

**ICRIS Informal Meeting
Canberra, ACT
8 May 2015
Minutes**

Present: Max McMaster (in the chair), Jan Wright, Alan Walker, Frances Lennie, Glenda Browne.

Welcome and regrets: apologies from Mary Russell.

News from ASI

1. There was no news from the recent Seattle meeting, but Jan Wright provided an update of ASI issues.
2. NIN is planning a joint meeting with DNI during the Frankfurt Book Fair, 2016 .
3. ASI membership has declined and is down to 453.
4. Webinars are positive.
5. Publications are going well, including *The Accidental Indexer* by Nan Badgett. This is not an ASI publication, but is in a separate Information Today series.
6. Best practice document has been finalised.
7. The ASI EIS Award has been awarded to Kate Mertes, whilst the Hines Award has been awarded to Carolyn Weaver.
8. The next ASI conference will be in Chicago in June 2016.

China

Frances Lennie reported that the next Chinese conference will be in Chengdu (Szechuan province). People might have to plan quickly if they want to go, as the information isn't always sent out much in advance. A tourist visa was recommended as being the simplest approach. Accommodation is usually provided by CSI. It isn't like our conferences where people register. Attendance is by formal invitation.

News from ANZSI

Glenda Browne reported that at a Special General Meeting on 7 May 2015, ANZSI members voted unanimously in favour of three resolutions. The most important was for a number of actions that will enable the restructure of ANZSI. Branches will be dissolved and funds centralising funds in a ANZSI Council account. Members will be able to create informal regional and special interest groups. Some branches may morph into regional groups, but this will not necessarily happen. No formal proposals have yet been made, but Max McMaster noted that there are plans to form a Melbourne group.

The other resolutions will give ANZSI Council the choice of different time periods for office holders (e.g. staggered two-year terms, rather than annual terms) and will allow electronic general meetings, with electronic attendees counted in the quorum. This will relieve the stress of trying to get a quorum of 12 for a society with members spread over two countries.

ANZSI is unsure where its next conference will be held, and what shape it will take. Frances Lennie commented on the success of the Bowral regional conference (located around halfway between Sydney and Canberra) held last year, which was small enough that everybody got to talk to the other members without the rush of a larger conference.

Wording about 'representatives' in ICRIS documents

Glenda Browne raised the issue of the looseness of wording around the term 'representatives' in ICRIS documents. The issue related to each Society seemingly having their own interpretation over the terms – 'international liaison representative', 'ICRIS representative', 'Society/Network representative' and 'authorized representative' and the interchangeability of the various roles. Although the 'representatives' terminology within the ICRIS International Agreement seems relatively straight forward, there is a laxness in the ICRIS Terms of Reference which should be revisited to ensure clarity.