



**NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY OF
ANIMAL PRODUCTION (INC)**

PRESIDENT'S PIECE _____ MAY 2020

Its very strange writing this president's piece in which I should be reminding you about the conference and be looking forward to seeing everyone. As a result of the COVID 19 pandemic this year is very different. The committee made the difficult decision to cancel this year's conference and conduct the Annual General Meeting as a video conference. Although the conference has been cancelled, we will still be running the young member competition immediately before the AGM. It would be great if you could support our young members by attending the zoom session and watching their presentations.

The AGM is planned for 2 pm on the 2nd of July (young member presentations will begin at 1 pm). Details of how to join the meeting are provided later in this newsletter. As you will see there are three motions that have raised for discussion during the AGM which relate to the duration of tenure of the roles of the society President, Vice-president and Past-president on the management committee, the approach to handling alterations to papers that have been published in our journal and finally student subsidies to attend the annual conference.

Another big change from previous years is the New Zealand Journal of Animal Science and Production is going online only for this year. This means for the first time in the society's history there will be no 'red book' printed. Due to the increased publishing and printing costs and the conference being cancelled the committee felt that this was an unnecessary expense to the society at this time. We would like to thank all the reviewers of papers submitted for the journal this year for your invaluable input. Our papers are a great resource to researchers both in New Zealand and world-wide. I personally use the society's journal and conference proceedings extensively in my own work and feel that they are invaluable source of information.

I believe our role in New Zealand animal production sector is more important than ever. Farmers and producers are facing some great challenges that require innovative and thoughtful research. It seems like many farmers have been put through the wringer this year firstly with drought and then with the disruptions caused by COVID 19. Agriculture is the backbone of New Zealand's economy and needs our support. Science needs to continue to help farmers make important gains and thus improve efficiency. It is not until we look back that we can see the gains that have been made over the last 50 years. A great example is in sheep production; although the numbers of sheep have decreased significantly over the last 20 to 30 years the amount of lamb produced has not. I believe it is our role to help farmers adapt to the changing nature of animal production as we move forward.

Finally, I hope that you are all well and have coped with the lockdown. Kia kaha.

Rene Corner-Thomas

NZSAP President

REMINDERS

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY OF ANIMAL PRODUCTION

2ND JULY 2020 2:00 PM

VIRTUAL URL: <https://massey.zoom.us/j/92524501345>

MURRAY WOOLFORD YOUNG DAIRY SCIENTIST AWARD

DUE: 31ST JULY. SEE:

[HTTP://WWW.NZSAP.ORG/MURRAY-WOOLFORD-YOUNG-DAIRY-SCIENTIST-AWARD](http://www.nzsap.org/murray-woolford-young-dairy-scientist-award)

APPLICATIONS FOR NZSAP ANIMAL SCIENCE TRAVEL AWARDS

DUE: 31ST JULY 2020

DETAILS CAN BE FOUND HERE:

<http://www.nzsap.org/nzsap-animal-science-award>

OVERDUE 2020 MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS

MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS ARE OVERDUE FOR PAYMENT.

PROMPT PAYMENT IS APPRECIATED.

NZSAP CONFERENCE 2020 CANCELLATION

Unfortunately, the uncertainty of COVID-19 has forced us to cancel the 80th NZSAP Conference 2020 in Queenstown. We had decided in March that the conference could not proceed in Queenstown, given likely increased risk that Queenstown would present, however the lockdown announcement precipitated a complete review and the NZSAP committee decided to cancel the conference. While it is disappointing to have to cancel the conference when much of the planning was well advanced and a programme was drafted. Thanks to all of you who submitted abstracts and have proceeded to full papers.

It has been a challenging conference to organise over and above COVID-19, particularly with the low number of abstracts necessitating a second call over the Christmas break. I would like to appeal to all of you to consider that the NZSAP abstract call is always in November for early December, but you can plan your paper much sooner. The most challenging factor for a conference organising team is planning a conference programme and estimating the number of attendees, if we get that wrong then unfortunately the Society ends up wearing the bill for any shortfall. Please consider each year a brief abstract, paper or appropriate contract session for Farmer orientated days. Remember the New Zealand Journal of Animal Science and Production offers a good openly accessible venue for you research that can be available to any and all your industry partners and stakeholders.

