

Joint Mathematical Council of the United Kingdom: Annual General Meeting

Minutes of the meeting held at the Royal Statistical Society on Tuesday 5 November 2013

Present

Officers

Chair	Tim Rowland
Honorary Secretary	Gerald Goodall
Honorary Treasurer	Paul Harris

Representatives of Participating Societies

Association of Mathematics Education Teachers	Ros Hyde
Association of Teachers of Mathematics	Sue Pope
British Society for the History of Mathematics	Robin Wilson (deputy)
British Society for Research into Learning Mathematics	Ian Jones (deputy)
Conference of Heads of Departments of Mathematical Sciences	–
Edinburgh Mathematical Society	Colin Campbell
Institute of Mathematics and its Applications	Chris Sangwin
London Mathematical Society	–
Mathematical Association	–
Mathematics in Education and Industry	Charlie Stripp
National Association for Numeracy and Mathematics in Colleges	Sally Barton
National Association of Mathematics Advisors	Alice Onion
NRICH representing the Millennium Mathematics Project	Lynne McClure
National STEM Centre	Stephen Lyon
Operational Research Society	–
Royal Academy of Engineering	–
Royal Statistical Society	–
Wales Institute of Mathematical and Computational Sciences	–

Co-opted Members

Immediate Past Chair	–
JMC International Representative	–
UK Representative to International Commission on Mathematical Instruction	–

Representatives of Observing Societies

Adults Learning Mathematics	–
Advisory Committee on Mathematics Education	–
Department for Education [England]	–
Department of Education [Northern Ireland]	–
Education Scotland	–
Higher Education Academy	–
National Centre for Excellence in the Teaching of Mathematics	Jane Imrie
National College for Teaching and Leadership	James O'Donoghue
Office for Standards in Education	–
Office of Qualifications and Examinations Regulation	–
Royal Society	Juliet Upton
School Mathematics Project	–
Sector Skills Council	–
for science, engineering and manufacturing technologies in the UK	–
United Kingdom Mathematics Trust	Bill Richardson

In attendance

Executive Secretary	David Martin
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Visitors

Department for Education and Skills [Wales]	–
Honorary Secretary Elect	Peter Thomas

Introduction

The Chair opened the meeting, welcoming those present including the Honorary Secretary Elect, Peter Thomas, whom he announced would take office at the end of the meeting.

1 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from David Arrowsmith (HoDoMS), June Barrow-Green (BSHM), Roeland Beerten (RSS), Matthew Harrison (RAEng), Dylan Jones (DfES), Jane Jones (Ofsted), Mary McAlinden (HEA), John Monaghan (BSRLM), Stephen Rogers (DfE), Nick Todd (DENI), and Stephen Williamson (WIMCS).

2 Minutes of the 2012 Annual General Meeting, held on 6 November 2012

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The minutes of the 2012 Annual General Meeting were **approved**.

3 Matters arising from the Minutes

3.4 **Annual Report** In response to an enquiry by Lynne McClure as to the consequences of BSRLM not ratifying the new Constitution, the Chair confirmed that sufficient other societies had ratified it for it to take effect.

3.7 **Election of members of JMC Executive Committee for the coming session** In response to a question, the Chair explained that whilst Sue Pope and Chris Sangwin had been elected to the Executive Committee for 2012–13, Sally Barton and Charlie Stripp were members by co-option. The Chair took the opportunity to thank all four for their work as members of the Executive Committee.

4 Annual Report

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The Honorary Secretary introduced the report. He also updated the meeting on recent events. At its meeting on 4 November, the Executive Committee had decided to try operating without a separate Nominating Committee and was establishing a new process in its place. On 21 November 2013, the JMC's officers would meet with senior members of ACME to discuss the relationship between the two organisations; the hope was expressed that such meetings might take place annually. The Honorary Secretary had been the JMC's representative at OCR's Mathematics Consultative Forum, as he would demit office at the end of this meeting, he drew attention to the JMC's need to nominate a replacement representative.

The report was **approved**.

