

## **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – RACI POLYMER DIVISION - MINUTES**

Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> November 2019, 6:15pm

Miniyama Room 1, Twin Waters Convention Centre

Attendees – (I never got this list)

### **1. Confirmation of minutes and business arising from last meeting**

KT read the minutes. Jan Lauko confirmed and MG Seconded the minutes.

### **2. Chair's Report**

- 37 APS – 278 Registrants,
- International breakdown – 8 N American, 215 Australian, 15 Asian, 39 Europe, 1 Africa
- National breakdown – 1 TAS, 10 SA, 15 ACT, 5WA, 50 NSW, 61 Vic, 67 QLD, 6 NZ
- Diversity 37% invited speakers, 35% attendees are female
- KT comment that we were pushing to have closer to 50%.
- Profit expected ~5k
- Student rego \$100 cheaper
- New innovation – Effort to reduce environmental impact - all electronic, no paperwork.
- School theme was attempted but was not successful this time – not as much support from RACI education. Attempts will be made again in the future
- 50K sponsorship – lower than other meetings
- Need to broaden our horizons in terms of sponsors
- Aim for 66k sponsorship
- Need to aim to profit from meetings

### **3. Treasurer Update**

- 44k profit from MACRO, \$250 from copywrite royalties

Expenses

- \$350 – Web hosting
- \$1800 – Dave Hill Symposium support
- \$750 – medals and awards

Profit from APS to be reinvested:

- Potential future investments include support for Solomon lecture, student awards and setting up an ECR Lectureship

### **4. State Reports**

KT reiterates that the division is really happy with the level of state activity

QLD Report Jan Lauko new Chair

- 4 x \$200 Student Bursaries to attend APS
- 3 Network Meetings include a pre APS Soft Matter Materials Symposium – 100 attendees, 8 speakers and Poly processing and Characterisation day

- New round robin visiting research groups and hosting social events

#### NSW Report Marcus Muellner new chair

- New treasurer - Jason Xu
- ACT Rep – Luke Connal
- Half day symposium pre APS Jason Xu and Per Zetterlund Organizer
- ECR Student Event in July – U Syd
- Both events free
- APSS was held at USyd
- Next APSS at ANU

#### SA Report Apologies from Deb Ward

- Deb Ward Chair
- Trouble with having a polymer group in SA
- Would be good to try and encourage and reinvigorate the community in SA.
- Blinco suggests getting Justin Chalker involved
- KT suggests Anton Blencoe

#### Vic Report John Quinn New Chair

- Quiet year but main Vic workshop planned for next 2/3<sup>rd</sup> July to not clash with other end of year events

#### WA Report Apologies from Iyer

- Polymer chemistry introduced into curriculum
- Kids telethon success with funding for hydrogel translation

#### NZ Report (JTS)

- No Events
- Polymer community small and would like to link in better to Australia?

### **7. APSS**

- Low numbers – please encourage attendance
- KT mentioned that Stuart has done a great job getting engagement
- Next meeting ANU- Kioala 11-13 Feb

### **8. Future Meetings**

- 38 APS – Blue Mountains, Nov-Dec 2020
- Solomon Lecturer – Brigitte Voigt, Aug 2020

### **9. General Buisness**

- Boase stated next national congress will be in Brisbane 2022 – PD should try and support
- Russell asked about the PSA

- KT Stated PSA is Dormant as the RACI increased the support from within the PD and is a solid body to underwrite activities
- RACI now recognises PD is the leading division and wants to support it
- It would not be good for the division or Australian chemistry if the PD was to withdraw from the RACI
- Russell suggested in the current stable time, now may be a good time to revisit PSA
- KT reiterated there is no drive for PSA but recognised that the PD and RACI in general needs to do a better job of interacting with other communities
- Ben Boyd supported this statement and stated not to take fracturing from the RACI lightly. The main reason the colloids division split was to increase inclusivity of the physics within their community not to fracture from other chemists.

#### Change to student subsidies

- Previously O'Donnell prize 5k and 4x 1k bursaries
- Proposed there will now be 2 x 3k O'Donnell awards
- 1 awarded in April, 1 in September
- Encourage that these awards incorporate a Lab visit
- Free rego to an APS will also be given to awardees
- Need to be advertised extensively within community
- Boase concerned where this money will come from
- KT says it is budgeted for

#### PPC21

- Brisbane 2021
- Chairs Stenzel, Whittaker and Travaš-Sejdić
- Date 27 Nov – 2 Dec
- Brisbane Convention Centre
- Support from QLD govt
- Aim for gender equity

#### Agreement with ACIS

#### Bilateral agreement with colloids community

BB suggests a Poly/colloids session in Brisbane to capitalise on the synergy with meetings.

#### Change to Committee

- KT →Past Chair, Patrice →Chair, Iyer →Chair Elect
- Committee members coming off – Kei Sato, Georgina Such, Kristian Kempe
- Motion passed to thank all transitioning members for their commitment
- 4 noms for Committee – Blinco, Xiao, Junkers and PA?
- 3 members elected – Blinco, Xiao and Junkers
- Sec Noms – Such and Connal
- Such elected
- Web and awards coordinator – Blinco Steps down, Boase takes the role
- New student Reps James Humphries and Phil ?

**Meeting Closed**