Planning is well advanced for the third joint NZSAP ASAP Conference to be held in Adelaide Australia from the 4th to 7th July 2016. Philip Hynd and his Australian team have put together a strong conference programme which will focus on animal welfare, productivity and profitability of our livestock industries and will feature invited and guest speakers in addition to contributed papers.

The conference will be unique in bringing together animal scientists, consumers, social scientists, educators, animal health and nutrition companies, and animal producers into one venue where cross-fertilisation of ideas can flourish. The Living Legend Lecture this year will be delivered by Associate Professor Graham Barrell and will focus on 40 years of research in the field of endocrinology predominantly in sheep and deer.

Animal production is undergoing a global revolution unparalleled in history. Changes in the economies of highly populated countries has led to an unprecedented and growing demand for animal protein, along with consumer demands for high animal welfare standards, increased pressure for higher quality animal products, and, of course, all at the lowest possible prices, conspire to make animal production an exciting but challenging industry in 2016 and beyond. If we are to meet the demands for affordable, high-quality animal protein produced in ways that are acceptable to a new generation of highly-informed consumers, it is vital that we apply the latest, leading-edge science to animal production systems. However, this science must go hand-in-hand with the consumer to ensure that we don’t just do ‘what-we-can’, but do what is best for the animals and in line with the public’s expectations.

In the May 2015 newsletter immediate past president Professor Grant Edwards noted that a Hill Country Symposium Conference was to be held in Rotorua in May 2016. This was a joint effort by the NZ Grassland Association, the NZ Society of Animal Production and the NZ Grassland Trust. I am pleased to report that this symposium was a resounding success with in excess of 300 delegates in attendance, it brought together farmers, industry leaders, scientists, and agribusiness to review existing knowledge, and learn from leading farmers and practitioners, the result of which will be a position paper outlining the future direction of Hill Country Farming.

The management committee has over the past twelve months been investigating what we as a society can do to recognise the invaluable input of technical staff in the facilitation of quality research. The result these discussions has been the development of guidelines for what will be known as the ‘75th Jubilee Technician Award’, endorsement of this award and award guidelines will be put to the 2016 AGM in Adelaide. The guidelines for this award will be included in this newsletter, and also circulated via email to NZSAP members. If you are unable to attend the 2016 AGM, comment regarding these guidelines should be directed to myself as President prior to June 30th and I will communicate any comments to those present at the AGM.

Look forward to seeing you in Adelaide in a few weeks.

Chris Logan
NZSAP President
The 2016 joint ASAP/NZSAP conference will be held in Adelaide from Monday 4 July to Thursday 7 July with the theme: “Animal Welfare: Meeting Consumer Demands and Increasing Productivity”. Registrations for the conference are open at the following web link: http://www.asap.asn.au/conference/welcome/

There is also the 67th annual meeting of the European Federation of Animal Science (EEAP) which will take place this year in Belfast, Ireland between 29 August and 2 September 2016. More details can be found on their website: www.eaap2016.org/

2016 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF NZSAP

The 75th Annual General Meeting of the New Zealand Society of Animal Production Inc. will be held at the Conference Venue in Adelaide

Agenda
Apologies
Minutes from 2015 Meeting
Matters Arising
Presidential Report
Treasurer’s Report
Editor’s Report
Publication Manager’s Report
Election of Officers
Next Conference
General Business
President Grant Edwards declared the meeting open at 14:50 h on the 29th June 2015.
In attendance: 55 members.

Apologies

Kate Crookston

Apologies received and accepted. Moved: Grant Edwards Seconded: Thomas Lopdell. Carried.

Minutes of previous AGM

Motion that the minutes of the AGM on 30th of June 2014, as circulated in the newsletter, are accepted as a true and correct record.

Moved: Steve Morris Seconded: Andy Greer. Carried.

Matters arising from the minutes

None

President’s Report

Key points:

- The NZSAP objectives are:
  - To provide an organisation to bring about active collaboration among those involved in the science of producing food, fibre and other products from livestock.
  - To provide an annual meeting for members which will encourage both inter- and intradisciplinary exchange and discussion of findings.
  - To assist young people in a manner which develops an interest in the science of food and fibre production.
  - To provide visions for the future of animal production in New Zealand.
  - To promote the value of science in the development of animal production.
  - To take such action as may be deemed necessary to foster improvement in animal production.
• These objectives are being met and some of the key aspects that indicate the achievement of the objectives are:
  o Promoting collaboration through the annual conference
  o Being forward looking in nurturing young members, especially through the Young Member Award
  o Developing new ideas for animal production through the research that is carried out.
  o Promoting the value of science through the research carried out and through advocacy of science and the activity on other committees with which members are involved.

