

INTERNATIONAL GLACIOLOGICAL SOCIETY

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2019

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE INTERNATIONAL GLACIOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Tuesday 9 July 2019 at 16:45, The Mackenzie Room of the Stanford
Engineering Quad, Stanford University, California, USA

The President, Francisco J Navarro, was in the Chair.

33 persons, from 13 countries, attended of which 32 were members.

1. The Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting, published in the 3rd issue of ICE, 2018, No. 178 and on the IGS website were approved on a motion by H Miller seconded by R Bingham and signed by the President.

2. The President gave the following report for 2018–2019:

Ladies and gentlemen, members of the IGS and dear colleagues

1. Actions undertaken during the last 10 months

Part of the work since the last AGM has been the continuation of some actions initiated or completed during the previous period. Therefore, when discussing these pieces of work, I will briefly recap the status of these subjects at the end of the previous reporting period.

1) The IGS Council, in its meeting of 20 June 2018, approved the composition of a new Ad-hoc Committee, on Governance Changes, promoted by the President and aimed at proposing changes to our current Constitution (whose last version is dated 21 July 1985) necessary to adapt the governance of the IGS to the new times and to the demands of the membership. The composition of this Ad-hoc Committee was: Regine Hock (Chair), Hilmar Gudmundsson, Christina Hulbe, Doug MacAyeal, Magnús M. Magnússon, Francisco Navarro and Laura Stevens/Doug Brinkerhoff (Early Career), though Hilmar Gudmundsson resigned as a Committee member a few months later. The first step of this Committee was to design a survey, mostly addressed to the IGS membership, to know about their feelings and ideas regarding the envisaged governance changes. The survey preparation finished by mid-December 2018 and was announced by various means (including the Cryolist) on 17 December 2018, with deadline 15 Jan 2019. The latter was extended to February 2019 to allow people participating in Antarctic fieldwork to complete the survey. The number of valid answers to the survey was 358, of which 86 were only partially completed. Unfortunately, the analysis of the survey results has not been undertaken yet, mostly due to heavy involvement of the Committee chair in the IPCC Report writing.

2) The Awards Committee completed in April 2018 the compilation of a new document on Awards definition and criteria, together with an accompanying document on Committee Procedures. Unfortunately, soon after its completion the Committee Chair, Lora Koenig, stepped down from her position because of a change in job, and Regine Hock (who had been most active, together with Lora, in the development of the new Awards criteria) also stepped down, after several years in the Committee. Several other Committee members also ended their terms. The appointment of new members for this important committee, and in particular its chair person, required a substantial

effort (and amount of time), but was finally completed by the end of January 2019. The new composition of the Committee is: Ian Allison (Chair), Dirk Notz (repeating), Elisabeth Isaksson (repeating), Carleen Tijm-Reijmer, Andrew Mackintosh, Sergey Sokratov and Shin Sugiyama, plus the IGS President and Secretary General as ex-officio members. The Committee soon discussed and decided the timing of the call for awards, and the deadlines for submission of nominations, their evaluation by the committee and for final decision on the awards. This process has been completed a few days ago, and the 2019 awards have been approved by the Council in its meeting of this morning. The awards recipients will soon be announced. This is an important step, since, because of various reasons (including the lack of clear definitions and procedures, and this is why the previous Committee decided to focus its efforts on this aspect prior to giving out any new awards). Hence no Seligman Crystal Awards have been awarded since 2013, and no Richardson Medals since 2018. I hereby extend my thanks and my acknowledgement to the Awards Committee, with special recognition to its Chair, Ian Allison, for their efforts and efficient work.

3) During the first half of 2018, the embryonic early career scientist committee (basically there were only two active persons, Laura Stevens and Doug Brinkerhoff) wrote their Terms of Reference (ToR), which were approved at the Council meeting of 20 June 2018. This group took the name of IGS Early-career Glaciologists' Group (EGG). Significant efforts were needed during the second half of 2018 to bring together a sufficient number of early career glaciologists interested in joining the EGG Committee and moving forward this initiative. Following several e-mail comments and discussions, the EGG Committee held an initial teleconference in early April of 2019. The main ideas discussed during this meeting, which have also been briefly discussed by the IGS Council in its meeting of today, include:

