



THE ROYAL SCHOOL OF MINES ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the RSMA AGM on 25th June 2015 Held at 58 Prince's Gate (6:30pm)

Present: John O'Reilly, Danny Hill, Glynne Lloyd Davis, Fiona Cassidy, David Bishop
John Sharpley, Prof. Rees Rawlings, Hannah Bungey, Teresa Sergot, Tim Cotton, Mark Burridge,
+ 10 members of the RSMA

- 1) Apologies for absence: Coen Louwarts, Giles Baynham, Leah Glass, Lorraine Craig, Luc Vandeperre, Prof. John Monhemius, Kurt Budge, Martyn Buttenshaw, Jim Platt, Robert Appleby, Mike Nott, Liv Carroll, Eddie Gadd,
- 2) Minutes of previous AGM
The minutes of the AGM held on the 26th June 2014 were approved.
- 3) Matters arising out of the minutes

There were no matters arising out of the previous meeting
- 4) President's Report

The President submitted a formal report to the members which is summarised below:

Another year passed and probably the most apt description of the year would be consolidation. There had been much discussion with Imperial on the roles and rights of the Associations (RSMA and CGCA) and this culminated, from our perspective, with a presentation to the RSMA committee in May by the Head of Development for the Faculty of Engineering and the Alumni Engagement Officer. It is acknowledged that past relationships between the college and the Associations have been fraught with an undercurrent of mistrust. Both parties recognise the need to exist in an atmosphere of co-operation, collaboration and trust and all are agreed that we will work to this end. Access to members through the college database has long been an area of contention and it has now been agreed that member data primarily belongs to the Associations and that "data controllers" from the Associations will be nominated and these will have unfettered access to the database. Initially, for the RSMA, this will be myself and the membership secretary. Because of the need for data protection a formal document will be drawn up by the college, in conjunction with CGCA and RSMA specifying the responsibilities of the "controllers" and this will be signed by all designated personnel. The college have offered to employ a temporary member of staff to process the reconciliation of members with dues paid and to ensure that as new members join the Association, the database is updated. This will now give the RSMA the ability to contact all members by e-mail when necessary (eg for the annual dinner, AGM etc) and also to undertake an e-mail membership and fund raising drive say once every year. It is imperative that we have this ability as the RSMA relies on the financial support of alumni through membership dues and donations. Communications to alumni who are not members of the Association will be sent under the Imperial banner. I also had lunch with the Dean of the Faculty of Engineering and the Head of Development to better cement the relationship between the college and the Association. Last year I said we must attune to the present, anticipate the future, understand the changes (at Imperial), embrace and

progress accordingly. I believe that we have achieved our objectives and the committee looks forward to an ongoing collaborative and transparent relationship with the college.

On the fund raising front an appeal for donations was issued through LinkedIn with some positive response. No further appeals have been made to industry but a further appeal is intended in the summer. One idea mooted is for Imperial to give an annual donation to the Association which would preclude the need for separate appeals by the Association. I apologise to members for any bombardment with appeals but we do rely on member's generosity.

The highlight of the calendar year was the 130th Annual Dinner held at the Rembrandt hotel, with 127 attendees covering seven decades of RSM students. It was very obvious that the spirit of the RSM remains strong and powerful. Guest speaker was Dr Mike Harris of Rio Tinto who gave a thought provoking talk on the mining industry and some of the challenges facing current day project developers. The Rembrandt will be the venue again for this year's dinner – whilst it is sad to lose our historic venue at the Polish Club, safety reasons dictate that the current reception/dining area is not appropriate.

New Cavendish Club. In 2014 the New Cavendish club was taken over by the In and Out club. The new owners showed no interest in extending the membership agreement with the Associations (CGCA and RSMA) into the new structure and in fact did not even wish to honour the membership agreement during the transition period of the takeover. For over a year alternative arrangements with other clubs/hotels were sought but all options considered were prohibitively expensive and it was decided that with so many budget hotel deals available in London (probably in better accommodation than the NC) that it was not in the Associations interests to pursue further. The CGCA, by far the bigger of the Associations, ran the exercise but no economic alternative could be sourced. Some members actually use Imperial's halls of residence, outside of term time, which provides a very cheap alternative in central London (but without the trimmings!). So regrettably there is no longer a deal available with a London accommodation.

Following last year's successful event, in December myself and Coen gave a presentation to the students on the history, aims and membership of the RSMA, which was again well received. I have also written to all final year students, in both Materials and ESE, encouraging them to join the RSMA. The committee has had a very active relationship with Ben Warnick and Simon Escobar, respectively President and Hon Sec of the RSMU. Both have strongly contributed to the RSMA activities within the college, and have encouraged student participation in RSMA events. I extend the thanks of the committee to both for their support and friendship. The rapport between the RSMA and the students continues to bode well for the future. On the sporting front, in the contests against Camborne, the Bottle was retained with a comfortable 19-7 scoreline. Victories were also achieved in the mens hockey and squash but we succumbed in the football, ladies hockey, netball and badminton.

We were again represented at the college alumni day in May but there were very few RSM alumni in attendance and we will have to rethink our participation in future years.

Our profile on LinkedIn and Facebook continues to strengthen – we now have 1944 members on LinkedIn. Social media continues to provide an excellent communication tool with members.

Tonight we entertain the students for the traditional final year Bar-B-Q and even with exam results due in the morning it was felt that this was the most appropriate date and venue to celebrate them leaving the RSM. Once again, a great thanks is due to alumni Eddie Gadd who has donated two pins of his finest Ramsgate Brewery Ale for the function. Go to www.ramsgatebrewery.co.uk and I guarantee you will not be disappointed with the products.

