



**Minutes of the General Meeting of the Australasian Society for Classical Studies held at the University of Tasmania on Thursday 2 February 2006, commencing at 3.10 pm.**

**1. *Present***

Professor G. Horsley (President, in the Chair) and fifty-nine members.

Apologies were received from: Emer. Prof. A. Cambitoglou, Dr J. Deitrich, Dr E. Gee, Dr J. Hall, A/Prof. D. Hoyos, Dr M. Johnson, Dr B. Kelly, Mr H. Lindsay, Dr J. McLaren, Dr J. Montgomery Griffiths, Ms F. Muecke, Dr N. O'Sullivan, Mr R. Pitcher, Dr I. Plant, Prof. D. Runia, Dr G. Salapata, Dr M. Trundle, Dr J. Whitehorne

**2. *Obituaries***

Obituaries were delivered on the following members who had passed away in the preceding year: Dr Robert Develin (given by Dr C.E.V. Nixon), and Dr Charles Tesoriero (given by Dr Lindsay Watson).

**3. *Minutes of the Meeting of 3 February 2005***

The Minutes of this meeting which had been circulated were taken as read. I. McKee/A. Allen moved that the Minutes be confirmed. Carried.

**4. *Business arising from the Minutes***

Item 6 (ii): Opening of a New Zealand bank account. On the recommendation of the Treasurer that it would create more problems than it would solve, it was decided not to open such an account.

Item 13 (iv): Motion regarding test of opinion on non-academic matters. The motion had been referred to the Executive Committee who decided that no further action need be taken.

**5. *Correspondence and Business arising from the Correspondence***

(i) 02/01/06 – from FIEC containing notice of its next meeting and financial statement for 2005. Marshall/Dolley moved that, as usual, the annual subscription to FIEC be paid, together with an equivalent amount as a donation. Carried.

(ii) 24/01/06 – a letter from the President to the AVCC about the student weighting for Classical Languages teaching.

(iii) Various letters to New Zealand university administrators from the President and the Secretary about the withdrawal of classical studies courses at the University of Waikato.

**6. *Reports***

(i) The Secretary tabled a Report, commenting on the success of the previous General Meeting and Conference (with a new record number of papers), the steadily increasing number of members (now around 400), the establishment of an “early career” award, the provision of funds for students to travel to the conference (\$4000 divided among 28 applicants), and for small departments to assist in local promotional activities (\$1500 given to two departments).

(ii) The Treasurer tabled a detailed Report, the audited accounts for the year 1 January-31 December 2005, and a proposed budget for 2006 (considered under Item 7). The Treasurer reported on the healthy state of the Society's finances. In response to a question from Dr I. McKee, the Treasurer pointed out that the apparent surge in income resulted from the take-up

of the five-year membership subscription rate; he expected that there would be sufficient funds to cover expenses in subsequent years when membership subscription receipts would be lower.

(iii) The Editors, A/Prof. Peter Davis and Dr Elizabeth Minchin, tabled a report. Dr P. O'Sullivan asked if Vol. 40 would appear in 2006; A/Prof. Davis replied that there is a good expectation that it will. The Executive Committee will be exploring the possibility of securing professional typesetting in order to leave the Editors free to devote more time to the academic content of the journal.

The President moved that all reports be received. Carried.

## **7. *Financial Matters and Matters referred on by the Executive Committee***

(i) Visiting Scholars Scheme. The Executive Committee had received a submission from A/Prof. J. Melville Jones to set up a subsidy scheme for visits by overseas scholars. The Secretary repeated the outline he had given the Committee of various proposals and discussions of such a scheme going back a number of years. In the light of that outline the Executive Committee had decided not to proceed with A/Prof. Melville Jones' proposal, mainly because the earlier proposed schemes had been overtaken by the current practice of inviting a keynote speaker to the annual conferences. Dr K. Welch, who had been a proposer of one form of the scheme, agreed that the keynote speaker scheme had overtaken her original proposal.

(ii) Honorary Life Membership. There is no provision in the Society's constitution for Life Membership, though it has been awarded on a number of occasions in the Society's history. The matter had been discussed by the Executive Committee on a number of occasions recently. The President gave notice of a constitutional change involving two categories: life membership for those members who had served ASCS in a long and/or distinguished manner, and honorary membership for those who had made a significant contribution to the subject nationally but who were not necessarily ASCS members. Dr D. Kelly argued that it implied an alternative, which he was opposed to.

(iii) Budget for 2006. Dr N. O'Sullivan had written to question whether ASCS was getting value for the money spent on the visiting keynote speaker. It was pointed out that some of the cost was covered by the conference registration fee, and Dr Welch, supported by Mr J. Penwill, argued that there was a return to the host department that justified the expenditure. Dr H. Baltussen asked whether the visit could be extended, so that the speaker could attend other campuses, but it was pointed out that the time of the year was not convenient for that. Dr P. Edwell asked whether there would be sufficient funds to pay for the reprinting of *Antichthon* Vol. 38; the Treasurer replied that there would be. Dolley/Marshall moved that the proposed budget for 2006 be accepted. Carried.

(iv) Appointment of Honorary Auditor. Dolley/Minchin moved that Dr Peter Edwell be again appointed as Honorary Auditor and receive an honorarium of \$300. Carried.

