



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2022 – MINUTES

Time and Date: 1800, Monday 31st January 2022 (AEST / Sydney / Melbourne time)
Venue: via Zoom during 33rd Australian Colloid and Surface Science Student Conference
Zoom meeting details see at bottom of page
Apologies: None at time of announcement
Proxies:
Minutes: Grant Webber (Honorary Secretary)
Current BoD: Erica Wanless (President), Tamar Greaves (Vice-President), Deborah Wakeham (Treasurer), Arlene McDowell (Director), Christine Browne (Director), Frank Sainsbury (Director), Joe Berry (Director), Michael Higgins (Director), Grant Webber (Honorary Secretary)

Minutes of the 2021 AGM are available on the ACIS website.

Minutes – Meeting starting at 1803

- 1800 Welcome, discussion of 2021 Minutes, President's Report (Erica Wanless); approval of President's Report
- Matters arising from 2021 Minutes
 - Chiara Neto moves to accept
 - Aaron Elbourne seconded
 - All accept, no objections
 - President Report
 - Continued in an environment of pandemic
 - Delivered:
 - ACIS Hybrid conference (EJW acknowledged Rico Tabor for organising first hybrid event)
 - Node model worked well
 - 3MT Event
 - 2nd running
 - Acknowledge Aaron Elbourne and Khay Fong
 - Goal of ACIS event is to give ACIS members and opportunity to prepare for local events

- Well attended and good feedback
- EJW suggest this is something ACIS should consider as an ongoing event
- Pre-recorded or live
- Viruses as Colloids
 - EJW thanks Maggie and Frank
 - Very high-profile speakers
 - Outside usual sphere of influence
- EJW also acknowledges Christine Browne for huge efforts in communications; websites, emails, etc
- 33rd StuCon
 - Pivot to online very late
 - EJW thanks Marta, Amir and Steph for organising
- Next big event for ACIS is hosting IACIS
 - First time in Aus since 1994
 - Abstract deadline extended
 - EJW thanks Ian Gentle and Greg Warr
- EJW notes it is difficult to provide value to members in an online environment
 - Though no geographical issues; more equitable?
- It appears Universities have ramped up email filters so ACIS gmail emails going to spam
 - Saffron Bryant
 - Have you consider running emails via mail service such as WildChimp
 - EJW – run through the Wild Apricot system
 - Vince Craig – cannot recall the details of the original setup. Perhaps could set up through Wild Apricot. Or forward to Wild Chimp or similar. Keep membership details up to date could be issue
 - ACTION ITEM: consider mail servers

- Christine: Wild Apricot emails are not from gmail, but have actual address
 - Leonie van't Hag notes ANBUG has similar issue
 - NOTE: Stuart Prescott offered assistance investigating options for mail servers.
 - EJW thanks to ACIS Board for efforts in 2021
 - All Board members thanked for efforts
- 1805 Announcement of new Board of Directors and retirement of outgoing Directors (Erica Wanless)
- EJW thanks Arlene McDowell for service to ACIS as Membership Coordinator
 - Call for single Board Member vacancy was sent out
 - Only one nominee
 - So no need for vote
 - New Board Member is Geoff Willmott
- 1810 Equity report (Frank Sainsbury)
- EJW shared slide
 - Including statistics
 - Membership of committee
 - Gender as well as geographical
 - Is not just Melbourne
 - ACTION ITEM: look at Newcastle membership
 - Conference attendance statistics presented.
 - Quite good, but can be improved
 - Member survey to come in 2022
 - Targeting implementation of initiatives
 - Not just reporting
 - E.g. call at StuCon to add personal pronouns to Zoom name
 - CN – congratulations Board and Committee on efforts
 - Suggests publicizing the efforts of ACIS better
 - Perhaps in Newsletters and/or ACIS communications
 - ACTION ITEM: consider how to disseminate efforts