• During past year the Society has assumed its usual activities including:
  o administration of the awards including the travel awards and those presented at the annual conference,
  o publication of the conference proceedings
  o continued development of the Occasional Publications
  o publication of a newsletter
  o organising the annual conference

• Relationships with the Australian Society of Animal Production have been strengthened by agreeing to hold a further joint conference in Australia in 2016.

• Living Legend addresses – of which the third one is presented at the 2015 annual conference of the NZ Society of Animal Production – have been a successful mechanism to promote science through the Society.

• One of the significant changes over the last year has been the change to the publication policy. Proceedings have moved to an open access platform with copyright removed. Work in the Proceedings is now licenced under a Creative Commons 4.0 International Licence (non-commercial, non-derivative). This has driven greater access to the papers for all researchers but, is especially beneficial for student access.

• Young Members Award applications have increased. 12 applicants this year.

• Vote of thanks to the members of the 2014-15 Management Committee of the NZ Society of Animal Production and also to the 2015 Organising Committee of the Annual Conference.

• Also acknowledgement of representatives for the Society:
  o David Scobie – National Animal Welfare Advisory Committee
  o Penny Back – Spragg Agricultural Trust
  o John McEwan – AgResearch Genomics Award Committee
  o Patrick Morel – Editorial representative for the Asian-Australian Journal of Animal Sciences

• Currently 297 paid members but, 392 in the member database. This indicates approximately 100 unpaid members which the NZSAP Management Committee intends to remove from the membership in the fourth coming year. The Society has been active over the last 3 years, and will continue to be active, in ensuring the members of the Society are actually paid-up members.
• Membership numbers have shown a decline on previous year which reflects the continued downwards trend in membership over the past 30 years (1980’s there was 600 members of the Society). This parallels a decline in the number of animal scientists and a decline in funding for animal science.

• Awards in 2014:
  o McMeekan Memorial Award: Not awarded in 2014
  o Sir Arthur Ward Award: Derrick Moot
  o Young Members Award: Birch Jenkins
  o Lincoln University Centennial Award: Not awarded in 2014
  o NZSAP Jubilee Anniversary Award: Massey University: Kate Edwards
  Lincoln University: Rachael Wilson
  o NZSAP Innovation Award: Not awarded in 2014
  o Landcorp Farming Ltd Lecture: Peter Janssen
  o Living Legend Lecture: Geoff Nicoll
  o Life Member Andrew Sykes

• Travel Awards 2014:
  o Animal Science Awards: William McMillan, Sally Anne Turner, Mhairi Sutherland
  o AgR Animal Genomics: Ken Dodds, Caroline Walker

• Sponsorship: Aroura Science Fair (previously known as Otago Science Fair)

Move that the President report be accepted. Moved: Grant Edwards. Carried.

Treasurer’s report.

Presented by Thomas Lopdell.

Hard copies of the Annual Financial report for the year ended 31 December 2014 were made available at the meeting for the members attending the AGM.

Key points:

• Revenue of $67,198 which is approximately $30,000 down on previous year. Expenditure $91,886 which is up from 2013. This resulted in a net deficit, after impairment of investments of ($23,318)
• Main items in revenue were:
  o Conference income of $1,188 and donations of $85 which are both down on previous year.
  o Interest similar to previous year
  o Proceedings sales are down from previous year by approximately $5000 and Occasional Publication sales down by approximately $13,000 from previous year.
• Main items in expenditure were:
  o Audit and Accounting fees are up by approximately $2500 on last year. This is due to an improved accounting system (MYOB)
Awards substantially increased. Nearly $19,000 more monies were awarded in 2014 than in 2013.

- $449 of Copyright Licencing which is a new expense for the subscriptions and publications for the 2014 year.

- Closing equity of $638,427.
  - Total Assets: $660,312 which is comprised of Current Assets of $46,917 and Non-current assets of $613,395
  - Current assets: Approx $14,000 lower than 2013 mainly due to less funds held in BNZ-00 and Paypal Account.
  - Non-current assets: Bonds and the Murray Woolford Award Fund have made some modest increases on previous year.
  - Total liabilities have increased. Accounts payable up by $3000 but substantial increase in the Proceedings in Advance of approximately $6000.

Move that the treasurer’s annual financial report as circulated be accepted as an accurate record of the Society’s accounts.

