

AFSS Executive Meeting (Teleconference) - Monday 4th Dec 2017

Teleconference Toll Free Dial In Number: 1 800 896 323

Teleconference Local Dial In Number: (02) 6169 3788

Teleconference Participant Code: 8465086717

Minutes taken by Cath Leigh

In attendance:

Role	Name	Email	Present
President	Ross Thompson	Ross.Thompson@canberra.edu.au	Y
Vice president	Michael Reid	mreid24@une.edu.au	Y
Immediate past president	Fran Sheldon	f.sheldon@griffith.edu.au	Apol
Treasurer	Rebecca Lester	rebecca.lester@deakin.edu.au	Y
Secretary and QLD rep	Catherine Leigh	C.Leigh@griffith.edu.au	Y
Indigenous Rep	Phil Duncan	phil.duncan@mq.edu.au	Y
Lungfish chapter Rep	Michael Geddes	mike.geddes@adelaide.edu.au	Apol
Student Rep	Claire Sives	c.sives@unsw.edu.au	Apol
Student Rep	Jayne Hanford	jayne.hanford@sydney.edu.au	-
Student Rep	Katy Limpert	kelimpert@gmail.com	-
Student Rep	Nicole Carey	nicole.carey@murdoch.edu.au	-
ACT Rep	Fiona Dyer	Fiona.Dyer@canberra.edu.au	Y
NT Rep	Erica Garcia	Erica.Garcia@cdu.edu.au	-
TAS Rep	Saan Ketelaar-Jones	saan.ketelaarjones@utas.edu.au	-
SA Rep	Sally Maxwell	sally.maxwell@sa.gov.au	Y
WA Rep	Scott Strachan	s.strachan@murdoch.edu.au	-
VIC Rep	Teresa Mackintosh	mackintoshteresa@gmail.com	-
NSW Rep	Yoshi Kobayashi	Yoshi.Kobayashi@environment.nsw.gov.au	Y
ASN Events Team			
Project Team	Katharina Bekemeier	KB@asnevents.net.au	-
Financial Controller	Kerrie Harris-Spencer	KHS@asnevents.net.au	-
Secretariat Manager	Shona Kennedy	sk@asnevents.net.au	-
Executive and Project Director	Simon Monk	sm@asnevents.net.au	-

Agenda

1. Financial update and 2017 congress

Ross:

155 delegates at Sep 2017 conference – a 'small' conference

Many activities happened to make it a successful conference, including the Indigenous Knowledge symposium.

Positive feedback from delegates – esp Indigenous flows field day, ECR activities, International speakers

Negative feedback – cost of conference

Lost money this year – aim first to ‘make it good, not cheap’ but can’t do this every year of course

Cath: consider timing of conferences more, and linking up with / not clashing with other conferences (e.g. Riversymposium, ESA)

Phil: We’ve been generous so far with supporting Indigenous symposium and delegates. Looking forward, may need to be a bit more strategic to help manage costs

2. 2018 Congress update

Sally:

Location set and confirmed, theme confirmed

Next Organising Committee meeting: field trip organisation

New student rep on organising team - needs support from other students / previous conference organisers (Cath suggested they send out email to other AFSS student members for help/ideas)

Rego costs should be lower than this year, incl. accom costs (Ross asked for these costs to be presented at Feb teleconference)

Rego costs will also depend on international guests: Núria Bonada is confirmed; Phil Boon might be a speaker – and presenter of Wiley prize?; Julian Olden also discussed as a possibility; Carl Flescher (Charles Fletcher ?) is confirmed

Ross: proposed that Feb meeting focus on the 2018 conference – dates, when to open rego and early bird rego, etc, abstract submission etc, sub-themes / special topics / symposia / workshops

Phil: discussed idea of giving keynote addresses to local indigenous speakers

3. 2019 Joint NZFSS/AFSS meeting

Ross: Do we have a venue? NZFSS wants to know what’s happening

Suggestions: Melbourne? Geelong? Geelong is cheaper, and buses go from airport there

Phil: Geelong has lots of pluses from an Indigenous perspective

Rebecca will look into this (volunteered)

Timing? Trimester system at Deakin, Griffith and Armidale can make things more complicated re teaching. December might be better re teaching – Ross suggests first week of Dec (ESA will likely be last week of Nov); Sally – working in an agency makes Dec difficult

Phil: let’s look into an international (NZ-Oz) Indigenous symposium on the back of the joint 2019 conference.

4. Website changes and update

- a. Potential format (<https://www.freshwater-science.org/> – or <https://www.ecolsoc.org.au/>)
Ross: need an exemplar to take to market (to get a quote happening) – all seem happy with either of these two (some discussion of the image-focus of the esa site perhaps being more visually appealing / immediately understandable)
- b. New domain name (e.g. www.ozfreshwater.com, www.ausfreshwater.com, www.ausfreshsoc.com)
Cath: last one evokes image of smelly socks (as opposed to 'fresh soc')
Rebecca, Mike R: prefer *ausfreshwater* over *ozfreshwater*
- c. Going to tender
Rebecca: need to be careful about buying domain names to ensure it is linked to the society, not the individual purchaser
Ross: will look into getting 3 quotes

Sally left the meeting due to other commitments, with apologies

5. Other business

- a. Proposal from Wiley via Andrew Boulton for a new prize at our annual conferences for best talk on aquatic conservation
All agreed this was worth going ahead with
Cath: will contact Andrew (and Sally as 2018 conference organiser) to notify that we'd like to go ahead
- b. An official thank you note from Andrew Boulton for a recent AFSS supported event he attended
- Noted
- c. Mike R: would like to make better use of Social Media and Virtual Events to involve more members and non-members (*esp regional*) to increase dissemination of society's role and activities to broader community and within the society itself
Mike will disseminate a document to all about this
- d. Yoshi: UTS planning to have a regular Science in the Pub event for NSW

Meeting concluded

Next meeting: 5th Feb 2018