



International Society for Autonomic Neuroscience

established 1995

www.autonomicneuroscience.info

ISAN AGM minutes 2018 (draft)

Date and location: 2 pm, Tuesday 30 October 2018 at the AMREP Lecture Theatre, Baker Institute, as part of Central Cardiorespiratory Control: Future Directions 2018

Apologies: Ann Goodchild, Kalyanam Shivkumar, Julian Paton

Chairing: Simon McMullan (SMcM)

Others present include: Vaughan Macefield, Paul Pilowsky, Clive May, David Farmer, Roger Dampney, Robin McAllen, Pascal Carrive, Melissa Farnham, Stuart McDougall, Alexander Burton, Andrew Allen, Kulmira Nurgali.

Proxied attendees: Kevin Shoemaker (Proxy: S McM), Kalyanam Shivkumar (S McM), Bill Farquhar (Vaughan Macefield), Dirk Adriaensen (SMcM), Bruno Bonaz (SMcM), Yoichiro Otsuka (SMcM), Beth Habecker (SMcM), Song Yao (Stuart McDougall), Shaun Morrison (Andrew Allen), Mark Chapleau (AA), John Furness (AA), Janet Keast (AA).

1. Confirmation of Quorum and Apologies:

Quorate (25 financial members present; 127 current members)

2. Confirmation of the minutes of the 2018 AGM (Nagoya, Japan).

No objections. Matters arising: Nil.

3. Reports upon the transactions of the Society since the last general meeting

President's report (Simon McMullan on behalf of Bruno Bonaz):

- The Society will be rebuilding their internet presence over the coming months. We have engaged the services of a professional website design and management team who will redesign the site from the ground up.
- A call for bids for ISAN 2021 was released in January 2018 and received several enquiries from members, conference organizations and a UK scientific society. By the deadline in May, two proposals were received, although one was withdrawn by the proposer. The executive committee considered the application and voted unanimously to endorse it. Nevertheless, there was a general feeling that it would have been better to have more formal bids to consider. ISAN 2021 was awarded to Cairns, with a strong proposal led by Macefield, Goodchild, McAllen, Keast, Carrive and McMullan.
- Over the year there were some phishing attempts on generic ISAN web addresses (e.g. treasurer@autonomicneuroscience.info); no such phishing attempts were successful. These were blocked by temporary suspension of the treasurer's ISAN account, communication continuing through his institutional account. There is a

significantly likelihood of similar attempts in the future, as there is with all organizations.

- As noted at the last AGM, abstracts for ISAN meetings are no longer being published by Elsevier. While it would be possible to support these on the ISAN website, ongoing accessibility, indexing and recognition might be enhanced by using an online archive. While bioRxiv was proposed, that requires direct upload by the author and consent for upload from each of the authors. It's felt that this would be difficult to obtain in retrospect, but might be an option for future congresses. Suggestion from members at the AGM are welcome.

Discussion arising following the report: with regard to the development of the website, the membership discussed the role that ISAN members could play in its maintenance. SM suggested that ISAN members should forward suitable graphics, illustrations and images to the Executive for inclusion on the website. The membership discussed appointing a member or members to the position of Communications Officer, who would assume responsibility for the regular update of the Society website with news directly related to the field or links to relevant high impact publications, news items, or policy statements. There was a general consensus that this would be a good idea, although no volunteers were forthcoming.

Regarding the 2021 meeting in Australia, Dr Fiona McBride proposed hosting a satellite meeting, potentially focused on translatable research, to be held in New Zealand immediately prior to or following the main meeting. More details to follow.

With reference to the hosting of ISAN abstracts, this issue will be discussed with the designers of the new website shortly.

Treasurer's report (SM):

- The detailed report is attached as an addendum to the minutes; in essence the Society's financial position is consistent with that reported in recent years.

