



NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY OF
ANIMAL PRODUCTION (INC)

PRESIDENT'S PIECE

MAY 2018

As you will be aware by now, the NZSAP conference proceedings are going through a name change to a journal: *The New Zealand Journal of Animal Science and Production* (NZJASP), voted at last year's AGM in Rotorua. Converting our Proceedings to a Journal acknowledges the quality of the research which is presented, and the value of the peer-review process in adhering to those quality guidelines. Most of the changes being made to the publication process are behind the scenes so overall, these changes won't affect the overall look and feel of the Journal compared to the past Proceedings. The conference book is still red and white, and inside the format of the papers will remain similar. Our online, open access Journal will have two sections, the first which will include peer-reviewed papers and the second section will be our 'Society Pages' which will hold non-peer reviewed papers. Papers which have not been peer reviewed e.g. The Living Legend address, will be marked as not being peer reviewed.

Other up and coming Society activities are of course our annual conference and I am really looking forward to what the organising committee is putting together. The conference will commence in Lincoln on the evening 9th of July with the competitive quiz night, and the following morning our future talent will present their research in the Young Member session. We've invited Colorado farmer-turned-behaviour scientist **Prof Fred Provenza** to share his reflections on health and freedom of dietary choice. For the field trip, Conference Organiser **Chris Logan** and his team have arranged to take us into the now earthquake-scarred country of Kaikoura where we will hear from farmers about the challenges that the earthquakes have posed. Dinner on farm will follow thanks to our sponsors. From there we will head to Hanmer Springs and have a change of venue for the next session before heading back to Lincoln. For more information about the program please visit <http://www.nzsap.org/content/conference>.

Part the Society's objective to support research in animal production is achieved by providing a forum for sharing information. Our annual conference and publication of research in our proceedings/journal is testament to this. As the Society attempts to keep up with the various digital mediums of communication and information sharing, we have now established a Facebook page (big thanks to **Rhiannon Handcock** for instigating this). Facebook will allow our followers to view the activities of the Society and its members via a more informal and visual platform. So if you're a Facebook user be sure to visit our page <https://www.facebook.com/NZSAP/>. We welcome suggestions on content also.

The Society also supports its members sharing information at other forums or conferences by providing financial support to attend and speak at other animal production related events. The

NZSAP has a number of travel awards which we invite all our members to take advantage of. The criteria is available on our website. Over the past 12 months we have supported several scientists in attending national and international conferences. Congratulations to **Jamie Ward** who recently received the Allan Crawford Memorial Award. Congratulations also to **Emma Pettigrew, Isabel Tait** and **Rhiannon Handcock** who received the Animal Science Award, and to **Mary Wheeler, Sharon Hickey, Wendy Bain, Hannah Henry** and **Neville Amyes** who were the successful applicants for the Genomics Award. Some of their travel reports can be seen below in this newsletter. Now is the time to consider how you are going to convey the results of your latest research. Or perhaps there's a set of results that's been sitting in your 'to do' list for some time, just waiting for a conference deadline to encourage you to complete the paper. NZSAP wishes to support our members in attending these conferences so do consider applying for funding, no matter the stage of your career.

Racheal Bryant
NZSAP President

REMINDERS

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY OF ANIMAL PRODUCTION

11 JULY 2018, 5:00 PM,
LINCOLN UNIVERSITY

EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION FOR THE 2018 NZSAP CONFERENCE

ENDS ON THE 25TH JUNE. SEE:

<http://www.nzsap.org/content/conference>

APPLICATIONS FOR NZSAP ANIMAL SCIENCE TRAVEL AWARDS

DUE: 31ST JULY 2018

DETAILS CAN BE FOUND HERE:

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

OVERDUE 2018 MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS

MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS ARE OVERDUE FOR PAYMENT.

PROMPT PAYMENT IS APPRECIATED.

COMMITTEE NOMINATIONS OPEN

MEMBERS WHO ARE INTERESTED IN BEING ON THE NZSAP COMMITTEE ARE INVITED TO
PUT THEIR NAMES OR NOMINATIONS FORWARD.

