



MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Sydney, Australia
14th September 2018

1	<p>Apologies:</p> <p>Prof J Yeo, Dr S Rutowski</p>
2	<p>The Minutes from Dublin 2017 were accepted.</p> <p>ACTIONS FROM 2017 MINUTES:</p> <p>Following the Resolution given at the AGM in Dublin the first eVoting was for the position of Secretary. Dr S Charlifue, USA was duly elected as the next ISCoS Secretary.</p> <p>The second Resolution was to ratify the eVoting for the Constitution. The Membership voted 250 to accept and 14 to reject. The vote for the new Constitution to be adopted was formally ratified by those present at the Annual General Meeting.</p> <p>A Bye-Laws Committee will be set up to further look into the development of this Constitution and a call for Membership of this Committee will go out to the Members via the Newsletter. The ISCoS Administrator should be a member of this Committee.</p>
3	<p>Report of the President – Prof J J Wyndaele (JJW):</p> <p>The President reported on the various Standing Committees. The full Chair reports for all Committees will be available on the ISCoS web site in the Member’s Area under the relevant committee.</p> <p>COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE: Chair: Dr T Bryce, USA.</p> <p>This has now been working for a year and the Committee will investigate developing Social Media.</p> <p>More co-operation from the various Committees is needed and the Chair will investigate this.</p> <p>EDUCATION COMMITTEE: Chair – Mr S Muldoon, Ireland.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Consumers first three online modules have been launched at the Sydney meeting. 2. Work has started on the eLearn update. 3. Vacancies on this Committee will be sent out to the Membership via the Newsletter.

EXTERNAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE: Chair – Prof J Middleton, Australia.

This is a very large Committee and has a lot of work to do.

A new Sub-Committee Consisting of the Affiliated Societies had their first Inaugural meeting. Representatives of Affiliated Societies are no longer on the Council (now the Board). These meetings will continue at the Annual Scientific Meetings. More work is needed to engage all affiliations and this work is ongoing.

Two Advisory Members have been appointed, in a non-voting capacity and will not be counted in the 10 numbers that each Committee now has. They have been co-opted for a specific task.

The WHO Workplan is progressing, and the Chair was congratulated on all the hard work to date.

There was an ISCoS/WHO Workshop in Sydney.

There are plans to update the IPSCI Report.

The Disaster Sub-Committee now have an Action Plan which includes Global Mapping. There has been a Memorandum of Understanding with the UK Emergency Medical Team Specialist Cell in Spinal Cord Injury and this will need to be reviewed. Work is ongoing.

Work continues with Handicap International and ISPRM and an Action Plan has been made. This needs a global approach.

PREVENTION COMMITTEE: Chair Dr H Chhabra, India.

Activity planning is needed, including Global Mapping.

There had been a Poster Competition for SCI Day 2018, there were 55 submissions and nine were selected for the awards. Posters, five, one and two received the Awards – Dr Elif Yalcin (Turkey,) Dr Selin Ozen (Turkey), Guru Nagarajan S (India).

There had been activities around the world for SCI Day 2018 and information can be found on the SCI Day web site - <http://www.worldsciday.org/>.

For 2019 the SCI Day will be “Count us in”.

There was a Prevention Workshop in India in August with the support of the Ministry of India. There are plans to have another Workshop next year. Two members from ISCoS were invited to participate and were supported by ISCoS funds.

Dr H Chhabra will step down as Chair of this Committee and a call will go out to the Membership for a new Chair.

SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE: Chair – Dr G Scivoletto, Italy.

The format for the Annual Scientific Meeting 2018 had been changed.

2019 Meeting: Nice, France – 5-7 November.

2020 Meeting: Yokohama, Japan 2-4 September. This meeting will coincide with the latter part of the Para-Olympics being held in Tokyo.

2021: Discussions are ongoing with having a joint meeting with ASIA and due to the political situation in the USA the meeting will be in Canada. Prof A Krassioukov will be the new President of ASIA and will work closely with ISCoS regarding this meeting.

