

**MINUTES of the New Zealand Institute of Physics  
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
Held on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> September 2016**

- Chair:** Professor David Hutchinson
- Present:** Denis Burchill, David Wiltshire, David Housden, Stuart Wimbush, Geoff Wilmott, Jenni Adams, John Bruce, Michele Governale, Danny Schumayer, Geoff Barnes, Julie Collins
- Apologies:** Blair Blakie, Stuart Bradley, Marcus Wilson, Peter Derrick, Mike Reid
- Minutes:** Diana Evans

The meeting opened at 4.35 pm

**Previous Minutes:**

**Moved:** (David Wiltshire/Jenni Adams) that the 2015 NZIP AGM minutes be accepted.

**Matters Arising:**

- “Jobs that Physicists do” funding support of \$5000 to develop career-focussed pages on the NZIP website. This will be maintained as an action.  
*Noted:* to move on to the action items for 2016/2017 year.
- Amalgamation of accounts – Agenda item
- 2016 SCICON firewalk – John Campbell available

**Correspondence:**

Clarification requested around connection between NZIP and Institute of Physics rather than Australian Institute of Physics or American Physical Society. It was confirmed that we already have relationships with both of these organisations, it is just that we are refreshing the agreement with Institute of Physics.

**President’s Report:**

David Hutchinson reported that in 2016 he was concentrating on organising the financial accounts by amalgamating the accounts. Everything is run through the same bank account and included on the same Profit and Loss statement. Conference and Events run the accounts for NZIP and thanks to Julie Collins and David Housden on their work amalgamating the NZIP finances.

More use of electronic platform– a database has been developed that stores all of the members’ email addresses which will mean that more regular correspondence with members can take place and make it more valuable.

Ben Rutt and Michele Governale have been running a series of Professional Development workshops for teachers under the umbrella of NZIP. They have already been run in Wellington and will now be offered in Auckland, then Christchurch and Dunedin. These are a pilot programme and we will take to the Ministry of Education to continue on an ongoing basis. Both the MacDiarmid Institute and the Dodd-Walls Centre for Photonic and Quantum Technologies have provided initial seed funding for these professional development programmes for teachers.

Revisiting of relationships with Institute of Physics and NZIP to use as leverage for our members.

NZIP Biennial Conference will be held in Dunedin in 2017 at Otago Museum. Initial planning has taken place. A Programme Committee needs to be established.

2016 is a year of consolidation and a year of bringing things together. This will put us in a better position to add value to our members and drive an increase in membership numbers. Current numbers are lower than we would like.

***Moved from the Chair, report accepted***

**CARRIED**

### **Education Report:**

- Financial position is identical to previous year with Income and Expenditure matching – it is our goal to break even.
- We are continuing to support examinations, resources and contractors with 85% of all secondary schools members of NZIPES and increasing all the time.
- International Year of Light (IYOL) – continuing to support the International Young Physicists' Tournament
- NZ Physics Teachers' Resource Bank is now under the banner of the NZIP.
- NZQA relationship with NZIP – this has largely been resolved with new staff and a new moderator who is an NZIP member. We are working more collaboratively and there is a commitment from NZQA to involve NZIP.

Future initiatives:

- Professional development for teachers – writing more material
- Development of secure exemplar materials for teachers as current materials are too easily accessible on NZQA website.
- Research project – how assessments should take place in future, eg NZQA's push for more digital assessments. Trying to look at a research based approach to this which would involve a joint project with staff from NZQA, Victoria University and NZIPES.

***Moved from the Chair, report accepted***

**CARRIED**

## **Financial Report:**

- Julie Collins from Conferences and Events presented the financial report (attached). She explained the consolidation of the NZIP and NZIPES accounts.
- The total lost for the period 2015/2016 was \$54.46.
- Membership numbers – NZIP 115 and NZIPES 304.
- International Year of Light funds – clarification required on where these funds belong. David Hutchinson to see resolution with Cather Simpson and John Harvey as Co-Chairs of IYOL.
- Conference and Events fees increased. NZIPES fee was increased by \$25 and this covered the fee increase.
- Cashflow – NZIPES covers its costs but NZIP is currently running at a yearly deficit of \$5,000. We need to look at ways to increase revenue either through increasing fees, sponsorship or more profit from the biennial conference. We need to increase our membership base in non-conference years and need to ensure that retaining yearly NZIP membership is worthwhile. We currently have 15 Fellows so could look at increasing their fees.

*Moved by Denis Burchill/Geoff Barnes*

**CARRIED**

## **Retired Membership Classification:**

A proposal from the Chair to add a new category for retired members to reflect the esteem we hold for our retired members and to fit with the Constitution. It was proposed that we would formally tie the retired members rate to the student/non-corporate rate which is currently \$25.00.

*Moved from the Chair, new classification accepted*

**CARRIED**

*Due to this being a Constitution Change a postal ballot will be sent to members for voting.*

## **Rationalising Financial Year:**

A proposal to change the financial year to the 1 January – 31 December each year was discussed. This change was included with the notice of the AGM.

We will seek to rationalise the Financial Year with the Academic Year subject to advice and any formal change will be put forward to the membership by correspondence.

*Moved from the Chair, new classification accepted*

**CARRIED**

*Due to this being a Constitution Change a postal ballot will be sent to members for voting.*

## **Election of Officers:**

President:	David Hutchinson
Vice-President:	David Wiltshire
Treasurer:	Blair Blakie
Secretary:	Daniel Schumayer
Education:	David Housden

*Moved by Denis Burchill/Geoff Barnes*

**CARRIED**

## **NZIP and IOP Relationship:**

IOP is keen to make the relationship with NZIP move active and if you are a current member with NZIP, you can get a reduced membership rate with IOP. The proposal is to make a class of membership – associate which would give NZIP members a subset of resources including an electronic subscription to Physics World. They also have a large amount of educational resources available. Potentially there is the opportunity for funding of an IOP speaker at the NZIP Biennial Conference and possibility of setting up a jointly sponsored research similar to the Bragg medal with Australia and IOP.

David has been given the mandate to continue these discussions with Roy Sambles and to sign the agreement when Roy visits New Zealand in December 2016. Final agreement to be discussed at NZIP Council level.

### **General Business:**

Ministry of Education has recently announced that for 2017, TeachNZ Science, Technology and Maths Secondary Scholarships will be available.

Science	40
Technology	20
Mathematics	40

Scholarship includes Course fees paid + \$10,000 for one year of study.

Meeting closed 5:42 pm.