PLEASE EMAIL: nzsap.inc@gmail.com

NZSAP CONFERENCE 2018 UPDATE

The organisation of the 2018 NZSAP conference is progressing well. The organising committee has engaged the services of Heather Stevenson as Conference Organiser from Lincoln Hospitality. The 2018 NZSAP conference will be primarily held at **Lincoln University, Lincoln, Christchurch**, from **9th-12th July 2018**, with one night (10th July) spent at Hanmer.

The registration cost of the conference will include accommodation and breakfast for the nights spent at Lincoln (Monday and Wednesday). Accommodation at Hanmer will be additional to the registration cost. Accommodation options at Hanmer will be published on the NZSAP website and circulated via email with a conference update. A DJ has been organised to provide music for the annual dinner and social, so bring your best dance moves.

For registration go to: <https://lhlnz.eventsair.com/nzsap2018/register/Site/Register> Note: early bird registration ends on the **25th June 2018**.

For confirmation of conference details and schedule visit the NZSAP conference website page: <http://www.nzsap.org/content/conference>

We would also like to thank our 2018 NZSAP conference sponsors:



Chris Logan
On Behalf of the Conference Organising Committee

NZSAP PROCEEDINGS – FREE ONLINE

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

TRAVEL AWARD REPORTS

TRAVEL REPORT FOR ANIMAL SCIENCE AWARD

Rhiannon Handcock, PhD Student, Massey University

In February this year I was given the opportunity to attend the 11th World Congress on Genetics Applied to Livestock Production (WCGALP) in Auckland. We arrived in very warm, humid weather to discover the air conditioning at the conference venue was broken. This made for a very sweaty first few days of the conference! Luckily, they managed to get it back up and running for the last few days.

I presented the paper "Positive relationship between live weight at first calving and first lactation milk production" on the first day. I had a couple of people view my poster and had some interesting discussions. I moved between most of the sessions throughout the conference focussing on presentations involving dairy, live weight, growth, selection objectives and indices.

We had the opportunity to choose from one of 10 field trips, the one I attended was the Angus field trip. This started off travelling by bus from Auckland to Waitomo glow worm caves where we travelled by boat through the darkened caves. After lunch at Waitomo we headed to Storth Oaks Angus Stud in Otorohanga. Unfortunately, due to wet weather we were unable to travel through the property on the backs of tractors as planned. Instead we went straight at the sale barn to hear presentations from American Angus Association and Beef and Lamb genetics. Following the talks and discussion we had drinks and a delicious BBQ dinner at the stud before bussing back to Auckland.

Following the field trip we had two more days of conference, again I mostly attended session's related to dairy, growth and selection objectives. The conference ended with a kiwi BBQ dinner in the middle of Aotea square, excellent food, wine and company. It was a great way to end the conference and give first time visitors to NZ a great taste of kiwi culture!

Overall, attending the WCGALP was a fantastic experience for a young scientist like myself. I am very grateful to have been given the opportunity to present to and network with scientists involved with animal breeding and genetics from all over the world and would like to thank the NZSAP for the financial assistance provided to have made this possible.

Emma Pettigrew, PhD Candidate, Massey University

The purpose of the award was to attend the 11th Conference for the World Congress of Genetics Applied to Livestock Production (WCGALP), February 12-16th 2018, in Auckland. The WCGALP conference is the leading international conference for genetics applied to livestock production, and is held every four years. I presented research from part of my PhD project, titled "Does being born a single or twin, or to a yearling or mature dam affect efficiency of ewes?". This was presented in the form of a poster, during the sheep section of the conference. The opportunity to present at such a prestigious conference has been very valuable to me early in my career. Interacting with other scientists about my work has enlightened me to different perspectives that my research could utilise in the future.

The WCGALP conference has high international prestige, with over 1400 local and international delegates, from 70 countries, attending at the Aotea Centre in Auckland. There were over 800 papers presented at the conference, with world leading research for genetics applied to livestock production. Attending sessions with research related to my field of research was very beneficial for me, widening my research knowledge about sheep genetics and reproductive performance. Gaining an international perspective on the topic is important to widen my perspectives on the international sheep industry. The plenary sessions were very interesting, especially one by Professor Lisa Matisoo-Smith, talking about biological evidence of human settlement of the Pacific. Networking with international and local delegates was a highlight of the conference, making connections with researchers from other countries, with different experiences and research backgrounds. Attending this conference has benefitted me in my early career in the animal science industry.

