MODELLING AND SIMULATION SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND INC.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
6PM, 13 DECEMBER 2011
Held in conjunction with MODSIM2011
Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre, Perth, Australia

PRESENT

Bob Anderssen, Robert Argent, Dave Birkett, Roger Braddock, Bob Cechet, Felix Chan, Chia Lin Chang, Freeman Cook, Barry Croke, Roger Cropp, Susan Cuddy, Anthony Dekker, Ralf Denzer, Joseph Guillaume, Michael Hartcher, Markus Hegland, Tony Jakeman, Shawn Laffan, Christine Lim, Helena Mala-Jetmarova, Peter Manger, Dora Marinova, Lubos Matejicek, David Mayer, Michael McAleer, Brian McIntosh, Malcolm McPhee, Wendy Merritt, Les Oxley, Tim Peterson, Julia Pintadosi, Carmel Pollino, David Post, Stefan Reis, A Sanabria, Hedwig van Delden, Brad Walmsley, Tony Weber

APOLOGIES

Geoff Syme, Blair Nancarrow, Francis Chiew, David Penton, John Boland, Andre Zerger, Neil Gribble, Frank de Hoog, Jai Vaze

MINUTES OF THE 2010 AGM

held on 10 December 2010 were approved.

> Moved: Wendy Merritt; Seconded David Post
> **Motion carried unanimously**

As these meetings are in the off-year and thus not many members are present, important business is foreshadowed for the following Conference-year AGM. These items were included in the agenda for this meeting, and are reported on later in these minutes under Foreshadowed Business.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The President, Tony Jakeman, gave a verbal report. Some key points:

- MODSIM2013 will be hosted by Prof John Boland and Julia Piantadosi of the University of SA. Dates are registration on 1 December, with sessions running from 2-6 December.
- Discussions are under way for MODSIM2015. A joint conference with Watermax in Brisbane is one option; another is Darwin, in July. The latter may encourage Asian participation but is only an option if a suitable convenor can be found.
- The impact factor of 'Environmental Modelling and Software' peaked above 3 in 2009, and has just dipped below. The Board is addressing this and will reduce the number of news items (which are not highly cited). Four thematic issues are under way. Many thanks to Society members for their generosity in continuing to provide high quality reviews; and to Serena Chen for managing the review process.
- Thanked Susan Cuddy, Wendy Merritt and Tim Peterson for their ongoing attention to detail as Secretary, Treasurer and Public Office respectively.

- Thanked Cathy Ayres and Peter Manger of iCAM at ANU for their contributions to the running of the MSSANZ office; and to Peter in particular for his support for the OCS conference paper management system
- The agreement by Thomson Reuters to include MODSIM papers within their conferences database is an excellent outcome. Only a small percent of conferences worldwide are included. This has come about through the endeavours of the secretary over the past 12 months.

The meeting passed a vote of thanks to Felix Chan and Dora Marinova as MODSIM convenors, and to Dora Marinova and Bob Anderssen as chairs of the Program Committee.

6th International Congress on Environmental Modelling and Software – iEMSs 2012.
Our international sister society, iEMSs, holds its conferences on the even year (to MODSIM on the odd year). This year's convenor is Ralf Seppelt and the conference will be held from 1-5 July in Leipzig, Germany. The president encouraged members to support the conference.
http://iemss.org/iemss2012

TREASURER'S REPORT

Wendy Merritt tabled the audited set of accounts (statement of income & expenditure and financial position) for the financial year to 30 June 2011.
Motion: "that the financial statements be accepted."

Moved – Bob Anderssen, Seconded – Tony Weber
Motion carried unanimously

The Treasurer reported that the Sinking Fund (as per instruction 2009 AGM) had been established as a term deposit with the Commonwealth Bank.