Moved: Thomas Lopdell, Seconded: John Booker. Carried.

Move that the annual subscriptions for 2015-16 remain at $85 for full members, $42.50 for student and retired members and US$85 for overseas members outside Australia. Also, that the cost of Publications remain the same for the 2015-16 year.

Moved: Thomas Lopdell, Seconded: Rebecca Hickson. Carried.

Move that the AGM give leave to the Management Committee to appoint Auditors for the 2015 Society accounts.

Moved: Thomas Lopdell, Seconded: Rebecca Hickson. Carried.

Publication manager’s report

Presented by Grant Edwards

A few comments to update the Society members:

- OP14, the Pastures and Supplements book is in the process of revision. This will be the main activity and point of focus over the coming year
- Revision of the text is considered vital to keep the book relevant especially since University sector considers OP14 a key text and teaching tool.

Editor’s report

Presented by Sam Peterson

- 78 Abstracts were received for the 2015 Proceedings. Of this, 18 were rejected or withdrawn leaving 60 that were accepted and included in the Proceedings.
- The 2015 Proceedings comprises 46 full papers and 14 Brief Communications
- Thank-you to the reviewers.
  - It is requested that reviewers remove their identification from word files especially using tracked changes. This will allow anonymity to be maintained.
If using tracked changes make sure that also provide report.

- Suggestions for authors preparing manuscripts for future Proceedings.
  - If an author chooses not to make changes when a reviewer or the Editor has suggested a change then, the author should make it clear why the change was not made.
  - The Editors suggestions are intended to be useful and are directed at improving the quality of the manuscript and maintaining format. Reviewers should implement the Editors suggestions.
  - Send high quality images as either .jpeg or .tif
  - In tables and results make it clear if using Standard Error or Standard Error of the Mean

Move that the Editor’s report be accepted.

Moved: Sam Peterson, Seconded: Nicola Schreurs. Carried.

Website Manager’s report

Presented by Rebecca Hickson

A few comments to update the Society members:

- Proceedings are now open access.
  - Software package used to identify papers and create links however, it doesn’t always get it right so, If members identify links that are not working then please notify Rebecca Hickson
  - By going open access it makes the papers in the Proceedings Google searchable and they are appearing on Google
  - Open access has increased the number students using the Proceedings papers in their studies.

Election of officers (2015-2016)

Nominations for the following positions were received:

- Past-president: Grant Edwards (Lincoln University) 
  David Pacheco (AgResearch)
- President: Chris Logan (Lincoln University)
- Vice President: Nicola Schreurs (Massey University)
- Treasurer: Thomas Lopdell (LIC)
- Secretary: Kathryn McRae (AgResearch)
- Newsletter: Racheal Bryant (Lincoln University)
- Publications: Rene Corner-Thomas (Massey University)
- Website Manager: Rebecca Hickson (Massey University)
- Conference Organiser: ASAP/NZSAP
- Co-opted member: John Booker (farmer liaison).
President, Grant Edwards called for any last minute nominations from the floor, and none being put forward, called for the nomination for officers to be closed.

There being only one nomination for each position, the nominated persons were declared elected. Carried by acclamation.

2016 Conference and Hill Country Symposium.

- 2016 Conference: This is a joint conference with the Australian Society of Animal Production to be held in Adelaide 4-7 July 2016. Special Guest speaker: Temple Gradin
- Hill Country Symposium: A joint special symposium to be held by the New Zealand Grassland Association (NZGA), New Zealand Society of Animal Production (NZSAP) and New Zealand Grassland Trust (NZGT) in Rotorua, 12 and 13 April 2016. Seeks to raise the profile of New Zealand’s hill country and set the direction for changes that are required to ensure profitable and resilient farming continues.

General business

75th Jubilee Technician Award
Nicola Schreurs spoke to this.

To commemorate the 75th Jubilee of the Society occurring this year (in 2015) and also the fact that the animal production Technicians are an important part of our Society that is not yet formally recognised, the NZ Society of Production Management Committee has considered the establishment of a Technician Award. Exact details of the award have not been ascertained at this point. It is considered that the award will be implemented for the first time in 2016.

Motion that the New Zealand Society of Animal Production establishes a Technician award which is in commemoration of the 75th Jubilee and recognises the important work that animal production Technicians carry out on behalf of the Society. To be known as the 75th Jubilee Technician Award.

Moved: Nicola Schreurs, Seconded: Sam Peterson. Carried.