Isabel Tait, PhD Candidate, Massey University

The purpose of the award was to attend the World Congress of Genetics Applied to Livestock Production in Auckland on 12th-16th February 2018. This conference occurs every four years where many scientists from around the world gather to present and discuss various genetics topics including animal breeding, genome sequencing, disease resistance and much more.

The five-day conference had an invited speaker each morning followed by different topic sessions throughout the day with posters being presented at morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea. There were field trips to various parts of the upper North Island on the Wednesday. I attended the Focus Genetics field trip to Goudies Romney just outside Reporoa. I presented a poster titled "Heritability of body condition score in New Zealand Merino ewes" on the Thursday, I had some good questions and met people in similar areas of research to my own. I came away with some additional things to look at for my PhD.

The wide variety of genetic topics was really interesting and showed me how many disciplines there are in genetics alone. I gained further understanding in the statistics programs I am using for my PhD studies and I was able to meet people working in similar areas and interests as well as catch up with people whom I had met at previous conferences.

New Zealand were successful to host this conference so it was a good opportunity to attend and present research in NZ at an international conference. In presenting at this conference, I was able to reach a wide audience with my NZ Merino research and was the first international conference I have attended. It was good opportunity to get exposure at a large conference like this one. Thank you to the New Zealand Society of Animal Production for the financial assistance to make this experience possible.



Left: Isabel Tait with her poster presentation. **Right:** Photo by Isabel Tait of Waikite Texel sheep

TRAVEL REPORT FOR AGRESEARCH ANIMAL GENOMICS AWARD

Neville Amyes, Research Associate, AgResearch

Purpose for the award: World Congress on Genetics Applied to Livestock Production (WCGALP) conference in Auckland, in February 2018. This helped to improve my knowledge of current research being carried out around the world in the animal breeding field particularly in sheep and cattle. The award covered my conference fee and accommodation.

I had a poster presentation called "Simultaneous genetic improvement towards Facial Eczema tolerance and maternal traits". Facial Eczema (FE) is a serious issue in sheep and cattle in the North Island of New Zealand and causes a large loss to our economy through lower animal production and death of animals. Tolerance to FE is highly heritable and some sheep farmers have been artificially dosing sheep with known amounts of the sporidesmin toxin. They then make their ram selections for mating on these results and have improved FE tolerance in their flocks. A Romney group of 5 breeders have a high degree of FE tolerance and have changed their ram selection process to increase selection pressure on other production traits. A further change in the breeding programme has been the use of genomic technologies, with molecular breeding values being generated for the flocks for the FE index trait. Tables presented show that they have seen significantly increased rates of index gain since 2012, when they included genomic testing as part of their two-stage selection procedure.

Benefits from attending the conference: Having 1400 delegates at one site with a common interest in animal genetics and breeding was great and talking to some of these created real interest in their overseas research in the animal field. Catching up with some overseas delegates who had previously worked in my company in NZ was very enjoyable.

The conference started each day with a 'plenary' speaker for an hour and they all produced very interesting speeches with some not about animal research. The first that started the conference well was about 'Deep learning' which was using technology for computers to improve their knowledge and performance.

My objective was to improve my knowledge of current research being carried out around the world in the animal breeding and this certainly happened. There were lots of posters to view and lots of different sessions that could be attended. I attended talks on sheep, beef & dairy cattle, goats to learn about genetic analyses, genomics, methane, microbes, parasites, foot rot, animal recording systems, meat quality, welfare, food intake – a wide range of topics. One interesting paper to me was from a Dutch researcher (L De Haer) who was researching into producing a wider pelvic to remove the need of caesarean births in some European beef breeds. Up to 90% of some breeds have caesarean births. With selection, they achieved a heritability of 0.30 for pelvic height and 0.37 for pelvic width which is high and was helping to increase natural birth rates.

Big thanks to NZSAP for this travel award.