- The organization of early-career mini-symposia in conjunction with IGS meetings, in which ECGs will share their research with their peers, and will solicit invited talks from later career glaciologists on topics related to professional development in glaciology.
- The pursuit of funding from IGS and external organizations to finance intensive collaborative research opportunities for ECGs (inspired by the general consensus on the usefulness, at the early career stage, of experiences like Karthaus and McCarthy summer schools). The EGG acknowledges the logistical efforts and expenses associated with such activities.
- The establishment of an early-career award for best presentation at an IGS symposium. The EGG acknowledges that more consideration is needed to determine how this interfaces with existing IGS efforts (in particular, see later the bulletin Graham Cogley Award).
- The establishment of an EGG website as the central mechanism for advertising EGG activities. Doug Brinkerhoff has volunteered to undertake this effort, and to host the website at the University of Montana.
- In order to support the above activities (in particular the first one), EGG intends to request some small funding from IGS.

Further discussion on the above items is needed in order to analyse their feasibility and possible implementation.

4) Related to both of the above bullets 2 and 3, a new award has been established by the IGS, jointly with the International Association of Cryospheric Sciences (IACS), to honour the memory of our former Chief Editor Graham Cogley. This award, sponsored by Graham's widow, Kathie who, (together with Regine Hock), was the "alma mater" of the award), is addressed to early career students. The award will be given once a year alternating by IGS and IACS.

IGS will give the award to a student who has published for a paper of exceptional quality in the *Journal of Glaciology* or the *Annals of Glaciology*. The selection process will be based on the IGS Chief Editor and Associated Chief Editors decision.

IACS will give one award each for the best student oral and best student poster presentation at bi-annual IACS General Assemblies as judged by an evaluation committee to be established by IACS. The establishment of this award has already been approved by the Council, pending of the final details on the process, to be discussed by the Awards Committee. But the main lines (as sketched above) have been approved, because the first award will be given at the IUGG/IACS conference in Montreal in July 2019. This new award fulfils one of the wishes expressed by the EGG.

5) The Nominations Committee underwent a full renovation since the last AGM. Doug MacAyeal, as last IGS President, became its new Chair, and completed the renovation of the Committee membership in February 2019. The renovated membership is: Doug MacAyeal (Chair), Jennifer Hutchings, Liss Andreassen, Mikhail Ivanov, Allen Pope and Kumiko Goto-Azuma, plus the IGS President and Secretary General as ex-officio members. The Committee's main task has been the configuration of the slate for replacing Jennifer Hutchings, Liss Andreassen, Mikhail Ivanov, Allen Pope and Dirk Notz for the next election of IGS officers and Council members (involving one Vice-President and 5 Council members) which will be voted under a later agenda item of this AGM.

6) By the time of the last AGM, the Publications Committee had been renovated with a new Chair (Gwenn Flowers) and two new members (Valentina Radić and Ian Allison). The remainder of the committee's members were C.J. van der Veen and W.T. Colgan, and the IGS President, Secretary General and Chief Editor as ex-officio members (for the position of the IGS Chief Editor, Hester Jiskoot replaced Graham Cogley upon the passing of Graham). C.J. van der Veen and W.T. Colgan were ending their terms by the end of 2018, but were kept on duty to avoid a complete change of the Committee in a brief period. Since the last AGM, the Publications Committee has been involved in various tasks, including the consideration of the new Editorial Board, the definition of the new type/format of papers (articles, letters, correspondence, where the letter is the new entity and the correspondence has partly changed its aims), the change in the layout of the *Journal* and *Annals* papers (more confirmative to the online layout of papers, and that will help speed up the Cambridge University Press typesetting) and other publication-related matters.

7) The Editorial Board of the IGS, under the lead of Hester Jiskoot upon the passing of Graham Cogley (initially as Acting Chief Editor, and as Chief Editor since the 4th May 2019) and with the strong involvement of Frank Pattyn as Associate Chief Editor (ACE), and the two new ACEs Nicolas Eckert and Ralf Greve, as well as the support from the new expanded set of scientific editors (SEs), have all together succeeded in returning to normal the delay in reviewing papers resulting from Graham's illness and

subsequent passing. Special thanks are owed to the superb performance by Hester Jiskoot, followed by that of Frank Pattyn.

