

MINUTES

Annual General Meeting Saturday, July 9, 2005 RMIT University, Melbourne

1. **Present:** Phil Clarkson (Chair), Karoline Afamasaga-Fuata'i, Elahe Aminifar, Bill Atweh, Andy Begg, Murray Black, Janette Bobis, Jill Brown, Rosemary Callingham, Mohan Chinappan, Barbara Clarke, Doug Clarke, Ken Clements, Tom Cooper, Carmel Diezmann, Jaguthsing Dindyal, Ann Downton, Nerida Ellerton, Judith Falle, Helen Forgasz, Linda Galligan, Sue Garner, Merrilyn Goos, Ngarewa Hawera, Rebecca Hudson, Eun Jeung Ji, Graham Jones, Kim In Kyung, Gilah Leder, Kyunghwa Lee, Katie Makar, Colleen McMurchy-Pilkington, Judy Mousley, Rod Nason, Steven Nisbet, Kay Owens, Bob Perry, Ian Putt, Brian Sherman, Di Siemon, Tracey Smith, Beth Southwell, Len Sparrow, Gloria Stillman, Peter Sullivan, Colleen Vale, Jane Watson, Jenni Way, Sue Wilson.
2. **Apologies:** Peter Galbraith, Ann Gervasoni, Peter Grootenboer, Peter Howard, Tom Lowrie, Robyn Zevenbergen.
3. **Welcome:** The meeting was opened by Phil Clarkson at 9.35 am.
4. **Minutes of the previous AGM (June 30, 2004; Townsville)**
Motion: That the minutes of the 2004 Annual General Meeting be accepted
[Moved Merrilyn Goos, Seconded: Murray Black; carried]
5. **Business Arising from the Minutes of the previous AGM**
The only matter not to be dealt with in later reports was that of the MERGA Constitution and By Laws being placed on the MERGA Website. This has not yet been achieved because of changes being undertaken with the location of the website.
6. **Correspondence**
 - 6.1 MERGA received a request to make a submission to the Victorian government enquiry into the promotion of mathematics and science education. A submission was made on behalf of MERGA. Phil Clarkson and Peter Sullivan made a presentation to the enquiry.
7. **Reports**
 - 7.1 President's Report.

➤ The IOWME Proposal

A group was formed under the leadership of Helen Forgasz and Margaret Walshaw. The 'promising researchers' group comprised Janeen Lamb, Brenda Menzal, Sedipeh and Fiona Hagan with the group of mentors Elizabeth Warren, Pat Forster and Tasmin Meaney. We look forward to the publications from this group through 2006 and 2007.

➤ Movement of the WEB Site to

Thanks to Judy Mousley, and through you to Deakin University, for hosting and the site for many years and acting in the role as web master.

Moves are underway to transfer the site to

Max Davy (B.Mm)

Director / Developer

Oz Impact Multimedia

➤ A motion of thanks was moved for the support that Jon Ladbroke has given MERGA over many years. A gift has been sent in recognition of this service.

Motion: That MERGA express its great appreciation for the contribution made to the organisation by Jon Ladbroke, a contribution that was well beyond the call of duty [Moved Phil Clarkson (Chair); carried by acclamation]

7.2 Treasurer's Report (see attached)

Key points included that both membership subscriptions and publications were on par with those reported for the previous year; and the MERGA 2004 conference organisers had made more than \$10000 profit for MERGA (through their planning and willingness to take on a number of tasks that were scheduled to be done by paid helpers but were in fact done by the volunteers in the organising committee).

Motion: That the Treasurer's Report be accepted [Moved Linda Galligan, Seconded Peter Sullivan; carried]

There was some discussion about whether MERGA should be seeking to run conferences that return large profits such as that returned by the 2004 organisers. It was stated that 2004 was an unusual year in this regard and that it was not expected that 2005 or 2006 would be a repeat of this situation. The Vice President (Conferences) took the points raised in the discussion on board for further consideration.

7.3 Vice President (Publications) Report (Published on MERGA website and in Conference Handbook)

Key points included the management arrangement that MERGA has entered into with AAMT, the need for a new editor of MERJ given that Helen Forgasz will retire from the position in mid-2006, the appointment of Sandra Frid, Len Sparrow and Merrilyn Goos as the editorial team for MTED, the appointment of Rosemary Callingham and Trevor Bond as guest editors for the 2006 special issue of MERJ, a request for papers to be written for both MTED and MERJ, and the process instituted by the MERGA executive for discussion of future publications policy, especially in the area of electronic publication.

Motion: That the Vice President (Publications) Report be noted [Moved Bill Atweh, Seconded Helen Forgasz; carried]

7.4 Vice President (Teaching) Report (Published on MERGA website and in Conference Handbook)

In the absence of the Vice President (Teaching), the report was presented by the Chair.

Motion: That the Vice President (Teaching) Report be noted [Moved Carmel Diezmann, Seconded Janette Bobis; carried]

7.5 Vice President (Conferences) Report (Published on MERGA website and in Conference Handbook)

Motion: That the Vice President (Conferences) Report be noted [Moved Bob Perry, Seconded Andy Begg; carried]

7.6 Vice President (Membership) Report (Published on MERGA website and in Conference Handbook)

The major point in this report concerned the possibility of some small difficulties as the management of MERGA membership issues moved to the AAMT and a pre-emptive apology for any such difficulties

Motion: That the Vice President (Membership) Report be noted [Moved Jenni Way, Seconded Carmel Diezmann; carried]

7.7 Vice President (Research) Report (Published on MERGA website and in Conference Handbook)

Key points included congratulations to Jane Watson for her success in the PIA, thanks to the judges for both the PIA and ECA, and the Research Quality Framework and MERGA's response to it

Motion: That the Vice President (Research) Report be noted [Moved Carmel Diezmann, Seconded Beth Southwell; carried]

After her report had been noted the Vice President (Research) presented an acknowledgement to Phil Clarkson, the outgoing President, for his contribution over many years to MERGA. This acknowledgement was reiterated by the meeting through acclamation.

8. Election of Officers

Two positions were open for election: President and Vice President (Teaching).

There was one nomination for President. The Chair declared Judy Mousley to be duly elected as MERGA President.

There were three nominations for Vice President (Teaching). After a ballot, the Chair declared Colleen McMurchy-Pilkington to be duly elected as MERGA Vice President (Teaching).

9. Other business

9.1 Enquiries. There was some discussion around the role MERGA should play in current enquiries covering the area of mathematics education such as currently at the Australian government level and one in WA. It was felt that MERGA needed to be involved but how to do this sensibly needs to be thought through. Any input should be transmitted to Phil Clarkson for discussion by the executive.

9.2 The impact of Australian government Industrial Relations policy on mathematics education research. This matter is to be discussed by the executive.

9.3 PME Conference. There was a request for MERGA members who are attending the PME conference to attend the PME AGM and vote on the motions that are endeavouring to broaden PME's remit.

10. Close

The meeting was closed at 9.30 am by the Chair who thanked the MERGA community for its support during his Presidency.