



Accounting & Finance Association of Australia & New Zealand Accounting Education SIG 5

Annual General Meeting
30th June 2007
Conrad Jupiters, Gold Coast, Queensland

Minutes

Paul Wells opened the meeting at 5:25 with a warm welcome to all.

1. Present

Paul Wells (chair), William Maguire, Paul de Lange, Rosina Mladenovic, Sonia Magdziarz, Keith Rees, Simon Morris, Nava Subramaniam, Trevor Tonkin, Ben Jacobsen, Barry Cooper, Kim Watty, Jacqueline Birt, Jenny Kofoed, Beverley Jackling, Lynne Leveson, Anne Abraham, Brendan O'Connell, Joseph Mula, Marie Kavanagh, Gerard Hurst, Ian Hamilton, Michael Scorgie, Beth Tennent, Bill Richardson,

2. Confirmation of minutes, 10th AGM 2006 and matters arising

Minutes of the previous AGM held in Wellington were confirmed. (Moved: Kim Watty; Seconded: Brendan O'Connell. Carried.) Some matters were discussed under general business.

3. Financial Report

At 30th March, the SIG had \$10,265. This excluded costs for the symposium, outgoings for the subsidy for the dinner and guest speaker costs.. The number of registrants at the symposium was enough to at least break-even. Paul wells offered thanks to AFAANZ and Lyn Leveson for the finance function. Accounts are now fully held at the AFAANZ office. (Moved: Beverley Jackling; Seconded: Anne Abraham. Carried.)

4. Convenors' report and Symposium report

Marie Kavanagh noted there had been an increase in the number of participants wanting to attend the symposium but who were not attending the conference and that the pricing of the conference meant that some young researchers without funds to attend the whole conference had to withdraw. Barry Cooper was asked to follow up. The constructive, supportive environment encouraging feedback was noted and that all enjoyed the day. Attendance was up at 49; a huge number in comparison to other SIGs on the day. It was noted that the possibility of concurrent sessions was a difficult decision given that 16 presentations were made. More than 20 papers had been submitted, some were rejected and some had to be withdrawn. The problem with letters of acceptance was raised but the meeting decided that email advice of acceptance was sufficient. It was noted that the keynote address by Mike Prosser had been very well received. The meeting voted the symposium to have been outstanding (Moved Paul de Lange, seconded Rosina Mladenovic, carried)

Paul Wells (as N.Z. Co-convenor) thanked everyone for their support. 2004-05 had been an onerous year and it had been good to receive assistance form Rosina Mladenovic and Ursula Lucas in 2006 and Marie Kavanagh and Beverley Jackling in 2007. He advised he would like to step down as N.Z. Co-convenor.

5. Elections

N.Z. Co-convenor:

William Maguire was elected:

(Nominated Gerard Hurst, seconded Barry Cooper)

Aust. Co-convenor:

Marie Kavanagh was elected
(Nominated Kim Watty, seconded Anne Abraham)

Secretary:

Bill Richardson was elected
(Nominated Barry Cooper, seconded Beth Tennent)

Website:

Motion: To appoint Beverley Jackling to oversee the website and consult with the co-convenors for funds to contract a specialist web designer on a commercial basis.

(Moved: Paul Wells, seconded Marie Kavanagh, carried)

6. 2006 Symposium

The meeting passed a vote of thanks to the sponsors of the 2006 Symposium: University of Sydney, CPA Australia and *Accounting Education: An International Journal*. A letter of thanks should be sent to the Head of School and the Head of the Accounting Discipline at University of Sydney.

Symposium organiser, Rosina Mladenovic, reported that registrations were 37 with six papers presented together with a poster session. The international experts – Erik Mayer and Ursula Lucas from the UK – added to the profile of the symposium. She also noted many papers had been submitted and accepted at the main conference but that many junior academics probably felt more confident presenting at the symposium to workshop their work. The meeting suggested that symposium environment should be promoted.

7. General Business

Barry Cooper invited the SIG to support his proposal to be taken to the AFAANZ Board that AFAANZ underwrite and/or otherwise support the *Australian Journal of Accounting Education* or an alternative journal in consultation with the SIG to make an Australian accounting education journal viable. Jenny Kent to be invited to co-edit and publication to be as an electronic and/or paper journal with a commercial publisher (possibly Emerald). A possible title was discussed but it was resolved to make further suggestions through the website.

Paul de Lange advised that the next AFAANZ conference was to be in Sydney at the Hilton, to be co-badged with the IAAER.

Paul Wells called for ideas for spending SIG funds other than supporting the website and a journal. Suggestions included

- Funding a guest speaker as an attraction and to give the SIG status and focus.
- The potential for considering graduate attributes and generic skills as a more fundamental element of accounting programs rather than 'bolted on' as discussed in the symposium was raised, together with the need to improve the standing of accounting education in the RQF. This could be applied from the first year common core subjects onwards.
- To encourage developing education researchers to attend the symposium and/or conference, a prize, or otherwise support 'lone wolves' in accounting education research.

It was suggested that the symposium could be extended to the Sunday morning, possibly starting at 10am to encourage others to attend without adding an overnight stay to their conference expenses. The role of the SIG in reviewing papers for the conference, the deadline for submissions and the perception of the symposium as a second-rung conference were also raised.

Paul Wells invited feedback to the new convenors with other suggestions or ideas, and encouraged a full and open discussion. The organisation of the next symposium would be done through the convenors based on the comments at the meeting, co-opting other members as required.

There being no further discussion, the meeting closed at 6:30pm. **Next meeting** will be held at the AFAANZ Annual Conference in Sydney in July 2008.