

THE MICROSCOPY SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

MINUTES OF THE FORTY FIRST ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE MICROSCOPY SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA HELD ON SEPTEMBER 5, 2002 16:45 IN LECTURE THEATRE 12 AB, ICC DURBAN

1. **WELCOME**

The President of the Society, Prof M.J. Witcomb welcomed the members.

2. **APOLOGIES**

Prof L Basson, Mr R Cross, Dr F Graham, Dr Y Naidoo, Prof J G van As and Prof L L van As.

3. **MINUTES**

Minutes of the 40th Annual General Meeting of the Society held on December 6, 2001 were accepted. Proposed by Mr L Harmsen; Seconded by Prof J A A Engelbrecht.

4. **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES NOT ELSEWHERE ON THE AGENDA**

None

5. **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Prof Witcomb highlighted specific aspects in his report. He thanked the Local Organizing Committee of ICEM-15, the commercial sector and all the other sponsors who were committed to the ICEM-15. He paid tribute to Mr. Cross for his efforts to get ICEM-15 to South Africa and the many years of service to the Society.

The report was accepted and the President was thanked by Prof Engelbrecht.

6. **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

None.

7. **FINANCIAL REPORT**

7.1 **Treasurer's Report**

Prof John Soley presented the report and annual statements. He informed the members that the Society was beginning to fulfil a role in taking microscopy to rural areas and that more Society funds were spent in this regard and the amount will increase in future.

The report was accepted. Proposed: Prof E Grossman. Seconded: Prof M Lee.

7.2 **Student Grants**

Five Grants of R1200 each were awarded to students to attend ICEM-15.

7.3 **Membership Fees**

Fees will remain unchanged for 2003. He encouraged members to recruit new members for the Society.

8. **MSSA OUTREACH**

Prof Soley informed members that the Society was endeavouring to get more new members from the African continent. He also gave a short report on various aspects of the MSSA "Microscopes to schools" project.

9. **FORTY SECOND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND CONFERENCE**

Prof C Lang invited the Society to have its next meeting and conference in Cape Town in December 2003. Accepted with thanks.

10. **MSSA NEWSLETTER**

The President thanked Mr A Bruton for his endeavours in the publication of *MSSA* Newsletter.

11. **MSSA LISTSERVER**

The President thanked Prof T Sewell for his capable management of the listserver.

12. **MSSA WEBPAGE**

The President requested members to make sure that the information on the Webpage was up to date and to report inaccuracies to him or the Secretary.

13. **GENERAL**

13.1 **Conference Report 2001**

The President read highlights of the report from Proff R Pienaar and D Mycock. The Conference made a profit of R20 000. The President will thank the Organizers.

13.2 **Atomic resolution microscope for South Africa**

Prof Lang requested the Meeting to send a letter to the South African Nanotechnology Initiative pointing out that although MSSA is not in a position to support the acquisition of an atomic resolution microscope, as the matter has not yet been considered or debated by the microscopy community, MSSA is willing to engage in debate with SANI on the matter. She also added that copies of such correspondence be sent to the government departments from where financial and other support was expected to come. Dr F Koch proposed an amendment that a committee should be created to take the matter up on a more formal basis. The proposal of Prof Lang together with the amendment of Dr Koch was accepted.

13.3 **ICEM-15 Student Delegates**

Mr Boyd Escott thanked the Society on behalf of the students for MSSA financial support to them to attend ICEM-15.

14. **ELECTION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FOR 2003**

The following members were elected:

President:	Prof M Witcomb
Treasurer:	Prof J Soley
Members:	Prof E Grossman
	Mr L Harmsen
	Prof J Coetzee

Prof J Engelbrecht and Mr A Hall were elected as the two ongoing members by the outgoing Executive Committee.

15. The Meeting ended at 17:45.

M.J. WITCOMB
PRESIDENT

A.N. HALL
HON SECRETARY