

SCANZ General Meeting

Thursday 25th April 2014

MINUTES

The SCANZ General Meeting was held on Thursday, 25th April 2014, 17:00 – 18:45 pm at CRYSTAL 29, O'Reilly's Rainforest Retreat, QLD.

1. Apologies

C Bond, B Kennedy, R Withers, M Guss T Caradic-Davies, C Squire

2. Attendance

S Batten, B Kobe, C Howard, P Czabotar, J Clegg, J Martin, C Ling, A Edwards, J Etheridge, T Welberry, D Rae, A Vrielink, D Turner, M Spackman, N Sharma, H Maynard-Casely, P Colman, D Aragao, J Auckett, S Hall, J Tyndall, A Brock, M Duriska, M Nematirad, S Duyker, M Pfrunder, G Jameson, C Chantler

3. Minutes of previous Meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted.

4. Business arising from the previous Minutes

None.

5. President's Report (B Kobe, President)

B Kobe noted that one of our members, Mark Spackman, was recently awarded the prestigious Aminoff prize and congratulated him on this achievement. He thanked the Organising Committee of Crystal29 for all their hard work and congratulated them for making it such a success, and thanked Charlie Bond for developing and launching the new SCANZ website.

B Kobe also thanked the outgoing Treasurer, A Edwards, for her service over the last term.

On the subject of membership, B Kobe noted that SCANZ has significant overlap with a number of other societies. The most conspicuous of these is AXAA, with which we may want to consider a joint meeting (or contiguous meetings) in the future.

*A full written report is presented in **Appendix 1**.*

6. International Year of Crystallography (IYCr) activities (B Kobe, President)

B Kobe listed a number of events celebrating IYCr, which SCANZ is sponsoring or is otherwise involved in. These include the Photo Competition (Jenny Martin); the Crystallography 365 blog (H Maynard-Casely); Crystallography in the City (N Sharma and H Maynard-Casely); Images and Objects from Crystallography exhibit (C Ling and J Auckett); special issues of CrystEngComm and Aus J Chem (S Batten); and crystal growing competitions in conjunction with the RACI. He also noted that other societies have been approached about the possibility of holding special crystallography sessions at their conferences this year, and that some (RACI, IUPAB) are intending to do so.

A national lecture tour by Prof Stephen Curry has been initiated by A Vrielink and M Spackman, with assistance by J Martin (Brisbane), M Guss (Sydney) and S Batten (Melbourne) to deal with the local organisation within each of their own cities. Public lectures on crystallography are also being held in various cities (eg, in Perth there will be three, in August, September and October).

B Kobe thanked Poulomi Agrawal from the Australian Academy of Science for her help with the photo competition and other events.

7. Treasurer's Report (A Edwards, Treasurer)

Membership

A Edwards reported that a membership database now exists and is ready to add records including payments etc as they come in. She will undertake a complete cross check against bank records back to April 2011 in order to pass it to the next Treasurer. In the interim, A Edwards moved (B Kobe seconded) that members in arrears be invited to fill missing years payments by 30 June this year and then Constitutional provisions for lapsing and resuming will be applied. Members current at 31 December would be allowed a discount until 30 June for 2014 renewal. This motion was passed.

Finances

A report was presented (Appendix 2).

S Batten reported that the Bragg and Mathieson Medals are currently being held in his office, while the dies remain with the sculptor for storage under suitable conditions.

B Kobe moved (S Batten seconded) that the Society increase funding for the Crystallography in the City project from \$2k to \$5k. The motion was carried.

A Edwards moved that the Society seek to engage a suitable South Australia-based organisation on an ongoing basis to manage our membership database and prepare financial accounts in order to place the Society on a sound financial management basis and to ensure that we are operating in a compliant fashion. The cost of this would be in the order of \$80 p.a. per member. A number of members expressed concern at the increase in membership fees that this would entail, and the motion was not seconded. J Clegg suggested that we could look instead at moving from being incorporated in SA to another state with less onerous reporting requirements. S Batten suggested engaging an accountant in the short-term to get our finances in order, and on an annual basis from then on to ensure that we are reporting correctly to the ATO.

