



Adults Learning Mathematics - a Research Forum

Adults Learning Mathematics – a research forum

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Thursday 1st July 2004 at Nordiska i Kingälv, Sweden.

There were 28 members present and two visitors.

The meeting accepted the agenda that had been previously distributed.

1 Minutes of the previous AGM

The minutes of the Annual General meeting held on 1st July 2003 in Austria were accepted as a true record.

2 Officers' reports

a Chair

Juergen Maasz briefly summarised his report that had been published in issue No. 21 of the ALM newsletter.

b Secretary

David Kaye briefly reported that most of his work arose out of the paperwork related to formal correspondence with the Charity Commission and Companies House and co-ordinating the meetings of the Trustees, which are mainly by email, because of the international composition of the committee.

c Membership Secretary

Valerie Seabright circulated a report giving the number of current members and a list of new members (see Appendix A). She thanked the agents for their work throughout the year and noted there was a new agent for the Netherlands. It was suggested that agents could be a focus for building regional group activities. The ALM Trustees would consider if it were possible to give financial help to various regional activities.

d Treasurer

Pat Healy presented a draft income and expenditure account and summary balance for the year ending 1st June 2004 (see Appendix 2). An amendment was made to two items relating to ALM conference and proceedings that these referred to ALM 9. It

was noted that we currently had a balance of over £25 000 (pounds sterling). This included £7 000 of a grant from the NRDC that had not been claimed. Diana Coben clarified that this grant had to be used for the benefit of numeracy practitioners in the UK. One suggestion for its use that would benefit UK practitioners, but also be helpful to the ALM international membership would be to use these funds for translating papers and for providing interpreters at conferences.

3 Proposals

Arising out of the discussion on the Officers' reports two proposals were made.

i Local and Regional activities

There was some discussion about the nature of support that the Trustees could give to members in a particular area, region or country organising local activities, such as a meeting with a key speaker. It was noted that usually it had been the case that these activities had been self-financing, but it was now noted that ALM was in a position to give some financial support. Tine Wedege proposed that the Trustees should be able to allocate money for such activities and that local organisers should be invited to apply for help as necessary.

Resolution: This AGM empowers the Trustees to allocate £5 000 (pounds sterling) to a fund to support regionally organised ALM activities.

This was passed nem con with 1 abstention.

ii ALM Flyer

The production of a publicity flyer for ALM was noted and Mieke and her daughter were thanked for the design and those who had contributed to the text. 1000 copies had been printed – 100 had been brought to this conference and 900 were going to be made available at ICME. It was suggested that the flyer should go onto the website to be available for others to use and it may be useful to translate into other languages.

4 Honorary Trustee

The AGM was asked to endorse the decision of the Trustees to create a position of Honorary Trustee. An Honorary Trustee would be on the circulation list of Trustees and be able to contribute to the discussions, but would have no vote or any specific responsibilities. It was seen as a way of benefiting from the experience of long serving members of ALM. The AGM was also asked to endorse the appointment of John O'Donoghue as an Honorary Trustee.

The AGM approved the position of Honorary Trustee and approved with acclaim the appointment of John O'Donoghue as the first one.

5 Vice Chair

The AGM was asked to agree to create the position of a Vice Chair of the Trustees of ALM. This position was seen as being useful to share the workload of the Chair of

ALM and in the future of being a way to prepare a Trustee to become a new Chair of ALM (though this would not necessarily be the case).

David Kaye informed the meeting that in order to implement this change without the process of changing our Articles of Association (at this time) the person filling the post of Vice Chair would be drawn from one of the elected Trustees.

6 Election of Officers and Trustees

John O'Donoghue and Wolfgang Schlöglmann were appointed as returning officers.

David Kaye informed the meeting that the elections are for the Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, Membership Secretary, one Trustee as Vice Chair and three other Trustees. There are four other Trustees that are appointed by the elected Trustees and Officers at their first meeting, which takes place immediately after the Conference.

The following nominations had been received.

Position	Name	Proposed by	Seconded by
Chair	Kathy Safford	Tracy Part	David Kaye
Secretary	David Kaye	Daian Marsh	Caz Randall
Treasurer	Pat Healy	Caz Randall	Valerie Seabright
Membership Sec	Valerie Seabright	Caz Randall	Daian Marsh
Vice Chair (Trustee)	Lisbeth Lindberg	David Kaye	Eigil P Hansen
Trustee	Carol (Caz) Randall	Kathy Safford	Pat Healy
Trustee	Henk van der Kooij	Juergen Maasz	Kathy Safford
Trustee	Marj Horne	Valerie Seabright	Daian Marsh

There were no other nominations and so no place was contested.

The meeting endorsed all nominations unanimously.

There was a discussion about why there was not an election and the process of appointing a further four Trustees. There were some concerns that the process may not be democratic, or not perceived as democratic. The Trustees were asked to look at the election process.

7 Electronic Journal

Gail FitzSimmons, the journal editor reported on the progress being made. The journal was planned to be a referenced journal published electronically. A call for papers had been issued and was repeated at the meeting. There was also a request for reviewers, both from those with experience and those who wished to gain experience.

A flyer for the journal has been designed and a cover design is being developed. It is planned that the first two editions will be free to members and non-members.

8 Newsletter

The newsletter is now run by two new editors Terry Maguire and Michaela Inglis and needs third person to join them as Tine Wedege, Mieke van Groenestijn and Dave Tout have all stood down.

Michaela introduced a discussion about the direction the newsletter may now take. With the change of editorship, the development of the journal and the growing use of electronic communication, such as the discussion list, the role and content of the newsletter needs to be re-considered.

It was generally affirmed that the newsletter has a value to the members. It was suggested members could be asked through the discussion list about ideas for the newsletter. Some ideas already under consideration included practitioner support, discussion papers and abstracts of papers from the journal.

The following proposal on the current distribution of the journal was **agreed**.

The ALM newsletter continues to be produced both in hard copy and electronically. A system will be devised to enable members to choose their format preference.

9 Announcements

i Shared course ware project

A new project is being initiated to share courseware as a resource for practitioners and teacher trainers. The project team is Valerie Seabright, Terry Maguire and Lena Lindenskov.

ii ALM 13 - 2006

It was proposed that ALM 13 will take place in the UK. It was suggested that the organising group would be based on the members at Lewisham College, London, with support from other London-based members.

iii ALM 12 - 2005

The details of the 12th annual conference were announced. ALM 12 will be held in Melbourne, Victoria, Australia, Sunday 3rd July to Thursday 7th July 2005. The theme will be *Connecting Voices – Practitioners, Researchers & Learners*. A full presentation about the arrangements for ALM 12 was given by Marj Horne immediately after the AGM.

iv Future Directions for ALM

A range of proposals and ideas about the future activities, policies and priorities of ALM had been developed during the discussions at Topic Group A. Members were reminded that these ideas were summarised on flip chart sheets posted around the walls of the meeting for consideration and discussion. It was intended that these would be posted on the website for the discussion list.

v Vote of thanks

Kathy Safford gave a presentation and vote of thanks to the outgoing Chair, Juergen Maasz, on behalf of the Trustees and membership.