I would like to extend my appreciation and thanks to our Conference Organiser Pat Johnston from DCMS, who always brings excellent energy, organisation and enthusiasm to her conferences, and also to our conference organising committee Sheryl-Anne Newman, Wendy Bain, Tricia Johnson and Cecile DeKlein (AgResearch), Megan McCall and Franziska Weik (AbacusBio), Annie O-Connell (Headwaters) and Suzanne Rowe (AgResearch Contract Session Organiser). The conference organising brought some excellent ideas and plans to deliver an engaging enjoyable conference.

Personally, I will miss my annual catch up with so many of you who I rarely see outside of NZSAP, especially as I write this from lockdown in my home. I hope as many of you as possible can attend our virtual Young Members Session and AGM to support our keen Young Members and provide them with an audience for their presentation which will be more challenging having to deliver it virtually. I look forward to seeing you all again in 2021, please think about your papers for 2021 before November and in the interim think about nominating outstanding contributors for our annual awards.

All the best stay safe Jamie Ward

NZSAP PROCEEDINGS – FREE ONLINE

The proceedings of the NZSAP is open access and can be accessed using the following link: www.nzsap.org/proceedings

VIRTUAL YOUNGE MEMEBR SESSION

Join us to support our young members in the virtuall Yonge Member Session on **Thursday 2nd of July 1:00 – 2:00 pm**

Meeting URL: <https://massey.zoom.us/j/91376366865>

Meeting ID: 913 7636 6865

NEW MEMBERS

The NZSAP would like to welcome our new members:

Mr. Stephen Bell-Booth
Mr. James Wangui
Dr. Stephanie Bullen
Dr. Axel Heiser
Mr. Joshua Rich
Meghan McCall

TO NOMINATE SOMEBODY FOR AN AWARD, PLEASE EMAIL nzsap.inc@gmail.com
THE FOLLOWING TO THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY:

- Position
- Name of Nominee (Printed) and signature of Nominee
- Proposer (Print name) and Proposer's signature
- Secunder (Print name) and signature of Secunder
- Date

2019/20 MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Title	Name	Phone	Email	Location
PRESIDENT	René Corner-Thomas	06 951 8179	R.Corner@massey.ac.nz	Massey University
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Any contributions to the Newsletter should be forwarded to: **Omar Al-Marashdeh**, *NRE building, Faculty of Agriculture and Life Sciences, Lincoln University, Lincoln 7647* Email: Omar.Al-Marashdeh@lincoln.ac.nz

2020 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF NZSAP

The 79th Annual General Meeting of the New Zealand Society of Animal Production Inc. will be held virtually on **Thursday 2nd of July at 2:00 pm**

Meeting URL: <https://massey.zoom.us/j/92524501345>

Meeting ID: 925 2450 1345

Agenda

Apologies

Minutes from 2018 Meeting

Matters Arising

Presidential Report

Treasurer's Report

Editor's Report

Publication Manager's Report

Election of Officers

General Business

- **Proposal for rules regarding alteration of paper content after publication**

Historically the unwritten rule for NZSAP papers has been "what is published stays published". That was fine when all were printed on paper, but in the modern world with electronic versions (as well as paper) we now have the option to make "corrections".

Last year, following a complaint about three papers published in our conference proceedings in 2017, we formed a subcommittee to review the papers concerned in light of the complaint, and subsequently asked the authors to make changes. The electronic versions of the papers were subsequently altered and a message to that effect was attached to the cover sheet of each paper.

Such major changes should only be made after consultation with the committee.

We also have to opportunity to make minor corrections to papers.

Motion:

1. That minor changes to papers published in NZJASP, such as spelling corrections, (including author's names and citations) and small changes to data, may be made at the discretion of the editor if:
 - a) The changes do not alter the results sufficiently to affect the conclusions of the paper.
 - b) The request is made by a senior author
 - c) The request is made within 3 months of the publication (nominally the date of the conference at which the paper was presented).
2. That major changes should only be made after consultation with, and approval of, the management committee of the society.

Sam Peterson

Editor

NZJASP

- **Proposal to extend the Committee member tenure to a two-year term**

There will be **two separate motions** put forward by the Management Committee at the 2020 Annual General Meeting of the New Zealand Society of Animal Production. These are in the form of two proposals:

Proposal 1: Current committee member tenure be extended by one year to a two-year term, unless there are applicants for roles (outside of Vice, Past and President), election process returns to normal in 2021 cycle.