S Hall stated that SCANZ is almost certainly already registered as a not-for-profit organisation.

A Edwards recommended that a regular phone or Skype hook-up be established to manage the business of the Society, and that the Society appoint and empower appropriate committees with clear budget limits before committing to running conferences or bidding for them. In particular, where joint undertakings are envisaged, the basis for cost sharing must be negotiated and recorded.

J Martin moved (A Vrielink seconded) that Council review the financial and management issues noted above and institute compliant and transparent procedures within the lifetime of the current Council. This motion was carried.

ACTION: Council to investigate the best course of action to ensure that SCANZ finances are managed properly (legally) and to the best advantage of the Society, and to report back to the Society before the next AGM.

8. 1987 Fund report (M Spackman)

A report was presented (Appendix 3).

9. Constitution (S Batten)

*S Batten presented a number of changes to the SCANZ Constitution, detailed in **Appendix 4(a)**, which are required to bring the official constitution as registered with the South Australian Government into line with the extant web version.*

*S Batten presented further changes to the Constitution in order to bring the Society up-to-date with respect to electronic communication (detailed in **Appendix 4(b)**), voting practices (detailed in **Appendix 4(c)**), and membership fee structures (detailed in **Appendix 4(d)**).*

S Batten moved (J Clegg seconded) that the list of proposed changes in Appendix 4 be put to the full membership a vote, noting that the present Constitution requires this to be conducted as a postal ballot; and that these changes (if approved) then be registered with the South Australian Government. This motion was carried.

ACTION: The Secretary to send the list of proposed changes to all Members along with a postal ballot form.

10. National Committee for Crystallography (NCCr) report (C Ling, on behalf of M Guss who could not attend)

*A report was presented (**Appendix 5**).*

11. Science at the Shine Dome of the Australian Academy of Science (P Colman)

P Colman reported that a symposium on Crystallography will be held in May 2015, entitled "Minerals to medicine - 100 years of crystallography".

12. Possible bid to host the IUCr Congress (S Batten)

A decision on this matter has been postponed following advice that the 2023 IUCr Congress will most likely be held in Brazil.

13. Newsletter report (P Czabotar).

P Czabotar undertook to increase the frequency of the newsletters.

14. Location of next SCANZ meeting. (B Kobe)

The next SCANZ meeting (Crystal 30) will be held in either Victoria or Western Australia. The Council will advise members as soon as the choice is made. The meeting is expected to take place in the second half of 2015.

ACTION: Council to determine the location and timing of the next SCANZ meeting (Crystal 30) and advise the membership.

15. New SCANZ Website and mailing list (C Ling, on behalf of C Bond who could not attend)

As requested at the SCANZ meeting at Adelaide/Crystal28, C Bond took on the role of creating a new website.

- <http://scanz.iucr.org> (and the old url www.sca.asn.au forwards there)
- Assistance with learning how to administer the site using SquizMatrix software has been kindly provided by Brian McMahon at IUCr.
- Syd Hall has provided an almost complete set of SCANZ newsletters which are now up there, although there is uncertainty about the earliest ones (1-3)
- Most information has been transferred from the previous site (including Laboratory Sketches which I am gradually working through).
- Next task is to implement a password protected area for SCANZ documents to be archived (and to discuss with Brian the reliability of back-up of the IUCr servers).

Additionally he has set up a mailman server for a [SCANZ-info]. This list is kindly hosted by UWA:

<http://maillists.uwa.edu.au/mailman/listinfo/scanz-info>

It is envisioned that this list is used for sending general communications, questions, job ads, equipment information to the crystallography community in general, without abusing the SCANZ membership list. Only maillist subscribers can post to the list.

