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New Zealand Geographical Society

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2015

The University of Canterbury,
Geography Department
4th floor 'Jobbern's Room' (AGM Business Part)
3rd Floor 'Teaching and Learning Space' (Awards Ceremony)

Thursday, 24 September 2015
4 – 6.30pm NZGS AGM

MINUTES

Present: Ann Pomeroy (President), David Hayward (Treasurer), Maria Borovnik (Secretary), Lex Chalmers (Outgoing Liaison NZBoGT), Christina Ergler (Conference Organising Committee, Otago Branch), Ross Barnett, Brittany Bradley-Com, Garth Cant, Edward Clark, William Clark, Andrew Devonport, Ronlyn Duncan, Huong Do, Margaret Hutton, Matthew McCallum-Clark, Kath Millar, Levi Mutambo, Tim Nolan, Anne Olsen, Harvey Perkins, Anna Petrie, Heather Purdie, Hamish Rennie, Julie Staunton, Alison Watkins, Vaughan Wood.

Welcome and confirmation of the Agenda, by NZGS President, Ann Pomeroy.

Apologies: Richard Bedford, Tony Binns, Malcolm Campbell, Tara Duncan, Nicholas Cullen, John Flenley, Michael Hilton, Robin Kearns, Chris Kissling, Richard Le Heron, Juliana Mansvelt, Philip Morrison, Michael Roche, Suzanne Smith.

Minutes of the AGM held in Auckland, 19 September 2014, were viewed and confirmed by the Meeting.

MOTION: To confirm that minutes are correct (Ann Pomeroy/Tim Nolan). Carried.

No Matters arising.

President's Report: (A written report had been circulated within the Annual General Report). President, Ann Pomeroy talked to her presidential report and explained that some of the most important achievements during 2014 were related to membership changes. Geography teachers received good support throughout the year. Branches could be more supported. Ann thanked and praised the executive committee members. Special appreciation was directed to Lex Chalmers. Lex liaised between the NZBoGT and the Society, he had also served as IGU officer, he linked his work with Waikato Branch, and his supportive role as co-opted executive member. He retired as Liaison NZBoGT at the beginning of 2015. Ann also thanked Lex for supporting

the Olympiad - the New Zealand team had done very well. Ann welcomed Tony Binns aboard as the new Liaison NZBoGT. Ann expressed special thanks to National Secretary, Maria Borovnik, and National Treasurer David Hayward, the Chair NZBoGT Nick Page and Secretary NZBoGT Jane Foster. She also acknowledged Roger Baldwin's work on the Board and explained that Suzanne Baldwin has taken up Roger's role. Postgraduates were also acknowledged in Ann's report and she particularly praised students' network activities, which she hoped will continue. Ann completed her report by notifying the meeting of the several awards ceremonies this year and by acknowledging Canterbury Branch for hosting the AGM this year.

Secretary's Report: (A written report was circulated within the Annual Report). Secretary, Maria Borovnik, briefly highlighted some of the Executive membership changes and thanked the Executive Committee, particularly President Ann Pomeroy and Treasurer David Hayward. She also thanked Tim Nolan for his work on the awards certificates.

Treasurer's Report: (A written report was circulated within the Annual Report). Treasurer, David Hayward explained that the majority of his report was concerned with the Society's accounts and asked the meeting to accept these.

MOTION: to accept the accounts: David Hayward/Ann Pomeroy.

Treasurer, David Hayward, explained that the Society had done well in terms of accounts during 2014, but there was still a concerning tendency towards a deficit, although membership numbers' decline has been halted (see page 9 of 72nd Annual Report). – David explained the financial performance and the Society's expenditures in some detail. He described the combined activities for the Society's Head Office and NZBoGT. The report included a summary of the financial position and liabilities (on page 11). The entry on the Society's Olympiad fund influences the Society's account only temporarily. This Olympiad fund is included in the account for administrative reasons but must be looked at as separate from the Society's account.

Motion Carried.

The accounts have been audited by Nihal Jayawickrama.

MOTION: to confirm the Auditor's honorarium of \$1,250. David Hayward/Maria Borovnik. Carried.

MOTION from the Chair: to thank the auditor for his work. Carried.

Treasurer, David Hayward, continued his report by explaining membership fee changes that were recommended by Council in 2015 for introduction in 2016. He explained two primary components. Firstly, the Society had entered a new contract with Wiley, the publisher of the *New Zealand Geographer*. One component of this new contract was the move to an electronic journal distribution. The publisher could provide sufficient online access to all members. Secondly, a decision was made to introduce an early bird membership fee to encourage early membership payment at a discounted rate. A document that proposed details of these new membership fees was tabled and acknowledged by the meeting.

MOTION: to accept the proposed changes to membership fees in 2016. David Hayward/Ann Pomeroy.

The meeting noted that postgraduates had been consulted with the decision making of the new fees and that they were satisfied with the proposed changes.

Motion Carried.

MOTION: to ratify the early bird fee. Ann Pomeroy/Hamish Rennie. Carried.

