

Annual General Meeting 2008

Thursday, 9 May 2008 • 12:10-13:05
Perth Convention Exhibition Center • Perth, Australia
Attendance: +/- 99

1. Welcome, introductions, and confirmation of 2007 AGM minutes.

President Charlotte Bingham opened the meeting, welcomed attendees, and introduced current and incoming Officers and Directors. Item 2, "Money Matters" was added to the agenda. Following a correction of a typo in the closing time of the 2007 meeting, members endorsed the minutes of the 2007 AGM by an aye vote.

2. Money matters: Treasurer's Report and Questions for the Treasurer.

(See the annual report for financial overview.) Treasurer Alan Kwok reported that IAIA is in a healthy financial position. Revenue increased by 30% over 2006. Major revenues are from membership dues and proceeds from the annual conferences. Thanks to all members for membership and to the conference delegates and to the 2007 Korean organizers who held a successful conference. Major expenses in 2007 were conference and operational expenses. Additionally, we put investments into the Web to upgrade hardware and software as a means to improve services to members. In 2008 we have made a modest increase for inflation but will continue to put money into Web-related services and improve that. Details of the budget are on the back page of the annual report. (No questions from the floor.)

3. Presentation of the Code of Conduct

Richard Fuggle, chair of the Ethics Task Force and a past president, reviewed the history of the Code of Conduct document. In particular, he noted that development of the new Code of Conduct was initiated by member concern that the previous code was biased toward environmental assessment and as such was not sufficiently broad to be applicable to all IAIA members, and a situation where the Board was not able to address a complaint about a member's conduct. Changes to the Code of Conduct have been iterated through the Association for two years, and the Board has approved the proposed Code as presented. Fuggle clarified that the Code of Conduct will be applicable to individual members, who may self-subscribe to it, as opposed to the organization-wide Code of Ethics. By this time next year we intend to have a consolidated document which will start with the mission and vision statement and include the general Code of Ethics as well as the Code of Conduct.

Two members voiced a concern about item #4, noting that the policy may conflict with some of the other guidelines. Fuggle responded that the task force will make note of that concern and asked that members do raise concerns, but that given the lengthy review process, the document would not be open for wordsmithing at this time.

One member commented that the document was useful and very good and requested that it be kept brief.

In response to a question about handling complaints in particular regions, Fuggle said that a regional *ad hoc* committee of peers would be set up if needed.

4. Bylaws: Proposed Revisions

Bingham noted that proposed changes to the bylaws were sent to the membership in the January 2008 mailing, posted on the Web, and referenced in e-news. In the information sent to all members, members were told there was a 60-day comment period, which is now ended. Bingham reported that feedback was received from six members during the review period. She reviewed the questions received and noted that all feedback was answered by e-mail. In response to a question from the floor, Bingham noted that "Code of Ethics" is correct as stated in the revision.

A resolution to pass to changes to the Association Bylaws requires approval by a 2/3 majority of members present at the AGM.

Frank Vancley moved to approve the proposed bylaws revisions.

Richard Fuggle seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by a show of hands.

5. Outstanding Service to IAIA Award. Bingham presented Julieta Pisanty-Levy with the Outstanding Service to IAIA Award, noting her long service to IAIA since 1986, which has included serving on the Board, chairing the Nominations Committee, regularly attending the conferences, contributing her time and expertise to translation, and serving as a resource for Board members and IAIA members. Setting her apart is the respect she receives from colleagues, and IAIA is pleased to recognize and appreciate her commitment and service.

6. IAIA2007/2008: What have we done and where are we going? Bingham noted that membership has reached over 1,626 and continues to show modest growth, but encouraged members to spread the word about IAIA and help increase membership. Bingham also highlighted the many session and networking innovations trialed at IAIA08, the launch of the online Career Central, the hiring of a webmaster so that IAIA can continue to improve and expand its Web site and related services and resources, translation efforts by the Spanish and Italian Affiliates, and continued support from donors to support capacity building. In 2008-2009 we are looking into Russian translations and will be holding a special topic meeting in Calgary, a joint meeting with Cefic in October, and IAIA09 in Accra; and will continue the ambitious activities set out in IAIA's Strategic Action Plan.

7. Any debate? Items submitted in writing by members. (None submitted.)

8. Have your say: Informal discussion of matters that members wish to raise.

- Maria Partidario and Bill Page invited applications for the editorship of *Impact Assessment and Project Appraisal*.
- Ben Cave reported that there will be a special topic meeting jointly hosted by Cefic and IAIA this 28-29 November in Brussels.
- Lea den Broeder complimented the IAIA08 organizing committee for the range of methods for participating in discussions in a creative way and noted that she would be glad if next year we get report on what has been done with these results.
- Bingham noted that Barry Sadler is available to discuss the effectiveness study during IAIA08 and noted that anyone interested in a Section is invited to attend the Section meetings this evening.

9. Closing remarks.

Bingham thanked the membership for the opportunity to serve as President and promised to continue her work as Past President in the coming year. Bingham closed the meeting at 13:05.