

Roseworthy Old Collegians Association Inc

Minutes of Committee Meeting held at Microbial Technologies, Norwood Monday 5th February, 2007

Opening:

The President, Locky McLaren welcomed all present and opened the meeting at 7.15pm.

Attendance:

Locky McLaren (President), Dale Manson (Vice President), Mark Seeliger (Immediate Past President), David Cooper (Treasurer), Ray Taylor, Leith Yelland, Harry Stephen, Wilf Bowen, Phil Hynd (Roseworthy Director – Ex Officio)

Apologies:

Darren Koopman (Secretary), Peter Dunn, Peter Lewis

Confirmation of Minutes:

Minutes of the previous Committee Meeting conducted at Microbial Technologies on 11th December 2006 were taken as read and confirmed. (Moved: W. Bowen, Seconded: M. Seeliger)

Business Arising:

Clarification that all letters previously received from people who attended the 2006 ROCA Dinner & AGM contained complimentary comments relating to that event.

Correspondence:

In:

Michelle Coe - Requesting Graduation Prize of Old Students' Cup as award for 2nd Aggregate Prize: BAg. Resolved this prize be donated. Presentation to be on 7th June 2007.

Discussion followed, highlighting ROCA concerns relating to the low profile of the awards and timing of the presentations. There is an indication that the AIAST is considering withdrawing their prizes due to low profile and timing.

A letter from ROCA President, along with one from the AIAST President highlighting these concerns will be provided to the Chair of the School of Agriculture & Wine's Advisory Committee, Jim McColl. Resolved that M. Seeliger draft this letter over ROCA President's name.

Concept of a 2007 award for "Top Aggregate in BSc (An Sc)" was discussed. Suggestion of glass etched trophy plus \$100 cheque. M. Seeliger to arrange for letter to be forwarded to Prof Roger Lee (Moved: M. Seeliger, Seconded: R. Taylor).

Secretary to contact Michelle Coe regarding the opportunity for ROCA to donate Gold Medal for Dux of Natural Resources course.

In:

Brian Ashton (e-mail) – Notification of ROCA Eyre Peninsula 2007 Reunion at Streaky Bay on 03 & 04 March. ROCA President to check diary re. personal attendance.

In:

Kim McBride – Regarding Alumni members and staff recipients of 2007 Australia Day Honours. ROCA member, John Vickery was honoured.

In:

AVA – Professor Kim Abbott will make a presentation to the Hindmarsh Group of the Australian Veterinary Association at the Glenunga Oval on Saturday 17th February 2007. Topic relates to establishment of a new veterinary school within a university. All welcome.

In:

Book received, "War and Wine" authored by Douglas Walter "Scotty" Ireland.

In:

E-mail regarding The University of Adelaide conduct of data entry audit. Not applicable to ROCA.

Out:

Prof James McWha – ROCA President's letter to Vice Chancellor regarding "RAC 125" commemoration in 2008.

Out:

Letter from ROCA Secretary, D. Koopman to all graduating students regarding joining ROCA.

Financial Report:

Current Bank Balance: \$6,723.43

ROCA Investment a/c: \$15,947
(Rabo Bank, 4.35%, at call, int. reinvest)
\$10,000
(Bank SA, 4.95% 2yr term dep, mat 24 Nov)
\$5,000
(Bank SA, 5.01% term dep, mat 24/02/07)

Treasurer to reinvest Rabo Bank amount and \$5,000 Bank SA at a good rate in a term deposit. (Moved: M. Seeliger, Seconded: R. Taylor)

No accounts for payment.

New Member: One since previous ROCA Committee Meeting
(Peter Stimpson – Grad 2005)

Death: Paul Rymer

Treasurer's report accepted (Moved: D. Cooper, Seconded: H. Stephen)

Alumni Report:

W. Bowen reported:

- No major activities of note;
- Is on Interim Board, programmed to meet on 6th Feb 2007;
- New positions being called for Alumni Staff Development Officer (Robin Brown's former position).

Eyre Peninsula Branch Report:

No report tendered.

Roseworthy Campus and Student Fund:

- Two Co-Patrons are required to retire each year. Messrs Moyle and Laffer will stand down. Moved that both gentlemen be reappointed to the Co-Patrons Board (Moved: R. Taylor, Seconded: H. Stephen);
- Moved that Jack Messenger be added to the Co-Patrons Board. Secretary to write letter (Moved: R. Taylor, Seconded: M. Seeliger);
- Next Co-Patrons meeting is on 16th February, 2007;
- Suggestions for future additions to Co-Patrons Board: John Rothwell, Tony Sharley. Resolved that R. Taylor approach these two gentlemen to ascertain their interest in assuming these responsibilities;
- Approximately \$15,000 in Fund currently;
- Resolved to action the initiative listed in 11/12/06 Committee Meeting minutes relating to invitation for Fund Patron, John Crosby to address a future ROCA Committee Meeting on the next date convenient to him.

RAC 125 Commemoration:

D. Manson presented an update on the initiatives previously reported:

- Letter from ROCA President to Vice Chancellor, Prof James McWha was well received;

- An internal University of Adelaide Minute from Michael Neale to the Vice Chancellor provided the necessary level of formality in process;
- Vice Chancellor has now indicated a very supportive approach to the commemoration concept;
- Steering Committee of Michael Neale, Dale Manson, Darren Koopman, Maurie Zobel and David Taplin is progressing well.

