

British Society for Research into Learning Mathematics

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting

Loughborough University, 14th November 2009

1. Apologies for absence: (BSRLM Executive members) Liz Bills, Maria Goulding, Marie Joubert.

2. Minutes of the last meeting:

The minutes of the AGM held on 15th November 2008 were accepted as an accurate record, with the exception of item 3(9), which should read ‘Following the AGM, Julie-Ann Edwards was nominated for this position (executive member without portfolio) and elected unopposed to the position for the term January 2008 – December 2010.’

3. Matters arising from the minutes: None.

4. Chair’s report:

Janet Ainley presented the Chair’s report. She noted the very encouraging record of sustained high attendance at the day conferences, each of which had a full programme. Thanks were expressed to all local organising groups and to Julie-Ann Edwards in her role as day conference organiser.

There will be a change in the overall editorial team of *Research in Mathematics Education*. Linda Haggarty, who has come to the end of her term as Current Reports Editor, was thanked for her contribution. Lara Alcock has been appointed as the new CR Editor. Jan Winter will stand down from her role as Book Reviews Editor in a year. There are some vacancies on the editorial board of RME; BSRLM members will be invited to apply.

Liz Bills and Maria Goulding are due to stand down from their positions of Treasurer and Member without Portfolio (BERA SIG) in December 2009. They were thanked for their hard work for the society.

The Executive were asked whether further consideration had been given to the suggestion of a formal award for recipients of support from the Leone Burton Fund. This item will be added to the agenda of the next Executive meeting.

5. Treasurer’s report:

Janet Ainley presented the Treasurer’s report and summary of accounts on behalf of Liz Bills. The Society continues in a healthy state financially, with membership and reserves increasing. A modest surplus was made on day conferences overall.

The Executive were asked about contingencies to the Burton Fund, which is running down. A transfer from the reserve account will be used to top up the fund when necessary. Janet Ainley reported that the late Bill Duffin had made provision in his will to replenish the Janet Duffin Fund.

6. Membership Secretary’s report:

Paul Hernandez-Martinez presented the Membership Secretary’s report. Membership now stands at 413 members. It was reported that the overseas supplement charge will

be cancelled. This was in place to cover the extra costs of posting informal proceedings to overseas addresses. Taylor and Francis do not distinguish between UK and overseas addresses, so the supplement is no longer needed. It was also reported that overseas visitors will be able to attend a single BSRLM day conference without having to become a member of the society. As a guest of a BSRLM member, they will attend by paying the day conference fee.

7. Publication Secretary's report:

Janet Ainley presented the Publications Secretary's report on behalf of Marie Joubert. A good number of articles have been published in the electronic informal proceedings; 26 from London, 17 from Cambridge, and 18 from Bristol. The website support arrangements generally work well.

8. RME Editorial Report:

Tim Rowland, joint Editor of RME, reported that Taylor and Francis are keen to move to publishing three issues per year. He summarised the issues for and against this. Two issues is considered to be a small output for an international journal. Moving to three issues would raise the profile of the journal and T&F would then consider moving the journal to the online editorial manager system, which would save time and administrative work for the Editors, and reduce the cost of editorial support which is paid for by the society. There is not enough current quality copy for three issues but special issues would help to increase the quality copy needed. Increased costs can currently be absorbed without raising the membership fee. In the longer term, the likely implications include a change to the RME editorial structure and a proposal to increase the BSRLM membership fee. Various ideas were suggested by the membership, including reconsidering the word limit of articles, using strands at day conferences to support special issues, and supporting day conference presenters with writing up an article for RME.

The proposal 'that the circulation of *Research in Mathematics Education* is increased from two issues per year to three issues per year' was **accepted** by the membership, with 22 votes in favour, 0 against and 2 abstentions.

9. Janet Duffin Award:

Janet Ainley announced that the winner of the Janet Duffin Award for 2009 is Andrew Noyes for his paper *Exploring social patterns of participation in university-entrance level mathematics in England* published in RME, 11(2).

10. Election to the Society's executive positions:

There were two vacancies on the Society's executive committee from 2010: Treasurer and Member without Portfolio (BERA SIG). The following member was nominated, seconded and elected unopposed to the following position and period of office:

Howard Tanner Member without Portfolio (BERA SIG) January 2010 – December 2012

No nominations had been received for the Treasurer, but following the AGM, Jenni Ingram was nominated, seconded and elected unopposed.

Jenni Ingram Treasurer

January 2010 – December 2012

11. BCME Report:

Janet Ainley reported that there had been a good response to the request for reviewers for BCME papers. In order to support BCME, there would be no BSRLM meeting in the Spring Term of 2010.

12. Any other business: None.