There was a vacancy on the committee and I am delighted to welcome Celia Hayes. We have an excellent span of Royal School of Mines involvement and experience on the committee and we embrace many generations of alumni. In conclusion I would like to thank all the committee for their support and guidance. For those committee members who have full time employment, many in high pressure jobs, their commitment is especially appreciated. A sincere thanks to Paul Holmes who is stepping down as secretary, due to his work commitments, after 10 years of putting up with various presidents. His support has been monumental. And once again I repeat my words of last year with a very special thanks to Teresa who has been a great help, confidant and friend during my tenure to date. Without her the

RSMA would struggle to function in the direction we are striving for. She is a true believer and supporter of the RSMA.

Discussion

John Sharpley congratulated the President on his progress with the College during the past year and it was good to see that the college was taking a pro-active approach with its constituent Associations.

5) Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer submitted a formal report to the members which is set out below:

The RSMA Trust and RSMA have finished their respective years in acceptable financial health. The expenditure of the RSMA Trust and RSMA Association is relatively consistent with previous years.

The Association's activity for 2014/15 was normal, with the Association finishing its financial year on 31st March 2015 with £30,090.85 on deposit with Imperial College, £12,565.90 in its HSBC current account, and £1,422.26 in its PayPal account.

The Trust continues in good financial health; its assets comprise cash balances, the Peter Harding Scholarship Fund, student loans and medal stock. The balance at 31st December, 2014 was £44,248 most of which is held on COIF deposit.

Association

There have been no funding movements from the IC Fund to the HSBC current account during the period.

The main income for the year was from annual subscriptions. The PayPal account, set-up in the previous period (2013/14) attracted 52 subscriptions in this period (54 in 2013/14).

Our costs associated with the Imperial Engineer continue to decrease due to lesser mailing charges. The Association made a profit at both our larger events, the June 2014 AGM & Final Year BBQ made a £44.50 profit and the November 2014 Annual Dinner made a £564 profit.

The Association continues to provide support to the RSMU for their student activities; the committee once again awarded an annual grant of £1,800 for 2014/2015, which will be paid in July 2015. The £1,750 paid in May 2014 represents the grant for 2013/2014.

We continued to bank at HSBC.

Finally, after four years as Honorary Treasurer of the RSMA I have decided to step down from the role due to work and other commitments. I wish my successor, David Bishop, well and I will be handing over to David over the next three months. I would like to extend my thanks to Teresa Sergot and the rest of the RSMA Committee for their continued support in managing the Association's finances over the past four years.

Discussion

Fiona Cassidy proposed a vote of thanks from the Association members for Danny's 4 years of work and for ensuring the accounts up to date and in a good state to hand on to the new Treasurer.

6) Chairman of the Trust Board Report

The Chairman submitted a formal report to the members which is set out below;

The Trust remains in good financial health: this is reported in more detail in the accompanying Treasurer's Report. The discretionary grants and loan schemes continue to be made use of by students, albeit it has been a relatively quiet year. We continue to work on new funding initiatives to assist our students but have nothing concrete yet to report.

I am pleased to note that this year the essay competition attracted nine entries from the Faculty; all were of a good standard and interesting. The winner for 2014 was Tarik Saif, a PhD student in Petroleum Engineering, for his essay entitled "Bleeding oil: Nigeria's curse in disguise"; we offer him our congratulations on a well-deserved win and hope to present Tarik with his medal at the annual dinner in November.

7) Officers and Committee Members for 2015/16

The following nominations have been received:

President:	John O'Reilly
Senior Vice-President:	Tim Cotton
Junior Vice-President:	Eleanor Jay
Past-President:	Mark Burridge
Hon. Secretary:	Hannah Bungey
Hon. Treasurer:	David Bishop
VP International	John Sykes
Membership Secretary	Coen Louwarts
Members:	Lorraine Craig John Monhemius Rees Rawlings Sam Argyle, (President RSM Union) Eleanor Bryant, (Hon Sec RSM Union) Luc Vandeperre Paul Holmes Daniel Hill Celia Hayes
Overseas:	Giles Baynham (Canada) Leah Glass (Australia)

The nominations were proposed and seconded by a member of the RSMA and passed unanimously.

The President added that he was delighted to welcome the new members to the committee and especially Celia Hayes. The President commented that the Association was lucky to have a board and committee membership that spanned the years and genders, which can only be a good thing for the Association going forward.

9) RSMA Trust Board 2015/2016

The following appointments to the RSMA Trust Board are;

<u>Board Members:</u>	<u>Trustees:</u>
Prof. Rees Rawlings (Chairman)	Prof. John Monhemius
John O'Reilly	David Bishop
Fiona Cassidy	Hannah Bungey
Coen Louwarts	Sam Argyle (President RSM Union)
David Bishop	Glynne Lloyd Davies (Hon Secretary)

The nominations were proposed and seconded by a member of the RSMA and passed unanimously.

10) AOB

1. The President proposed a thank you to Paul Holmes, who after 10 years and “putting up” with various Presidents has decided to step down as Honorary Secretary due to work commitments.
2. The President also provided a special thank you to Dr Teresa Sergot and her continued hard work which makes the Presidents role so much easier he stated that Teresa was a “True Believer in the RSMA”.
3. Member asked if Eddie Gadd, who every year kindly donates his beer to the BBQ received an invite to the event. The President responded, that every year Eddie is given a complimentary invite to the event and reiterated his thanks to Eddie for supplying the beer.

The meeting closed at 18:58

Paul Holmes
Hon. Secretary

John O'Reilly
President

Dated _____ *2015*