2022: The meeting will be held in Europe, venue and dates to be confirmed in due course. A Research Sub-Committee has been formed and its exact function is yet to be determined.

As well as the Guttman Lecture there will now be an ISCoS Lecture every year which will be supported from the funds of ISCoS.

Proposals for Plenary Speakers will be submitted by the Scientific Committee to the Executive and Board for final approval before any invitation letters are sent out.

Previous financial assistance to help members attend the Annual Scientific Meetings had been abandoned as it was felt to be more beneficial to help fund local meetings. Due to changing times this will be re-evaluated.

4 Report of the Honorary Treasurer – Dr M A Jamous (MAJ):

INCOME:

Membership Subscriptions	£35,179.00
Annual Scientific meeting (Dublin)	£41,398.00
Revenue from Journal	£116,908.00
Editorial Office Support	£48,410.00
Interest for Cash Deposit	£2519.00
Total	£244,414.00

EXPENDITURE:

Salaries and Honoraria	£102,436.00
Office Expenditures	£14,309.59
Journal Subscriptions	£16,249.60
Professional Fees	£10,506.00
Executives Expenditures	£11,339.85
AFSCON	£1,082.50
AFSCIN	£2,538.50
E-Learning	£2,633.63
Education Committee	£5,517.05
External Affairs Committee	£13,749.38
Total	£174,845.05

BALANCE:

Income	£244,414.00
Expenditure	£174,845.05
Balance	£69,568.95

2017 YEAR END FINANCIAL STATUS:

Cash in the Bank	£221,732.79
Cash Deposit	£211,611.00
Investments portfolio	£352,956.14
Total	£786,299.93

The Treasurer concluded by saying that currently the Society is in a healthy financial position and budgets for Committees had increased.

A member congratulated the Treasurer on ISCoS being able to pay no Tax and another member noted that the interest yield had increased.

	<p>In order to meet future adversity, the Society needs at least five years running costs to ensure survival.</p>
5	<p>Report of the Secretary – Dr S Katoh (SK):</p> <p>There was a moment’s silence for Jane Horsewell.</p> <p>SOCIETY MEDAL: The Society Medal for 2018 was awarded to Dr Peter Wing, Canada.</p> <p>ISCOS FELLOWS 2018:</p> <p>Dr M A Jamous, UK and Prof A Angelescu, Romania</p> <p>The Secretary reminded members to be aware of fake emails that had been circulated.</p> <p>A vote of thanks was given to Dr S Katoh, who has now stepped down and the new Secretary, Dr S Charlifue will take up the post following this meeting.</p>
6	<p>Editorial Report Spinal Cord – Prof L Harvey (LH):</p> <p>The full report will be available on the ISCoS web site in the Member’s Area.</p> <p>Associate Editors: Prof MWM Post, Prof J Steeves, Prof M Nakamura, Dr S de Groot, Dr M Dijkers,</p> <p>Editorial Board Dr R Abel, Dr M Alexander, Dr M Baumberger, Prof F Biering-Sørensen, Dr MWG Brinkhof, Dr SW Charlifue, Prof A Curt, Prof WH Donovan, Prof S Dunlop, Prof M Fehlings, Dr E Hagen, Prof WEB Johnson Prof A Krassioukov, Prof Y Li , Dr N Liu, Prof MJ Mulcahey, Dr JG Prévinaire, Dr R Rupp, Dr G Scivoletto, Dr Jan Reinhardt, Dr Hyun-Ik Shin</p> <p>The journal is doing well although submissions have dropped. This may be because some submissions are now being sent directly to its Sister Journal, Spinal Cord Series & Cases.</p> <p>There is a competent Editorial Board with a mix of professions. A call for new members will go out via the Newsletter.</p> <p>2016-2017 acceptance rate and time to decision has improved. Acceptance rate has gone up to 45%.</p> <p>The Impact Factor was 1.94 and this figure was credited to the previous Editor-in-Chief.</p> <p>The rejection of a manuscript is not solely the decision of the Editor-in-Chief, there is always consultation with either an Associate Editor or a member of the Editorial Board.</p>
7	<p>Editorial Report Spinal Cord Series & Cases – Dr M Sipski Alexander (MA):</p> <p>Associate Editors: Mindy Aisen, Lance Goetz, Claes Hultling, Ruth Marshall, Christina Rapidi, Martha Sliwinski, Chloe Slocum, Steve Williams</p> <p>Editorial Board:</p>

