

Annual general meeting of the RACI Polymer Division.

Minutes of the meeting held at 5 pm, December 3rd, 2008, Grand Waldorf 1 & 2 Room, The Sebel Albert Park, Melbourne

- a) Present
Tom Davis (TD), Chris Fellow (CF), Brian Hawke (BH), Lachlan Yee (LY), Christopher Barner-Kowollik (CBK), David Sangster (DS), Wayne Cook (WC), Greg Qiao (GQ), Graeme Moad (GM), Bob Gilbert (BG), Kevin Jack (KJ), Patrice Castignolles (PC), David Lewis (DL), George Simon (GS, chair), Seb Perrier (SP, minutes), Martina Stenzel (MS), Andrew Whittaker (AW), Robert Burford (RB), Geoffrey Johnston-Hall (GJH)
- b) Welcome
The chair welcomed the attendees of the AGM.
- c) Apologies
None
- d) Minutes
DL moved and KJ seconded, that the minutes of the meeting held on 14th February 2007 be confirmed as a true record.
- e) Chairs Report
See attached document (Appendix 1)
The chair thanked DL for organizing the Solomon Lectures in November 2007.
- f) Treasurers Report
See attached document (Appendix 2)
CF pointed out that there is a lack of clarity from RACI regarding allocation of funds to the Polymer Division (PD).
Action: CF to chase RACI for further details on RACI allocation of funds to PD.
DL moved and LY seconded, that the report be accepted and the vote was affirmative.
DL moved and LY seconded, an appreciation motion to CF for his service as treasurer for the last few years and the vote was affirmative.
- g) Office Bearers Issue - International

As all PD members tend to travel abroad and advertise PD, it was suggested that the position of International Affairs is now redundant and be removed from the standing committee. WC moved and BG seconded, that the position of International Affairs was removed from the committee and the vote was affirmative.
- h) Future Office Bearers

Nominees for positions are shown below (in bold, new nominees)

Chair: Martina Stenzel
Past Chair: George Simon
Chair Elect: Sebastien Perrier
Secretary: Kevin Jack
Treasurer: Chris Fellows
Awards Coordinator: Lachlan Yee

Other members

- Prof **Bob Burford**

School of Chemical Science and Engineering
UNSW

-Dr **Stephen Clarke**

School of Chemistry, Physics and Earth Sciences
Flinders University

-Dr **Michelle Coote**

Research School of Chemistry
Australian National University

- Prof. **Wayne Cook**

Materials Engineering
Monash University

- Dr **Brian Hawkett**

School of Chemistry
The University of Sydney

-Dr **David Lewis**

Zeiss Vision Systems

-Dr **Graeme Moad**

CSIRO Molecular Science

-Dr **Greg Russell**

Department of Chemistry
University of Canterbury

Student representative

Position Vacant

State Representatives

-Dr **Lachlan Yee**

School of Biotechnology and Biomolecular Sciences
University of New South Wales

-Dr **Aaron Micallef**

AIBN

University of Queensland

-Dr **Milena Ginic-Markovic**

Flinders University

-A/Prof. **Greg Qiao**

Department of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering
The University of Melbourne

- Ass. Prof **Greg Russell**

Department of Chemistry
University of Canterbury, NZ

DL moved and WC seconded, that the list of committee members be accepted and the vote was affirmative.

BG pointed out that a call for nomination for committee membership should be advertised. An advert could be included in 'Chemistry in Australia' and should be free of charge. AW suggested that the advert should also be included on the PD website, and published in the newsletter.

g) Rep Future Meetings

- Ezzio Rizzardo's 65th Birthday Meeting, Materials of the Future, Science of Today, February 2009. GM reported that Kris Matyjaszewski and Brian Hawke have been added to the list of invited speakers. CBK may also participate to the meeting by giving a lecture live from Germany via a web-link. An advert for the meeting should be included on the PD website.

Action: CF to add a link to the meeting on the PD website.

- 2009 PPC11 Cairns. AW reported that the following plenary speakers were confirmed: Prof Jean Fréchet, Prof Tomiki Ikeda, Prof Sung Chui Kim, Prof Mitsuo Sawamoto, Prof Jackie Ying and Prof Wolfgang Knoll. The conference will have 5 themes with one invited speaker per theme in addition to the plenary speakers. The invited speakers will receive free registration. Registration fee is yet to be decided. WC reminded everybody that each symposium should include a co-chair from one of the PPC countries. 600 attendees are expected.
BG suggested that the logo of the conference should be amended as the present logo, which includes palm trees and a dolphin might make it difficult to secure funding to attend the conference.
DL expressed concerns as the current world economy situation may limit the number of registrations. As RACI and the PD are underwriting the conference, concerns were expressed that the conference may make a loss.
- 31 APS in NSW, Feb 2011. MS is yet to confirm the venue, which could be Canberra or NSW.
- Australasian Polymer Summer School – Blue Mountains, NSW – Feb 2009. WC reported that CRC has confirmed its financial support (\$10k). PD will also provide \$10k funding. WC urged everybody to advertise the Summer School among undergraduate students.
- It was decided that the next Solomon lecture Series would be held in mid-2010.