Discussion arising following the report: nil

4. Confirmation of Dr Song Yao to the position of Secretary

During the year, Associate Professor James Brock, the formal Secretary of the society, resigned following his retirement from his substantive academic post. The role of Secretary, reserved for an Australian resident, is the key formal contact with Consumer Affairs Victoria, with which the Society is registered. Members of the Committee nominated Dr Song Yao (Florey Institute), who was then appointed to the role (a direct appointment required under Rule 58(2) following the resignation of the Secretary).

Attendees confirmed the appointment of Dr Yao to the position and recorded a vote of thanks and round of applause to A/Prof Brock in recognition of his service and commitment.

5. Other business:

- a. The Chair read an update on preparations for the ISAN 2019 meeting, prepared by Shivkumar Kalyanam. The details of the report follow:
 - Nine symposium proposals have already been received by the local organizing committee but the deadline has been extended to November 1st with the hope to allow increasing this number.

- The bi-annual UCLA cardiac autonomic symposium will be 'merged into this meeting' (it will be 1-2 sessions of the larger meeting)
 - Fundraising is underway (donors and corporate sponsors).
 - icsevents will be the group in charge of logistics <http://www.icsevents.com/>
 - Web based registration will open soon.
 - Room blocks for attendees will available at UCLA Luskin center <https://luskinconferencecenter.ucla.edu/> , and low cost accommodation for students and post docs will be coordinated at UCLA dorms.
 - The NIH SPARC program is merging its annual meeting with ISAN 2019 and will make many of its sessions open to the public. This is a huge plus! (the NIH will also financially support the meeting)
 - Several ISAN committee members who are funded by SPARC will be at the meeting and will coordinate special sessions.
 - Special sessions for commercialization of IP and technologies for science is being planned in conjunction with NIH.
- b. The head of the Cairns 2021 LOC, Prof Vaughan Macefield, provided an update on preparations for the meeting. The meeting will take place from Wed 1 – Fri 3 September 2021 at the Cairns Convention Centre. The venue has been secured and deposit paid.

6. Next AGM:

The next AGM will be held during the 2019 ISAN Scientific Meeting in Los Angeles, USA.

Appendix: Treasurer's Report

International Society for Autonomic Neuroscience



Financial Report 2017-8

Prepared by Simon McMullan, Treasurer, 9 October 2018

Introduction

I present the balance sheet and the profit and loss (P&L) statements of the Society. Please note the financial year in Australia runs from 1st July to 30th June so the accounts are presented at the 30th June each year.

Balance

Overall the balance of the Society's assets are consistent with previous years (Figure 1); the relatively high balance reported in 2016 reflects sponsorship money held on behalf of the convention organising committee, which was subsequently absorbed by the convention.

