

# Annual General Meeting 2006

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Association for Science Education held on Friday 6th January 2006, in Lecture Theatre G10, Palmer Building, University of Reading, commencing at 10.48 hours. There were 29 members present.

No apologies had been received. Members were welcomed to the Meeting. The Minutes of the 2005 Annual Business Meeting were received and accepted as a correct record. There were no matters arising.

## 1. Annual Report 2004/05

The Chair proposed that the meeting approve the Annual Report.

**Carried:** *nem.con.*

**Points raised:** The Chair expressed his

thanks to the Emily Park Junior School for the cover illustration and thanked the team that compiled the Report, in particular David Bevan, the Immediate-Past Chair. The Chair drew attention in particular to:

- The launch of primary upd8, the establishment of the e-Strategy Group and the continuing focus on the ASE presence on the World Wide Web; and
- The growing band of ASE Field Officers, who play a vital role and need constant support from the membership.

## 2. Annual Statement of Accounts

The Chair welcomed the news of a fourth year showing a surplus and congratulated the Treasurer and Headquarters team on their excellent

management of income and expenditure. He requested the meeting approve the Statement of Accounts.

**Proposed:** Graham Kingsley

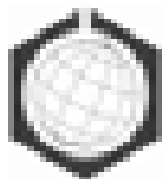
**Seconded:** Gordon Doig

**Carried:** *nem.con.*

## 3. Vote of Thanks

Phil Ramsden, the Honorary Secretary (Annual Conference), drew attention to the significant rise in pre-booked delegate registrations this year and wished all members a successful conference. He proposed a vote of thanks to the Vice Chancellor of the University of Reading, Professor Gordon Marshall, for inviting ASE to return to Reading for its 'first' Annual Conference. Thanks were also due to:

- Niall Jones, Conferences and Events Manager, Matthew White and Nigel Monks of Commercial Services, for all their help throughout more than a year of planning;
- Members of the University staff, including the porters, hall staff, security and administrative staff, who worked so tirelessly;
- Dr. Chris Skidmore, who served, once again, as the Vice Chancellor's representative on the Planning Group, gave valuable advice and organised another, even better, Frontier Science Lecture programme. Thanks too to all the lecturers from Reading who gave up their time so selflessly;
- The Berkshire and Oxfordshire Region members who have worked so hard before and during the meeting to make it such a success. These include John Oversby (Region Chair), who also minuted the planning meetings so efficiently, Kim Garland (Promoting Excellence in School Science Exhibition), Ian Jee and David Archer;
- Belinda Blakeney, who returned from maternity leave in the summer to take over the running of this, the first Conference, from Nicola Hern who set things on such a sound footing from January to June. Thanks are also due to



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Speakers and topics: Prof. John Bryant (Creationism, Stem Cells), Dr Pete Moore (Science and Ethics in the Media), Prof. John Pilbrow FAIP FInstP (Impact of Einstein, Divine Action), Dr Vinoth Ramachandra (Science and theology of natural disasters), Dr John Taylor ("Perspectives on Science" syllabus; workshop on "Truth"), Prof. Bob White FRS (Environment).

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the other conference staff, Lareen Jolly and Barbara Mahmoudi, helped in recent months by Andrew Derbyshire, James Bowers and Shaun Bridgeman who joined us in a temporary capacity;

■ Gerry Mears, for whom this year's Manufacturers' and Publishers' Exhibition was his last. Gerry retired in October from the post of Conference and Events Manager, which he has filled so well since 1995. The first Exhibition for which he had sole responsibility was in Birmingham in 1997 and, since then, due to his vision and hard work, we have seen the Exhibition outgrow university accommodation and move into the 3500 square metre marquee that it now occupies. Gerry took on the challenge of using a marquee and has seen it through to its current high standard. He will be greatly missed;

■ Other members of HQ staff who have helped throughout the meeting with administration and enquiries;

■ The University helpers who have turned their hands to 101 different tasks with willingness and energy;

■ The small band of dedicated volunteer helpers who provide information and background support at every meeting;