Proposal 2: Committee member tenure be extended to a two-year term effective immediately (if Proposal 1 is accepted) and the management committee be given leave to edit the constitution, including the removal or rewording of defunct sections or terms. Where committee members stand down, there would a requirement for the management committee to seek out and co-opt replacement members during the current term, who would be up for election in the same cycle regardless of when they take a position on the committee.

The details and rationale of the proposal are outlined in the following discussion paper.

Discussion paper for two separate motions regarding the change of committee role duration

May 2020

The proposals:

The NZSAP Committee are proposing two separate motions:

Proposal 1: Current committee member tenure be extended by one year to a two-year term, unless there are applicants for roles (outside of Vice, Past and President), election process returns to normal in 2021 cycle.

Proposal 2: Committee member tenure be extended to a two-year term effective immediately (if Proposal 1 is accepted) and the management committee be given leave to edit the constitution, including the removal or rewording of defunct sections or terms. Where committee members stand down, there would a requirement for the management committee to seek out and co-opt replacement members during the current term, who would be up for election in the same cycle regardless of when they take a position on the committee.

Justification:

1. We are in unprecedented times due to the Covid-19 pandemic sweeping the world. This has ultimately resulted in a shutdown of all things 'normal', including the cancellation of the annual 2020 NZSAP conference. So, the one-term obligations that the committee members hold is going to be incomplete with no conference going ahead.
2. With the cancellation of the 2020 NZSAP conference, there has been ongoing consultation with other Societies for potential future combined conferences. These consultations have largely been

led by the existing President of NZSAP and it would be detrimental for these consultations to not have continued momentum due to a change in committee role.

3. Prior to Covid-19's emergence, NZSAP had already been struggling as a society. Membership numbers are down, as is conference attendance, and financials are on the downward spiral. Overall, it has been hard to get academics, researchers, farmers etc., engaged with the society. Having a one-term turnover of Committee positions (namely President, Vice President and Past President) makes it difficult to keep finding the right volunteers who are willing to take up these roles. There would be less pressure on the committee to fill these positions if these roles were for a two-term duration rather than one.
4. Given the financial pressures and lack of conference attendance within the Society, it has been raised about the future being of biennial conferences. If this is a move that eventuates (which given that our conference has been cancelled this year, we are already in motion of having a biennial conference), it would make more sense that the committee positions matched the calendar of a biennial conference and that this take effect now.
5. With the current one-term duration, there is a loss of institutional (societal) knowledge when the President steps down. Keeping committee positions locked down for two terms would provide a further year to capture the benefit of committee wisdom as a Past President, and allow committee members to have greater impact as a Committee member

The requirement for **proposals 1) and 2)** to go ahead include:

- Agreement from all current Committee members that they will continue their roles for a further term (this particularly applies to the President, Vice President and Past President roles).

Specific considerations and recommendations:

Nil

Enquiries:

Enquiries regarding this proposal can be directed to any member of the NZSAP Management Committee.

- **Proposal to change free student attendance to NZSAP conference**

For approximately the last fifteen years students have had free attendance at NZSAP conference for everything excluding the conference dinner, so long as they provide proof of their study (e.g. letter from a supervisor). This motion was passed in either 2004 or 2006 when NZSAP conference attendance was much higher (i.e. >100) and the student attendance was primarily post-graduate students and numbers were in single figures. Over time the number of free student attendees has grown and as the number of other attendees has diminished this proportion of non-paying to paying conference attendees has increased dramatically.

At the 2019 conference there were 27 Full paying attendees, 20 part paying attendees and 8 Farmer day only attendees, while there were 32 non-paying students, most who appeared to be registered for the entire conference. So that left 55 paying individuals subsidising a further 32 non-paying. Financially those 55 paying attendees contributed \$22485 at an average of \$409 to the conference, which supported a further 32 students. Possibly more notably there were more non-paying students

than full paying-attendees. When organising a conference, the number of non-paying attendees is a total unknown and if the conference is priced wrongly and makes a loss, this loss is covered from general NZSAP funds.