AWARDS

The 2011 awards were tabled for the record (2011 student awards will be tabled at 2012AGM).

a) 2011 Biennial Medallists
   i)   Prof Bob Anderssen, CSIRO Mathematical and Information Sciences, Canberra
   ii) Prof Hector Malano, University of Melbourne
   iii) Prof Michael McAleer, Erasmus University, Rotterdam, Netherlands
b) 2011 Early Career Research Excellence (ECRE)
   i)   Dr Rebecca Lester, Deakin University, Victoria
   ii) Dr Hedwig van Delden, RIVKS, Netherlands
   iii) Dr Maroš Servátka, University of Canterbury, New Zealand

ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS

Nominations were received prior to the meeting in accordance with the Constitution. These nominations were put to the meeting.

President:	Tony Jakeman		
Vice President:	Michael McAleer		
Secretary:	Susan Cuddy		
Treasurer:	Wendy Merritt		
Public Officer:	Tim Peterson		
Committee:	Felix Chan	Bob Anderssen	Andre Zerger
	Jai Vaze	Tony Weber	David Post
	Robert Argent	John Boland	Julia Piantadosi

Moved – Susan Cuddy, Seconded – Freeman Cook

The membership of the Awards Committee (comprised of Fellows), as already constituted, was put to the meeting for re-affirmation:

Tony Jakeman (integration) –chair   Dora Marinova (policy)
Les Oxley (economics)   Blair Nancarrow (social)
Roger Braddock (mathematics)   Francis Chiew (hydrology/climate)
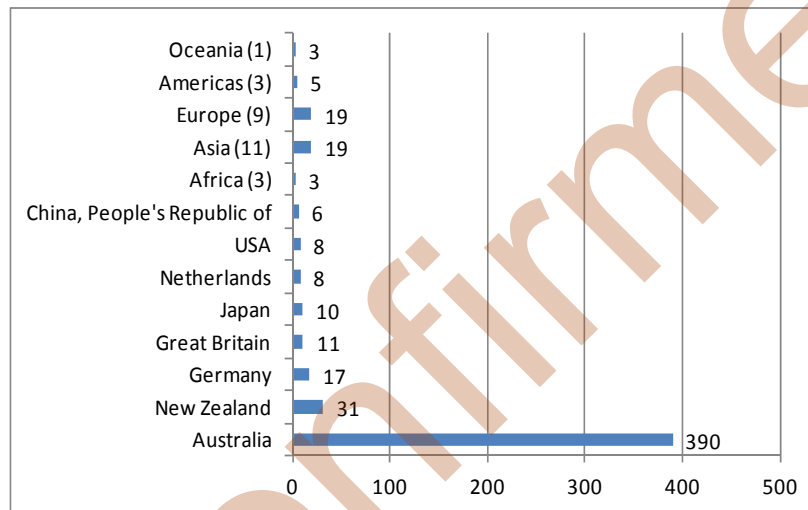
Moved – Tony Jakeman, Seconded – David Post
Motion carried unanimously

The position of Public Officer is not an elected one and the incumbent (Tim Peterson) continues until such time as he stands down.

MODSIM 2011 REPORT

Felix Chan, as co-convenor, thanked everyone for coordinating sessions and papers.
- Number of papers – 587 (685 in 2009)
- Number of delegates – 530 (690 in 2009)
- Number of sessions – 84 (75 in 2009)

- The numbers in brackets are the number of countries. The numbers on the bars are the number of delegates.
- Oceania – New Caledonia
- Americas – Brazil, Canada, Ecuador
- Europe – France, Norway,Belgium, Finland, Switzerland, Czech Republic, Iceland, Austria, Sweden
- Asia – Indonesia, Iran, Singapore, Hong Kong, Israel, Brunei, Republic of Korea, Malaysia, Pakistan, Thailand, Taiwan
- Africa – republic of Congo, Ghana, Reunion

Sponsorship - The conference attracted the highest number of sponsors to date, though with less $ than in 2009. The meeting agreed that sponsorship needed to be pursued for 2013. The paying of professional sponsorship seekers was suggested, but no recommendation made.

Conference fee – There was some discussion about raising the fee. However, overseas delegates, including our members from New Zealand, expressed concern due to the effect of the current strength of the Australian dollar, and recommended that the exchange rate needed to be taken into account when setting the 2013 conference registration fee.

