

NZSA Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

1-2 Monday March 24 2014
Meeting Opened 1PM.

Apologies: Vanessa Cave, Kylie Maxwell

Present: Alasdair Noble, Harold Henderson, Thomas Yee, James Curran, Howard Edwards, Ian Westbrooke, Steffen Klaere, Alain Vandal, Carl Scarott, Richard Penny, Martin Hazelton, Ivy Liu

1. Minutes of the previous meeting. Accepted.

2. President's Report (James Curran)

RSNZ council nominations—status

NZSA involved in "internal election" with OR Society and Math society to nominate Gaven Martin (other candidates Mike Hendy and Graeme Wake)

Voted to nominate James Curran for Constituent Organizations Representative

David Firth visit

Vote that offering of business class fares to speaker and spouse not be precedent setting passed. Request for information maximal amount that NZSA might have to cover before approval of a final offer.

3. Secretary (Beatrix Jones): Proposed Meetings:

Wednesday July 16, 1-2PM;

Monday October 13, 2-2PM

Change to: July 30, October 20

Mailbox key (see attached from Richard Penny)

Decided second key will reside with the NZSA secretary.

4. Financial Report (Judi McWhirter/Howard Edwards) Howard Edwards is the Treasurer nominee. Welcome Howard!

A vote of thanks was approved for Judi.

See attached report; note that some final transactions with the OR society related to the conference still need to be completed. We expect a small surplus from the conference when this is done.

5. Membership (Harold Henderson) Proposed members approved.

6. Awards Committee: See attached.(Martin Hazelton) One Campbell fund award request received, from NZMASP14; encourage nominations for our research awards.

7. ANZJS (Martin Hazelton) See attached. Neville Bartlett retiring; Upcoming consideration of Wiley-Blackwell contract renewal; need settlement on ownership of the Journal by the two societies.

8. 2014 Conference (John Haywood) Joint with OR society again, 23-25 November. Will include an Analytics forum event.
Tentatively have 2015 meeting in Canterbury, 2016 AUT Biostats

9. Newsletter Confirmation of Steffen Klaere as new Newsletter editor.
Welcome Steffen! Goal to have new issue out in September; July deadline for contributions.

10. Education/Science fairs (Alasdair Noble) See attached. \$1250 was approved to support the NZAMT conference via support for an international statistics educator.

12. R groups (John Haywood) See attached

13. Local Groups:
Wellington(John Haywood):

Canterbury (Carl Scarott)

14 Young Statisticians: Conference event planned.
Meeting closed 1:55.

Attachments

- 1) Postbox keys
- 2) Financial Report
- 3) Membership report
- 4) Awards Committee
- 5) ANZJS
- 6) Education committee and Science Fairs
- 7) R user groups

Postbox keys:

As you know the NZSA has a postbox in Wellington. Judith Archibald kindly clears it for us and forwards the received mail to the relevant person, with the secretary the default. Recently the physical postbox has been changed and Judith discovered that there are 2 keys issued for each postbox.

First question. Has anyone got any idea where the second key to the old postbox is? We have to return 2 keys, or notify them we can't find the second, and I suspect in the latter case pay a fee. We have about 2 weeks to have an answer.

Second question. Who should have the second key? The key part to answering this is whether we need the second key in Wellington or associated with a position (e.g. the secretary holds). My view is towards the latter as if the person in Wellington is unable to collect the mail and we can't get the key from them a week or two delay to have the second

key available in Wellington is not going to be a problem. Particularly as Judith only checks the box every couple of weeks anyway.

24/03/2014

Income and Spending

Between 1/04/2013 and 30/03/2014

Sub-category	Total
<u>Income Categories</u>	
Investment Income	
Interest	2,411.84
Total Investment Income	2,411.84
Other Income	
Donations	10.00
Subscriptions	24,292.00
Total Other Income	24,302.00
Total Income Categories	26,713.84
<u>Expense Categories</u>	
Administration	4,252.88
Bank Charges	
Charges	2.50
Service Charge	390.83
Total Bank Charges	393.33
Conference	
NZSA2013	57,545.28
Student Travel	2,650.00
Total Conference	60,195.28
Grants	
Campbell Fund	1,750.00
Total Grants	1,750.00
Science Fairs	1,320.00
Sponsorship	
New Statisticians events	176.32
Student prizes	0.00
Total Sponsorship	176.32
Total Expense Categories	68,087.81
Grand Total	-41,373.97

24/03/2014

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Net Worth

As of 28/02/2014

Account	Total
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Assets	
Bank and Cash Accounts	
BNZ Cheque	7,805.91
BNZ Cheque Wgtn	812.30
Campbell Fund	61,007.66
Payments in advance	0.00
Term Deposit	27,594.32
Total Bank and Cash Accounts	97,220.19
Total Assets	97,220.19
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Liabilities	
Other Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	10,533.45
Accounts Payable (Capitation)	15,000.00
Total Other Liabilities	25,533.45
Total Liabilities	25,533.45
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Net Worth	71,686.74

NZSA Membership Report 24 March 2014

New members since 16 October 2013

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

Ordinary members

Ryan Defina
Brendon Brewer
Ciprian Giurcaneanu
Carmel Woods
Zlatko Kovacic
John Graves
Julia Hall

Students

Aura Lee Flores
Ben Elliott
Yang Hu
Han-I (Jacob) Wang
Bo Cui

Moved: Harold Henderson/James Curran

Membership

Membership at **24 March 2014** is **425**

NZSA Awards Committee: Report to the Executive Committee Meeting of 24 March 2014

Awards Committee Membership

Martin Hazelton (Convenor)
James Curran (ex officio NZSA President)
Harold Henderson
Jennifer Brown

Campbell and Research Awards

A call for nominations will be sent out mid-year, with the deadline for response set for 30 September

Campbell Bequest Fund Awards

A request for funding has been received from the organizers of the 2014 Mathematics and Statistics postgraduate conference (NZMASP14). This is under consideration by the Awards Committee.