At a time when the NZSAP membership numbers, revenue and conference attendance is shrinking, and conference cost is cited as one reason. I believe that we need to review the current free student attendance policy. Since the original motion was passed there have been changes including Young Members Finalists getting subsidised conference attendance. Further to that there are NZSAP travel awards which students can be encouraged to apply for to attend NZSAP conferences, and most post-graduate students also have an operating budget allowance to attend at least one conference. By supporting less non-paying conference attendees future conference committees should be able to reduce conference attendance fees.

Motion:

That NZSAP removes the current provision for free student attendance at NZSAP conferences and actively encourages students to apply for both the Young Members and travel awards to subsidise student attendance at NZSAP conference.

Jamie Ward

NZSAP 2020 Conference Chair

New Zealand Society of Animal Production

Annual General Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date : 2nd July 2019
Meeting Time : 14:00 h
Meeting Place SSLB1, Massey University, Palmerston North, New Zealand

President Rebecca Hickson declared the meeting open at 5pm on the 2nd July 2019.

In attendance: 29 members.

Apologies

Ian Brookes. Paul Kenyon, Andy Greer, Sue McCord, Chris Logan, Penny Back

Apologies received and accepted.

Moved: Rebecca Hickson. Seconded: Rene Corner Thomas Carried.

Approval of Minutes

No errors were identified in the previous minutes.

Motion that the minutes of the AGM held on the 11th of July 2018, as circulated in the newsletter, are accepted as a true and correct record.

Moved: Rebecca Hickson. Second: John Booker. Carried.

Matters arising from the minutes

None.

President's Report

Key points:

- Meeting our objectives:
 - 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.

Joint conferences:

- Australian Association of Animal Sciences (formerly ASAP) no longer want to hold regular joint conferences
- NZSAP have agreed to join AAAS and AAAP for a joint conference in Melbourne in 2024
 - Seeking an NZSAP representative for the organising committee. Please see me by the end of conference if you would like to volunteer.

Membership

- Paid up members: 177
- Members still on our database with membership expiry dates back to 31/12/17 is 273.
- Slight increase on last year (150)

Travel Awards

- Murray Woolford Young Dairy Scientist Award to be awarded for the first time in 2019.
 - Applications close 31 July.

Move that the President's report be accepted. Moved: Rebecca Hickson. Seconded: Jamie Ward Carried.

Treasurer's report

Presented by Chris Rogers.

Details from report received on Xth Month 2018.

Account balances (as at 31/12/2018):

- Cheque : \$ 55945
- Savings : \$ 587898
- Genomics : \$ 165121
- RRS : \$ 60028
- MWA : \$ 36068
- OP Fund : \$

Income: \$ 42,597

Expenditure: \$ 40,202

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

Moved: Chris Rogers. Seconded: Rebecca Hickson. Carried.

That fees remain the same:

Moved Chris Rogers Seconded Rene Corner-Thomas

Move that the cost of Occasional Publications be increase by approximately 10% the 2018-19 year.

Moved: Nicola Schreurs. Seconded: Lucy Coleman. Carried.

Move that the AGM give leave to the Management Committee to appoint Auditors for the Society accounts in the 2019 financial year.

Moved: Chris Rogers. Seconded: Nicola Schreurs. Carried.

Journal Editor's report

Presented by Sam Peterson.

- Journal Editor Sam Peterson
- Associate editor Emma Pettigrew
- Emma's job is communication
- My job is to:
 - Make your paper read well and correctly
 - Maintain the style and standard of the Journal
 - Publish the Journal
 - Follow society guidelines
- If you don't like red ink, don't submit a paper
- If you don't follow the editor's instructions/suggestions please tell the editor and say why. I'm not infallible!
- 70 abstracts submitted
 - 4 rejected by committee
 - 3 papers rejected by reviewers
 - 7 withdrawn
- Finally 39 papers plus living legend
- 8 farmers' day summaries
- The Journal costs the Society about \$10,000 per year (variable from year to year)
- For editorial matters always use the editor's email address (so it does not get lost in the Massey spam detector or my email inbox)
- Associate Editor: Emma Pettigrew handles the email unless it is controversial or contains messages for me
- My thanks to reviewers – especially those who were prompt
 - The Society depends upon the generosity of reviewers to give their time
 - Reviewers are suggested by the committee
 - Best reviewers provide positive and negative feedback
 - Most do an excellent job
 - If you are likely to do little or nothing and do it late please decline the request EARLY and perhaps suggest an alternative
 - Next year, members of the committee (editorial board) will quickly pre-review all papers
 - If you use "track changes"
 - your identity can be determined
 - we can remove your visible details but never erase your actions completely.
 - It would help us if reviewers removed their ID from files, but computer experts can still ID you.
 - If you write your report in a word document or in an email, we can lift the text into a new "clean" file.