- 1815 Treasurer's Report (Deborah Wakeham); Approval of Treasurer's report
- DW attended AGM but could not speak via Zoom
 - EJW gave verbal report
 - Slide of details shared via Zoom
 - ACIS 2021 Hybrid event had excellent attendance and made profit
 - Membership income of \$10,500 in 2021
 - Some money paid out for awards; Best Thesis, 3MT
 - ACIS Lectureship awards have been COVID impacted
 - Risk of IACIS 2022 highlighted
 - RRD – what is the risk profile for IACIS?
 - EJW – will be discussed by Ian Gentle (co-Chair) and Vincent Craig (Treasurer) at later Agenda item
- 1820 Membership Report (Arlene McDowell)
- Report slide shared via Zoom
 - AMcD acknowledges support of Board.
 - Membership over-time data presented
 - Growth in 2021 and maintained in 2022
 - Good student numbers in 2022
 - Likely on the back of StuCon
 - Notes that 12-month membership was given to people who had registered for StuCon in person
 - If already ACIS member this was as an extension
 - If not a member, then received the 12 month
 - Notes high number of “Renewal Pending”
 - 47 staff members
 - Currently lapsed membership; what to do?
 - Constitution says that they will be “struck off” after 12 months
 - Will receive 4 reminders
 - Keep “benefits of membership” in this time, e.g. communications, etc.
 - Could change this?
 - Aaron Elbourne

- RMIT will not allow society memberships to be paid unless tied to a Conference
- Could membership be aligned with conferences?
 - Vince Craig – this was looked at in great detail when Ben Boyd was President, and there are other issues to consider
 - Ben Boyd – cannot recall full details, but alignment of conferences, AGM, IACIS 2021/22 were issues
 - EJW notes that several comments in the chat note many Universities will not allow society membership at all
 - Vince Craig – one issue is the timing of AGM and membership
 - AMcD – should membership be annual or bi-annual
 - Casey Thomas notes the issue of spam filters might be catching the renewal emails
 - ACTION ITEM – send renewal notice to work emails from non-generic account

1825 Communications Committee Report (Christine Browne)

- EJW shared slide via Zoom
- CB thanks the Communications Team
 - Stuart (newsletter), Aaron (Twitter) and Casey (Twitter)
- ACIS Newsletter four time a year
 - All members get call-for-content email prior
- Currently 636 followers on Twitter
 - Call to tag ACIS on announcement re articles, jobs etc.
- Board has developed a Social Media Policy that is available on the ACIS website
- ACTION ITEM – tweet about renewals
 - BB notes Twitter is very active in this space
 - Tweet link to Newsletter, for example

1830 Awards Committee Report (Joe Berry)

- Slide shared via Zoom
- JB thanked: Anna Wang (UNSW) and Rico Tabor (Monash)
- 2021 ACIS ECR

- Saffron Bryant
- 2021 ACIS ECR Lectureship and Best Thesis
 - Nominations closed early January
 - Announcement soon
 - JB notes fewer nomination for these awards and suggest December / January deadline may not be ideal
- StuCon Awards
 - Hunter-Healy and ACIS/ECIS Award
 - Currently must be Aus Uni student only
 - Suggests extending to Australasian Uni, as is the Society
 - EJW confirms no issue with RACI to change
- Vince Craig
 - Intent for Awards Committee was to help facilitate ACIS members to apply for awards not given by ACIS
 - Would be good if ACIS was active in helping, particularly students and ECRs, to nominate for external awards
 - Ideal to have people outside supervisors, for example
 - EJW notes December newsletter and Twitter advertised IACIS Emerging Research award
 - Has been some discussion at Board level on this
 - Hans Jurgen-Butt has contacted re IACIS awards
 - JB – agree, and will try to be more active in this space
 - Good to have suggestions from members of ACIS
 - Call for nominations for awards from across ACIS membership
- EJW calls for opinions on including Australasian Universities as eligibility of Hunter-Healy and ACIS-ECIS Award
 - ACIS-ECIS need to discuss with Tommy Nylander from ECIS
 - No objection from attendees
 - Cannot change for 33rd StuCon as rules will need to be updated
 - ACTION ITEM: change eligibility for Hunter-Healy and ACIS-ECIS

