



2021 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
AUSTRALASIAN SECTION OF THE IUSSTI

Meeting held via Zoom webinar on Wednesday 8 December 2021

Associated with the Australian Entomological Society 2021 Conference, Adelaide SA

The meeting opened at 17:00 ACDT.

Present: Simon Robson (President), Simon Tierney (Secretary), Nathan Lo (Treasurer), Nadine Chapman, Ros Gloag, Lucas Hearn, Katja Hogendoorn, Jenny Jandt, Hannah Smart.

Apologies: None received.

Quorum: Achieved via the presence of all office bearers and six current members.

AGENDA

1. Minutes of previous meeting

- The Minutes of the 2020 AGM held via Zoom on 18-12-2020, were circulated to all members (i) prior to the meeting via email (06-12-2021) and (ii) via the 2021 Newsletter in January-2021.
- Minutes accepted by Simon Robson and seconded by Nathan Lo.

2. Treasurer's Report

- The 2020 Treasurer's Report was also circulated to all members (i) prior to the meeting via email (06-12-2021) and (ii) via the 2021 Newsletter in January-2021.
- A 2021 Financial Report will be forthcoming and appended to these minutes for subsequent distribution to members in the 2022-Newsletter.
- Account Balance as at 18-12-2020: \$2,423.72.
- The Treasurer sighted the society's online bank accounts and stated that the current balance as of 8-12-2021 stands at: \$2,898.
- Prizes for best student talks at the associated conference (~\$150) will be deducted from this balance.
- Annual Summary of Financial Affairs should be processed by NSW Fair Trading before the end of the calendar year, at a cost of approximately \$50 – also to be deducted from the aforementioned balance.
- IUSSTI Australasia is legally registered as a non-profit society.

3. Memberships

- Our current membership is unknown. We are awaiting a report from the Treasurer who administers financial details of membership.
- New requests for membership subscriptions and renewal of lapsed memberships were sent out by the Secretary on the 2nd and 3rd December-2021.
- Secretary will follow up known lapses of membership, to the best of his knowledge.
- Continue to encourage members to subscribe for >1 year to save admin duties.

4. Student Awards

- Nathan Lo, Nadine Chapman & Kyle Ewart judged student presentations at the Social Insects symposium. Treasurer will announce award winners in due course.

5. Presidential Address

- President thanked the Secretary and Treasurer for their services to IUSSTI.

- Special thanks to Simon Ho (University of Sydney) who incorporated the IUSSI Aus-section website within the MEEP laboratory webpage (University of Sydney).
- New URL: <https://meep.sydney.edu.au/iussi/>
- All IUSSI Aus-section members are officially encouraged to offer Simon Ho a beverage of his choice when they next cross paths.

6. XIV International Congress of IUSSI

- Travel Award announcements were made to members on 2nd and 3rd December-2021.
- Travel Award priority is for students then other members according to IUSSI stipulations clarified via email to members on 03-12-2021.
- Travel Award funds are to be used for in-person attendance at the conference: transport, accommodation, registration.
- Our section has the option to nominate candidates for the Hamilton & West-Eberhard awards. Nominations need to be forwarded to the Secretary General by 15-01-22.
- Jenny Jandt (member of the Organising Committee) informed that a hybrid option (face-to-face & online sessions) is being considered with plenaries livestreamed.
- Expected attendance is 1-2K pax.
- Organising Committee seeking to reduce student attendance costs wherever possible.
- Elections of new Secretary General & Office Bearers (financial sub-committee, archivist, webmaster) at the International AGM – we need two reps.

7. Forthcoming Aus-section meetings

- The 2022 AGM will be held at the XIV International Congress 3-7 July 2022, San Diego CA, USA – pending pandemic disruptions.
- Consider holding domestic meeting in the second half of the year aligned with the SydBee meeting which is now open to researchers of other social insects.

8. Office bearers

- Simon Robson continuing as President
- Simon Tierney continuing as Secretary
- Nathan Lo continuing as Treasurer
- The existing office bearers welcome Ros Gloag as an official “Councillor” forthwith. A proactive decision to help improve the gender balance among the office bearers. Ros will be included in all future correspondence pertaining to Aus-section administrative business as a matter of course.
- President has asked Secretary to enquire about official processes to re-elect Office Bearers ahead of the next AGM.

6. Other business & important deadlines

- 2022 Newsletter scheduled for early in the year (Jan-Feb).
- Office bearers will continue to work on membership accrual.
- Membership Report due 05-01-22 in order to qualify for Section Travel Grants.
- Hamilton/West-Eberhard Awards nominations due 15-01-22.
- Abstract Submission Deadline for XIV International Congress is 14-02-22
- Early Bird registrations close 31-03-22

Meeting closed at 17:40 ACDT

Simon Tierney

Secretary - IUSSI Australasian section

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