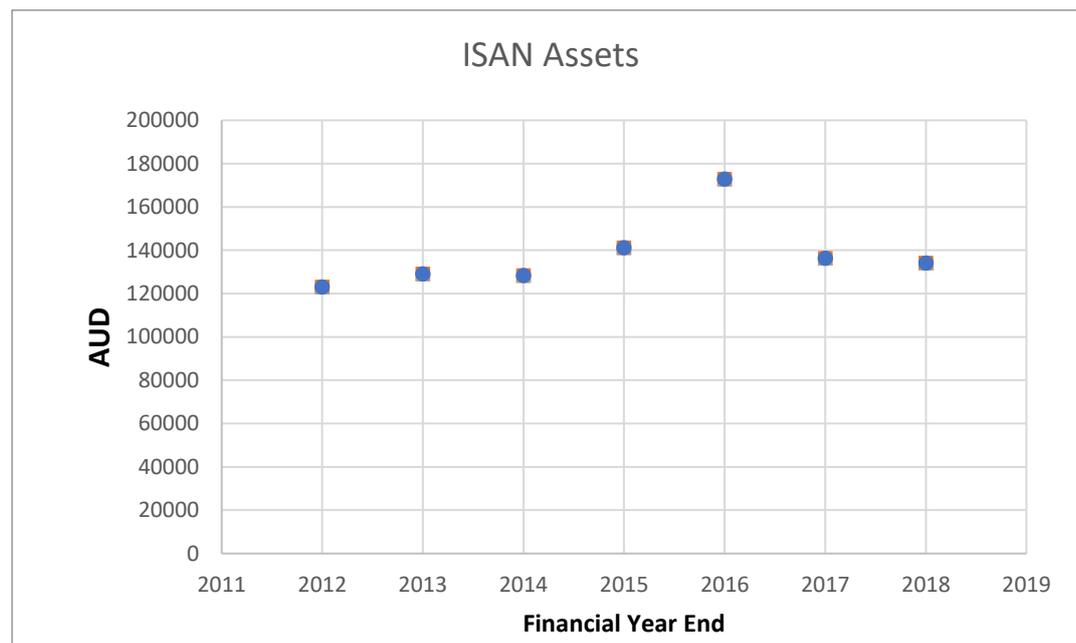


Figure 1 Total assets owned by the Society over time

The long-term savings of the Society continue to grow slowly, from \$74.4k in 2017 to \$76.4k in 2018 (Table 1). Slow growth reflects the low interest rates available to business deposits; there are no cost-effective ways to boost this growth without significant risk.

Table 1 Balance sheet showing current assets, equities and liabilities

	2018	2017
ASSETS		

Current Account	57,741.59	61,857.43
Term Deposit 1	40,753.63	39,702.61
Term Deposit 2	35,656.17	34,753.32
Total Savings	76,409.80	74,455.93
Total Current Assets	134,151.39	136,313.36
TOTAL ASSETS	134,151.39	136,313.36
LIABILITIES & EQUITY		
Equity		
Retained earnings	136,313.36	137,531.71
Net income	-2,161.97	-1,218.35
Total equity	134,151.39	136,313.36
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	134,151.39	136,313.36

Profit & Loss

The distribution of expenditure and sources of income were similar to 2017 (Table 2); subscription income in 2017 and 2018 are relatively high and can probably be accounted for by the lead up to the convention (September 2017), which straddled both financial years. The apparent increase in society management fees reflects a delay in payment and lodgement; no fee was reported in 2016.

Table 2 Income and expenditure in 2018 and 2017

Income	2018	2017
Bank Interest Received	1,953.87	1,493.25
Subscriptions	7,079.60	10,845.75
Total Income	9,033.47	12,339.00
Expense		
Bank Charges	120	90
Administrative Fee	113.8	0
Plenary Speaker Payments	8,248.38	0
Society Management Fee	2,713.26	1,343.02
Conference expenses	0.00	11,848.23
Misc	0.00	276.10
Total Expenses	11,195.44	13,557.35
Net Income	-	-
	2,161.97	1,218.35

Future Outlook

The medium-term outlook for the Society is reassuring; the 2019 ISAN meeting at UCLA is financially independent from the Society and poses little financial risk. Although the Society is providing seed funding to the 2021 meeting (Cairns, Australia), this will ultimately be repaid to the Society. Expenditure on maintenance of the Society will increase modestly, largely due to costs associated with redesign and upkeep of the webpage. Maintaining active subscriptions continues to be a potential threat to the Society's income stream, although membership seems relatively stable over the medium term (Figure 2).

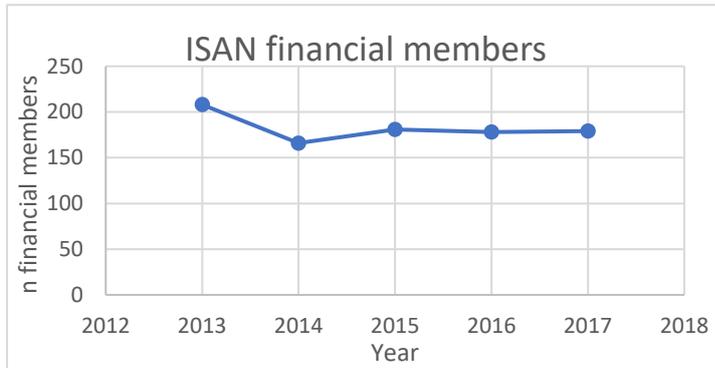


Figure 2 Membership of the Society at 31 December of each year, 2013-7