## **8. *Election of Office-bearers, Editorial Committee and AAIA representative***

Ms Frances Muecke, who had served as Vice President for a number of years, was not seeking re-election; on behalf of the Society the President warmly thanked her for her long and hard work.

The following were elected to fill positions on the Executive Committee:

*President:* Mr John Penwill

*Vice-Presidents:* Professor John Davidson, Professor Ronald Ridley

*Hon. Secretary:* Dr Bruce Marshall

*Hon. Treasurer:* Mr William Dolley

*Business Manager:* Dr Ian Plant

*Editors:* A/Prof Peter Davis, Dr Elizabeth Minchin

*Website Manager:* Dr David O'Brien

*Postgraduate Representative:* Mr Jeff Tillitzki

*AAIA Representative:* Emer. Prof. Robert Milns [to be confirmed]

*Editorial Committee:* Mr R.J. Baker, Dr P. Burton, Professor J.F. Davidson,  
Dr R.A. Kearsley, Ms F. Muecke

*University Representatives:*

Australian Catholic University: Dr Geoffrey Dunn

Australian National University: Dr Benjamin Kelly

Edith Cowan University: Dr William Leadbetter [to be confirmed]

La Trobe University: Ms Leanne Lockwood [to be confirmed]

Macquarie University: Dr Peter Keegan

Massey University: Dr Gina Salapata

Monash University: Dr Eva Anagnostou-Laoutides

University of Adelaide: Dr Han Baltussen

University of Auckland: Dr Marcus Wilson

University of Canterbury: Dr Enrica Sciarrino

University of Melbourne: Dr K.O. Chong Gossard

University of Newcastle: Dr Marguerite Johnson

University of New England: Dr Bronwyn Hopwood

University of New South Wales: Dr Geoff Nathan [to be confirmed]

University of Otago: Dr Jon Hall

University of Queensland: Professor Tim Parkin

University of Sydney: Dr Emma Gee

University of Tasmania: A/Prof. Peter Davis

University of Western Australia: Dr Neil O'Sullivan

Victoria University of Wellington: Dr Babette Pütz

Prof. Emer. B. Rawson made some comments about Executive Committee positions: she urged that the University Representatives view their position as a serious one requiring the need to be pro-active, and that more thought be given in advance to submitting the nomination forms. In view of the gaps in nominations, Rawson/Parkin moved that for future elections of office-bearers, on or soon after the closing date for nominations, the Secretary circulate the names of those nominated to all members of the Society, and that from the beginning of the conference when a General Meeting is to be held those nominations be announced on a notice-board in a public place (e.g. tea room). The Secretary commented that this would require an earlier closing date for nominations, while Dr M. Wilson wondered whether there was a problem that needed fixing. The motion was carried. The matter was referred to the incoming Executive Committee for a discussion of the mechanics of the proposal.

### **9. *Proposed ASCS Translation Prize Competition***

The President reported that the Competition will go ahead in 2006.

### **10. *Next General Meeting and Conference***

The President moved that the Society accept the offer of the University of Newcastle to host the next General Meeting and Conference in Newcastle in February 2007. Dr Marguerite

Johnson will act as the convenor. It was further agreed that an amount of AU\$1000 would be provided to assist with the organization of the conference, AU\$3000 towards the cost of travel for a keynote speaker, and AU\$3000 for student travel subsidies.

### **11. *Delegation of Authority***

I. McKee/A. Mackay moved that in accordance with clause 6 of the Constitution the General Meeting delegate to the Executive Committee full authority to transact all business of the Society until the next General Meeting. Carried.

### **12. *Any Other Business***

(i) "Early Career" Award. The President announced that the winner of the inaugural Award of AU\$2000 was Dr Anna Silvas from the University of New England, who will be using the funds to travel to Uluköy to explore the possible location nearby of the ascetic retreat of St Basil the Great and related aspects of local historical geography.

(ii) ASCS Essay Prize Competitions. The assessors, Dr K.O. Chong-Gossard and Dr T.R. Stevenson, reported that the assessment of the 2005 Australian competition has been completed. The winner of the New Zealand competition was a student from the University of Canterbury.

(iii) The Institute for Classical Studies in London. On advice from A/Prof. A. Nobbs, Prof. T. Parkin described threats to the viability of the ICS: the Library and its specialist librarians are to be absorbed into a new arrangement, and as a consequence of that arrangement's unsuitability the Director, Professor T. Cornell, has resigned. Letters of support, and perhaps financial help were needed. Parkin/Davidson moved that ASCS write a letter of support and give a donation of AU\$1000. Welch/O'Sullivan moved an amendment, deleting the monetary amount and asking the Executive Committee to enquire what support ASCS can give. The original motion was withdrawn, and the amendment became the substantive motion and was carried *nem. con.*

On behalf of the whole Society the President extended congratulations and appreciation to Peter Davis, the convenor of ASCS 27, Paul Burton, Jessica Dietrich and all their helpers for a highly successful conference. The vote of thanks was carried with warm acclamation.

Penwill/McKee moved a vote of thanks to the outgoing President, Greg Horsley, for all his hard work in guiding the Society during his term of office. The motion was carried with loud acclamation.

The meeting closed at 5.05 pm.