Opinions are requested from members on the following points:

- 1) The mailing list currently has only 35 subscribers. One option to increase subscription would be to send a one-off email from the list-server to all SCANZ members inviting them to subscribe (this seems possible with the software).*
- 2) Should the post archive be made globally visible (this is how most lists people use work, e.g. CCP4BB) or members only (the current default). On asking subscribers, at least one person was unhappy with email addresses being shown in the list. The mailman software allows minor obfuscation of email addresses “charles.bond at uwa.edu.au”. This is clearly not “spambot-proof”. However the general opinion on the internet is that if you are a person who communicates by email, and requires people to ever contact you, then your email address is out there anyway and you should just make sure your mail client has good spam-filtering. The alternative would be to find a different hosting system, which is potentially more work than necessary.*

16. Nominations for Office Bearers (J Martin)

The Nominations Standing Committee have nominated the following people:

<i>[Past President</i>	<i>Bostjan Kobe (QLD)]</i>
<i>[President</i>	<i>Stuart Batten (VIC)]</i>
<i>Vice President</i>	<i>Alice Vrielink (WA)</i>
<i>Secretary</i>	<i>Chris Ling (NSW) to continue</i>
<i>Treasurer</i>	<i>David Aragao (Australian Synchrotron, VIC)</i>
<i>Newsletter Editor</i>	<i>Peter Czabotar (VIC) to continue</i>
<i>Ordinary Member</i>	<i>Charlie Bond (WA) to continue</i>
	<i>Chris Squire (NZ) to continue</i>
	<i>Jo Etheridge (VIC) to continue</i>
<i>ANCCr rep</i>	<i>Mitchell Guss (NSW) to continue</i>

Those listed in brackets were automatic and not subject to election.

17. Election of New Office Bearers

The above candidates were duly elected unopposed.

18. Other Business

None

The meeting closed at 18:45.

Appendix 1: President's Report

It has been a great pleasure serving as SCANZ President during the period that involved the preparations for the International Year of Crystallography (IYCr), and culminating in the Crystal29 Conference at O'Reilly's in Queensland.

I am very happy that we got a number of IYCr projects well off the ground. The different activities are listed in the IYCr Report, and here I would just like to thank the numerous people I interacted with on that topic, over the last year or two, and in particular the people who agreed to organize different activities or contribute in different ways, including Jenny Martin, Helen Maynard-Casely, Neeraj Sharma, Jenny Jones, Stuart Batten, Chris Ling, Janet Newman, Jack Clegg, Brett Collins, Alice Vrielink, and Polly Agrawal from the Australian Academy of Science who has helped coordinate it all. This is not an exhaustive list, thanks everyone else who has donated time to make IYCr projects happen, and in particular those who came up with ideas without even having to be prompted.

I am also very pleased everyone seemed to have enjoyed the Crystal29 Conference, and I certainly have enjoyed all aspects from the program to the beautiful setting. What really convinced me that the conference was a success is seeing a full room of people at the end of the last talk of the conference. and a number of them engaged in a deep discussion on thermodynamics in the question period even when lunch and buses were waiting in front of the venue.

Among other important things that happened during my tenure as President that definitely need a mention is the new SCANZ website, courtesy of Charlie Bond. It remains work in progress and feedback is very welcome, but everyone agrees it is a great step forward, thanks Charlie. Another Charlie's contribution is the SCANZ-Info mailing list, please follow the instructions on the SCANZ website to join it if you haven't yet, the more members participants the more useful it will be. And thanks Stuart Batten for all the efforts on updating the SCANZ constitution, looks like we are almost there finally.

One area that will need to be addressed in the next few years is SCANZ membership. Our Society has significant overlap with a number of other societies, which capture many researchers involved in powder diffraction, electron microscopy, macromolecular crystallography and chemical crystallography, to name just a few areas. Perhaps joint or back-to-back conferences, as well as joint memberships will help attract more crystallographers to SCANZ. We are in an era where nobody is just a crystallographer any more, and I do not see any problem embracing this and SCANZ complementing what some of these other societies might offer to researchers.