Regarding the evolution of the Journal and the Annals during 2018-2019, despite the very slight increase of the Journal impact factor (from 3.200 in 2017 to 3.261 in 2018) and the substantial increase of that of the Annals (from 2.761 to 3.131), the number of submissions, and of printed pages, is still low for both. For the Journal the number of submissions in 2018 was 13% lower than that of 2017 (perhaps as a result of the delay in processing and reviewing of papers associated to Graham Cogley's illness and passing), and the number of printed pages in 2018 was slightly lower than in 2017, which in turn was slightly lower than in 2016; the trend seems to continue in 2019. For the Annals, though the number of printed pages was 15% higher in 2018 cf. 2017, still well below the numbers for 2016 (although 2016 had 3 symposia, versus 2 in 2017 and 2 in 2018, also the number of pages per symposia has been lower for 2017 and 2018 cf. 2016). Again, the trend seems to continue in 2019. All efforts should be made to encourage submissions to both the Journal and the Annals. Note that this has serious budgetary implications, as a substantial part of the IGS income arises from the CUP royalties per number of papers published.

8) The drop in membership continues to be a matter of concern. The number of paid memberships (i.e. excluding complementary memberships offered to non-IGS members registering to IGS symposia) has continued in 2018 its marked decreasing trend initiated in 2015, reaching in 2018 the absolute minimum in the last decade, but has improved in 2019 and we are close to the level of membership we were in 2017. Again, all efforts should be made to encourage membership.

2. Plan of action for next year.

1) The main task immediately ahead is the implementation of the IGS governance changes, which requires, as a first step, the analysis and discussion by the Ad-hoc Committee of the results of the survey to the IGS membership discussed above. From this should result a set of proposed changes to the IGS Constitution, to be further discussed and agreed by the IGS Council before mandatory (as of the current Constitution) final approval by the IGS membership. The needed changes could include e.g. the possibility to have online Council meetings, to modify/adapt the Council membership and conditions for quorum (which were designed for in-person meetings), and any other possible changes in the structure of the IGS addressed to make its governance more efficient.

2) The sustained drop in membership since 2015 discussed above continues to be a matter of concern. Of particular relevance is the increase in membership of early career students/researchers. Let us hope that the recent and foreseen progress of the EGG will help on this. Regarding the general membership, it is my opinion that the national correspondents could play a role in tracking and reinforcing the membership in their respective countries. This, of course, will be more feasible in countries with a well-interrelated glaciological community. And we also need for this, well-motivated national correspondents. The role of the national correspondent should be revisited, and assigned clear responsibilities; among them, the mentioned tracking and reinforcing of the IGS membership in the respective countries. But, beyond a possible action by the national correspondents, this is a matter that every IGS member should take seriously, promoting the IGS membership among their peers and students.

3) It is also the aim of the President, in collaboration with the Editorial Board and the Publications Committee, to search for ways to make the Journal of Glaciology and the Annals of Glaciology more attractive to the potential authors, with particular attention to the early career researchers. Again, let us hope that the Graham Cogley award be a further motivation for publishing for the early career researchers.

4) Finally, a tight control is required regarding the IGS finances, as some of the issues discussed in this report (in particular, the drop in number of submissions and published pages in the IGS journals, and the drop in membership) imply a substantial reduction of the income.

Let me finish this report by acknowledging to the IGS Secretary General, Magnús Magnússon, and the members of the Council, the Editorial Board and the various committees of the IGS, for their hard and generous work to make the IGS progress and improve. My thanks are also extended to the Membership and Accounts Manager, Louise Buckingham

Francisco Navarro
IGS President

9 July 2019

The Secretary General invited attendees to ask questions or to comment on the Presidents report.

O. Eisen asked what the absolute number of papers submitted to the Journal and what is the acceptance rate for those papers.

The President responded and reported that for 2018 the Journal had 152 submissions and the average rate of acceptance was about 50%. In 2017, 175 papers were submitted, in 2016 there were 172 and before that there were in typically between 180 and 195. The acceptance rate has been fairly constant at about 55% on average for the past 8 years.

M Siegert said that he had attended several meetings and that there had been discussions that those that register as non IGS members would get a year's membership to the IGS. He asked whether this had been implemented.

