Scarott):

Nothing much to report: planning continues for the NZSA conference (see separate report above) and R user group meetings at present.

14. **Young Statisticians: (Kylie Maxwell)**: Nothing to report; Kylie not present.

Kylie is keen to step down from this role, and instead focus more on other outreach activities for NZSA. Rebecca Green (who recently joined Statistics at Otago after completing her PhD at Massey) was suggested as someone who would be good, if she was keen. John passed on Rebecca's details to Kylie.

15. **Other Business**:

Thomas Yee – we have proposed dates for the 2017 IASC-ARS/NZSA conference (University of Auckland): Monday 11 – Thursday 14 December 2017. Are these OK? **[YES: those dates confirmed as suitable by the Exec].**

Attachments:

1. Treasurers report
2. Website report
3. Membership report

Treasurer's Report to NZSA Executive Meeting – April 2015

Handover

Handover of the treasurer's records including chequebooks and access to internet banking was completed in November 2014.

Charities Commission 2014 Return

This was completed and submitted on December 31st 2014 (see attached statements).

Outstanding Issues

1. Completion of NZSA 2013 Annual Conference accounts. This includes distributing a share of any surplus to ORSNZ.
2. GST returns for March 31st 2014 and September 30 2014.

Bank balances as at 1 April 2015:

Current Account:	\$72201.47
Wellington Account:	\$679.81
Term Deposit:	\$28698.09
Campbell fund:	\$64580.18



Howard Edwards

New Zealand Statistical Association
Financial Report for the Financial Year 1 April 2013 to 31 March 2014

Statement of Financial Performance

		2013-14	2012-13
Fees	Income	23,307.00	24,077.00
Conference	NZSA2013	0.00	2,000.00
	Student Travel	-2,650.00	-2,100.00
	Student Prizes	-1,000.00	-1,000.00
	Net	-3,650.00	-1,100.00
Science Fairs	Prizes	-1,320.00	-1,260.00
Interest		2,411.84	3,549.98
Journal(Capitation)		-15,000.00	-15,000.00
Campbell Fund Grants		0.00	-1,280.00
Bank Charges		-393.33	-324.46
Administration		0.00	-8,176.08
Total Income		25,718.84	29,626.98
Total Expenses		-20,363.33	-29,140.54
Net		5,355.51	486.44

Howard Edwards (Treasurer)

31-Dec-14

New Zealand Statistical Association
Financial Report for the Financial Year 1 April 2013 to 31 March 2014

Statement of Financial Position

	2013-14	2012-13
Current Assets		
Cheque Account	67,745.19	40,753.84
Wellington Account	678.28	812.30
	<hr/> 68,423.47	<hr/> 41,566.14
Investments		
Campbell Fund	62,150.93	59,827.50
Term Deposit	27,594.32	26,482.07
	<hr/> 89,745.25	<hr/> 86,309.57
Total Assets	<hr/> 158,168.72	<hr/> 127,875.71
Less Liabilities		
Accounts payable (and in advance)	10,533.45	-185.00
Capitation	15,000.00	15,000.00
	<hr/> 25,533.45	<hr/> 14,815.00
Net Assets	<hr/> 132,635.27	<hr/> 113,060.71

Howard Edwards (Treasurer)

31-Dec-14

NZSA Website Administrator: Report to the Executive Committee Meeting of 2 April 2015

- Website content continues to be updated as needed.
- Am in the process of exploring the feasibility of creating a protected “members only” section of the NZSA website that gives access to the ANZJS.
- Also will (soon ...) investigate creating standard NZSA email addresses (e.g. conference@nzsa.org.nz, secretary@nzsa.org.nz)

Vanessa Cave
20 March 2015

NZSA Membership Report 31 March 2015

New members since 20 October 2014

Motion: That the following be elected as members of the NZSA by the Executive

Ordinary members

Janet Pearson
Jesse Goodman
Katharina Parry
Matthew Schofield
Robin Willink
Matthew Pawley
Teresa Dickinson
Graeme Buckley
Ari Samaranayaka
Anne Lawrence
Xian Zhang

Students

Daniel Fawcett
Elsa Guillot
Nadeeka Premarathna
Sarah Pirikahu
Joel Sutcliffe
Orbert Mbandama
Timothy Bilton
Eungjun Lee
Yuxi Wang
Yi Yin Chin
Madeleine White
Aishwarya Bagchi

Moved: Harold Henderson/John Haywood

Membership

Membership at **31 March 2015** is **426**, with changes since **20 October 2014** in parentheses:

	NZ	overseas	
Ordinary	277 (8)	25	
Student	72 (10)		
Retired	15	4	
Honorary	20 (4)		
SSA member	5	6	
Corporate	2		
	391 (22)	35	426 (22)

1 has resigned (or died), and 23 have joined. (Some may have also moved categories.)

Corporate members: SAS Australia and New Zealand, Statistics NZ.

“Online only”

216 (**52%**) of the 415 NZSA-only members have elected “online only” for the journal. (SSAI had 78% of their 695 members in January 2014 “online only”.)

Subs

2014 AGM set base rate for subs 1 April 2015 - 31 March 2016 at \$80 (unchanged from previous year):

\$NZ	NZ	Overseas
Ordinary	80	85
Student & Retired	40	45
No paper journal (electronic only)	-5	
SSAI Member	50	55
Student and retired half base rate		
Overseas add \$5 for newsletter postage		
SSAI Member rate depends on capitation fee		

Renewal forms will be emailed out for the current year next week.

Harold Henderson