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## New Zealand Geographical Society

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2019

The University of Auckland  
Old Government House (The Federation of Women's Suite)

Friday, 10 October 2019  
4.30 – 7.30pm NZGS AGM

### MINUTES

**Present:** Chair: Lynda Johnston (President), Ralf Ohlemüller (Treasurer), Maria Borovnik (Secretary), Karen Fisher (Membership Officer, Chair Auckland Branch), Nicholas Lewis (Chair of the Editorial Board of the NZG), Colin McLeay (Chair Waikato Branch), Graeme Campbell, Jane Evans, Jane Foster, Ian Fuller, David Hayward, Richard Le Heron, June Logie, Paul Williams.

**Welcome and confirmation of the Agenda, by NZGS President, Lynda Johnston.**

**Apologies:** Robin Kearns, Juliana Mansvelt (Managing Editor of the NZG), Michael Roche (IGU Officer).

**Apologies for Lateness:** Karen Fisher (Membership Officer, Chair Auckland Branch), Nicholas Lewis (Chair of the Editorial Board of the NZG).

**Minutes** of the AGM held in Hamilton, 4 October 2018, were accepted and confirmed by the Meeting.

**MOTION:** To confirm that the minutes are a true and accurate record of the meeting.  
Maria Borovnik/ Colin McLeay. Carried.

**No Matters arising**

**President's Report:** A written report had been circulated within the Annual Report.

**MOTION from the Chair:** To accept the Annual Report. Carried.

President, Lynda Johnston, referred to her written report. She thanked everyone on the Executive and Branches who are contributing their work to the Society. She especially thanked David Hayward (past Treasurer) and Ralf Ohlemüller (Treasurer) and Secretary Maria Borovnik for their contributions.

**Secretary's Report:** A written report was circulated within the Annual Report. Secretary, Maria Borovnik thanked President Lynda Johnston and the Executive. She enjoyed working for the NZGS as Secretary over the last nine years and thanked everyone for their excellent team work. The new Secretary, Dr Axel Malecki, will start in January 2020 and she will gladly support this transition. The President thanked Maria Borovnik for her continued efforts with a gift.

**Treasurer's Report:** A written report was prepared by Ralf Ohlemüller, who introduced himself and explained the report. The accounts in 2018 were in deficit, which is not of great concern as the Society currently has financial resources available to balance these. Branch accounts are now reviewed rather than audited.

**MOTION:** to accept the accounts. Ralf Ohlemüller/Maria Borovnik. Carried.

**MOTION from the Chair:** to accept the Treasurer's report. Carried.

**Discussion:** The meeting noted that insurance costs had increased. Also, the grant for the NZBoGT must be audited, and some of the services must be paid for.

**Report from the Membership Officer:** A written report was circulated in advance (within the Annual Report) and acknowledged by the meeting. President, Lynda Johnston thanked Branches for supporting the Society's membership drive; she thanked the NZBoGT and teachers for their activities to build membership.

**Report from the Managing Editor and Chair of the Editorial Board:** A written report was circulated in advance and acknowledged by the meeting.

**Report from the Chair of the New Zealand Board of Geography Teachers (NZBoGT):** A written report was circulated in advance and acknowledged by the meeting.

**Discussion:** Meeting participants discussed how to access the journal's Best Paper prize that had recently been introduced by the Editorial Board, and it was asked whether Early Career Researcher contributions could be supported.

**MOTION from the Chair:** to accept the Reports by President, Secretary, Membership Officer, Managing Editor and Chair of the NZBoGT. Carried.

**Early Career Researcher Network (ECRN) Matters:** President Lynda Johnston explained ECRN activities and she added that study group activities support this network.

**MOTION:** to accept the ECRN report. Maria Borovnik/ Ralf Ohlemüller. Carried.

**Research and Study Groups:** The Society currently entertains three Research and Study Groups.

- a) The *Mobilities in Geography* Research and Study group activities were highlighted by Maria Borovnik: 1) At the NZGS/IAG Conference in Auckland 11-14 July 2018, a "Mobilities and Weather" themed session was organised by Tim Edensor (Metropolitan University of Manchester), Kaya Barry (Griffith University), Maria Borovnik (Massey University), and Gail Adams-Hutcheson (University of Waikato); 2) A book contract was prepared and signed by Routledge by Tim Edensor, Maria Borovnik and Kaya Barry for an edited book on *Weather Mobilities*. 3) A joint Aotearoa New Zealand and AusMob (Australian Mobilities Network) Symposium was held, 3-4 December 2018, with the theme of *Mobilities, Stories,*

*Movement and Art*, was organised at the University of Waikato by Gail Adams-Hutcheson and Karen Barbour (Waikato), Maria Borovnik (Massey), and Kaya Barry (Griffith).

- b) The *Women and Gender Geographies* Research and Study group activities were explained by Lynda Johnston. **1)** The group had five zoom meetings during 2018. **2)** a 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual WGGRN/WGGSG Symposium was held in Christchurch, 12 February 2018; **3)** The group sponsored activities at the NZGS/IAG Conference, with a panel session on ‘Gendered Geographies of Care and Mentoring Symposium’, 10-11 July 2018, and a gender specialist session on ‘Gender, Sex, Space and place: Precarious Geographies?’, which was sponsored by the NZGS Study group and the IGU Gender and Geography Commission, and organised by Lynda Johnston and Andrew Gorman Murray (Western Sydney); **4)** A publication was prepared by WGGRN (Women and Gender Geographies Research Network), Gail Adams-Hutcheson, Ann E. Bartos, Kelly Dombroski, Erena Le Heron, Yvonne Underhill-Sem (2019). *Feminist geographies in Aotearoa New Zealand: Cultural, social and political movements. Gender, Place and Culture.*

**Constitutional Changes:** Two constitution documents (one with track changes and one clean document) were circulated to the AGM in advance. The Secretary, Maria Borovnik, explained each of the changes:

**MOTION:** to ratify constitutional changes as decided by Council. Lynda Johnston/Richard Le Heron.

Discussion:

The meeting discussed By Laws 2.4.3 and asked for clarifications of ‘exceptional circumstances’, it was agreed to add the following:

2.4.3 Elected members of the Executive Committee are not normally eligible for awards during their time of service unless the sub-committee indicates exceptional circumstances.