1835 IACIS 2022 progress report (Ian Gentle or Greg Warr)

- Ian gave slide-free update

- Refer people to IACIS 2022 website
- IG notes ACIS community needs to support IACIS 2022
- Three Plenary speaker confirmed
 - One more may yet be confirmed
 - Kazui Kurihara – 2022 IACIS lifetime Achievement
 - Stephen Hyde – AE Alexander
 - Lidya Muraska – expert in airborne particulate matter
- Keynote speakers being populated
 - Details on website
- IG thanks Greg Warr and International Technical Committee
- Themes online
- Abstract submission for orals deadline soon
- IACIS Emerging Research Award
 - Three awards
 - Sponsored by Kayo from Japan
 - \$3K each
 - Deadline is 8th February
- Koalalloid Competition
 - Social media competition to engage students and raise awareness of Conference
 - Best picture of Lloyd with your research
- Early bird open to 28th March
 - If you register as early-bird as Virtual Attendee you can later upgrade to in-person
 - Aimed at Internationals
 - Register now at early-bird rates
 - Upgrade to in-person later still at early bird
- Conference dates now 26th – 30th June
 - Conference at BCC is 26th – 29th
 - Event on 30th at UQ, in collaboration with ANSTO
 - Maybe CARF at QUT and ANFF

- Final details to come, but idea is for small fee (~\$50) can attend talks on advanced characterization techniques with hands-on experience.
- Sessions on applying for beamtime
- This extra session will be in-person only to encourage people to come to Brisbane
- Vince Craig (Treasurer) available to answer questions regarding numbers and risk
 - IG notes issues with COVID-19 etc
 - Hybrid conference add extra complications in attendance split
 - Student vs staff
 - Early-bird vs later
 - Online vs in person
 - Have scaled back presence in BCC including the number of rooms, number of parallel sessions and number of days
 - Shifted timing of days
 - Start later and end later
 - To appeal to Europe and Asia which is strength of IACIS
 - Consideration of equity for attendees attending online
- EJW asks about Abstract numbers
 - IG – not sure of exact numbers at today
 - Conference organisers discussed a few weeks ago, and it was ~20
 - EJW – what is target?
 - VC answered
 - Break even with zero profit is 525
 - Dependent on exact split on delegates
 - More than 525 can return a good profit
 - BB – what is the plan to engage with other societies, e.g. Australian Rheology Society? Uncertainty regarding travel to Queensland is putting Europeans off even submitting an Abstract, so any positive news in this space needs to be shared.

- IG – International Advisory Committee is primarily responsible for sharing information abroad
- Ambassadors have been appointed around the world, e.g. Japan, to target local societies
- RACI Congress is being held at BCC the week after IACIS, and some discussions in place with that event
- IG asks BB which organisations he may have in mind
 - BB – Rheology Society, Vacuum Society, Nanomedicine, Drug Delivery, etc
 - Nanomedicine conference is on at the same time as IACIS
 - IG – Polymer Colloids have been targeted via RACI, Energy Materials community via well-known Keynote
- Marta Krasowska – in terms of ACIS memberships there will be an issue with students due to University constraints. May be issues justifying costs to send students to IACIS. UniSA deems conference travel and in-person attendance as non-essential.
 - EJW notes that is an issue with many Universities
 - Key item to note that early-bird online registrations can be converted to in-person
- Aaron Elbourne
 - The social media engagement needs to really ramp up
 - Especially if Abstract submission deadline gets extended again
 - VG notes there have been issues getting admin done in January so many registrants doing it at the last moment
 - Aaron offers to put as much information on social media as possible
- VC notes on registration cost
 - This is an IACIS meeting not and ACIS conference; a step up
 - The online system to be used is expensive
 - There are a lot of fixed costs

