

ANBUG Executive Committee Meeting 11th November 2019

Meeting held: by Zoom teleconference

Present: Tracy Rushmer (TR, President), Andrew Clulow (AJC, Secretary), Ian Gentle (IRG, Immediate Past President), Katy Wood (KW, Immediate Past Secretary), David Cortie (DC, website/comms) & Tilo Soehnel (TS, Ordinary Member, NZ).

Apologies: Anna Paradowska (AP, Treasurer), & Yun Liu (YL, Vice President).

Agenda

1. Approval of minutes from the last meeting.
2. President's report & AUM update – TR
3. Matters arising from the last meeting:
 - a) TR to follow up with Kellie with the awards that we have and to send her the link to the ANBUG awards page (<http://anbug.net/anbug-awards/>)
 - b) AJC to send reminders about the deadline for ANBUG awards and the AOCNS abstracts to the ANBUG community.
 - c) KW will forward the draft ANBUG equity policy and code of conduct (which could be used for the AUM) to the committee for review prior to the next executive committee meeting.
 - d) TR to chase up with Kellie & Miles about whether or not the code of conduct will be applicable for registration at the AUM.
 - e) KW will talk to DC about the new sign up system and getting the transfer of members up and running.
 - f) KW to help AJC set up a thesis transfer system for nominations for the ANBUG PhD award and AJC to forward information on this to the nominators of students for the outstanding PhD prize.
 - g) KW will prod Margaret Elcombe with regards to getting back to TR about judging ANBUG awards.
4. ANBUG awards and committee recommendations – TR & IRG.
5. Implications of the OPAL long shutdown delay.
6. Any other business

Meeting Opened: 13:05

Items Discussed

1. Approval of minutes from the last meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved without further change.

2. President's report & AUM update

TR has been working with Kelly Cubbin (ANSTO) and Hannah Wells (AS UAC) to construct the program for the AUM. Plenaries are organised and 140 participants have registered. Only two accepted oral presenters are currently not registered. Plenaries are scheduled at the start of each day, an outreach event for local high school students has been scheduled on the Monday night along with awards, poster session and the welcome function. All students requesting travel support were able to access some funding through AINSE. TR will find out on Thursday 14th November if any jobs need to be completed by the committee



prior to the meeting and distribute jobs to the committee. A formal ANBUG AGM has not been scheduled yet for the AUM as one only needs to be scheduled every two years and this normally occurs at the biennial AANSS meetings. It was decided that the committee would host an informal breakfast for members on the Tuesday morning of the AUM to give members an opportunity to catch up on the activities of the committee.

AOCNS – KW will represent ANBUG at the AOCNS executive meeting to be held on the 20th-21st November in Taiwan. The ANBUG awards for this year have been decided by the awards committee, TR considered putting them in the ANBUG newsletter but it was decided that the announcement of the awards would be at the AUM in December and that the report would only contain a list of the awards to be given out. KW wanted to know if there was anything in particular to raise at the AOCNS exec meeting. TR & IRG said that KW would only have to work through the report as sent by TR, which incorporated awards, AOCNS young fellowship award nominees, updates to the membership system/equity policies, the AUM and other related meetings led or sponsored by ANBUG members.

3. Matters arising from last meeting

- a) The awards links were sent as requested.
- b) AJC sent the appropriate reminders by email to the ANBUG mailing list, collated awards nominations and forwarded them to the awards committee.
- c) KW forwarded a draft code of conduct and equity policy to the committee for comment by email. A discussion ensued about targets for female participation and it was agreed to aim for 50% female participation at all levels of ANBUG organisation, committees, presenters at events etc. KW will send around again for a final read through.
- d) It's a bit too late for the code of conduct and equity policy to go out before the AUM but it was decided to announce it in some form at the AUM, perhaps in the breakfast meeting.
- e) DC – the new membership system is up and running but few have signed up. We need to be proactive about getting people to renew their ANBUG memberships *via* the new system. It was agreed that the new membership system would be flagged at the AUM, perhaps with someone with a laptop there to help people with sign up. A link can also be shown on screens in between talks/sessions. Transferring people from the old list would be very manual but an alternative would be to contact all current members asking them to renew through the new system. IRG suggested that this be done using a mail merge and AJC will draft a suitably inspiring invitation to renew membership for the committee's approval. DC to check whether the mailing system works in the next week by sending messages to those who have signed on already.
- f) KW assisted AJC with receiving theses submitted with nominations for the ANBUG Outstanding PhD prize through the ANSTO fileshare system. IRG and Chris Ling (U. Sydney) suggested that the sharing of the final awards be completed with Cloudstor as many researchers based in Australia/New Zealand would have institutional access. This was successfully accomplished.
- g) KW contacted Margaret Elcombe (AINSE/ANSTO) who confirmed that she was unavailable to judge the ANBUG awards, TR invited Gail Iles (RMIT) to judge the awards in her place and Gail promptly accepted.

4. ANBUG awards and committee recommendations

IRG relayed that everyone on the judging panel gave individual rankings for all award categories and there was very little disagreement in the outcome of the awards in each category after collation and averaging by the chair, Chris Ling (U. Syd). The awards committee gave feedback to the executive committee aimed at increasing nominations by non-ANSTO staff, expanding nominations to the user community, broadening the categories and gender diversity, and requiring each ANBUG executive member to make a nomination. The most controversial point raised was to expand the PhD prize from Aus/NZ universities to include

students from overseas universities that used ACNS instruments. DC commented that there is nothing in the ANBUG constitution stopping overseas scientists from being members of ANBUG if they are using Australian neutron beam infrastructure. However, it was also noted that the growth of the Aus/NZ neutron community might not be helped by the local user society supporting overseas users above local ones. It was decided that as we are the society for Australian and New Zealander neutron users it is ANBUG's role to support the local community in this way and that the current limitation to nomination of students from Aus/NZ institutions would stand. KW commented that in previous years students enrolled at Aus/NZ institutions who had performed a number of their experiments overseas were nominated and eligible for the outstanding PhD awards. It was agreed that from next year ANBUG executive members would take leadership in nomination for the awards and that they would promote more widely nominations by the broader community.

5. Implications of the OPAL long shutdown delay

Given the time remaining, this issue will be discussed further at the next meeting or at the AUM.

6. Any other business

TR to send KW the ANBUG report to AONSA for her presentation. KW to check whether AP wants to put in the information about her joint Engineering Australia/Materials Australia workshop.

Meeting Closed: 14:00