h) Sangster Prize

- A proposal to remove from the PD rules the requirement to advertise in the Chemistry in Australia journal was moved by WC, seconded by DL and the vote was affirmative. An advert would remain on the web and in the newsletter.

i) David Hill Thesis Prize

- A proposal to make this a national award, rather than Queensland-based was moved by CF, seconded by CBK and the vote was affirmative. The prize includes the reproduction of the thesis in 30 copies and their distribution internationally. LY will draft the rules of this award. DL moved that the document drafted by LY be added to the constitution and was seconded by GJH and the vote was affirmative.

Action: LY to draft rules of the David Hill Thesis Prize.

j) RACI Considering Amalgamation Issue

- GS reported that RACI seems to be considering regrouping all divisions' conferences such as the APS into one national conference regrouping symposia organised by each division, similarly to the ACS national meetings. The members of PD expressed a

unanimous concern over this possibility, and entrusted the standing committee to act as required to oppose any such attempts by RACI.

k) Any other business

WC moved a motion to thank GS for his chairmanship of the PD for the past year, and for his organization of the 30th APS. The motion was unanimously passed and applause followed.

Close of Meeting at 6.25pm

Next AGM will be held during PPC11 in Cairns.

APENDIX 1

Polymer Division Annual General Meeting

5 pm, December 3rd 2008

Grand Waldorf 1 & 2 Room, The Sebel Albert Park

Chairs Report

George Simon

- Most of the activity to date has been related to the 30 APS conference, especially in the latter part of 2008
- The 30th APS has been successful in the sense of some 340 registrants (about 20 are invitees and trades folk). Nonetheless, the attendance has been excellent, many young people. A significant number of Treloar Prize applicants. Currently, if we give up all monies in excess of RACI members fees (students or non-students) it makes a \$15k loss. However, we will likely balance this out to at least \$0 (break even), also with a view to covering the student travel grants, paid out separately from PD funds
- There was a successful Solomon Lecture Series in November 2007, Prof. Mitsuo Sawamoto - Kyoto University Adelaide, Brisbane, Melbourne and Sydney. No decision yet on the next one. Next one scheduled for mid-2010.
- PD continues to make contribution to the Polymer Summer school, organised by Wayne Cook, in February 2009, Blue Mountains, NSW, CRC for Polymers/Key Centre for Polymer Colloids
- There are a number of upcoming meetings:
 - Materials of the Future (Ezio's B'day Meeting in February). It is being run by CSIRO, PD sponsored to the tune of \$5,000
 - 2009 11th PPC in Cairns (Andrew Whittaker, Wayne Cook)
 - 31 APS in New South Wales (Martina Stenzel)
- The support of students for international conferences is ongoing. Next call for applications closes December 15th.
- Jim O'Donnell Travel Prize also closes on December 15.
- Sangster Prize was organised, winner was Martina Stenzel, who presented lecture at 30 APS.
- Lachlan Yee has organised registry of links to papers by PD folk, regularly sent around by email. This will be further promoted within the Division

George Simon
3 December, 2008

APENDIX 1
Polymer Division Financial Report 2007-2008

All of our funds are in the hands of RACI HQ, and are audited centrally. We have no direct access to our monies, and do not need to submit an independent annual report to the RACI. Transactions between 1st January 2007 and 14th November 2008 are summarised below.

1/1/2007 Opening Balance: **\$158,340.44**

Expenses **\$68,929.01**

Support of Meetings: \$26,000.00

Polymer Summer School 2007	\$11,000
30 APS Float	\$10,000
PPC11 Float	\$5000

Student Travel and Prizes: \$27,981.00

29 APS	\$16,259.00
O'Donnell Scholarship (2007, 2008)	\$9722.00
Student Travel for International Conferences	\$2000.00

Solomon Lecture Expenses \$1274.02

Advertising Sangster Prize \$869.00

Sangster Prize \$153.00

Net Hosting and Domain Name Registration \$739.58

Spent by State Bodies on State Projects and Solomon Lecture Expenses: \$12,065.41

Income **\$72,875.88**

RACI Interest Allocation: \$???

GST Reimbursement: \$???

2006 Solomon Lecture Expenses Misattributed to Polymer Division \$3112.61

29th APS Profit: \$62,695.01

14/11/2008 Balance: **\$162,287.31**

Funds held in trust for state bodies

(1/3 of conference profits since 1993, less spending by state bodies):

Queensland:	\$49,275.93
New South Wales:	\$19,248.72
Victoria:	\$9981.06
South Australia:	\$4078.94
New Zealand	\$4961.53

14/11/2008 Polymer Division Balance: **\$74,741.13**