The meeting referred to By Laws 2.6.1 and decided to delete the words “representing the eight universities”.

Carried.

**Changes to the Society’s headquarter and administration procedures:** Treasurer, Ralf Ohlemüller, asked the meeting to discuss a possible new headquarter and to review the employment of a paid administrator.

**MOTION:** that the Executive Committee consider the current administrator and headquarter arrangements. Ralf Ohlemüller/Ian Fuller.

Discussion:

The administrator works closely with Treasurer and the Membership Officer. The meeting discussed whether a new position or two split positions should be created.

The Society’s headquarter has a history of rotating. The meeting suggested that headquarter ‘terms’ could be included in the constitution and that the location of the headquarter to be reviewed regularly. The current headquarter is hosted by the Manawatu Branch at Massey University for nine years. Headquarters provide rooming for the historical archives, a mailing address, and cover for logistics, such as photocopying and printing.

**ACTION:** To have explanations about headquarter arrangements documented.

**Upcoming Conference:** President Lynda Johnston explained that the NZGS conference, 24-27 November 2020 will be hosted by Wellington Branch.

**Confirmation of Officers:**

**MOTION from the Chair:** to confirm Ann Pomeroy as the new Trustee: Carried.

**MOTION from the Chair:** to confirm Axel Malecki as the new National Secretary: Carried.

**MOTION from the Chair:** to confirm Co-opted Member Gail Hutcheson for one more term: Carried.

**MOTION from the Chair:** to confirm all the officers as they stand: Carried.

**MOTION from the Chair:** to elect Louise Richards as the new Vice President: Carried.

President, Lynda Johnston, explained that Robin Kearns was elected as the new Representative of the New Zealand Geographic Board.

**Presentation of Awards:**

The following **NZGS Premier Awards** in 2019 were granted:

**Distinguished New Zealand Geographer Award (and Medal):** Professor Paul W. Williams, University of Auckland (nominated by Richard Le Heron, Robin Kearns, Richard Bedford, and Karen Fisher, Auckland Branch) and Professor Warwick E. Murray, Victoria University of Wellington (nominated by John Overton, Wellington Branch).

**Distinguished Service Award:** Jane Michelle Foster, NZBoGT (nominated by Jane Evans, Louise Richards, Tony Binns and Mike Taylor, Wellington Branch and NZBoGT)

**Honorary Geographer Award:** Moana Jackson (nominated by Rebecca Kiddle and Amanda Thomas, Wellington Branch)

The following **NZGS Presidents Awards** in 2019 were presented:

**Research Collaboration Award:** Marcela Palomino-Schalscha, Victoria University of Wellington (nominated by John Overton, Rewi Newnham, Amanda Thomas, Sara Kindon, Julie Cupples, Katia Guilloff, Wellington Branch) and Harvey Perkins and Mike Mackay, AgResearch (nominated by Karen Johnston and Sarah Edwards, Canterbury Branch).

**Emerging Researcher in Geography (in all educational settings):** Amanda Thomas, Victoria University of Wellington (nominated by Warwick Murray), Gail Yvonne Adams-Hutcheson, Waikato University (nominated by Robyn Longhurst and Colin McLeay), and Marc Tadaki, Cawthorn Institute (nominated by Nick Lewis and Karen Fisher, Auckland University).

**Best Master's Thesis:** Ivor Heijnen, Canterbury University (nominated by Emma Stewart and Roslyn Kerr).

**Best Doctoral Thesis:** Dr Andrew Neverman, Massey University (nominated by Ian Fuller and Peter Kemp), and Dr Amba J. Sepie, Canterbury University (nominated by Peyman Zawar-Reza and Garth Cant)

**Other Business:**

1. The Hauraki Gulf Board is seeking to make some changes in the future. Graham Campbell inquired whether Waikato and Auckland Branches could explore possible fieldtrips to explore the catchments of different rivers. He anticipated 3-4 fieldtrips per year over the next three years, supported by the NZGS if possible. Gulf Board fieldtrips would provide the opportunity to discuss and raise awareness on environmental and socio-cultural issues.

The meeting discussed possible opportunities to support the Hauraki Gulf Board and suggested that it would be positive for the Society to be involved should there be capability.

**ACTION:** Graham Campbell to write a position paper on the Hauraki Gulf Board fieldtrip options and the Society to circulate these asking the geography community for suggestions.

President, Lynda Johnston suggested that such an initiative were intriguing and could be of interest for academics and school teachers.

2. The Auckland Branch remembers Emeritus Professor Warren Moran, who passed away 13th August, 2019 and used the Cumberland Lecture (given by Kennedy Warne) to honour him.
3. The Otago Branch and Executive Committee remembers Emeritus Professor Peter Holland, and his invaluable contributions to the Society.

**Concluding remarks:** President, Lynda Johnston thanked everyone.

The meeting acknowledged this last official meeting for President Lynda Johnston and Secretary Maria Borovnik.

**The meeting closed at 7.30pm.**

Maria Borovnik, National Secretary, NZGS, 17 September 2020.