The SG responded and said Council had approved this back in 2010 and it was implemented in 2011.

There were no further questions

E King proposed and D Blankenship seconded, that the President's report be accepted. This was carried unanimously.

3. The Secretary General presented the Treasurer's report with the audited Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2018 on behalf of the IGS Treasure, A Leeson.

The Society's accounts underwent an independent examination rather than a full audit this year. Throughout my report, I will refer to the Society's unaudited accounts for 2018, referring to the relevant page numbers.

As this is my first report as the IGS Treasurer I have essentially based it on the reports of my predecessor, Ian Willis.

The Society's finances are summarised by considering the changes from 1 January 2018 to 31 December 2018, as shown on page 12 of the accounts. In the table, the Restricted Funds refer to money associated specifically with the Seligman Crystal and the Richardson Medal. The Unrestricted Funds is everything else.

Restricted Funds: *increased* by £78 from £5,344 to £5,422 as a result of the interest on investments. No Crystals were awarded in 2018. One Richardson Medal was awarded in 2017 but not given out until 2018. As several blank medals are made on a regular basis (the last time was in 2016) the IGS office has medals in 'stock' so the only cost incurred was £15.95 for engraving.

Unrestricted Funds: *decreased* by £46,649 from £468,225 to £421,576. This is due to 1) expenditure exceeding income by £28,788 and 2) net losses on investments of £17,783.

Total: The Society had its net resources before revaluation drop by £28,788 and on top of that a loss on investments of £17,783 resulting in a negative movement in the Society's funds of £46,571 in 2018, compared to a gain of £337 in 2017. In previous years we have had a loss of £59,209 in 2016, profits of £35,697 in 2015, £97,204 in 2014, £8,477 in 2013, £28,092 in 2012, and losses between 2008 and 2011.

We have no control over the investment gains/losses but the deficit of £28,788 associated with income and expenditure is primarily caused by:

1. The royalties from CUP were ~£6,000 less than the previous year (i.e. fewer papers published).
2. Drop in membership income
 1. Starting in 2018 the IGS reduced membership fee from £72 to £52 for an ordinary member. That is an effective reduction of 27.8%.
 2. As the IGS gives a person that registers as a non-member to its symposia a membership for the current year. For accounting purposes this has to be entered as a membership income. To counter that (non-existent) income the symposia income has to be debited by the same amount. And as the IGS had two well attended symposia in 2017 the 'free' membership was added as in income under membership amounting to £4,380. The same amount was debited from the respective symposia income.
In 2018 we had two much smaller symposia, so the corresponding income added to 'Membership' amounted to £2,514. Correspondingly the same amount was debited from the 'Symposia' account.
 3. Decline in membership. In 2017 we had 697 paid members and in 2018 we had 582 paid members. That is a reduction in membership of 16.5%

As a result, the income from membership dropped from £47,350 in 2017 to £32,823 in 2018.

3. The symposia in 2018 (180 delegates altogether) were quite small c.f. to 2017 (385 delegates altogether). For most parts the work involved for symposia is similar irrespective of the number of delegates. So, when that is spread between 180 delegates vs 385, the net income is substantially less. Attendance numbers depend on the venue for the symposia and since the society prefers to rotate venues for symposia small number are occasionally unavoidable.

Income tends to fluctuate less between years than expenditure. For example in 2017 income was £324,676 and in 2018 it dropped to £188,206 (£136,000 less). Expenditure in 2017 was about £333,000 whereas it was £217,000 in 2018 (£116,000 less). So the difference in the respective 'drops' is about £20,000. In other words, the income and expenditure do not correlate exactly.

If we then look at the difference between 'Cash at bank and in hand' (page 13 of the accounts), we can see that it has dropped by about £16,000. This is in part because last year we paid Portland University the residue left over from 2012 when we were in charge of the registration for the Portland SCAR Open Science Meeting. The reason for the delay in transferring these funds is on their part; it was only requested by them last year.

Although this large deficit is somewhat disappointing, it is reassuring that it can be explained. The Society's expenditure is now of the order of ~ £217,000 and its total assets are ~ £427,000. In this respect, the Society is not in a bad place, but we continue to aim to at least break even in future years, and preferably close the cumulative deficit that has accrued since 2007.