Supporting students to go to NZSAP/ASAP
Andy Greer spoke to this.
Request for the Management Committee to consider support for the Young Members to travel to the joint ASAP/NZSAP conference in 2016. The costs are going to be greater.

President Grant Edwards indicated that the NZSAP awards for the joint conference will be following the same format and same procedure as is normally followed.

Motion that the incoming committee considers greater financial support of young members to attend the joint ASAP/NZSAP conference in Adelaide in 2016 and that this is considered soon (at August meeting) so that when call for abstracts goes out, the young members are aware of the level of support available.

Moved: John Booker, Seconded: Andy Greer, Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 15:30 h until the conference dinner

Meeting reconvened at 20:25 h on 29th June 2015 at the Conference Dinner, Awards Ceremony at the Dunedin Railway Station.

Awards

- No Landcorp Lecture this year. In its place was a seminar sponsored by Beef + Lamb Genetics and presented by Lee Leachman from Leachman Cattle, Colorado, USA.
- In-person presentation of Life Membership awarded in 2014 to Andrew Sykes. Was awarded in absentia at 2014 conference with citation read at 2014 conference by Andy Greer.

- 2015 Awards:
  - University Jubilee Award: Richard Barry (Lincoln), Holly Phillips (Massey)
  - Young Member Award: Jasper Munro
  - Innovation Award: Not awarded
  - McMeekan Memorial Award: Velmurugu (Ravi) Ravindran
  - Sir Arthur Ward Award: Not awarded
  - Life Member: Not awarded
  - Living Legend: Invermay Legends
  - Landcorp Farming Ltd Lecture: Not awarded
  - Lincoln University Centennial: Not awarded

- Citation for Sir Arthur Ward Award read by Neville Jopson
- Citation for McMeekan Memorial Award read by Nicola Schreurs

Meeting closed at 21.05 h. 29th June 2015.
These guidelines will be discussed in this year’s annual general meeting in Adelaide. Please read through them and forward any comments to the president, Chris Logan, to be raised at the AGM.

Objectives

The purpose of the Award is to recognise an outstanding contribution by an individual technician to the facilitation of quality research in New Zealand animal production and/or the Society.

Name and Form

- The Award will be called the 75th Jubilee Technician Award in recognition of the 75th anniversary of the New Zealand Society of Animal Production
- The form of the Award will be a certificate and a cheque for $500.00.
  - The award should include (1) $500 prize payment (to be reviewed every 5 years); (2) certificate; (3) waived (or reimbursed) conference registration fees including annual dinner.
  - These expenses will be met from the general funds of the Society, and not from the Conference budget.
  - The Management Committee may exercise its discretion in determining the final value, details and terms of the award on a case-by-case basis, consistent with the objects of the Society and this Award.
  - The names of all persons receiving the 75th Jubilee Technician Award will be listed by the Editor in each Proceedings.
  - The names of all persons receiving the 75th Jubilee Technician Award will be listed by the website manager on the Society website
  - The citation supporting the nomination will be published in the following year’s proceedings.

Nominations

- The Secretary will call for nominations for the Award at the same time as the call for abstracts of papers for presentation at the Society’s next Annual Conference. Closing date for nominations will be 31 January, with extensions at discretion of Management Committee.
- Each nomination must be signed by two current financial members of the Society and must contain documented evidence of the way or ways in which the nominee has fulfilled the objectives of the Award.
- A potential recipient need not be a current member of the Society.
• To be eligible for consideration the position description or job title of the nominee must reflect a technical position.

• Each nomination should identify how the nominee's efforts have made an outstanding contribution to New Zealand Animal Production and/or the Society.

• The Management Committee, or a sub-committee of it, will judge (by a majority vote) a nominee's suitability as a recipient of the Award.

• The Management Committee will only make an award when, in their opinion, a nominee is a worthy recipient, based on the information present in the nomination.

• New nominations for unsuccessful previous nominees must be for endeavours leading to a new contribution clearly different from that of previous nomination(s).

Presentation

• The Award will be presented at the Annual Conference by the President of the Society or their nominee.

• The Treasurer shall be responsible for having the cheque for the Award in the hands of the President at the Conference.

Award funds

The award will be drawn from the Awards Fund established from the interest accruing from the Society's investments.

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

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An electronic version of this newsletter and other information on the Society is available at: www.nzsap.org.nz

Any contributions to the Newsletter should be forwarded to: Racheal Bryant, Lincoln University, AGLS Faculty, PO Box 84, Lincoln University 7647.

Email: Racheal.Bryant@lincoln.ac.nz