Report from the Managing Editor and Chair of the Editorial Board: A report by Managing Editor, Etienne Nel, was tabled and acknowledged by the meeting. Both President and Treasurer spoke to this report. Treasurer, David Hayward, explained some issues mentioned in this report with regards to contractual changes. President, Ann Pomeroy, explained that the journal rankings had improved and encouraged the meeting to help increase these rankings by submitting quality articles to the journal and to cite articles. She explained that the current book review editor, Sarah Lovell, is stepping down from her role and that Maria Borovnik will be stepping into this role. Ann thanked all editors of the journal on behalf of the Managing Editor for their hard work.

Report from the Chair of the New Zealand Board of Geography Teachers: A written report from the Chair of the NZBoGT was tabled and acknowledged by the meeting. Outgoing Liaison NZBoGT, Lex Chalmers, summarised this report and highlighted some issues. He suggested that some initiatives to be taken to recognise the independent and separate nature of pedagogy in secondary and tertiary geography. Lex also highlighted the Maatangi Whenua contribution to the Olympiad processes and success in Kraków in 2014, where New Zealand performed very well. Membership building is important to NZBoGT. A concern has been communications with the Ministry of Education and it is important for the Board to advocate for geography teachers' requests and needs in their curriculum. The Board appreciates continued support for geography teachers at conference events, such as SocCon. Lex finished talking to this report by explaining NZBoGT membership changes: Nick Page will retire as Chair at the end of 2015, and a new person will be elected. Tony Binns has stepped in as Liaison NZBoGT.

The meeting discussed how to cater best for teachers with NZGS conference dates. It is very difficult to cater for teachers and conference co-coordinator, Christina Ergler, explained that the upcoming conference in Otago had taken teachers' voices into account before finalising their dates. These concerns were also discussed in much detail at Council meeting and the NZGS Executive will take teachers' concerns into account for any future occasions.

MOTION: to accept the Reports by President, Secretary, Treasurer, Managing Editor and Chair of the NZBoGT. Ann Pomeroy/Tim Nolan. Carried.

Postgraduate Matters: Secretary, Maria Borovnik, talked on behalf of the Postgraduate Network. The Network is asking for department and branch support in attracting postgraduates to the Network. They are specifically interested in having someone step up to postgraduate representative level. A special conference session is planned. The meeting discussed how individual successes of postgraduates could be acknowledged and that post-doctoral staff must be encouraged to join the Society; they may join the postgraduate network if they wish.

Confirmation of Officers: Council, 23 May 2015, approved Gail Adams-Hutcheson to be seconded to the executive committee as co-opted member and that her role will be to support activities of the postgraduate network. Council also approved the extension of Matthew Henry's

position of Information Officer for another term of three years. Council approved the extension of David Hayward's position of Treasurer for another year.

MOTION from the Chair: to ratify Gail Adams-Hutcheson to be seconded as co-opted member, to have Matthew Henry's position as Information Officer extended for another term, and to have the Treasurer position extended for another year.

Treasurer, David Hayward, has now completed three terms and will continue for another year, but he wishes to retire from this position and the Society is looking for a new treasurer. The meeting asked to be careful with the timing of rotation of officers and that it is important not to have too many positions move on at the same time.

Motion Carried.

The Society has received one nomination for Vice President from Waikato Branch for Lynda Johnston.

MOTION: to elect Lynda Johnston to the Executive Committee in the role of Vice President: Ann Pomeroy / Garth Cant. Carried.

Other Business:

a) Council approved the establishment of the *NZGS Mobilities Research and Study Group*, which will be chaired by Tara Duncan, Maria Borovnik and Gail Adams-Hutcheson. Maria explained that the group welcomes others to use their successful proposal of this first research and study group as a template for applications.

b) Conference Co-Cordinator, Christina Ergler, talked briefly about the development of the NZGS Conference in Otago, noting that conference organisers would continue to accept suitable abstracts and paper proposals.

Concluding remarks: The President thanked everyone for their participation in this meeting and closed the first part of the meeting at 5pm.

Presentation of Awards followed after a short Refreshment Break.

LIST OF NZGS AWARDEES

Distinguished New Zealand Geographer Award: Professor William A.V. Clark (University of California, Los Angeles) and Emeritus Professor John R. Flenley.

Distinguished Service Award: Claire Gibson (Waikato Institute of Technology, Hamilton), Brian Kendrick (Sacred Heart Girls' College, Hamilton) and Anne Olsen (Chilton Saint James School, Lower Hutt)

President's Award for Best Master's Thesis: Peter Bernard Gibson (University of Otago) and Daniel Nutsford (University of Canterbury).

President's Award for Best Doctoral Thesis: Dr Naomi Simmonds (The University of Waikato).

President's Award for Emerging Researcher in Geography: Dr Malcolm Campbell (University of Canterbury).

President's Award for Collaborative Research involving Geographers (in all educational settings) 2015: The GeoHealth Laboratory, Department of Geography at the University of Canterbury

President's Award for Research Supervision: Dr Nicolas Cullen (University of Otago) and Professor Warwick Edward Murray (Victoria University of Wellington).

President's Award for Teaching in Geography (in all educational settings): Dr Heather Lois Purdie (University of Canterbury).

President's Award for Exceptional Services (to the University of Canterbury): Anna Petrie (Senior Administrator to the Geography Department, University of Canterbury).

Citations for these awards are on the NZGS website <http://www.nzgs.co.nz> and in the *New Zealand Geographer*

The meeting closed at 6.30pm.

Maria Borovnik, National Secretary, NZGS, 4 September 2016.