More detail is given below, income is itemised in notes 2-5 of the accounts, and expenditure is listed in notes 6-8 and in the unnumbered SUPPORT COSTS on pages 19-20 of the accounts.

Income:

Note 2. Donations were £20 in 2018 compared to £2,013 in 2017. No grants were received in 2018.

Note 3. Income from interest on investments was slightly less in 2018 c.f. 2017: down by £2,306 from £10,679 to £8,373. Income from this source had been rising for the last few years; but 2018 was known to be a bad year for markets generally so this fall is not surprising. The Society continues to invest part of its capital in "higher interest" but still "low risk" investment accounts, and this is reviewed each year.

Note 4. Incomes associated with the *Journal and Annals* were slightly up in 2018 compared to 2017. In 2018 the Society received an income of £9,960 from the *Journal*, ICE & Books, up from £5,255 in 2017, but still below £12,407 we received in 2016. Similarly, for *Annals*, in 2018 we received £310 c.f. to £843 in 2017.

Income from Meetings / Symposia was down by £127,487 from £179,621 in 2017 to £63,395 in 2018. This reflects the fact that although we had two symposia in both years there were considerably more delegates attending in 2017 (385) than in 2018 (180).

Income from membership was down by £14,527 from £47,350 to £32,823. It fell by £4,287 from £51,637 between 2016 and 2017. This fall in membership since the Society moved to Open Access publishing is worrying, although it is good to see the membership has risen in 2019 to levels similar to 2017. Membership income is determined by the 'Membership rate', 'The number of delegates attending IGS symposia' and of course the number of members. For a breakdown of the drop of the membership income see item 2 'Drop in membership income' on page 1 of this report.

The CUP Royalty was down £6,021 from £78,470 to £72,449. This has not been split by *Journal / Annals* but the drop represents the fewer articles published in the *Journal* in 2018 cf. 2017, but mostly the far fewer articles published in the *Annals* (2 issues were published in both 2017 and 2018).

Note 5. The sales of *Journal* and *Annals* direct to members and the sale of ICE to libraries and members are managed directly by the Society. In this respect the income from the *Journal* is slightly up in 2018, £3,412 c.f. £3,287 in 2017. In addition to this the IGS received an income of £4,488 as a result of a member paying in advance for publication (otherwise they would have lost the funds due to the expiry of a grant) and the IGS then waived the APCs once the articles were accepted. This brings to total income from the *Journal* to £7,900. Similarly for ICE, the income is also slightly up, £2,060 c.f. £1,968 in 2017. The total income from the *Journal*, ICE & books was thus £9,960. For the *Annals* the income is down, £310 in 2018 c.f. £843 in 2017.

Expenditure:

Note 6. A summary of all expenditure shows that outgoings associated with running Meetings & Symposia were down by £114,660 from £209,454 in 2017 to £94,794 in 2018. This is due to much smaller symposia being run in 2018 cf. 2017. Expenditure on other charitable activities (everything else the IGS does besides run the Meetings/Symposia) was slightly down by £1,916 from £121,083 in 2017 to £122,999 in 2017.

Note 7. In 2018, grants totalling £5,450 were made to support the Alaskan and the Argentinian Glaciological Summer Schools and to support student attendance at various events and glaciological summer schools other than Alaska and Argentina e.g. Karthaus (whereas in 2017 there were only grants given to individuals to support attendance of various events and summer schools totalling £1,321).

Note 8. Direct costs are down substantially in 2018 compared to 2017, from £211,988 to £106,905 or by close to 50% (£105,038). Biggest reductions were in cost relating to symposia ~£100k which is primarily because of the size of the symposia. Wages and salaries were down by £4k. Other direct costs showed relative small gains or falls.

SUPPORT COSTS.

General support costs are down by £16,705 from £79,894 in 2017 to £63,189 in 2018. In general, overall support costs have fallen. Similarly, computing and web hosting costs are down due to reduced number of staff in the IGS office and no major IT purchases. Wages and salaries and associated NI and Pension costs are down by £14,311.

Governance costs are stable and comparable to last year.

Overall, the total support costs are down by £15,667 from 119,144 in 2017 to £103,477 in 2018.

