



Annual General Meeting

7 December, 3-4pm

**Seventh Annual General Meeting (2013) at University of New South Wales,
Sydney**

Saturday, 7 December 2013, at 3.00-4.15pm

Central Lecture Block, Theatre 1, Kensington Campus, UNSW

MINUTES

Present: Rónán McDonald, Philip Bull, Peter MacPhie, Dianne Hall, Elizabeth Malcolm, Pamela O'Neill, Anders Ahlqvist, John K. McLaughlin, Anne Jamison, Anne McMahon, Ann Elder, Mary S. O'Connell, Kevin Molloy, Fidelma Breen, Anne Cunningham, Perry McIntyre, Úna Newell, Mick McIntyre, Gemma Clark, Attracta Brownlee, Liam Flood, Frances Devlin-Glass

Apologies: Brad Patterson, Patrick McNamara, Liz Rushen, Sharon Crozier-de Rosa, Stephanie James, Dymphna Cusack

1. **Minutes of Previous AGM.** Moved to accept by Pam O'Neill; seconded by Perry McIntyre. Accepted.

2. **Post-Mortem on Sydney Conference** (RM and GC)

The features that marked the conference were

- Interdisciplinarity;
- participation of academic and non-academic members and others;
- the high number of postgraduates, early career researchers and younger scholars;
- one-quarter of participants being drawn from outside Australia.

- Gemma and Angela were congratulated for their seamless and smoothly functioning machine, with technical and venue issues being dealt with the minimum of disruption.
- The social events and refreshments were of high quality and much appreciated by participants.

The Conference Organisers, especially Gemma Clark and Angela, were warmly thanked for a highly successful conference.

For future reference, a membership stand is needed with recruitment its main job, as it was felt to be somewhat random in the past and at this conference.

This led to a wide-ranging discussion on ways to raise the profile of ISAANZ: e.g., links in Famine history societies, links posted in the newsletter for Global Irish Studies Centre; significantly lower fees for postgrads; the setting up of workshops in different cities for postgrads on such topics as getting published, career pathways as a new benefit of membership of ISAANZ.

Handover procedures for next conference need to involve a consideration of both new and old lists which did not survive the translation into newer digital lists. May be useful to contact some of the habitual attendees of conferences predating ISAANZ.

3. Post-graduate prize:

Di Hall, AJIS Editor, reported that the Essay Prize was serving its function. Runners up in 2012 were identified as potentially publishable essays of high quality new scholarship and after peer reviewing and some revisions were eventually published in 2012.

[Note: Prize Winner announced at dinner. It was won by Michael Dwyer for an essay entitled 'Cumann Na nGaedheal and the Reform of Public Health Administration in the Irish Free State'.

4. Report on Plans for the 2015 Conference Venue – Maynooth (PB). Philip Bull referred members to a publicity included in the conference pack about the forthcoming conference at Maynooth, 18-20 June, 2015.

5. Updates on Website (DH)

Di Hall reported that the website is due for redevelopment as the current webhosting and design will cease to function after May 2014. It will be reworked in WordPress, and include a newsletter. It may also contain ancillary materials like conference papers. There was some discussion as to whether or not there needed to be a password protected area of site exclusively for members, which is best incorporated during redevelopment rather than after.

6. AJIS (DH)

The 2013 issue is at printers and will be ready for distribution before Xmas. It contains an Obit notice, 9 articles and a big body of reviews.

2014 issue will feature a number of papers on Joyce, and have room for other papers.

7. Notice of Proposed Change to Constitution: That, in addition to President, VP, Treasurer, Secretary, 2 Committee Members, and Ex-Officio members (AJIS Editor, next conference organizer), the number of co-opted committee members be expanded to five, one of those positions to be reserved for a postgraduate member of the association recommended by an informal process normally undertaken at the Association's conference.

Proposed by Rónán McDonald; seconded by Perry McIntyre. Elizabeth Malcolm, who wrote the original constitution, expressed strong support for motion. Passed unanimously.

8. Reports were precirculated and received from

- The President (Anders Ahlqvist nominated and Pam O'Neill seconded acceptance). Accepted.
- The Treasurer (Anne Cunningham nominated and Perry McIntyre seconded they be accepted). Accepted.
- The Secretary (Rónán McDonald nominated and Gemma Clark seconded they be accepted). Accepted.

Election of New Committee:

President: Rónán McDonald (nominated by Anne Cunningham and seconded by Attracta Brownlee)

Vice-President: Brad Patterson (nominated by Anne Cunningham and seconded by Ann Elder)

Treasurer: Philip Bull (nominated by Frances Devlin-Glass and seconded by Perry McIntyre)

Secretary: Frances Devlin-Glass (nominated by Philip Bull and seconded by Perry McIntyre)

2 Committee members: Anne Jamison (nominated by Gemma Clark and seconded by Rónán McDonald) and Gemma Clark (nominated by Rónán McDonald and seconded by Pamela O'Neill)

9. A.O.B.

Pam O'Neill moved that ISAANZ formally congratulate Val Noone on his Honorary Doctorate from University College Dublin. Seconded by Jonathan Wooding. Passed unanimously.

Meeting ended about 4.15pm.

Minutes kept by Frances Devlin-Glass, 12 Dec. 2013