The Chair spoke about the Executive Committee's meeting the previous evening. He said that the Executive Committee would in future fulfil the role formerly undertaken by the Nominations Committee; requests for nominations will be handled by the Chair and Honorary Secretary, taking advice from within the Executive Committee and more widely.

The Chair warmly thanked the Honorary Secretary for preparing the Annual Report.

5 Approval of list of Participating Societies and Observing Societies

The list of Participating Societies and Observing Societies given in the Annual Report was **approved**.

Alice Onion asked whether Adults Learning Mathematics (which is at present an Observing Society) had applied to become a Participating Society; the Executive Secretary replied that it had not.

6 Honorary Treasurer's report

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6.1 **Accounts** The Honorary Treasurer was pleased to announce a surplus for the year 2012–13, unlike the deficit in the previous year. He briefly outlined the reasons for this which were given in his report and then invited questions. He also expressed his thanks to Bill Richardson for auditing the accounts.

The accounts were **approved**.

- 6.2 **Budget** Consideration was given to the budget for 2013–14. The Honorary Treasurer proposed that as expenses continue to increase there should be a modest increase in subscriptions for 2013–14. He provided two alternatives (a flat-rate increase and an approximately proportional increase); he was minded to recommend the second alternative but invited comment.

Type of Member Society	Number	Current Subscriptions	Proposed Subscriptions	
			Alternative 1	Alternative 2
Large	9	585	595	605
Medium	4	310	320	320
Small	5	145	155	150
Observer	12	99	109	105
Income				
Subscriptions		8418	8718	8735
ACME Grant		6000	6000	6000
ACME Sponsorship		600	600	600
Total		15018	15318	15335

Alice Onion said that the proportional increase would be fairer. In response to an enquiry by Robin Wilson, the Honorary Treasurer said that large meant 'over 1000 members or turnover greater than £100 000', medium meant 'between 500 and 1000 members or turnover of between £1000 and £100 000' and small meant 'up to 500 members or turnover less than £1000'.

The Chair proposed that Alternative 2 be adopted; the motion was seconded by Chris Sangwin and **passed** without opposition.

7 Election of members of JMC Executive Committee for the coming session

The Chair announced that there had been only one nomination for the two vacancies, Sue Pope (ATM); so Sue Pope was declared duly elected. The Chair thanked her for her willingness to stand.

8 Announcement of any co-options to JMC Executive Committee for the coming session

The Chair announced that the Executive Committee had exercised its power to fill the casual vacancy for an elected member by co-opting Sally Barton. The Chair thanked her for her willingness to take on this role.

The Chair also said that the Executive Committee had made no further co-options at this stage and invited suggestions of representatives of Participating Societies who might be co-opted. Representatives of Participating Societies will be circulated with an email inviting such suggestions. Lynne McClure asked that a list of current representative of Participating Societies be circulated with the request for suggestions.

9 Co-opted members of JMC for the coming session

- 9.1 The Chair proposed that Ros Sutherland be co-opted to membership of the JMC for the coming session as the JMC International Representative. This was **agreed**.
- 9.2 The Chair proposed that Chris Budd be co-opted to membership of the JMC for the coming session as the UK Representative to International Commission on Mathematical Instruction. This was **agreed**.
- 9.3 The Chair said that discussions are taking place as to how the roles of JMC International Representative and UK Representative to International Commission on Mathematical Instruction were distinct and how they interact. Feedback is awaited following a meeting between the two post-holders.

10 Any other business

The Chair warmly thanked the Honorary Secretary for his magnificent service to the JMC over many years in that capacity and in others before it, giving generously of his energy and time. The Council expressed its agreement with much applause.

The Honorary Secretary responded, mentioning his seven years as representative of the Royal Statistical Society, his membership of the Executive Committee and his three years as Honorary Secretary. There will be much that he will miss. He said that the diversity of the community is a strength rather than a weakness; the Council includes by its nature a wide span of interests, age ranges and statutory bodies; and in the JMC the community comes together for lively debate and discourse. The Honorary Secretary thanked all for the support they had given him.