

**Minutes of the 2005 AGM of the Australasian Evolution Society
Esplanade Hotel, Fremantle WA**

29th September 2005

Present:

Leigh Simmons (President)
J. Dale Roberts (Vice-President)
Jason Kensington (Treasurer)
Paul Doughty (Secretary)
Greg Adcock (Council member)

Apologies:

Richard Peters (Council member)
Mariella Herberstein (Council member)

Meeting began at 5:40pm

Leigh Simmons – Introductory comments

1. Treasurer's Report – Jason Kensington

The society currently has \$4,973.66 in its cheque account. All expenses for hosting the Fremantle conference have been paid in full, so the current balance represents net savings. There is, however, a monthly service fee of \$22 (or 6.418% of payments made by credit cards if the monthly total is over \$200) for the merchant service facility. Savings could be made by cancelling this facility, but this would mean that future membership fees will have to be paid by cheque or direct transfer using internet banking. A summary of account transactions over the last year now follows.

| | |
|---|--------------------|
| Opening balance | \$ 3,130.13 |
| Income | |
| Memberships and conference fees | \$ 29,517.50 |
| Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences, UWA | \$ 5,500.00 |
| School of Psychology, UWA | \$ 2,000.00 |
| Office of Research and Innovation, UWA | \$ 2,440.00 |
| Interest | \$ 30.78 |
| Expenses | |
| Conference | \$ 34,683.77 |
| Merchant service fees | \$ 2,956.68 |
| State Govt tax | \$ 4.30 |
| Balance | \$ 4,973.66 |

2. Future meetings

Leigh Simmons' plan was to map the future meetings out for continuity. After the Wollongong cancellation and the Adelaide "add on" meeting, there was need for resurrection of the Society. Now that this has been done with the Fremantle conference, having strong meetings would ensure this wouldn't need to be done again.

Rob Brooks from UNSW offered to host the next conference.

Andrew Cockburn suggested having a meeting every 2 years. In addition, not having the meeting in spring suits field biologists better.

Dale Roberts suggested having a floating time of the year that the host would choose.

Leigh mentioned that the international meetings tended to be in July and that clashes might best be avoided.

Andrew Cockburn offered to host the conference at ANU in 2009.

Action:

Rob Brooks UNSW to host the next conference in June/July 2007.

Andrew Cockburn ANU to host conference in 2009.

3. Nominations for office

Leigh Simmons nominated Rob Brooks for President (Andrew Cockburn seconded).

Rob Brooks nominated Simon Griffith for Vice-president.

Simon Griffith nominated Sarah Pryke for Treasurer.

Leigh Simmons nominated Richard Peters (ANI) for Council member and Website Manager, and Greg Adcock (ANU) for Council member and Newsletter Editor.

Rob Brooks nominated Mark Blows (University of Queensland).

Greg Adcock raised the issue of increasing membership and having local champions for the society around the region. Leigh Simmons agreed that this was particularly important in bringing evolutionary biologists from New Zealand into the society. Leigh Simmons then nominated Russell Gray (University of Auckland) as an ordinary Council Member.

All nominees accepted their nominations and were elected to office. Change-over of executive to be effective by 1 January 2006.

4. Other business

Andrew Cockburn and the assembly thanked Leigh Simmons for putting on an intellectually stimulating conference. After the last Wollongong/Adelaide meeting there were concerns about the fate of the Society, but kudos to Leigh for doing a fine job of re-establishing the Society with the Fremantle conference and membership drive.

The meeting closed at 6pm.

Addendum 7 Oct 2005:

Rob Brooks has nominated Alistair Poore, UNSW, as the next Secretary. Subject to no alternative nominations being lodged with the current Secretary by 15th December 2005, Alistair Poore will take over as secretary 1st January 2006.