

2001 AGM Minutes

New Zealand Society of Plant Physiologists

The Annual General Meeting of the New Zealand Society of Plant Physiologists Inc. was held at Lincoln University, Stewart 2 Lecture Theatre, Lincoln at 5:00 pm on Thursday 28 June 2001.

1. Michael McManus welcomed the 15 members present to the meeting. Apologies were presented for Mike Trought, Ralph Bungard, Debbie Care, Jim Dunlop, Jaqueline Rowarth, Brian Jordon, Paula Jameson, Gavin Ross, Matthew Turnbull, David Whitehead, Marian McKenzie, Adrian Walcroft, Andy Allan Stuart Tustin, Ian Ferguson.
2. The **minutes** of the 1999 AGM were accepted (**moved**: Dennis Greer, seconded Carolyn Lister; carried).
3. **Matters arising.** All matters arising had been listed as agenda items for the AGM.
4. Michael McManus presented the **President's report** (attached). In 2002 NZSBMB will be meeting in Christchurch. Discussion was held on the concept of a Presidents Symposium, which would provide a mechanism whereby a symposium with invited speakers could be organised by the President for the annual meeting. The topic for the symposium would be determined by the President. The members present at the meeting gave a positive response to the concept. Michael closed by **moving** adoption of his report (carried unanimously).
5. The **Treasurer's report** was presented by Jocelyn Eason (attached). Jocelyn closed by **moving** adoption of her report (seconded Michael McManus, carried).
6. **Election of officers.** Jocelyn Eason nominated Michael McManus for President of the Society (seconded Dennis Greer); Michael McManus nominated Julian Heyes for Vice-President (seconded Dennis Greer); and Julian Heyes nominated Jocelyn Eason for Secretary/Treasurer (seconded Peter Minchin). For Council, Michael McManus nominated Mathew Turnbull, Marian McKenzie and Andrew Allan (seconded John Palmer); Peter Minchin nominated Mike Clearwater (seconded Dennis Greer). Michael McManus **moved** that nominations be closed (seconded Jocelyn Eason; carried) so all the above were declared elected. Gavin Ross continues in his role as Immediate Past President.
7. **Conference Venues 2002 and beyond.** Michael McManus advised that NZSPP have previously held joint conferences with a number of other societies (e.g. ASPP, NZSHS, NZIAS and NZSBMB/ASBMB) and advised that discussions between NZSPP and ASPP council members had taken place at ComBio 2000 in Wellington in December. ASPP were meeting in Melbourne in 2003. Julian Heyes moved that NZSPP meet with ASPP in Melbourne in 2003 (seconded David Lewis; carried).

Michael McManus proposed meeting with NZSBMB in December of 2002 in Christchurch. Discussions on the joint annual meeting for 2002 were held, NZSHS/NZIAS are planning to meet in Palmerston North in June/July of 2002. Peter Minchin moved that NZSPP meet with NZSBMB in December of 2002 (seconded Jens Wunsche; carried). The meeting agreed that we should work towards annual joint meeting with NZSBMB, ASPP and NZSHS once every three years.

8. **NZSPP Outstanding Physiologist Award.** The inaugural NZSPP Outstanding Physiologist Award is made to Peter Minchin and Michael Thorpe in recognition of their work on phloem transport in living plants. They have worked with a short-lived radioactive isotope of carbon to label the sugar produced by photosynthesis and observe its movement within the plant. Their

sophisticated analysis procedures have enabled them to derive detailed information on the mechanisms driving sugar flow. This work has found several processes occurring within plants that had not been previously seen, which has led to greater understanding of plant growth. Many international collaborations and a recent Marsden grant have resulted from this work. (Michael and Peter gave their NZSPP Outstanding Physiologist Award Lecture on Friday 29 June 2001 and medals were presented to them by Michael McManus.)

9. **Web site.** Jocelyn Eason reported that the Royal Society had given NZSPP a URL so that we can set up a new website, one that is not linked to the HortResearch server. Membership records are currently being updated. A mail out of membership details to all NZSPP members with the 2001 invoices was made so that required changes could be detected and made to our database. Jocelyn has not been able to find anyone who is a member of NZSPP willing to take on the job of webmaster, all the documents for the web are updated and in WORD documents but Jocelyn does not know how to get them onto the new website. Sandy Lang will approach Ian Warrington for HortResearch assistance in setting up the website.
10. **Profit-share from ComBio 2000.** Michael McManus reported that there was a profit from ComBio2000 that would be shared between the participating societies. Firm details on how the ca. \$35,000 profit was to be shared among the societies are not known at this stage, the suggestion has been made that the splits would relate to number of the registrants each Society had.
11. **Any other business**
 - (a) Peter Minchin suggested that the windfall from the ComBio conference should be used to subsidize students to the Melbourne meeting with ASPP in 2003.
 - (b) Jocelyn Eason thanked Carolyn Lister for acting as the NZSPP representative on the organizing committee for this years annual conference in Lincoln (2001).
 - (c) Carolyn Lister reported that the NZSPP Dinner would be held after the AGM, and gave details of the restaurant (18 attended).

The meeting closed at 6:12 pm.