

AUSTRALASIAN COLLOID AND INTERFACE SOCIETY

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2020 – Draft Minutes

Time and Date: 1330, Wednesday 29th January 2020

Venue: Federation University, Churchill Campus, Victoria

Attendees: Board Members: Ben Boyd (President), Charlotte Conn (Vice-President), Alison White (Treasurer, via Zoom), Gregory Warr (Director), Boon Teo (Director, via Zoom), Grant Webber (Honorary Secretary), Arlene McDowell

Member Attendees:

Chiara Neto (via, Zoom), Raymond Dagastine, Patrick Spicer, (to be updated)

Non-Member Attendees:

Apologies:

Proxies:

Minutes: Grant Webber (Honorary Secretary)

Minutes of the 2019 AGM were distributed prior to the meeting.

Minutes

Comments in italics were questions raised by the members

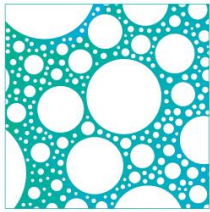
Meeting open @ 1333

1. Welcome, Review of AGM 2019 Minutes and President's Report

- Agenda has been circulated
- Previous meetings on website and link provided to members
 - RRD proposes
 - AE seconded
 - All accepted
- President's Report
 - 2019 lead up to IACIS 2021
 - FOR Code 030603 – ACIS lead campaign to retain code
 - ACIS letter to Murdoch University in support of Gerd
 - Gary Bryant noted he had spoken with Gerd prior to Christmas and he is in "good spirits"
 - ACIS Twitter account has been very active
 - Awards: UK ECR Bursary, ACIS lectureship, Best Thesis

2. Announcement of new Directors (Ben Boyd)

- Had three positions open
 - Two applications / nominations



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- Erica Wanless and Deborah Wakeham welcomed to Board of Directors
- Alison White is leaving the Board
 - BB thanked AW for her service and noted her excellent work on ACIS Board
 - AW thanked the Board

3. Equity Report (Charlotte Conn)

- Noted committee members
 - Boon Teo, Rico Tabor, Hana Shiraz, Geosmin Turpin
 - Joanne Du and Vince Craig are finishing their term this year
- Updated Code of Conduct for 32nd ACSSSC
- Online survey of demographics of ACIS members
 - Will run regularly to track changes in membership profile
- Working with IACIS Committee
 - International Organising Committee is 50/50 gender split
- Presentation of current membership statistics
 - Full membership – 65% male, 34% female, 1% non-binary
 - Board – 57% female, 43% male
 - StuCon – conference gender split is similar to overall ACIS membership, so good alignment. No unconscious bias.
- Survey
 - >50% response rate
 - 65% academic, 6% industry, 6% other research, 23% student
 - 40% female, 60% male
 - Increasing industry participation could be key for ACIS in the future
- *Chiara Neto*
 - *Congratulated CC and committee for efforts*
 - *Are the #'s measured available on ACIS website?*
 - *CC response – will be next week after StuCon numbers collated*
- Report acceptance
 - EW proposes
 - Gary Bryant seconded
 - All agree

4. Treasurer's Report (Alison White)

- AW read report
 - Will be posted on ACIS website
- Cash position recovered by >\$54K over 12 months
- Net assets >\$155K
- Presented detail of expenses for awards, IACIS seed fund
- ACIS2019 made \$11,300 profit and returned float of \$8800
- Income from membership healthy due to ACIS2019 and 32nd ACSSSC
- Sufficient funds to cover normal operations and support society activities
 - Important in build-up for IACIS2021
- No questions
- BB: Brianna Knowles from UoW is UK Colloid attendee
 - Claudia Contini is reciprocal attendee
 - UK has dedicated UK Colloid ECR conference

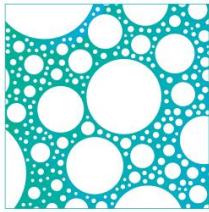
- Acceptance
 - BB propose
 - GW second
 - All accept

- 5. Membership Report (Arlene McDowell)**
 - Spoke to report on screen
 - Proportion of staff:students fluctuate
 - Cycle based on timing of ACS SSC and ACIS
 - Peak in 2020 as 32nd ACS SSC attendees up
 - 66 new members
 - ACIS will keep communicating to attempt to retain
 - Board has discussed many options for membership during 2019
 - E.g. timing of renewal
 - No questions

- 6. Communications Committee (Boon Teo)**
 - Christine Browne to talk to report and Boon's access had poor sound quality
 - CB helps with Newsletter and is part of the Communications Team
 - ACIS Twitter account established in 2019
 - @AusColloids
 - Currently 149 members
 - Boon talked to membership base cost
 - Free plan allows only 500 members per year
 - Currently have to "archive" lapsed members to free up space for email communication
 - An issue after every conference
 - To increase to 2000 contacts will be USD\$1728
 - Needed to accommodate likely membership increase due to IACIS 2021

- 7. Awards and Prizes Committee Report (Gunther Andersson)**
 - GA presented slide
 - 2019 ACIS Lectureship Award
 - Awardee is Dr Khay Fong from University of Newcastle
 - 2019 ACIS Best Thesis award
 - Eight excellent submissions
 - Awardee is Dr Yuan Xu, University of Queensland
 - 2019 ACIS UK ECR Colloid Meeting Bursary
 - Dr Brianna Knowles, University of Wollongong
 - GA thanks all members who put together nominations
 - Thanks to Rico Tabor and Alison White for being members of the Awards Committee
 - No questions
 - BB: The ACIS board is always open to suggestions for awards and recognitions