Bostjan Kobe

Appendix 2: Treasurer's Report

Australian based funds in SCANZ working account (some funds in NZ account)

Business Trans Account:	\$4284.62
Business Saver Account :	\$22088.62
Total assuming return of advance to Crystal29 (see below)	\$40680.49

STA (formerly FASTS)

Membership paid for 2011-12-13 in this most recent term approx-\$7 per member per year index linked. \$780

Scholarships

Crystallography school Maslens 10 at rate approximating return airfare

Maslens for AsCA Hong Kong. 5 x \$1000.00 \$5000

Maslens for CRYSTAL29 to be paid: 9*\$400+5*\$650 \$6850

Assets

Bragg medals: 2 awarded - a number were presented To Bragg Family in Adelaide (those other than the first were without reference to Exec or Council)

Mathieson medals: 2 awarded, 1 presented to Lois Mathieson

Art work. (Control issues)

Dies for same...

Stamps. 100+

Medallists payments may be outstanding (x3)

Conferences and other activities

2012 AsCA \$26265.93 returned to SCANZ, minus 1/3 remitted to AsCA \$17510.62

Crystal29 deposit \$14307.25

Crystal29 insurance \$1414.67

SCANZ has budgeted up to \$20K to support IYCr activities

Membership

Students	18
Full	81
<i>Total (paying)</i>	<i>99</i>
Retired	20
Hon Life	2
<i>Total</i>	<i>121</i>

A Membership database now exists and is ready to add records including payments etc as they come in. A complete cross check against bank records back to April 2011 will happen in the next phase in order to pass it to the next Treasurer. I propose that on a final basis, members in arrears be invited to fill missing years payments by 30 June this year and then Constitutional provisions for lapsing and resuming will be applied. Members current at 31 December to be allowed discount until 30 June for 2014 renewal. (New Zealand recorded memberships are not up to date due to present

fragmentation of records.)

The society is financially well endowed, but the accounting of our business is utterly inadequate. We are an incorporated entity and must meet legal requirements. It is simply not good enough to guess what a random current or past president, secretary or treasurer thinks might be ok! The keeping of the society's records and reporting of our financial activities requires more than keeping a running total of members payments in a spreadsheet. The size of the contracts we are entering into and transactions we make in respect of conferences places us in a window where we will in most years need to meet reporting and audit requirements associated with our corporate identity. It is in any case questionable to run a corporation with our assets without benefit of transparent accounting.

I recommend again that a regular phone or Skype hook-up be established to manage the business of the society. The present ad-hoc email processes are not consistent with good management and make the Treasurer's job very difficult. Absent regular meetings the ability to plan a budget for the coming year is impossible. These need not be long but should discuss a regular agenda and future plans with minutes confirming approvals for expenditures. If a good system is in place, the illness or family issues of one or more individuals can be more readily managed.

It is imperative that we appoint and empower appropriate committees with clear budget limits before committing to running conferences or bidding for them. In particular, where joint undertakings are envisaged, the basis for cost sharing must be negotiated and recorded.

I move that the Society seek to engage a suitable SA based organisation on an ongoing basis to manage our membership database and prepare financial accounts in order to place the Society on a sound financial management basis and to ensure that we are operating in a compliant fashion.

Alison Edwards

24 April 2014

Appendix 3: 1987 Fund at 15 April 2014

SOCIETY OF CRYSTALLOGRAPHERS IN AUSTRALIA & NEW ZEALAND INC.

"1987 FUND" INVESTMENTS AT 15 April 2014

BANK ACCOUNTS

UniCredit Savings	7,553.35
UniCredit Monthly Term Deposit (presently 2.5% pa)	205,514.46
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	^{1,2} 213,067.81

Managed Funds and Shares		No	Market value
Westfield Group	WDC	3749	39,327.01
Westfield Retail Trust	WRT	3749	11,471.94
CSL Ltd	CSL	6000	404,220.00
Commonwealth Bank of Australia Ltd	CBA	1447	111,317.71
Elders Ltd	ELD	1573	165.17
Woolworths Ltd	WOW	1500	54,150.00
			<hr/>
			620,651.83

NOTES:

1. Historical perspective on cash assets:	\$55,397.43	30 June 2005
	\$99,984.82	11 August 2008
	\$101,525.34	1 April 2010
	\$152,290.14	11 April 2011
	\$180,988.09	19 November 2012
2. Historical perspective on dividends:	\$14,576.63	2008
	\$12,266.88	2009
	\$14,043.12	2010
	\$13,774.55	2011
	\$14,188.57	2012
	\$16,703.01	2013