Hannah Henry, AgResearch

The NZSAP AgResearch Genomics Travel Award supported my attendance at the 11th World Congress on Genetics Applied to Livestock Production (WCGALP) held in Auckland, New Zealand, from the 11th – 16th February, 2018. It is the first time the WCGALP has held its four yearly congress in New Zealand, and only the second time in the Southern Hemisphere. Perceived as the Olympics of the animal genetics world, this conference provided an opportunity to showcase New Zealand's animal genetics industry. The agenda did not disappoint covering different species and everything from disease, molecular genetics, parentage verification, breeding and genetic evaluation, reproduction, genomics methods and tools to name a few. The plenary speakers were excellent and the first speaker of the conference Jeremy Howard spoke on "Deep Learning" which was well received and generated a lot of discussion between delegates during the breaks. While at the conference I was able to share our research around developing high throughput methods/technologies at lesser cost for genomic delivery to industry and it was reassuring to know that the work we are doing is comparable to other researchers.

There were a lot of benefits from attending a conference such as this from being able to share in conversations with multiple researchers, appreciate and learn a lot from the science and methodology carried out at other research institutes, and being confident in your own work and research. I was also able to meet with several of our current collaborators and took the opportunity to have catch up conversations with them pertaining to the current research being done.

I would like to thank the NZSAP AgResearch Animal Genomics Fund Award for making it possible for me to attend this conference.

Sharon Hickey, AgResearch

Purpose for the award: to attend the World Congress on Genetics Applied to Livestock Production (WCGALP) conference in Auckland, 11-16th February 2018. It is held every 4 years to bring together delegates involved in the genetic improvement of livestock. My poster presentation 'Effective short term measures of enteric methane emissions' aimed to evaluate a low cost, rapid method to measure gas emissions off pasture. Research to establish divergent selection lines for high and low methane began in 2008 by screening the NZ sheep industry and subsequent feeding of lucerne pellets in respiration chambers (RC). Results were presented from lambs and ewes comparing methane outputs in RC with outputs in portable accumulation chambers (PAC) where animals were measured off pasture. Heritability estimates were similar, and genetic correlations suggested methane emissions in young and adult animals were the same trait, and differences based on selection feeding lucerne pellets were present at pasture. It was concluded that PAC provided sufficiently accurate and repeatable results to rank animals and, being low-cost and rapid, could enable enough animals to be phenotyped to implement genomic selection industry-wide in NZ. AgResearch was a conference Sponsor and displayed a PAC chamber which provided further opportunity for discussion with international colleagues.

Benefits from attending the conference: Being part of an international gathering of animal geneticists provided a unique opportunity to interact and learn about current research projects. Of relevance to my greenhouse gas projects were talks describing the European METHAGENE programme, rumen microbiome work (Denmark), multi-trait selection objectives and trade-offs between methane reduction and milk yield increases (Poland, Scotland), meta-analysis of emission and predictor trait heritability estimates from 'The Efficient Dairy Genome Project' (Canada) and reducing GHG emissions in UK and Irish beef cattle. Genetic data analysis methods described were of particular relevance to my work, and it was interesting to hear the new methods of measuring methane (laser detectors) and feed intake (3D cameras). Plenary speakers provided thought-provoking talks on 'Deep Learning', Ancient DNA and Landcorp/PAMU, and I enjoyed attending sheep, beef, dairy and aquaculture talks in Technologies, Methods and Tools, Genetic Gain, Theory to Application and Biology sessions. Topics included novel phenotypes, genotyping, prediction, feed Intake, feed efficiency and disease resistance. Posters were available for reading throughout the conference on large format screens. It was valuable to hear how genomics is being used, as in detecting inbreeding and developing selection indexes, and how new 'single step' analysis methods are being adopted. There is, however, a need to have market understanding and awareness of safety, human health, animal epidemics and environmental externalities (P. Amer, NZ). The 'Sheep/deer Field trip' to Goudies provided a great opportunity to hear their genetic improvement strategies and talk with visitors from the UK, Norway, France and USA.

Mary Wheeler, Research Associate in Animal Genomics, AgResearch

This award, covering costs associated with registration and accommodation, made it possible for me to attend the World Congress on Genetics Applied to Livestock Production, 11th to 16th February 2018, in Auckland. At this conference I presented a poster, "Genotyping by sequencing for genetic improvement in dairy goats", describing the benefits of GBS as a low cost strategy for genetic improvement. This outlined the process involved, using the examples

of two dairy goat herds for which we provide genomic breeding values, as well as parentage information.