Craig Alexander, Brian Birch, Inge Blockmans, Thomas Bryce, Giulio Del Popolo, Yannis Dionnysis, John Ditunno, Wagih El Masri, Vernon Hill, Ingebjorg Irgens, Ian David Kaye, Michael Kennelly, Lesley Marson, Peter New, Piotr Tederko, Jill Wecht
Marcalee Alexander, MD Editor

The full report is available in the Member's Area on the ISCoS web site.

This is only an online journal and has been going for two and a half years. It is a clinical journal. Case Reports have increased.

PULSE:

- Online interdisciplinary surveys of membership related to hot topics—published papers regarding performance of the anal exam, utilization of the autonomic standards
- Pending article on burnout amongst health care professionals
- Active surveys on pain management and opioids
- Future surveys on osteoporosis
- We need your participation, forwarding of the links to other organizations, colleagues and new ideas

POINT COUNTERPOINT:

Previous perspectives on issues such as spinal surgery or not, utility of bulbocavernosus and how anal exam is performed.

Current papers on cannabis, opioids.

Looking for new topics and interest.

There had been 101 pieces published last year and to date this year 81 pieces.

Acceptance and time to publication has gone down.

This online journal is a good starting point for people wishing to get their work published.

SCSC Needs your participation and interest!

8 ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

Matters Raised from the Floor and Discussed:

A member raised the issue of venues for the Annual Scientific Meetings going around the world, particularly in less resourced areas. Scientific Committee to look at this.

One member suggested holding regional meetings in developing countries (Third World).

A member suggested that there is an overview of the organization on the web site.

COMBINED MEMBERSHIPS:

NOSCoS Registration in 2017 included two years subscription for ISCoS. This had proved difficult and they have decided not to repeat this process. Many of their members paid as part of their NOSCoS Meeting registration but did not complete an ISCoS membership Application.

	<p>DMGP said they are also experiencing problems with joint membership.</p> <p>Two-step process, problem with completing the application form by the individual.</p> <p>A member suggested eliminating the need for applications to be endorsed but the response from another member said this would need careful consideration if the system is to be changed.</p> <p>To look at the application process.</p> <p>Cost of Gala Dinner: Some members present felt that the cost was prohibiting people from attending. To be reviewed.</p> <p>A member suggested making Registration Costs cheaper.</p> <p>One member said that the cost of Visas was expensive for low-income countries. This is not controlled by ISCoS.</p> <p>Discussion about having an Agenda at the AGM and items that need to be voted on. Notice needs to be served to the Membership 8 weeks prior of any matters that need to be voted on. It was noted that the representation of ISCoS for eVoting was more than those who attended the AGM – approximately 55 this year.</p> <p>Some discussion took place about decisions being made at the AGM and it was felt that some matters needed to be circulated to the membership beforehand of topics likely to be discussed as some were more complex than others and needed careful thought before a member felt able to cast their vote. Most of those present agreed.</p> <p>Discussion took place on the misunderstanding that had occurred regarding the Special Interest Committees who are now Special Interest Groups. Those present who had an interest in this were advised to apply to join the Bye-Laws Committee when the call is sent out to the membership.</p>
9	<p>Dr H Chhabra was introduced as the next President and he asked all those present to give a vote of thanks to the outgoing President, Prof J J Wyndaele for all his work over the years in various capacities.</p>
10	<p>Date of next Annual General Meeting: Nice, France 2019.</p>