■ In particular, to Richard and Jo Long who have been helping at Annual Meetings for very many years and have finally decided that Reading is to be their last. They have helped in many capacities, but currently Jo helps on the ASE Registration Desk and Richard's main task is to produce and then update the PowerPoint presentation of useful information that runs in the foyer of each meeting. This is an innovation pioneered by Richard and greatly appreciated and relied upon by delegates. Sincere thanks are expressed to both of them for all their long and unstinting service;

■ To John Carter, helped until 2004 by his wife, Ruth, who has been a volunteer helper at Annual Meetings for a very long time. He and Ruth used to be fully occupied organising visits in the days when the Meetings were 5-day events and delegates had more time to visit places of local scientific interest. The Carters continued to help with many aspects of the Exhibition and worked closely with Gerry Mears in recent years. Since Ruth's death in 2004, John has continued to help but now is retiring and the ASE owes him a sincere vote of thanks for all his hard work at Annual Meetings over so many years.

## ASE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2007

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the Association for Science Education will be held at 10.45 hours on Friday 5th January 2007, in the Senate Room, Aston Webb Building, at the University of Birmingham for the purpose of transacting the following business:

1. To receive, consider and approve the Annual Report of Council.
2. To receive, consider and approve the Annual Statement of Accounts.
3. To approve a series of Votes of Thanks to be proposed by the Annual Conference Secretary.
4. To notify the election of the President for the ensuing year.
5. To elect Honorary Members.
6. To elect the Auditors.
7. To elect members of the Quality & Audit Committee.
8. To transact any other business which can be considered under the rules of the Association.

All members of the Association are entitled to be present and to vote.

Further details, including information about the nominees for the Quality and Audit Committee, will be available on request from ASE Headquarters and in the members' area of the ASE website in advance of the Annual General Meeting, on [www.ase.org.uk](http://www.ase.org.uk)

### 4. Association President

The Chair informed the meeting that Professor Sir Gareth Roberts had been elected by Council to be the President of the Association for 2006.

### 5. Honorary Members

The following persons, nominated and approved by Council, were received as Honorary Members of the Association:

- Professor Sir Gareth Roberts
- Mrs Max de Boo
- Dr. Martin Hollins

### 6. Auditors

It was proposed, seconded and agreed that: 'Messrs Fenleys, Chartered Accountants, are appointed auditors for the year ending 31st July 2006'.

**Proposed:** Stuart Farmer  
**Seconded:** Graham Kingsley  
**Carried:** *nem.con.*

### 7. Chartered Science Teacher Status

The Association has gained its license from the Science Council and the Charter will be formally presented to the Association at the Association Dinner this evening. The Shadow Registration Board has met to prepare for the first wave of science teacher applications and has compiled a broad draft, to be put to Council early in 2006. It is hoped that applications will be sought for Chartered Science Teacher status from March 2006.

### 8. Changes to the Rules of the Association

The changes to the Rules of the Association to comply with Chartered

Status have been approved by Council and this meeting was asked to formally accept these changes.

**Proposed:** Catherine Wilson  
**Seconded:** Manoj Chitnavis  
**Carried:** *nem.con.*

### 9. Election of a Quality and Audit Committee

The Chair gave the meeting formal notice that this Committee is now in existence. The Chief Executive explained the background to, and significance of, its establishment. It will report directly to the Annual General Meeting, rather than Council. The meeting was asked to approve the establishment of this Committee.

**Proposed:** Peter Humphries  
**Seconded:** Lynne Symonds  
**Carried:** *nem.con.*

### 10. Any Other Business

The Chief Executive reported briefly on the developments concerning new premises for Association Headquarters. Discussions are ongoing and no timescale is confirmed at this time

### 11. Chair's Thanks

The Chair thanked the outgoing President, Sir Mike Tomlinson and the Immediate-past Chair, David Bevan, for their support and hard work over the past year. He also thanked Bob Ponchaud, the outgoing and last Active Trustee!

No further business was tabled and the meeting closed at 11.14 hours.