I am very grateful that I was given the opportunity to attend this conference.

Spending time with colleagues from other parts of the country and having time to speak to them in more detail about their work was very useful. In addition, I enjoyed the opportunity to speak to other researchers, particularly during the poster sessions where the researchers were keen to explain their work, and there was a good opportunity to ask questions. The talks on goats and milking sheep were particularly relevant and interesting to me. One example of this was a talk by Rachel Rupp from INRA, discussing the effect of selection based on somatic cell count on susceptibility to negative energy balance during early lactation. Sebastian Mucha's talks on genomic selection in dairy goats in the UK were very interesting, as a comparison to the work that we are doing here.

This was a very enjoyable and well organised conference. The wide range of presenters encouraged thinking beyond the boundaries of the fields that we are engaged in. It was a great chance to see the range of research that is happening worldwide, as well as hearing about tools to assist our own research. I believe that I have benefitted significantly from my attendance.

NEW MEMBERS

The NZSAP would like to welcome our new members:

Dr Fabio Montossi
Miss April Bliss

Miss Huai Xuan Wong
Mr Mattes Groenendijk

TO NOMINATE SOMEBODY FOR AN AWARD, PLEASE SEND THE FOLLOWING TO THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY:

P.O Box 955, Cambridge 3450, NEW ZEALAND. Email: nzsap.inc@gmail.com

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

2017/18 MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Title	Name	Phone	Email	Location
PRESIDENT	Racheal Bryant	03 423 0656	Racheal.Bryant@lincoln.ac.nz	Lincoln University
VICE- PRESIDENT	Rebecca Hickson	06 356 9099	r.hickson@massey.ac.nz	Massey University
PAST-PRESIDENT	Nicola Schreurs	06 951 8256	N.M.Schreurs@massey.ac.nz	Massey University
TREASURER	Thomas Lopdell	07 856 0518	tlopdell@lic.co.nz	LIC Hamilton
SECRETARY	Kathryn McRae	03 489 9187	Kathryn.McRae@agresearch.co.nz	AgResearch Invermay
NEWSLETTER	Kirsty Hammond	06 351 8000	Kirsty.Hammond@agresearch.co.nz	AgResearch Grasslands
PUBLICATIONS	René Corner-Thomas	06 951 8179	R.Corner@massey.ac.nz	Massey University
EDITOR	Sam Peterson	06 356 9099	S.Peterson@massey.ac.nz	Massey University
WEB SITE	Sarah Pain	06 356 9099	S.J.Pain@massey.ac.nz	Massey University
EXEC. SEC.	Kate Crookston	07 823 9345	nzsap.inc@gmail.com	Cambridge
CONFERENCE	Chris Logan	03 423 0670	Chris.Logan@lincoln.ac.nz	Lincoln University
S.I. FARMER REP	John Booker	03 314 4129	j.booker@amuri.net	Kaikoura
N.I. FARMER REP	Mark Illston	06 388 7804	Illston@actrix.co.nz	Taihape

Any contributions to the Newsletter should be forwarded to: Kirsty Hammond, AgResearch, Grasslands Research Centre, Tennent Drive, Private Bag 11008, Palmerston North 4442.
Email: Kirsty.Hammond@agresearch.co.nz

2018 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF NZSAP

The 77th Annual General Meeting of the New Zealand Society of Animal Production Inc. will be held at Lincoln University, Lincoln, Christchurch, New Zealand.

Agenda

Apologies
Minutes from 2017 Meeting
Matters Arising
Presidential Report
Treasurer's Report
Editor's Report
Publication Manager's Report
Election of Officers
Next Conference
General Business

NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY OF ANIMAL PRODUCTION

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES 2017

Meeting Date : 28 June 2017
Meeting Time : 17:11 h
Meeting Place Rimu Room, Distinction Hotel, Fenton St, Rotorua, New Zealand

President Nicola Schreurs declared the meeting open at 17:11 h on the 28th June 2017.

In attendance: 55 members.

Apologies

Kathryn McRae, John Booker, Grant Edwards, Paul Kenyon

Apologies received and accepted.

