



AUSTRALASIAN MYCOLOGICAL SOCIETY INC.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

13 NOVEMBER 1998

MINUTES

Held at: Lecture Room 4th Floor, School of Biological Sciences, University of New South Wales.

Meeting opened 6.30 p.m.

Present: Jack Simpson (chair), Cheryl Grgurinovic, Tom May, Wieland Meyer, and 17 other members and friends.

**1. Minutes of 1997 AGM**

MOTION: Minutes of 1997 AGM accepted as true and accurate record. Moved: Peter McGee, Seconded: Cheryl Grgurinovic. Carried.

**2. New office bearers**

Since a single nomination has been received for each position, the following will take office:

President: Cheryl Grgurinovic, Vice-President: Wieland Meyer, Treasurer: Heino Lepp, Secretary: Tom May, Councillors: Peter Buchanan, Ceri Pearce.

A welcome was extended to the two new Council members: Ceri Pearce, working at CSIRO Atherton on a revision of *Phyllachora*, and Wieland Meyer, working at Westmead Hospital Sydney, on molecular taxonomy of fungi, particularly yeasts such as *Candida*. The current Council of AMS now comprises a good balance in terms of taxa (macrofungi, microfungi) and interests (taxonomy, ecology, conservation, quarantine, plant pathology, and medical mycology).

**3. Financial report**

The financial report for the year ended 30 June 1998 was tabled, showing a surplus of \$1544 for the year ended 30 June 1998, and total assets of \$6780. MOTION: that the Financial report be accepted. Moved: Anne Ashford, Seconded: Wieland Meyer. Carried.

**4. AMS activities**

**4a. Publications**

Jack Simpson reported that the *Australasian Mycological Newsletter* continues to be published quarterly. It is proposed to alter the name of the Society publication to *Australasian Mycologist* from the first issue of 1999, and to encourage a greater proportion of refereed contributions.

**4b. Web site**

Cheryl Grgurinovic has prepared a web site for the Society which will be accessible shortly.

**4c. International Mycological Society**

Jack Simpson reported that AMS is an affiliated Society of the International Mycological Association, which does not give AMS voting rights. Full membership of IMA is \$US400 per year, and considered too large an outlay for AMS at present.

**5. Future meetings**

**5a. 1999—Sydney**

A scientific meeting of AMS will be organised in association with the IUMS Congress of Mycology which is being held in Sydney in August 1999. A likely date is Saturday 21 August. This will provide an inexpensive opportunity for students and others not presenting papers at the IUMS conference to talk about their work to mycological colleagues. Note that there are a limited number of vacancies in the IUMS program for speakers, so members are encouraged to submit proposals to Symposium convenors (see AMS 17 for full list of symposia), although most will have to be presented as posters. There will be a foray to Watagan Forest on the Saturday before the IUMS conference (August 14), organised by Jack Simpson, with participation from the Sydney Fungal Studies Group.

**5b. 2000—Te Anau**

The scientific meeting of AMS in 2000 will be held in association with the New Zealand fungal foray, planned for 30 April–6 May, at Lake Te Anau, Fiordland. The Foray organiser is Lawrie Taylor. During the foray, AMS will hold a one day scientific meeting and an AGM.

**5c. 2006—IMC**

IMC7 is in Oslo in 2002. There is a strong possibility that IMC8 (due to be held in 2006) and the IUMS Mycology Congress will be held jointly. Due to the IUMS Mycology Congress already having been held in Australia in 1999, a bid for any such 'joint' mycology congress is unlikely to be successful. In case a joint congress does not eventuate, an Australasian bid for IMC8 is 'in the wings'.

**6. Other business****6a. Vote of thanks to outgoing Councillors**

Cheryl Grgurinovic took the chair as incoming President and proposed a vote of thanks to Jack Simpson and David Ellis, who are retiring from Council. Tom May praised the vision of Jack Simpson in playing a large role in setting up the Society and ensuring its continuation.

Meeting closed at 7.00 p.m.

SIGNED .....



..... (Jack Simpson)

**REPORTS OF SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS**

**Conservation Subcommittee.** Tom May has taken up the role of coordinator of this group. The *Conservation Overview of Australian non-marine Lichens, Bryophytes, Algae and Fungi*, published in 1997, is currently being examined by Environment Australia to see how best to implement the recommendations. The Subcommittee will make a submission on suggested actions to improve the conservation status of Australian fungi.

**Education Special Interest Group.** Peter McGee reports that the Group submitted an application to CUTSD for support for initial development of a national education program to be delivered over the WWW. The application was forwarded through the University of Sydney and supported by them. Unfortunately, the application was unsuccessful. The Group is now investigating alternative approaches to raising funds, for two reasons. The funds for CUTSD are limited, and would not have allowed completion of the program. Secondly, the program must be completed within 12 months, making it difficult to continue constructing the package, and refining the materials.

**Fungal Poisoning Network.** Tony Young continues to act as Convenor of the Poisoning Network. He reports that some issues relating to liability insurance for those offering identifications and information in regard to fungal poisonings remain unresolved. Individuals may need their own insurance, where they are not associated with an institution. Even when there is institutional affiliation, out of state inquiries may not strictly be covered by liability insurance.

Tom May  
Secretary, Australasian Mycological Society