MODSIM 2013 BRIEFING

Julia Piantadosi briefed the meeting, on behalf of Prof John Boland and herself as convenors of MODSIM 2013, to be held in Adelaide. Julia thanked the 2011 convenors who have set a high standard. The web site will be up in early 2012.

OCS (Online Conference System) - This was a new system trialled this year, to replace the in-Society WCMT. While there were problems with the interface for authors and reviewers (not as intuitive and different language), it provided much better operational tools for the convenors and Treasurer. Evaluation is ongoing, but the current position is to stick with OCS and customise it to better suit our processes. Freeman Cook passed a vote of thanks to Felix Chan and Peter Manger for their backend (and frontend) support of OCS, handling daily queries from authors and reviewers.

Scheduling of sessions – while there is an interest in expanding the content of the conference, this means more sessions to be scheduled. This year many water sessions were concurrent.

Theme – Not yet finalised

Attendance by overseas colleagues
Ralf Denzer proposed that we could increase our overseas attendance by encouraging projects to include attendance in their project plans; and offered to follow up with the Committee on how this might work.

Action: Committee to initiate discussions with Ralf Denzer re how associating MODSIM with projects might operate

FORESHADOWED BUSINESS

1. SIR CLIVE GRANGER AWARD

The 2009 AGM gave in-principle agreement for a Sir Clive Granger Award and referred it to the Awards Committee to make the decision as members were not aware of the implications. Les Oxley agreed to draft principles for the award to put to the Committee, then to members for ratification at 2011 AGM. Timing was such that a draft proposal was prepared for discussion with Lady Granger (which she approved), and then put up for discussion at the AGM prior to deliberation by the Awards Committee. This draft proposal is attached to these minutes for the record.

Much of the discussion focussed on the fact that the Society does not have a policy for the creation of such awards, which must complement the nature of the current awards (Biennial Medallists, Fellows, Early Career Research Excellence, Student Presentations).

The outcome was that the proposal go back to the Awards Committee, taking into account members' concerns and suggestions made at the AGM, including
- Expanding the disciplinary coverage to applied mathematics/statistics
- Determining rules for when and when not to confer the award
- Concern that a policy document cannot name an individual as a member of a committee
- Preference for having only one Awards Committee for all society awards, not a separate Committee for individual awards

Action: Awards Committee to work up the proposal for the Clive Granger Award, taking into account members' concerns and suggestions made at the AGM.

2. INDEXING OF MODSIM PAPERS

Secretary Cuddy reported on the indexing of Modsim papers in Web of Science by Thomson Reuters in their CPCI database - Conference Proceedings Citation Index database.

Action: Members should encourage their institutions to subscribe to this database, in addition to the Science Citations Index database.

A discussion on COPYRIGHT ensued. Due to a default copyright statement that came with OCS, the Society published its copyright statement, based on the statement inside all printed Conference proceedings, as follows:

> MODSIM papers are copyright of the Modelling and Simulation Society of Australia and New Zealand Inc. (MSSANZ), who is also the publisher of the MODSIM Proceedings.
> IP is retained by authors, giving them the right to use MODSIM papers for their own academic purposes, including distribution through personal/staff/organisation websites and reproduction of parts of the content in journals (with suitable acknowledgement of the MODSIM paper).
> Responsibility for the contents of MODSIM papers rests with authors, with MSSANZ guaranteeing the paper peer-review process.

As pointed out by government employees at the meeting, their papers are copyright of the government, and cannot be held by MSSANZ. This poses a potential problem with copyright claims that needs to be investigated.

Action: Committee to sort out copyright of MODSIM papers, and publish on website

3. STUDENT PRESENTATION AWARDS PROCESS

David Post, as Chair of the Student Awards Committee, explained the process whereby students register to be assessed as part of their registration, session organisers and others co-opted to be on the Committee evaluate presentations using a assessment form. All attempts are made to identify and remove conflicts of interest (usually when assessor is supervisor of student).
David thanked those who assisted, in particular Carmel Pollino and Rebecca Lester who served as 'roving assessors'.
Awards are evaluated by stream. Approximately 116 students were registered of whom 77 registered for assessment, with a cap of about 10% on awards.

Meeting closed 7.20p.