Moved: Nicola Schreurs. Second: Sam Peterson. Carried.

Approval of Minutes

No errors were identified in the previous minutes.

Motion that the minutes of the AGM held on the 5th of July 2016, as circulated in the newsletter, are accepted as a true and correct record.

Moved: Nicola Schreurs. Second: Jamie Ward. Carried.

Matters arising from the minutes

At 2016 AGM the management committee was requested to consider changing the NZSAP conference proceedings be published as a journal. This will be covered in general business.

There was also a request to consider a discounted registration to the annual conference for farmers. The management committee has not yet considered this motion. Management will consider this over the next 12 months.

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 intra- and interdisciplinary 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.
- The activities of the Society over the last 12 months have been in-line with our objectives. Usual activities have included:
 - Administration of awards which includes the travel awards and those that will be presented at the conference dinner
 - Publication of the conference proceedings
 - Continued development of the occasional publications,
 - Publication of two newsletters,
 - Organising the annual conference including the Living Legend address which will be presented for the seventh time this year.
 - Co-ordinating young member's award. Fifteen abstracts were received for the young members award this year.
- Additional to these mainstay activities the Management committee has spent considerable time and effort into considering the future aspects of the society. These activities have included:
 - A review of the society guidelines. The guidelines provide a reference for the Management Committee with regards to procedure. The update was necessary to ensure the continuity of administration and to reflect updated operations.
 - A proposal has been developed to change the conference proceedings into a journal.
 - Implementing the new Technician's Award
 - Re-established links with, and membership to, the Asian-Australasian Association of Animal Production (AAAP) society. This link was lost in 2012. This is important for wider understanding and collaboration of the society's role in global animal production.
 - Considering alternative avenues for providing of sponsorship such as Future beef
- Vote of thanks to the members of the 2016-17 Management Committee of the NZ Society of Animal Production.
- Also acknowledgement of representatives for the Society:
 - Jenny Juengel - International Congress for Animal Reproduction
 - Karin Schütz - National Animal Welfare Advisory Committee

- Penny Back - Spragg Agricultural Trust
 - John McEwan - AgResearch Genomics Award
 - Patrick Morel - Editorial board Asian-Australian Journal of Animal Sciences
 - Jenny Jago - Murray Woolford Young Dairy Scientist Award
- Currently 205 paid members. Members remain on the database for up to 2 years as unpaid members. Currently there are 362 in the member database. This indicates approximately 54% are paid members.
 - The membership numbers are dropping which parallels dropping numbers of animal scientists. The society needs to consider how it is going to retain members.
 - Awards in 2016:

○ McMeekan Memorial Award:	Roger Purchas
○ Sir Arthur Ward Award:	Julie Everett-Hincks
○ Young Members Award:	Lisa Box
○ Lincoln University Centennial Award:	Not awarded in 2016
○ NZSAP Jubilee Anniversary Award:	Massey University: Carol Hewitt Lincoln University: Anna Arends
○ NZSAP Innovation Award:	Not awarded in 2016
○ Landcorp Farming Ltd Lecture:	Not awarded in 2016
○ Living Legend Lecture:	Graham Barrell
○ Life Member	Not awarded in 2016
 - Travel Awards 2016:
 - Animal Science Awards: Lydia Farrell, Stacey Hendricks, Arjan Jonker, Rhiannon Handcock and Lucy Coleman
 - AgResearch Animal Genomics fund: Mallory Crookenden, Shannon Clarke and Kathryn McRae
 - Ruminant Reproduction Symposium award: will be held in 2018. The management committee will be accepting applications by the 31st July 2017 or 31st January 2018.
 - Sponsorship:
 - Aurora Science Fair (previously the Otago Science Fair).
 - Funds were provided in 2016 but were not used so have been carried over to 2017.
 - Future Beef - Hoof and Hook competition. Sponsored the champion light weight steer (hook)

Move that the President's report be accepted. Moved: Nicola Schreurs. Seconded: Racheal Bryant. Carried.

Treasurer's report

Presented by Thomas Lopdell.

Hard copies of the Annual Financial report for the year ended 31 December 2016 were made available at the meeting for the members attending the AGM.