- Almost as much to have event online as in person
 - A lot of work has been done to reduce costs of registration
- Livia notes to importance of re-Tweeting or liking tweets
- Stuart Prescott – consider relaxing the one Abstract per person limit
 - IG – registrations are the key
- BB – do we know the budget implications of not getting the 525 registrations at IACIS?
 - VC – looked at a lot of scenarios, that have a lot of assumptions
 - If IACIS only has 280 delegates total then ACIS would lose a lot of money, but not go bankrupt
 - Lots of assumptions re when they pay and mix of delegates, etc.
 - IG notes the sponsorship has not been finalised
 - Arinex has put on an Executive Director to help with this.
- Chiara Neto – asks from suggestions for instrument suppliers or companies to approach for sponsorship
- CN – not many students or colleagues on Twitter, so consider sending details to personal contacts via email
 - Notes three sponsors from StuCon have transferred to IACIS
- MK notes the RSC Twitter Conference is running in March
 - Can target this conference with IACIS tags
 - Might need a centralised approach
 - ACTION ITEM: MK to send details of conference to EJW, IG and GBW

1840 Discussion regarding next ACIS Symposium (Erica Wanless)

- What is the next “big event” for ACIS
 - StuCon now
 - IACIS in June 2022
- An ACIS in Jan/Feb 2023 likely too close, but 2023 too long
- MK suggests a StuCon face-to-face in 2023
 - There is a generation of students who will not have had the chance



- Aaron, Casey, Stuart and Kas support this idea
- EJW notes that 33rd StuCon was only really committed to in mid-2021
 - Always planned to be hybrid
 - Minimise costs was priority
- Christine Browne
 - Multi-day symposium of targeted talks like Viruses are Colloids
 - EJW notes we need to have this in-person
- VC notes that a geographically central location would be ideal
 - Andrew Clulow suggests Wagga Wagga
- ACTION ITEM: Call for ideas and volunteers in next Newsletter

1845 Any other business

- None raised

1855 Next AGM and meeting close (Erica Wanless)

- Meeting closed at 1930 AEST.

Zoom meeting attendance

Meeting ID: **897 5211 3222** and passcode: **982183**

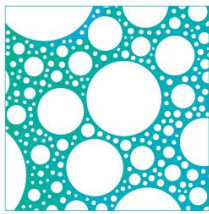


Appendix: List of attendees on Zoom:


















































▼ Participants (32)

Q Search

Avatar	Name	Unmute	More
	Hayden Robertson (me)	Unmute	More
	Grant Webber (he/him) (Host)		
	Erica Wanless (she/her)		
	Marta Krasowska (she/her)		
	X703 - 54713		
	Michael Higgins		
	Paul Mulvaney		
	Aaron Elbourne (He/Him)		
	Amir Beheshti		
	Anand (He/Him)		
	Andrew Clulow [He/Him]		
	Andrew Nelson		
	Anthony James Katselas		
	Arlene McDowell		
	Ben Boyd		



AUSTRALASIAN COLLOID AND INTERFACE SOCIETY

CT Casey Thomas (she/her) More		
	Chiara Neto	 
	Christine Browne (She/Her)	 
	Deb Wakeham ANSTO (she/her)	 
	Frank Sainsbury (he/him)	 
	Geoff Willmott	 
	Ian Gentle	 
	Isaac Gresham (He/Him)	 
	Jackquiline Eardley	 
	Joe Berry (he/him)	 
	Kasimir Gregory (he/him/his)	 
	Leonie van 't Hag (she/her)	 
	Ray Dagastine	 
	Saffron Bryant (She/Her)	 
	Stuart Prescott (he/him)	 
	Tam Greaves (she/her)	 
	Vince Craig (He/Him)	 
	Stephanie MacWilliams	