Martin Hazelton
20 March 2014

ANZJS Report to the 2013 AGM

ANZJS Editors

Managing Editor: Alan Welsh (ANU)

Theory & Methods Editors: Martin Hazelton (Massey U.) and Michael Martin (ANU)

Applications Editor: James Curran (U. Auckland)

Book Review Editor: Petra Graham (Macquarie U.)

Technical Editors: Rolf Turner (U. Auckland)

Editors' Meeting in February

The ANZJS Editors (listed above) held their annual face-to-face meeting in Auckland, 10-11 February. Unfortunately your correspondent was double-booked and hence unable to attend (entirely through his own organizational incompetence). Nonetheless, I was kept abreast of proceedings, and Managing Editor Alan Welsh produced excellent minutes as usual. I summarise major points below.

1. Change of Personnel at Publishers

Changes of personnel at Wiley mean that ANZJS now has a new production editor and marketer.

2. Marketing & Impact

The 2012 impact factor for ANZJS was 0.529, leaving the journal ranked in the range 81-100 in the ISI Web of Knowledge journal rankings. Strategies for improving impact and journal circulation were discussed.

3. Acceptance Rate

The acceptance rate for submissions in 2013 was just below 25%.

4. Future Format of, and Publisher for, the Journal

Discussion of whether the journal should move to an online open-access format. Would the journal's standing be diminished? What would be the workload implications for the editors?

5. Changes to Editorial Board

A few changes will be made to the Associate Editors team. Looking further ahead, Alan Welsh has indicated that he intends to step down as Managing Editor of ANZJS in mid-2015.

6. Plagiarism

The journal is receiving an increasing number of manuscripts that are heavily plagiarised. Fortunately the Associate Editors and referees do a fine job, by and large, in spotting such submissions.

7. SSAI Conference

ANZJS (in the person of Michael Martin) will run a Q&A session on publishing for early career researchers.

8. ANZJS Editors' Invited Speaker

ANZJS Editors' Invited Speaker will present at NZSA conferences in odd-numbered years.

Martin Hazelton
20 March 2014

Education committee report.

The committee continues to support the National schools curriculum. Inevitably with a major change just bedding in there are issues that arise. A recent example showed some inconsistency in the wording of two different standards. Chris Wild contacted Lyall Prestidge at NZQA and I copy his response:-
Hi Chris

Thank you for the NZSA Education Committee's advice, which was timely. We are due to publish the Assessment Specifications for the 2014 examinations next week, and following your comments we will include in the specifications for 91584 *Evaluate statistically based reports*, a phrase along the lines of:
"When interpreting confidence intervals in context, it is acceptable for candidates to use "With 95% confidence" or "I'm pretty sure" or other words similar in meaning."

This should address the apparent inconsistency between 91584 and 91582, and should give some reassurance for teachers in 2014.

Regards

Lyall Prestidge

This seems to suggest a positive working relationship which is very encouraging. It also appears that Neil Marshall from NZQA will be joining the committee and we hope that will also be a positive move.

Finally we would like to ask the Exec for a sum of money to offer to the organisers of the NZAMT 14(Mathematics teachers conference) which will be in Auckland (AUT) in 2015, to help support an international Statistics educator to speak to the conference. We have supported the last 8 or so NZAMT conferences and have offered \$1250 in the past.

Science Fairs.

I am already receiving some requests for sponsorship, it is encouraging that my change of employment hasn't stopped them finding me so far!

R User Groups Report for NZSA Exec, 24 March 2014

Since the last NZSA Exec meeting, there have been two Wellington R User Group meetings, none in Auckland, and an inaugural event in Christchurch. More details about the individual meetings below.

John Haywood

Wellington meetings, organised by James Hogan, MBIE and Shirley Wu, Harmonic Analytics, with input from John Haywood, VUW:

<http://www.meetup.com/Wellington-R-Users-Group-WRUG/>

Tuesday 17 December 2013 5.30pm – 7.00pm, MBIE
James Stanley & Tak Ikeda, University of Otago, Wellington: KnitR
Jayden MacRae, Compass Health: Tips and Tricks - Data Interchange / Pipelines

Monday 17 March 2014 5.30pm – 7.00pm, MBIE
Yvan Richard, Dragonfly Science, Wellington: Advanced Ggplot Visualisation
David Lillis, Sigma Statistics & Research Ltd: Tips and Tricks

Inaugural Christchurch R Users Group Meeting, organised by Ian Westbrooke, Department of Conservation:

Thursday 30 January 2014 5.30pm – 7.00pm
Ian Westbrooke, Department of Conservation: Statistical Analysis Using R

Language: Experiences from the government
sector - MBIE and DOC

For Auckland details, see their meetup page:

<http://www.meetup.com/Auckland-R-Users-Group-AKLRUG>