Key points:

- Revenue of \$49,994 which is approximately \$20,000 down on previous year. Expenditure \$46,693 was down from 2015. This resulted in a net deficit, of \$2,973 compared with a surplus of \$19,000 in previous year.
- The surplus/deficit fluctuates a lot from year to year, however, there has been a gradual downwards trend. This is probably a combination of decreased membership and lower interest rates.
- Main items of note in revenue were:
 - There was no conference income. Enquiries have been made as to whether the joint conference made a profit.
 - Interest earned was lower than last year
 - Subscriptions and publications are down \$11,919 from last year.
 - Total revenue has changed from \$70,198 to \$49,994 in 1 year
- Main items of note in subscriptions and publications
 - Conference proceedings revenue was lower in 2016 than 2015
 - Copyright licencing has increased
 - Occasional publications was also slightly lower this year but was higher in 2015 than 2014
- Main items of note in expenditure were:
 - New accounting software has a subscription of \$600 per year. Allows easier processing.
 - Other expenditures are similar to that in 2015
 - No loss on sale of bonds this year.
 - Total expenditure is approximately \$2,000 less than in 2015.
- Closing equity of \$654,646.
 - Total Assets: \$676,707 which is comprised of Current Assets of \$63,919 and Non-current assets of \$611,571.
 - Total liabilities have increased by approximately \$2,800.

Move that the treasurer's annual financial report as circulated but subject to final auditing be accepted as an accurate record of the Society's accounts as of the 31st December 2016.

Moved: Thomas Lopdell. Seconded: Sally-Anne Turner. Carried.

Move that the annual subscriptions for 2017-18 increase to \$95 for full members, \$47.50 for student and retired members and US\$95 for overseas members outside Australia.

Moved: Thomas Lopdell. Seconded: Jamie Ward. Carried.

Move that the cost of the Occasional Publications remain the same for the 2017-18 year.

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

Move that the AGM give leave to the Management Committee to appoint Auditors for the Society accounts in the 2017 financial year.

Moved: Thomas Lopdell. Seconded: Penny Back. Carried.

Editor's report

Presented by Sam Peterson.

- 66 Abstracts were received for the 2017 Proceedings, 15 were rejected or withdrawn leaving 51 that were accepted and included in the Proceedings. There were 11 papers withdrawn by the author and 4 papers were rejected by the committee or referees.
- The 2017 Proceedings comprises 15 Brief Communications, 36 full communications and the invited Living Legend address, making 51 papers in total plus the Presidential Address.
- Thank-you to the reviewers.
 - Particularly those that are prompt.
 - The best reviews provide both positive, as well as negative feedback.
 - The editor would like a reviewer's comments as a brief letter stating a recommendation of accept or reject rather than a version with tracked changes.
 - Some reviewers put a lot of work into rewriting a paper which is unnecessary.
 - It is requested that reviewers remove their identification from word files especially using tracked changes. This will allow anonymity to be maintained.
 - This year the reviewers seemed to be a little more demanding than previous years
- The job of the Editor is to make the paper look good, maintain the style of the Proceedings, and to publish the Proceedings.
- Suggestions for authors preparing manuscripts for future Proceedings.
 - Format your paper for the NZSAP Proceedings. Authors that don't want to follow the instructions need to explain why in a rebuttal letter.
 - The Editors suggestions are intended to be useful and are directed at improving the quality of the manuscript and maintaining format. Authors should implement the Editors suggestions.
 - Submit papers on time to allow the reviewing process to be carried out.

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

Publication manager's report

Presented by René Corner-Thomas

- In the last 12 months due to low stocks a reprint of OP11 Meat Production and Processing was undertaken. 100 new copies made
- A limited review of OP14 Pastures and Supplements for Grazing Animals was undertaken. Four chapters have been revised and 2 additional chapters added. Printing to be completed in next couple of months.

Move that the publication manager's report be accepted. Moved: René Corner-Thomas. Seconded: Rebecca Hickson. Carried.