Summary

The Society's finances are in reasonable shape in spite of the loss incurred. The deficit in 2018 amounts to ~11% compared to our total funds in 2018, similar to 2016. We essentially broke even in 2017 compared to the deficit in 2016 (~11% of funds) and the surpluses in 2015 (~7% of funds), 2014 (~20% of funds), 2013 (~2% of funds), and 2012 (~7% of funds), and various deficits between 2008 and 2011 (ranging from ~1% to ~27% of funds).

The Society must continue to monitor its income largely from CUP, membership fees, and symposia registration, and its outgoings associated with running symposia and running the IGS office.

As my predecessor, Ian Willis, mentioned in his report from last year, it is increasingly important for the IGS to hold on to and attract new authors and have them submit articles to the *Journal* and to *Annals*. The more papers published, the greater the contribution the IGS receives from CUP. This is the main single revenue stream to the Society. The decline in papers published in the *Journal* over the last two years is regrettable and we should work harder with CUP to reverse this trend. It is also increasingly important for the Society to hold on to and attract new members, as membership fees are also a valuable source of income to the Society. Again, it will need to think of innovative ways of making the Society more attractive, especially now that a major reason for joining (copies of the *Journal*) is no longer an incentive because of Open Access. It is difficult to see how individual Symposia registration fees can be increased as these are already relatively high compared to, e.g., EGU and AGU. But obtaining external grants to sponsor certain aspects of IGS Symposia and which therefore benefit the Society would be advantageous. It is also advantageous to have bigger symposia and investigate how we can collaborate with other societies and organisations like we did in 2017 in Wellington, NZ, where we joined up with IACS, SCAR, CliC etc.

On the output side, the Society must monitor its expenditure associated with running symposia and with generally running the IGS. Making greater use of online virtual meeting platforms for Council meetings and holding Council meetings at IGS Symposia (rather than at e.g. AGU or EGU) would save the Society some expenditure. This will be addressed by the Governance Review Committee as it will require a constitutional change.

There are economies of scale to be made when the Society runs more than one symposium per year and it is significantly advantageous if the Society can run at least

two per year. Salary costs (including NI and pension contributions) are, as in many organisations of course, the most expensive item of expenditure totalling £95,757 in 2018 or 44% of all expenditure (note however that expenditure was down by 35% and salary costs were down by 15%). In 2017 salary costs were 34% of all expenditure.

I am indebted to Magnús Magnússon and Louise Buckingham for all they've done for the IGS over the past year, and for their help in checking some of the facts and figures in a draft of my report.

Amber Leeson, Treasurer
6 July 2019

The Secretary General invited members to discuss the Treasurer's report.

No questions or comments were put forward.

O Eisen proposed, and H Miller seconded, that the Treasurer's report be accepted. This was carried unanimously.

4. Election of auditors for 2019 accounts.

The Secretary General proposed the IGS remain with our current auditors, Messrs Peters Elworthy and Moore, as they had been doing our accounts for several decades, they knew the innards of the IGS very well.

On a motion from the Secretary General, R Jacobel proposed and N Karlsson seconded, that Messrs Peters Elworthy and Moore of Cambridge be elected 'Independent Inspectors or Auditors', whichever is appropriate for the 2019 accounts. This was carried unanimously.

5. Elections to Council.

After circulation to members of the Society the Council's suggested list of nominees for 2019–2022, no further nominations were received, and the following members were therefore elected unanimously.

The following nominations were suggested to the Council by the Nominating Committee for service for the terms indicated:

Vice-presidents:	C. Hulbe (New Zealand)	(2019–2022)
Elective Members:	Małgorzata Błaszczuk (Poland)	(2019–2022)
	Indrani Das (USA)	(2019–2022)
	Margareta Hansson (Sweden)	(2019–2022)
	Matthias Huss (Switzerland)	(2019–2022)
	Dustin Schroeder (USA)	(2019–2022)

These appointments were unanimously approved by the AGM on a motion from T Scambos and seconded by H Miller

6. Other business:

No other items were raised.

The SG asked people, should they have any ideas/suggestions, to contact the officers and Council members in order to bring those ideas forward.

The President asked for a motion to adjourn the AGM.

The AGM was adjourned on a motion from N Karlsson and seconded by O Eisen at 17:37 PST.