

Minutes for the 2015 Annual General Meeting of the Society for Conservation Biology (SCBO)

(INC1500315)



Society for Conservation Biology

Montpellier, France, 4/8/15

Present: 42 members (file:Attendees_SCB Oceania 2015 AGM. xlsx)

1. Semi-autonomy model

- Richard Kingsford, President, explained the constitution and semi-autonomy model
- Need for formal Annual General Meetings at each annual conference (regional and international).
- Alignment of timing of elections with the Annual General Meetings and so there is election of relevant Office Bearers at each Annual General Meeting
- There was discussion of potential assistance from Ecological Society Australia in relation to tax deductibility. The Board will continue to investigate this initiative.

Resolution: Hugh Possingham moved vote to accept the Constitution, seconded by Piero Visconti. Unanimously passed

2. Achievements in 2014 and 2015 (details on <http://scboceania.org/>)

- Discussion of rundown on Fiji - achievement to come in with profit
- Special issue on Pacific Islands
- Research priorities
- Conservation science statements
- Survey of member
- public debate
- new website
- semi-autonomy

3. Presentation on global strategic plan (see <https://conbio.org/>) . Members please provide input

4. Conferences

- Discussion about holding conferences in our region, alternating between Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific Islands. Important to enter dialogue with other societies to ensure that clashes are avoided as much as possible (e.g. Australian Mammology conference in July; also coordinate with Ecological Society of Australia and Australian Society for Limnology). Need to try increase

- participation of Pacific islanders to the conferences through travel awards.
- July 2016 Brisbane (<http://brisbane2016.scboceania.org/>), possibility of considering Wellington in 2018
 - Discussion put to meeting to propose a Global Congress 2019 in Australia, possibly in Cairns or Townsville. Discussion about the merits of the conferences in different cities.

Resolution: Motion proposed to hold a conference every two years rotating between Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific Islands, coordinating with other organisations in the region to minimize clashes. Proposer - Simon Linke, Seconder - Carolyn Lundquist. Unanimously passed

Resolution: Motion proposed to propose to the international board to hold ICCB in 2019 in Australia. Proposer - James Watson, Seconded Hugh Possingham. Unanimously passed

5. Vanessa Adam (current financial officer table the budget for consideration).
- Discussion - Interest income (low because only just opened bank account).
Membership fees – currently based on pro-rata division of membership according to our current budget request to SCB global (about \$10,000).

Resolution: Motion proposed to accept financial statement and 2015 budget. Proposer Carolyn Lundquist, seconded James Watson. Unanimously passed

6. James Watson, current President of Society for Conservation Biology
- SCB Oceania current leading all other global sections in the internationalization of the society and independence to fundraise at section level.
 - Need to continue to support Pacific Conservation Biology, now that it is a CSIRO journal
 - President vision to implement greater accountability at the global level
7. Prizes: best student paper, poster, to get free registration for 2016 conference,
- Award for best paper, Jessica Walsh
8. Other business - Lisa David – Papua New Guinea, tree kangaroo conservation program, team excited to be in the Society for Conservation Biology. Interested in mentoring programs in ecological monitoring and evaluation