

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on August 31, 2018 at University College Dublin

Present: P. Barry, C. Boyd, S. Buckley, T. Carroll, L. Creedon, A. Cronin, R. Dark, M. Destrade, N. Dobbs, S. Dineen, E. Gill, B. Goldsmith, M. Golitsyna, J. Grannell, P. Greaney, T. Hüttemann, B. Kreußler, G. Lessells, R. Levene, P. Lynch, D. Mackey, M. Mackey, D. Malone, M. Mathieu, J.P. McCarthy (guest), P. Mellon, A. Mustăţă, A. O'Farrell, G. Pfeiffer, M. Rosbotham, H. Šmigoc, N. Snigireva, M. Venkova.

Apologies: J. Gleeson, C. Mac an Bhaird, E. Oldham, M. O'Reilly, C. Stack, A. Wood.

1 Minutes

Minutes of the last meeting were accepted.

2 Matters Arising

J. Grannell's document on the new applied mathematics programme at leaving certificate level has been forwarded to the NCCA's Mathematics Development Group (MDG). The MDG produced a draft before Christmas incorporating a number of our suggestions.

J. Grannell suggested writing to the NCCA to acknowledge this positive action. There have also been a number of meetings between J. Grannell, D. Wraith and J. Gleeson to provide PDST sessions on new parts of the course. Teachers seem to appreciate the work. Thanks were extended to the IMS Education Subcommittee and to J. Grannell, D. Wraith and J. Gleeson in particular.

3 Correspondence

The society had received an e-mail from A. Wood about arrangements for the Stokes centenary in 2019. S. Buckley noted that it would be good for the society to provide some support for events during the year. E. Gill said that he would be happy to help to coordinate and it could link in with programmes such as *Boole to School* and Hamilton events. A. Mustăţă asked if it would be possible to do a Stokes-specific version of Boole to School. P. Lynch noted he has suitable Stokes material. S. Buckley offered to coordinate between interested parties over the next few months.

4 Membership Applications

Membership applications had been approved for E. Kelly-Delahunt,

G. Slerin, J.P. McCarthy, P. Siegl, A. Perrotta, M. Bustamante, M. Jordan-Santana and N. Dobbs.

5 President's Report

- S. Buckley noted that L. Creedon and M. Mathieu had joined the committee at the start of 2018. He also thanked A. O'Farrell and the editorial board of the bulletin for their support during the year. G. Lessells and R. Timoney were also thanked for practical help with production of the bulletin.
- The committee met in QUB in December, and J. Gleeson acted as invited speaker. The next committee meeting will be held in UCC in December. The next AGM is expected to be held in NUIG.
- Six conferences have been supported by the society through the year: Quantum Information Theory (UCC, Feb 2018), Groups in Galway 2018 (NUIG, May 2018), British and Irish Geometry Meeting (BI-GeM, QUB, Jun 2018), International Conference on Complex Analysis, Potential Theory and Applications (ICCAPTA, UCD, Jun 2018), Topics in Functional Analysis (NUIG, Jul 2018), Women in Mathematics in Ireland (UCD, Aug 2018).
- The annual meeting of EMS presidents was held in Maynooth in April. S. Buckley (representing the IMS) and M. Mathieu (representing the LMS) attended the EMS council meeting in Prague. The next big EMS meeting will be held around the European Mathematical Congress in 2020.

The EMS can support events and application forms are available on the EMS website. S. Buckley and M. Mathieu can provide information on the types of events that are suitable for funding.

6 Treasurer's Report

A report on 2017 finances were circulated. There was a small shortfall of around €600, as well as a banking error that was corrected. The main income is from membership and the main outgoings are for the bulletin, conference support, the main IMS meeting and our EMS subscription. Online access to accounts has been arranged.

The report was accepted subject to minor modifications. Thanks were extended to G. Pfeiffer.

7 Bulletin

A. O'Farrell thanked the many people involved in the editorial board and production of the journal. G. Lessells had been looking after printing in Limerick, but this arrangement was coming to an end, and the cost of printing was set to increase from the previous figure of around €550. This time the bulletin has been printed via lulu.com at a cost of around €870. An Irish printing operation in UCD has been identified by T. Unger who can print at a similar cost. Thanks were extended to T. Unger.

The committee had discussed the sustainability of producing printed copies of the bulletin, given printing and distribution costs. S. Buckley noted that the committee was going to conduct a survey of members to get feedback on these and other matters. B. Kreußler asked about current costs and A. O'Farrell noted that current costs were approximately €850 for printing and €300 for postage. There are also exchange copies and copyright library copies that need to be delivered. S. Dineen noted that physical copies are important, but members should be consulted. It might be possible to obtain sponsorship or spread costs by distributing copies to schools. P. Mellon agreed that there risks with electronic-only publications that can disappear from the web. C. Boyd asked if libraries can archive electronic journals.

G. Lessells noted that the bulletin and copies of the EMS booklet were available. Thanks were extended to T. O'Farrell and the team.

8 Educational Subcommittee

- The issue of the new applied mathematics programme had been covered in matters arising. There was a general impression that the NCCA was currently open to advice and input.
- The committee was currently discussing textbooks. Many books had errors in content and/or are not well aligned with the syllabus. A system for vetting textbooks could be useful, and a document will be produced.

M. Mackey asked if the committee could recommend books. A. O'Farrell noted that this could be a substantial piece of work. B. Goldsmith noted it might also be legally complicated, and the NCCA might be better placed to address the issue with the society's support. A. O'Farrell observed that a

clear definition of the syllabus is also an issue, it may be helpful for textbook authors to flesh out the syllabus to something more detailed that could be referenced by textbook authors. C. Boyd asked if the IMTA have a position, and suggested we could follow up with members with strong IMTA links. L. Creedon suggested it would be good to invite the IMTA president to the next meeting to strengthen links.

- Thanks were extended to the education subcommittee.

9 Elections

- The president and vice president positions were available for filling. P. Mellon was elected president and T. Carroll was elected vice president.
- J. Gleeson has reached the end of his term.

10 AOB

- P. Mellon noted that there will be a conference in May for R. Timoney's 65th birthday on Analysis, Geometry and Algebra.
- E. Gill noted that the 13th Maths Week will be run this year, centered on Hamilton Day, as usual. Get in touch if you plan to run events or have a venue.
- There will be a meeting for the 75th birthday of T. Laffey organised by the Irish Linear Algebra and Matrix Theory group.