Mark Spackman
15 April 2014

Appendix 4: Proposed Changes to the SCANZ Constitution

(a) Constitutional changes due to the differences between the web version and the version officially lodged with the SA government

- Article III Membership

After the end of Section 2, add the following:

Section 3. Honorary Life Membership of the Society may be granted to a person pre-eminent in Crystallography and/or one who has rendered conspicuous service to the Society. A nomination for Honorary Life Membership shall be sponsored by three members of the Society, and shall be accompanied by a supporting citation. Election of the candidate shall be by the full Council and shall be confirmed by a majority of at least two-thirds of those voting at a duly announced Business Meeting. Such Honorary Life Members shall pay no subscription to the Society, but shall be bound by the Articles and Rules of the Society and shall be entitled to normal voting privileges.

- Article IV Officers

At the end of Section 1, add the following:

The Council will appoint one member of the Society as Newsletter Editor.

- Article V Duties of the Officers and Council

In Section 3 (The Secretary) delete the following:

(d) To circulate information to the members by means of such newsletters or other publications as may be decided by the Council from time to time.

Rename parts (e) and (f) as (d) and (e), respectively.

In Section 5 (The Council) replace the following:

(d) To act as Trustees of all funds and properties of the Society.

with

(d) To act as Trustees of all funds and properties of the Society or to nominate no fewer than three members of the Society to act as trustees of any funds or property specified by the Council.

At the end of this Article, add the following:

6. *The Newsletter Editor*

(a) To circulate information to the members by means of such newsletters or other publications as may be decided by the Council from time to time.

- Rule III Committees

In Section 6 (Standing Committees) delete the following:

(b) the Committee on Crystallographic Computing

(c) the Committee on X-ray Diffraction

(d) the Committee on Neutron Diffraction

(e) the Committee on Electron Diffraction

(b) Constitutional changes in relation to electronic communication

- Article VI Amendments to Constitution

In Section 1 delete the word *postal*.

- Rule I

In Section 2 replace the word *mailed* to *sent*.

In Section 5 replace the word *mailed* to *sent*, and change *in print* to *available*.

- Rule IV Election of Officers and Standing Committees

Replace the following:

Section 1. (a) Six months before the expiry of a term, the Secretary shall send to the membership the list of nominations proposed by the Nominations Committee for all the positions for which vacancies will occur. For each of those positions he shall invite additional nominations to be submitted over the signatures of two members not later than four months before the expiry of the term.

(b) Three months before the expiry of the term, the Secretary shall mail a ballot paper to each member of the Society. The final date for the return of completed ballots shall be not later than two months before the expiry of the term. The results of the ballot shall be sent to all members of the Society.

(c) As far as possible, the mailing of election notices and subscription notices shall be coordinated with the mailing of information for the National Meetings of the Society.

with

Section 1. (a) One week before each duly announced business meeting of the Society, the Secretary shall announce the list of nominations proposed by the Nominations Committee for all the positions for which vacancies will occur. For each of those positions the Secretary shall invite additional nominations to be proposed by two members at that meeting.

(b) The election of officers shall then be undertaken by vote at the aforementioned meeting. Members who are not present at the meeting may assign a proxy to a nominated member through the Secretary no less than 24 hours before the meeting. The person for whom the largest number of votes is cast with respect to each position shall be declared elected. In the event of a tied ballot the result of the election will be decided by lot.

(c) Constitutional changes in relation to voting

- Article IV Officers

In Section 4 change the following:

Additional nominations for any office may be made over the signatures of any two members.
to

Additional nominations for any office may be made with the support of any two members.

In Section 5 change the following:

The election of officers shall be by closed ballots solicited from the whole membership.
to

The election of officers shall be by vote at any duly announced business meeting of the Society.

- Rule II Meetings

Delete Section 4, which reads:

Section 4. Voting at business meetings on matters which may subsequently have to be submitted to the whole membership shall be by secret ballot.

- Rule IV Election of Officers and Standing Committees

See changes earlier.