- We can then send your anonymous report to the authors
 - To annoy the editor
 - Format your paper for another journal. These papers will be identified early and returned or rejected
 - It not the reviewers or editor job to correct all your format errors
- This cost some YM a lot of marks!
- Ignore my corrections and suggestions (I can see errors in some papers that I corrected on the galleys
 - Make the same errors in new text and corrections (and on conference slides)
 - Submit so late that you can't get though the reviews and do corrections in time
- Should not assume that they have correctly identified the reviewer
 - Average and range of number of pages in 2019
 - Full papers: 5.2 (4-7)
 - Brief Communications: 3.0 (2-5)
 -
 - Current word limits are:
 - Full paper: 3000
 - BC: 1650
 - Limits be increased to:
 - Full paper: 4000 (equivalent to 5.7 pages of printed text)
 - BC: 2100 (equivalent to 3 pages of printed text)

Move that the Editor's report be accepted. Moved Sam Peterson: Seconded: David Pacheco Carried.

AP for committee - Jamie ward would like to see a review of the table and figure limits along with the increase in word count

Publication manager's report

Presented by Kathryn Hutchinson.

Move that the publication manager's report be accepted. Moved: Kathryn Hutchinson. Seconded: Nick Sneddon. Carried.

Election of officers (2018-2019)

Nominations for the following positions were received:

- | | |
|------------------------|--|
| • Past-president | Rebecca Hickson (Massey University) |
| • President | René Corner-Thomas (Massey University) |
| • Vice President | Kirsty Hammond (AgR/BakerAg) |
| • Treasurer | Chris Rogers (Massey University) |
| • Minutes Secretary | Nick Sneddon (Fonterra) |
| • Newsletter | Omar Al-Marashdeh (LU) |
| • Publication Manager | Kathryn Hutchinson |
| • Website Manager | Paul Cheng (Melbourne Uni) |
| • Conference Organiser | Jamie Ward |
| • Co-opted member | John Booker (farmer liaison) |
| • Co-opted member | Mark Illston (farmer liaison) |
| • Student Rep | Michaela Gibson |
| • Executive Secretary | Pauline Penkith |
| • Journal Editor | Sam Peterson (Massey University) |

8.1 Succession planning for treasurer

8.2 Nominations for Minutes Secretary

8.3 Nominations for Publications Manager

8.4 Nominations for Student Representative

Michaela Gibson was nominated for the student representative.

Moved: Rene Corner-Thomas. Seconded: Rebecca Hickson

Move that the above officers are declared elected.

Moved: Rebecca Hickson. Seconded: Nicola Schreurs. Carried by acclamation.

General Business

Future direction of the society – what do the members want from the society, what do you want going forward.

How do we see the society in the role of advocacy, politics and other areas of influence?

Does the society advertise about the society with universities or other bodies.

Moved: Seconded:

Meeting adjourned at 5.07pm until the conference dinner.

Meeting reconvened at 19:36 h on 11th July 2018 at the Conference Dinner, Te Kete Ika Dining Hall, Lincoln University.

Awards

- Awards in 2019:
 - McMeekan Memorial Award - Nicolas Lopez-Villalobos
 - Sir Arthur Ward Award – LIC
 - Young Member Award – Megan Scholtens
 - Lincoln University Centennial Award – not awarded
 - NZSAP Jubilee University Awards - Massey (Lily Hare), Lincoln (Andrew Milsom)
 - NZSAP Innovation Award (Science and Technology) – not awarded
 - Living Legend Address – Andrew Sykes
 - Life Member Award – Ian Brookes
 - Technician Award – not awarded

- Murray Woolford Young Dairy Scientist Award to be awarded for the first time in 2019.
 - Applications close 31 July.

Meeting finished at 8.45pm, 2nd July 2019.

Minutes submitted by:

Signed:

Date:

Nick Sneddon, Minutes Secretary

Approved by:

Signed:
Rebecca Hickson, President

Date:



2019 Annual
General Meeting.pp