

**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting  
of the  
Australian Society for French Studies  
held at the  
University of Technology of Sydney (Guthrie Theatre)  
on  
Thursday, 05 July at 4.45pm**

Present: Philip Anderson (Monash) (Minutes), Beatrice Atherton (QUT), Maurice Blackman (UNSW) (Chair), Peter Cowley (Sydney), Tess Do (Melbourne), Lucia Drago (QUT), Jean Fornasiero (Adelaide), Anne Freadman (Melbourne), Blandine Guillot (ANU), Greg Hainge (UQ), Barbara Hanna (QUT), H el ene Jacomard (UWA), Amanda Macdonald (UQ), Louise Maurer (ANU), Jo McCormack (UTS), Brian Nelson (Monash), Murray Pratt (UTS), Alistair Rolls (Newcastle), Margaret Sankey (Sydney), Jane Southwood (UNE), Marie-Laure Vuaille-Barcan (Newcastle), John West-Sooby (Adelaide).

In attendance: St ephane Grivelet (French Embassy, Canberra).  
No apologies were recorded.

**1. Minutes.**

The minutes of the 2006 AGM were confirmed.

**2. Matters Arising**

**2.1 FATFA**

It was reported that the preparation of the meeting had been discussed at the Heads of French Studies meeting.

**2.2 Treasurer's Report**

The Treasurer reported that

- funding for publications may not be spent for the 2007 exercise;
- post-graduate travel bursaries had been created.

He noted that questions relating to the future status of the ASFS would be treated in his report to the present AGM.

**3. President's Report.**

**3.1 Baudin Scholarships**

It was noted that many scholarships had gone to students whose main area of discipline was not French Studies. It was suggested that ways to give access to scholarships to Honours students in French Studies needed to be explored.

**3.2 Website**

The basic architecture of the new website was presented. Discussion of the ASFS logo and website questioned the use of the hexagon and the use of "French" rather than "Francophone".

### 3.3 Institutional Membership

It was resolved that institutional membership would be fixed at \$100 pa or \$250 for three years.

### 3.4 Membership of CHASS

Greg Hainge and H el ene Jaccopard were confirmed as the Society's delegates.

### 3.5 Languages in Crisis

Contribution to discussion was canvassed and it was suggested that the way to proceed was through the Go8.

## 4. Treasurer's Report

### 4.1 Treasurer's Resignation

Alistair Rolls presented his resignation provoked by his commitment to his program at the University of Newcastle. A vote of thanks was proposed and unanimously adopted for his contribution to the ASFS.

### 4.2 Incorporation

The advantages (limited liability and lower tax rates) and disadvantages (regulation and audit requirements) were presented. It was noted that other societies have incorporated and it was moved (Greg Hainge/Brian Nelson) and agreed that the Executive investigate incorporation and report on it to the 2008 AGM.

### 4.3 Financial Report

The Treasurer reported that a \$25000 surplus had been recorded.

## 5. Editor's Report

Barbara Hanna noted her thanks to the previous Editor and reported that one issue of the *Carnet* had appeared and that another was in preparation. The form of the *Carnet* was canvassed, including electronic form, and it was agreed that a choice be offered to members and that the paper copy be continued.

## 6. ASFS Conference Planning.

### 6.1 2008 Conference

The University of Melbourne reported that the conference theme would be "Genres mineures: fuites de la litt erature" / "Minor Genres: the leaking of Literature" and would take place on 13-15 July.

### 6.2 2009 Conference

A UNE/QUT/UQ joint conference in Brisbane with an extra conference in Armidale was suggested.

### 6.3 Subsidised delegate

Murray Pratt proposed ASFS-subsidised attendance by a contributor otherwise unable to attend the ASFS Conference. He agreed to investigate the implementation of the proposal.

## **9. Office bearers for the forthcoming annual exercise.**

Nominations were received for the following offices as follows:

President: Greg Hainge

Vice-President: Murray Pratt

Treasurer: Joe MacCormack

Secretary: Philip Anderson

Editor: Barbara Hanna

Research Officer (co-opted) Peter Cowley

There being no other nominees, the above persons were declared elected to the respective offices.

## **10. Constitutional Changes**

It was agreed that constitutional changes to the Executive Committee be prepared for the next AGM.

## **11. Thanks to the 2007 Conference Organisers**

A unanimous vote of thanks was recorded.

**The Meeting concluded at 6.30pm.**