(d) Constitutional changes in relation to memberships and fees

- Rule I

In Section 1 replace the following:

Section 1. The annual membership subscription shall be \$10.00; the annual subscription for students shall be \$2.00; the annual subscription for corporate members shall be \$100.00.

with

Section 1. The annual membership subscriptions for full, student and corporate members shall be set by Council. Members who are past the age of 60, retired from full time employment, and have been full members for no less than ten consecutive years shall be eligible to apply for retirement membership for a one-off payment of the equivalent of five times the current full membership rate. Admission to retirement membership must be approved by Council. Council may also approve retirement membership for members who do not fit this criteria, but only in very special circumstances. Members who pay the subscription by April 1st of the year in which it applies will be entitled to a discount as set by Council.

Appendix 5: NCCr Report to SCANZ 2014

I was honoured to accept the position of Chair of National Committee for Crystallography following the exceptional and inspired leadership provided by Jenny Martin. I should note that Jenny is still playing a very active role promoting crystallography and women in science and will continue her formal involvement in the broader arena as Vice President of AsCA.

Although the NCCr is a committee of the Australian Academy of Science it is tasked with maintaining a close relationship with the community through the relevant societies. For crystallography the prime focus is with SCANZ. To give effect to this relationship as I am currently the NCCr representative on the SCANZ executive, the President of SCANZ Bostjan Kobe is invited to be a member of the NCCr. In this way the NCCr, which has the ability to advise government and other bodies through the Academy, can do so on behalf of the community of crystallographers. As part of this close collaboration, the NCCr formed a working group, chaired by Bostjan, to coordinate activities in Australia related to the International Year of Crystallography. The Australian celebrations started a little early with the outstanding symposium held in Adelaide organised so superbly by Steve Wilkins prior to his untimely death. From my personal observations of meetings held since then in Warwick and in Paris, Adelaide was by far and away the best.

Since the last report to SCANZ, the NCCr has participated in a review, organised by the Academy, of all its National Committees. This 10 yearly exercise seeks to ensure that all Committees are still relevant and represent an active community of scientists. I am pleased to say that the crystallography committee passed all the tests and will continue. However, like many largely government funded organisations the Academy is coping with severe budget constraints that may eventually lead it to seek help with subscriptions to the International Unions that is currently funds in entirety. If such a situation were to arise, then SCANZ may be approached to fund the shortfall or the membership of the IUCr could be reduced from its current level. Following the review, the Committee was asked to rewrite its own terms of reference. These have now been approved by the Academy and are available on its website.

In its advocacy role, the Committee worked with the President of the Academy to express its concerns to ANSTO about continuing problems with the cold source of the OPAL research reactor. These problems had severely curtailed biological scattering experiments among others. We are pleased to note that the Academy received a very positive and prompt response from ANSTO and that the problems have at last been addressed. At the present time, the facility is now fully operational. The Committee also dealt with a request to consider an invitation to the IUCr to hold the triennial General Assembly and Congress in Australia. The Committee noted that an invitation at this time would be appropriate given the length of time since the previous meeting, held in Perth in 1987. Although it is the NCCr that issues a formal invitation to the IUCr, the Committee feels that any decision relating to an invitation and the choice of venue should be made by SCANZ. We further noted that given the likely rotation of meetings in the near future, while nothing is certain, it is likely that following the meeting in India in 2017 that the next meeting will be in Prague in 2020 and that if a bid from Brazil for 2023 is forthcoming, it is very likely to be successful. If this is indeed the case, then any bid from Australia is a long way off and will involve a new generation of crystallographers. Ultimately SCANZ advised that it did not wish to proceed with a bid at the General Assembly in Montreal later this year.

Each year the Academy hosts a one-day symposium at the Shine Dome in Canberra focussing on one area of science. In May 2015, the meeting will feature the contributions of crystallography to science and society. A program for the meeting, prepared by members of the Committee with the help of Peter Colman, has been forwarded to the Academy for approval. All members of the community are welcome to attend. This meeting will formally close Australia's contribution to IYCr opened earlier in Adelaide in 2012.

Mitchell Guss (Chair, National Committee for Crystallography)