

## **Minutes for Annual General Meeting, 6 January 2016**

**Time: 18.00**

**Venue: St Hugh's College, Oxford**

### **Minutes**

#### **1. Members present and apologies**

1.1. Committee members present: Melodee Beals, Michael Burden, Brycchan Carey, Jesscia Clement, Michele Cohen, Daniel Cook, Matthew Grenby, Neil Howe, Matthew McCormack, Frank O'Gorman, Jack Orchard, Penny Pritchard, Charlotte Roberts, Kate Rumbold, Emma Salgard Cunha, Richard Terry, Caroline Warman, Helen Williams, Sharon Young. For a full list of other society members present see appendix A

1.2. Apologies received from the following committee members: Michael Burden, Jeremy Gregory, Emrys Jones.

#### **2. Minutes of last AGM**

2.1 Minutes agreed with minor amendments.

#### **3. Matters arising**

3.1. There were no matters arising

#### **4. Officers' reports**

##### **4.a. President.**

4.a.1. MOG reported that the website has been re-launched. It is now hosted independently and has been improved at little extra cost.

4.a.2. MOG reported that BSECS has signed up with St Hugh's for the 2017 and 2018 conferences at an agreed cost.

4.a.3. MOG announced that the next PG/ECR conference will be held in Barcelona, 30 June-1 July. The previous conference had been held in Belfast and was a success with 30 delegates in attendance.

4.a.4. MOG announced that the next Anglo-Italian conference will be held in Rome in 2017. It will be hosted by the British School.

4.a.5. MOG reported that the range of fellowships, prize and bursaries funded by the society has been expanded. Details are on the website. Further fellowships and prizes are in development. MOG added that the society now has an events fund to support a range of events and conferences. Up to £250 is available and three applications have so far been successful.

4.a.6. MOG announced a new book series currently being developed in conjunction with publishers Boydell and Brewer.

4.a.7. MOG thanked Caroline Warman and her colleagues and students for their contributions to the publication *Tolérance: le combat des Lumières*.

4.a.8. MOG announced that the society was undertaking a survey of its members to be conducted by Wiley. The aim of this was to aid recruitment and to assess current or lapsed members' concerns or suggestions.

4.a.9. MOG announced that the society had held the first of a series of Patrons lectures. The first was delivered by Prof. Amada Vickery at York University in November 2015. This had been very successful. This series will take place every two years and the venue will vary.

4.a.10. MOG announced that the next ISECS Congress will be hosted by BSECS and will take place in Edinburgh in 2019. BC asked that this be added as a standing agenda item on the AGM.

**Action: SY to add ISECS Congress as standing AGM agenda item**

#### **4.b. Treasurer.**

4.b.1. CR reported that the handover of treasurer's duties from BC had been very smooth. She thanked BC for all his work which had enabled this.

4.b.2. CR reported that the accounts had been prepared by an accountant to be ratified by the AGM. She circulated summary of the accounts and reminded members that the full statement was available for scrutiny.

4.b.3. CR reported that the current assets stand at £104,447, including the money paid out in deposit for the ISECS Congress. This represents a small overall improvement in the society's financial position. She drew the AGM's attention to the surplus of £5531 on the conference. This includes £10,000 in PayPal account for 2016 which disguises the small loss made in 2015. She also noted that the reserves are less than in previous years because of the deposit paid out for the ISECS Congress.

4.b.4. CR reported that the amount set aside for bursaries and fellowships had been increased and commented that this funding was in line with a core aim of the society.

4.b.4. Penelope Corfield proposed that the AGM accept the accounts. NH seconded. The accounts were accepted.

#### **4. c. Executive secretary**

4.c.1. The report from the Executive Secretary was discussed under item 5.

#### **4. d. Journal editor**

4.d.1. MM reported that the transition of editorship from MOG had been smooth.

4.d.2. MM reported that there continues to be many high quality submissions to JECS. He added that the relationship with Wiley remained good.

4.d.2. MM thanked the many members to contributed to JECS in many roles..

#### **4.e. Conference organisers**

4.e.1. ESC reported that the number of delegates for the 2016 conference was higher than the previous year and that the schedule was packed. She drew attention to the feedback box located on the registration desk. She also invited feedback by email.

4.e.2. ESC thanked HW and MB for their work in making the conference a success.

#### **4.f. ISECS**

4.f.1. BC explained his new role in BSECS on the planning of the 2019 ISECS Congress in Edinburgh (which would take the theme 'Enlightenment Identities'). He mentioned that the 2015 ISECS Congress takes place in Rotterdam in July and the Call for Papers is still open (just). ISECS elections take place every four years and all members of ISECS/BSECS were entitled to vote in these elections and were warmly encouraged to do so.

### **5. Report on the election of officers and committee members**

5.1. MOG reported that Vicky Coltman would be stepping down for the committee at the end of January. He thanked her for her contribution.

5.2. MOG reported that there were two vacancies for ordinary members and that an election notice had been posted to this effect. Three nominations had been received. However, as KR was due to have maternity leave, MOG proposed that all three nominations be accepted without election at this point. MOG noted that an election would need to be held on KR's return. PCor proposed that the AGM agree this. HW seconded. This was agreed by the AGM.

## **6. Members comments and feedback**

6.1. Sean Creighton asked is the full text of conference papers could be made available subject to delegates' permission. MOG reported that this had been discussed by the committee but that there were no pas to develop this idea as it may detract from JECS. ESC added that it was impractical in terms of workload. BC noted that often conference papers were work in progress shared informally but not as a matter of record. NH commented that delegates may contact the speaker directly by email if they would like more information about a paper.

6.2. Miranda Reading asked about the possibility of podcasts of papers. ESC answered that again this had been discussed but that the cost was prohibitive. It was agreed that this might be considered as a trial for selected panels.

**Action: SY to add to executive committee agenda.**

## **7. Any other business**

7.1. NH reported t6hat membership of BSECS had risen slightly during the previous year.

7.2 FOG asked if we could record our formal thanks for MOG's work as president over the previous year.

## **Appendix A**

Nick Seager

Conrad Brunstrom

Alexander Huber

Genevieve Mc Nutt

Hannah Templeton

Miranda Reading

Marie-Antoinette Smith

Orlov Smyth

Marine Ganofsky

Stephen Gregg

Penelope Corfield

Jeanne Clegg

Ian Small

Lisa O'Connell

Christoph Heyl

Xijun Chen

Leonie Hannan

Sean Creighton

Mark Ledbury

Pamela Clemit

Gavin Budge

John-Erik Hanssen

Max Skjonsberg

Rob Hume  
James Harriman-Smith