Roseworthy Campus Report:

Campus Director, Prof P. Hynd reported:

Vet School:

- Oliver Mayo conducted an investigation and feasibility study;
- Things are looking extremely positive;
- Appears to be financially viable, with additional input from Commonwealth Government;
- Will require additional \$26 million infrastructure on Roseworthy Campus;
- Would transform the Campus;
- Would place an additional 300 full time students at Roseworthy Campus site;
- Timetable is 2008;
- Is quite a unique Veterinary Degree format, as it is made up of a revamped BSc (An Sc) plus post graduate modules;
- Federal Education Minister, Julie Bishop is extremely supportive;
- A potential negative is that Roseworthy Campus loses its Agricultural Studies focus in favour of a Veterinary Studies focus;
- Will retain the high TER students in SA.

Agronomy Staff:

- Building up the agronomy (Ag & An Sc) into a new discipline;
- Staff will move into the Leske Building, in closer proximity to the Animal Science people in the adjacent building.

Student Accommodation:

- Many areas have been modernised;
- State of the art student kitchens etc are very impressive.

Animal Science:

- Drop-off in 3rd Year (20 / 30) in relation to 1st Year enrolments (60 / 70);
- Only 15 completing 3rd Year in 2007;
- Past problem has been the requirement for students to study over a number of Campuses.

Campus Study:

- In future, will attempt to consolidate studies from Waite and Roseworthy Campus locations onto the single Roseworthy Campus.

Oenology:

- Course applications were down 50% at the official enrolment date.

Review of Alumni:

ROCA has been advised by the Vice Chancellor that the Alumni Board has been dissolved and new structures will be established under The University of Adelaide's management.

Meeting of Temporary Board will be held on 6th February 2007.

Issues:

- 4a – University Council to determine membership of Alumni (May affect ROCA members);
- 4c – Use of University name and logo (ROCA does use Uni logo and name);
- 4d – Criteria and procedures for revoking recognition (Issues for ROCA. Would like to see this clause deleted from the final rules of the Alumni);
- Membership of Alumni Advisory Committee (Risk is that it could potentially be comprised of 11 University staffers. Suggest that at least one of the three Australian Alumni Representatives be sourced from an Incorporated Chapter);
- Faculty based Student Associations???
- Internal Alumni Chapter Sponsors – Must be Uni staff.

Changes to Advisory Committee. Request that appointment of Incorporated Chapter representatives be recognised on the Board.

Resolved that ROCA support W. Bowen taking an extremely strong stand at the 6th February meeting of the Alumni Temporary Board and that ROCA have a place on the new Advisory Committee.

Moved that the President and W. Bowen jointly author a response following the 6th February meeting of the Alumni Temporary Board (Moved: M. Seeliger, Seconded: H. Stephen).

ROCA Web Site:

- Is now in the new University format;
- Urgently needs to be updated;
- Further additions are needed to be put in web page and linkages;
- Darren to transfer a lot of the work to Greg Zweck, managed by Michael Neale's office. ROCA President to discuss with Michael Neale in order to action this;
- All changes to ROCA web site are to be monitored and authorised by ROCA Secretary.

ROCA Digest:

- L. Yelland provided a brief report, supported by a paper;
- Resolved that a ROCA Newsletter is progressed in accord with the written recommendations;
- Resolved that the ROCA Newsletter be placed as an agenda item for the next ROCA Committee meeting;
- Reminder that articles and items are required;
- The Committee expressed its appreciation to Mr Yelland for the effort he had expended in attempting to pull the ROCA Newsletter concept together.

University Staff Meeting:

M. Seeliger presented a draft letter. Background information includes ROCA Submission to Review of Courses in 2006 and Report of 18 May 2006 meeting with Prof Ian Reid. The President and Mr Seeliger to progress the letter and action.

Workshop into Agricultural Education:

- The AIAST Review Paper was included in "Agricultural Science, Vol 19, No 3, Dec 2006";
- Workshop to be conducted at Waite Campus on 7/8 March 2007;
- Topic is "Tomorrow's Agricultural Scientists – Meeting Industry and Resource Management";
- Need someone to carry the flame for Roseworthy.

2007 ROCA Reunion Dinner Year Group Convenors:

As a starting point, the following names were listed:

- 50 Year (1957) – Ian Rice, Ian Short, Jack Messenger;
- 40 Year (1967) – D. Cooper to liaise with Tony Clancey and notify;
- 25 Year (1982) – John Squires (D. Manson to contact);
- 10 Year (1997) – Donna Bartsch (D. Manson to contact).

(Upon contact, Donna Bartsch declined the invitation to convene the 10 Year Reunion Group. Mardi Miles from Renmark has since accepted the invitation.)

Life Membership:

R. Taylor expressed his personal gratitude to ROCA for bestowing Life Membership upon him at the 2006 AGM.

2007 Meeting Dates:

The following dates were confirmed for ROCA Committee Meetings to the time of the 2007 AGM:

- Monday 02 April;
- Monday 04 June;
- Monday 23 July;
- Monday 10 September;
- Friday 12 October (ROCA AGM & Reunion Dinner)

The Committee Meetings will commence at 7.00pm, with P. Hynd's agenda items to be placed early in the listing.

Meeting closed at 10.15pm.

Next Meeting:

Monday 02 April 2007.

6.00pm for informal meal at Alma Hotel

7.00pm meeting at Microbial Technologies Boardroom, 18 King St., Norwood