

## **Minutes – Royal Australian Chemical Institute - POLYMER DIVISION**

Annual General Meeting held at 27th Australasian Polymer Symposium in Union Building,  
University of Adelaide on December 1, 2004.

*The meeting was chaired by Dr David Lewis (President, Polymer Division, RACI). Minutes taken by George Simon (Monash University, Victoria).*

### 1. Apologies

- none given

### 2. Minutes of Previous Meeting

- minutes of previous meeting held at the 26th Australasian Polymer Symposium in Noosa were accepted (moved by Bob Gilbert, seconded by Chris Fellows) subject to removal of item 6 which referred to Wayne Cook setting up a Special Task Group to attract new students to polymer science.

### 3. Chairs Report (David Lewis)

- reviewed activities in his time in office
- 2 non-APS conferences with which PD had involvement were the synthetic metals conference run by Gordon Wallace at Wollongong and the advanced materials conference run by Alma Hodzic in Townsville
- summer schools have been successful, the most recent one (prior to 27 APS) attracted approximately 40 participants, some 10 or so down from the previous one
- Adelaide 27<sup>th</sup> APS likely to make a profit of some \$10,000 - \$15,000, with some 204 attendees. Special thanks to Leanne Britcher and Stephen Clarke for their work with regards sponsorship. Good support for 27 APS also was obtained from the Australian Society for Biomaterials and the Polymer Division of the American Chemical Society. Adelaide conference was a success, some problems with air conditioners reported. David thanked all the people who worked so hard in the organization

The Chair's report was accepted unanimously (proposed by Wayne Cook, seconded George Simon)

### 4. 11<sup>th</sup> Pacific Polymer Conference

- Andrew Whittaker made a brief presentation on the recently-won 11<sup>th</sup> Polymer Pacific Polymer Conference 21 – 26 November 2009 in Cairns
- This is to be held in the ;large convention center there, can hold 1300 – 2000 delegates there, up to 7 parallel sessions
- Some 700 – 800 delegates expected

- Location likely to be attractive to Asian colleagues
- Program largely based around progress in polymer science after the first decade of the 21<sup>st</sup> century and look at the interface between synthetic and natural polymers
- It will be underwritten by the RACI

#### 5. Treasurers Report and discussion(Chris Fellows)

- Treasures report was handed out and discussed
- A slight decrease in bottom line over the last two years was indicated (ca. \$15,000), due to some \$10,000 profit from last APS (Noosa) and some \$25,000 being spent on students since
- It was pointed out that the interest for the year was roughly \$5,800, although this was not yet in for the full year
- it was pointed out that some of the reserves of money held (ca \$270,000) were done so in trust for the use of state groups (approx. \$85,000), and Andrew Whittaker encouraged state groups to suggest initiatives
- Bob Gilbert was concerned about centralization of funds and whether they would be sequestered by RACI Head Office.
- Andrew Whittaker had indicated that there was no choice but to consolidate funds recently
- The Polymer Division contributed \$4,000 to RACI Graduate Survey. The Branches and Divisions agreed to a voluntary contribution, rather than a tax on consolidated revenue, rather than to be taxed. Part of General Assembly”
- in response to a query by Graeme Moad, it was noted that \$30,000 of the reserves needed to be transferred to the Solomon Lecture Fund, to add to the \$30,000 contributed by David Solomon – it has been subsequently verified that the funds had been transferred at the end of the prior financial year

Treasurer’s report was accepted unanimously (moved by David Lewis, seconded by Michael Monteiro)

#### 6. List of Future Meetings

- National Chemistry Convention, Tuesday 5 July 2005, Darling Harbour. APS involvement being organized by Stephen Clarke, involves about 6 – 7 speakers.
- 28<sup>th</sup> APS to be held in 5 – 9 February 2006 in Rotorua (Central North island), being organized by Greg Russell
- 29<sup>th</sup> APS to be organized by George Simon (most likely Melbourne, venue being investigated) in February 2007
- PPC 11 in 2009 (see above, section 4)

#### 7. New Web Pages

- The hosting and web mastering of these now to be done by Chris Fellows

- a motion was carried unanimously thanking Andrew Whittaker for his fine work over a long time period re the APS web pages (moved by David Sangster and seconded by Bob Gilbert) was carried unanimously by acclamation

#### 8. Solomon Foundation

- The Solomon Lectures will now be run by the Australian Academy of Science and Engineering, in cooperation with the Polymer Division. The CEO of the Academy will organize the flight out of the speaker, with local arrangements for the speaker being made by the local polymer group and the academy
- the Academy will initiate the process and arrangements and run them
- The person to lecture will be nominated by the President of the Polymer Division and the Standing Committee.
- The next lecture will be held in the period June – September, 2005

#### 9. New Office Bearers

- following nominations and agreement the following were elected as the current Standing Committee

##### **Chair**

Dr Greg Russell, Department of Chemistry, University of Canterbury, NZ

##### **Chair-elect**

Prof. George Simon, School of Physics and Materials Engineering, Monash University

##### **Past-Chair**

Dr David Lewis, SOLA R&D

##### **Secretary**

Dr. Christopher Barner-Kowollik, School of Chemical Engineering and Industrial Chemistry, University of New South Wales

##### **Treasurer**

Dr Chris Fellows, School of Biological, Biomedical and Molecular Sciences, University of New England

##### **International Affairs**

Prof. Rob Burford, School of Chemical Engineering and Industrial Chemistry, The University of New South Wales

##### **Editor**

Dr Andrew Whittaker, Centre for Magnetic Resonance, University of Queensland

**Committee** (6 elected and 1 co-opted)

- Dr Stephen Clarke, School of Chemistry, Physics and Earth Sciences  
Flinders University
- Dr. Martina Stenzel, School of Chemical Engineering and Industrial Chemistry,  
University of New South Wales
- A/Prof Wayne Cook, School of Physics and Materials Engineering, Monash University
- Dr Chris Lukey, Steel Institute, Faculty of Engineering, University of Wollongong
- Dr Graeme Moad, CSIRO Molecular Science, Clayton
- Dr Mike O'Shea, CSIRO Molecular Science, Clayton
- Dr Stuart Prescott, School of Chemistry, University of Melbourne

**Student representative**

Ms. Karla Anderson, Department of Chemistry, University of Auckland

- the following office bearers have been determined by other groups:

**State Representatives**

- NSW: Dr Brian Hawkett, School of Chemistry, University of Sydney
- Queensland: Dr Michael Monteiro, School of Molecular and Microbial Sciences,  
University of Queensland
- South Australia: Dr Deborah Ward, NGT Consulting, Rose Park SA
- Victoria: Dr Greg Qiao, Department of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering,  
University of Melbourne

**NZIC Polymer Group**

Neil Edmonds, Chemistry Department, The University of Auckland

10. Other Business

- it was decided that reference to the Solomon Lectures should be added to the Working Document (previously described as the PD Constitution) describing the PD activities
- it was thought that discussions at a higher level between the RACI PD and the ACS should be initiated to ensure reciprocal rights between the societies
- George Simon noted that there were 2 applicants for the O'Donnell Young Scientist Prize (for travel overseas) and it was decided he would seek a proposal from each applicants outlining their proposed work program and justification etc. and distribute the proposals received to a panel of people from the Division, to choose the winner

11. Vote of thanks for David Lewis

- Wayne Cook moved a vote of thanks for all the hard work that David Lewis has put in, in his time as President of the RACI PD, and especially for the organization of the 27<sup>th</sup> APS. This was seconded by George Simon, and unanimously agreed by all attending the meeting

