

British Classification Society AGM

Friday 18 May 2012, Department of Mathematical Sciences (DMS), University of Essex (UoE)

Departures

Peter H.A. Sneath, 17 Nov. 1923 to 9 Sept. 2011. See obituary at University of Leicester.

Also Robert Sokal (1928-2012).

The seminal books Sokal and Sneath (1963) and Sneath and Sokal (1973) are scanned and available for members on the Society's web site.

Automated response to a message to our member, Prof Frank Bisby:

Frank A. Bisby <f.a.bisby@reading.ac.uk>

Unfortunately, Professor Bisby passed away suddenly on 25th October 2011.

This e-mail address has been left open for administrative purposes only and you will receive no reply from it.

Current Officers and Committee

President: : Dr David Wishart, School of Management, University of St Andrews

Secretary: Prof Fionn Murtagh, Department of Computer Science, Royal Holloway
University of London

Treasurer: Dr Christian Hennig, Department of Statistical Science, University College
London

Committee Member: Prof Xiaohui Liu, School of Information Systems, Computing and
Mathematics, Brunel University

Committee Member: Dr Berthold Lausen, Department of Mathematical Sciences,
University of Essex

Committee Member: Prof Roger Payne, VSN International Ltd.

Auditor: Clive Moncrieff, formerly Natural History Museum, London

Agenda

(1) The following are to be approved and matters arising discussed:

- Minutes of the AGM of 14 July 2011
- Treasurer's report, July 2011

(2) President's report (D Wishart)

(3) Secretary's report (F Murtagh, verbal)

(4) Treasurer's report (C Hennig) – audit (C Moncrieff)

(5) The upcoming 50th Anniversary of the founding of the Classification Society i.e. the British Classification Society. Plans for the anniversary: discussion.

(6) First note the following:

2002 Amendment to Item 4 of the Society's Constitution:

"The Committee of the Society shall consist of a President, a Secretary and a Treasurer, and 3 other members, of whom one-third shall retire annually in rotation, and may not be re-elected until the expiration of one year from the date of retirement. The President, Secretary and Treasurer shall be elected annually and be eligible for re-election, with the proviso that they shall not hold office for more than three consecutive years."

Hence we need one committee member to be replaced, and we need an election for President, Secretary and Treasurer.

(7) Any other business.

Apologies

"Gavin Ross (RRes-Roth)" <gavin.ross@rothamsted.ac.uk>

Eleanor C.Stillman <E.C.Stillman@sheffield.ac.uk>

Daniel Müllensiefen, Department of Psychology, Goldsmiths, University of London; d.mullensiefen@gold.ac.uk

Nigel Marriott, Marriott Statistical Consulting Ltd, nigel@marriott-stats.com

Minutes

Approx 20 in attendance at the meeting. About 9 in attendance at the AGM.

Attendance at the AGM:

David Wishart, Christian Hennig, Alex Gammerman, Axel Gandy, Berthold Lausen, XiaoHui Liu, Clive Moncrieff, Nick Fieller, Fionn Murtagh (virtually by Skype).

Previous minutes accepted.

President's report: David Wishart: BCS memberships paid from the proceeds of the St Andrews ICC Conference.

Secretary's report: Fionn Murtagh indicated ongoing work on the Society's web site, keeping it updated.

Treasurer's report (see separate statement): possibility of changing membership fees – with or without journal – was discussed. Christian Hennig to send a proposal before the next meeting. Subject to an audit, the accounts were accepted.

50th Anniversary: July 2014 to be aimed at as a date. The Classification Society to be a partner? – Fionn Murtagh will inquire about this. Venue: Cambridge was proposed – originally by John Gower. David Wishart will make some enquiries.

Next AGM: Motion will be brought to allow amendment to the constitution in order to allow officer positions and committee members to continue for a further year, whenever (1) there is no other candidate, and (2) the present post-holder agrees to continue in his/her role.

Proposed and decided unanimously: President, Secretary, Treasurer re-elected for a further year.

AOB: 2013 meeting proposed by Christian Hennig either in conjunction the GfKI AG-DANK – German Classification Society, Working Group on Data Analysis and Numerical Classification; or otherwise independently at UCL.

It was suggested (Berthold Lausen) that the next Society meeting be organised in autumn 2012. If interested in hosting such a meeting, please inform any Committee member.