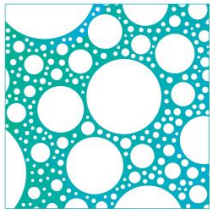
- 8. IACIS Preparations – Ian Gentle (co-Chair Greg Warr)**
 - Verbal report from GW
 - IACIS2021.org is live



- Rudimentary state, with more information to come
 - Lots of work behind the scene
- 20 – 24th June
 - 20th is bump in day for registration
- Targeting break even point at ~600 registrations
 - Some sponsorship is linked to this
 - Budget is somewhat flexible still
- International Organising committee
 - 50/50 gender split
- Local organising committee also has equity targets
- In the next month or so people will be contacted regarding advertising IACIS 2021 at conferences
 - Slides will be available on IACIS 2021 website
 - Members requested to use the “Save the Date” slide at conferences
 - Members can email GW to request promotion materials
- No questions
- BB: hand-in-hand with IACIS 2021 is AE Alexander Lecture and ACIS Public Lecture to be given at IACIS 2021.
 - *Ray Dagastine: is the “ACIS Public Lecture” definitely going to be public, as this will shape who people nominate*
 - *BB: at this stage yes*
 - *RRD: If it becomes a lecture that is not public the call for nomination should be re-opened as the nominations may be different*
 - *BB: agrees the right person for public or not may be different.*
 - *RRD: How many Plenary Lectures at IACIS 2021?*
 - *GW: Four in total. AE Alexander + IACIS Lifetime Achievement award over which we have no control. If ACIS Public is really public it will likely not be one of the remaining two slots.*

9. Discussion regarding Proposed changes to ACIS Constitution

- Timing of membership year has been discussed
 - Mid-year versus at ACIS-backed conferences
 - Coupling with conference registration has some advantages for payments
 - Others due at 30th June which causes confusion
 - Even membership taken out at the Jan/Feb conference technically only runs to 30th June that year
 - No ACIS in 2021 due to IACIS 2021
 - So conference-aligned membership in Jan/Feb will not work
- Proposal for future Board:
 - Two-year membership cycle
 - Taken out at ACIS Jan/Feb meeting
 - Should be okay for University accounting
- Proposal 1:
 - Move membership due date to 31st March
- Proposal 2:
 - A reduced rate is offered to members who join well after 31st March
 - Proposed to shift Reduced Rate to 1st December
- Proposal 3:



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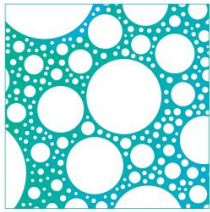
- Lapsed membership period be changed to 12 months
- Vote
 - BB proposes all changes
 - GW seconded
 - Vote on “package” – all present in favour, no against
 - All online attendees also supported.
- Membership fees
 - BB notes membership fees can be set by the Board at any time
 - The Board will carefully look at current members to adjust fees and ensure no members is over charged
 - All members who joined as part of 32nd ACSSSC will be deemed to be members from 31 March

10. Update on 32nd ACSSSC (Gary Bryant)

- Gary notes we are here and everything is going okay
- Sponsors:
 - RMIT – Russell Crawford
 - UMelb – Ray Dagastine
 - ANSTO – Deb Wakeham
- Should return a small profit
- GB thanked organising committee, in particular Aaron Elbourne
- Initiative
 - Academics pledged to give \$1 for each question delivered by a student
 - Tuesday - \$288
 - Wednesday - \$225
- Russell Crawford notes a conversation Paul Mulvaney; the student conference was in danger of folding with the direct involvement of Bob Hunter and Tom Healy stopped, but the “children of Tom and Bob” and the “children of the children of Tom and Bob” have embraced the Student Conference.
- RRD notes that involvement from Training Centres and Centres of Excellence is of high priority.
- BB thanked Gary Bryant and all organising committee for excellent 32nd ACSSSC
 - Excellent attendance
 - Good venue

11. Any other business

- Erica Wanless: given the recent summer, what discussion regarding the insurance of ACIS-based conferences given they are usually held in February
 - BB: ACIS does not have a set position
 - RRD: have bought independent insurance for ACIS meetings
 - RRD: Ballarat StuCon also had independent insurance
 - BB: must be done for each meeting
- Chiara Neto: no ACIS2020 due to IACIS
 - BB: what to do in February to keep AGM on normal cycle? Do we run a small meeting in Feb, maybe and ECR Meeting, or do AGM via “Zoom”.
 - CN and GA: propose a small meeting
 - BB: hold AGM in Feb 2021, but yet to be determined whether a meeting or electronic



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- Gary Bryant:
 - Raises offers to host 33rd ACSSSC in Feb 2022
 - Andrew Nelson: having ACSSSC as “family friendly” is great, but not good for people with young children in School.
 - CC: Has received a lot of negative feedback on this. Could it be later in Feb?
 - EW: later would clash with University ARC DP deadlines
 - RRD: this year did not clash with ICON or Gordon Colloid Conference
 - BB: There has been a suggested the UniSA hosts
 - BB: Opens call for people to host
 - Arlene McDowell: Is Feb 2022 StuCon an opportunity to re-engage with Bob and Tom

12. Next AGM

- To be confirmed.

Meeting closed @1440

Next AGM: TBA.