Election of officers (2016-2017)

Nominations for the following positions were received:

- | | |
|------------------|-------------------------------------|
| • Past-president | Nicola Schreurs (Massey University) |
| • President | Racheal Bryant (Lincoln University) |
| • Vice President | Rebecca Hickson (Massey University) |
| • Treasurer | Thomas Lopdell (LIC) |
| • Secretary | Kathryn McRae (AgResearch) |
| • Newsletter | Kirsty Hammond (AgResearch) |

- Publications Rene Corner-Thomas (Massey University)
 - Website Manager Sarah Pain (Massey University)
 - Conference Organiser Chris Logan (Lincoln University)
 - Co-opted member John Booker (farmer liaison)
 - Co-opted member Mark Illston (farmer liaison)
 - Executive Secretary Kate Crookston
 - Proceedings Editor Sam Peterson (Massey University)
- It should be noted that the Executive Secretary Kate Crookston has handed in her resignation that she will be stepping down from the position at the end of this year. She will remain until a replacement can be found and be trained.

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

General Business

Guideline amendments

Nicola Schreurs spoke to this.

A document outlining the changes to the guidelines was circulated with May 2017 newsletter. Note that the most substantial changes relate to:

- Removal of the section describing the Landcorp farm lecture due to the cessation of the sponsorship.
- Inclusion of the award criteria for the Murray Woolford award and the 75th Jubilee Technicians award
- Creating further definition for the Minutes Secretary versus the Executive Secretary.

Move that the changes to the Guidelines, as outlined in the document provided with the May 2017 newsletter, be accepted.

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

Changing the Proceedings to a Journal

Rebecca Hickson spoke to this.

At the 2016 AGM there was a request for the Management Committee to consider changing the Proceedings to a Journal, as per the New Zealand Grasslands Association.

The committee propose to change in name only of the Proceedings of the New Zealand Society of Animal Production to become a journal whilst maintaining the standards already in place. The requirements to create a journal are that:

- There is an editorial board (currently consists of members of the management committee)
- An editor (currently Sam Peterson)
- A suitable editorial process (revision by two reviewers)

Therefore, we already meet these criteria.

There would be some small changes in formatting such as list of past award winners, past presidents, contract session abstracts (rather than full paper) and living legend citation would be included in a Preliminaries section which was clearly marked as being non-refereed. Brief communications will remain with a 150-word abstract will be added to requirements and to the word limit. There will be no need to change the copyright as long as the society remains the publisher.

Move that the Proceedings of the New Zealand Society of Animal Production be published by the Society in the form of a scientific journal beginning in 2018.

Moved: Rebecca Hickson. Seconded: Nicolas Lopez-Villalobos. Carried.

Proposals for the new journal name

Rebecca Hickson spoke to this.

The proposals are:

- The New Zealand Journal of Animal Production (5 votes)
- The New Zealand Journal of Animal Science and Production (30 votes)
- Journal of New Zealand Animal Production (withdrawn from voting)
- The New Zealand Journal of Animal Production Science (20 votes)

The name for the new journal will be the “The New Zealand Journal of Animal Science and Production”

Moved: Graham Barrell. Seconded: Penny Back. Carried.

Name change AgResearch Genomics Award

Nicola Schreurs spoke to this

With the passing of Allan Crawford earlier in the year, the suggestion was made to the Society, that the AgResearch Animal Genomics International Travel Award could be renamed the “Allan Crawford International Travel Award”. AgResearch hold no opposition to the name change. There would be no change to the award criteria.

Moved: Nicola Schreurs. Seconded: John McEwan. Carried.

Action point (Nicola Schreurs): Confirm that Allan Crawford’s family are happy with the change.

Meeting adjourned at 18:37 h until the conference dinner

Meeting reconvened at 19:00 h on the 29th June 2017 at the Conference Dinner, Skyline Restaurant, Rotorua.

Awards

- Awards for 2017:
 - McMeekan Memorial Award: Steve Davis
 - Sir Arthur Ward Award: Sheryl-Anne Newman
 - Young Members Award: Charlotte Red
 - Lincoln University Centennial Award: Not awarded
 - NZSAP Jubilee Anniversary Award: Massey University: Tracey Ferguson
Lincoln University: Jack Scahill
 - NZSAP Innovation Award: Not awarded
 - 75th Jubilee Technician Award: Dean Burham (inaugural)
 - Living Legend Lecture: Garry Waghorn
 - Honorary Life Member: John McEwan

Meeting finished at 20:30 h, 29th June 2017.
