

Minutes of the CAIMS • SCMAI Annual General Meeting

Saturday, June 13, 2009, 1-2 PM

The President, Professor Jacques Bélair took the chair and called the meeting to order at 1.05 PM. Approximately 25 members of the society were present.

Jacques welcomed everyone to the Annual General Meeting.

1. Approval of Agenda:

It was moved by Ian Frigaard and seconded by Rob Corless that the agenda be approved as written. **Carried.**

2. Approval of Minutes of AGM of June 3, 2008:

It was moved by Lucy Campbell and seconded by Abba Gumel that the Minutes of the General Meeting of June 3, 2008 be approved. **Carried.**

3. Matters Arising out of Minutes:

There were no matters arising out of the minutes.

4. Past President's Report:

Bob Russell presented his Past President report, as summarized below:

- **Thanks:** Bob expressed his profound appreciation for having the chance to serve CAIMS • SCMAI as its President for the past two years. He was grateful to the outstanding group of individuals he worked with on the Board in general, and the Executive in particular.

Bob noted that it was most fitting that the 30 year anniversary celebrations of CAIMS • SCMAI was being held at the University of Western Ontario, an institution that has long supported applied mathematics and has one of the largest applied mathematics groups in Canada. Bob congratulated the Organizers of CAIMS • SCMAI 2009 (Xingfu Zou, Geoff Wild and Robert Corless) for the enormous effort they have expended to ensure the success of the meeting.

Bob expressed his appreciation to the DDA Committee (Ray Spiteri, JF Williams, and Henry Wolkowicz) for selecting two outstanding winners for the 2008 academic session, Raluca Eftimie and Colin Macdonald. He also thanked the Research Prize Committee (Michael Mackey, Gordon Swaters, Michel Fortin and John Peirce) for their choice of an exceptional winner of the CAIMS • SCMAI Research Prize, Mark Lewis. He further acknowledged the diligence of the DSA Committee (Serpil Kocabiyik, Bryant Moodie and Sue Ann Campbell) in their selection of Bill Langford.

- **New Prizes:** Bob expressed his pleasure that the two new awards he introduced (one honouring a junior researcher, in conjunction with PIMS;

and the other an industrial mathematician, in conjunction with MITACS) will be awarded beginning at the 2010 AGM.

- **Relations with Math Institutes:** Bob noted that our relations with the three Canadian Mathematics Institutes (CRM, Fields and PIMS) and MITACS are extremely good, and that these organizations have been providing support in many ways. Recently, MITACS has taken over the investing of our surplus finances, and we are mutually exploring various ways in which MITACS can provide key administrative support for CAIMS•SCMAI. Possibilities include the handling membership reminders and renewals, streamlining of our election process, handling of the E-News/Newsletter preparation and mailout, helping with our annual meetings, improving the advertising and submission process for the CAIMS•SCMAI Awards, and helping with the design and maintenance of our webpage. Also, last year's annual meeting was held in collaboration with the Institutes, as well as the corresponding French organizations and the CMS.
- **International Profile:** Bob was quite pleased that CAIMS•SCMAI continues to increase its international profile by way of fostering fruitful partnership and co-hosting joint meetings with many successful international organizations such as:
 - CAIMS-SIAM reciprocity agreement (brokered by Bill Langford)
 - Canada-France Congress, Montréal, 2008.
 - The First Joint North American Meeting in Industrial Mathematics, organized by CAIMS•SCMAI, SIAM and the Mexican Mathematical Society, scheduled December, 2010 in Mexico City.
 - ICIAM 2011, Vancouver

Bob stated that his two-year stewardship as President has been extremely rewarding; and he feels a great deal of optimism about the future of applied and industrial mathematics in Canada. He reiterated his continued support for CAIMS•SCMAI and Canadian applied mathematics in general. He itemized a number of challenges facing the organization such as:

- Finding better ways of encouraging the younger Canadian applied mathematicians to take a more active role in CAIMS•SCMAI, especially as members of its Board or its various committees (Bob suggests that all members of the Board should be proactive in suggesting nominees for these positions).
- Reach-out to applied and computational mathematicians who are not currently members of CAIMS•SCMAI, including the strong groups of

Canadian discrete mathematicians, computational computer scientists, and mathematicians working in industry.

5. **Treasurer's Report:**

Paul Muir presented his report regarding the Financial Statement and Membership Statistics. The bank balance as of 30 April 2009 was \$41,219.65. Our total assets were \$113,437.62. Total revenues for 2008 were \$14,421.52. Expenses for 2008 were \$15,979.92.

Paul reported the total reimbursement from MITACS for the 2008 meeting was \$4,000. Paul further presented a summary of his discussions with Jo-Anne Rockwood of MITACS on ways we can cooperate with MITACS, particularly to use MITACS infrastructure and resources to support our online registration and membership renewal.

The Financial Statement was examined by Andrew J. Miller Inc., Chartered Accountant.

6. **Secretary's Report:**

Abba Gumel presented his report, as summarized below:

Abba outlined his main areas of responsibility as Secretary over the last year, including maintaining the web site, producing 8 electronic newsletters since last year's meeting, and producing the printed Annual Newsletter (these newsletters are all on the CAIMS • SCMAI website).

Abba acknowledged the support CAIMS • SCMAI has been receiving from the Department of Applied Mathematics at the University of Waterloo in providing the platform for our website and membership database. Also, James Treacy at Waterloo has continued to do the typesetting for our Annual Newsletter.

Elections into the two vacant positions on the Board (to replace John Bowman and Victor LeBlanc) were conducted in May/June 2009. Three candidates: Sharene Bungay (Memorial), Xiao-Wen Chang (McGill) and Nicholas Kevlahan (McMaster) contested for the two positions. Sharene and Nicholas were elected. Furthermore, Jianhong Wu (York) and Abba Gumel (Manitoba) were elected President-elect and Secretary, respectively, by acclamation.

7. **New CAIMS • SCMAI Prizes:**

Bob Russell and Ian Frigaard reported on the two new CAIMS • SCMAI prizes:

- CAIMS-PIMS Prize for junior researchers
- CAIMS-MITACS Prize for excellence in industrial mathematics

Further details about the terms of reference of these awards are being worked out, in conjunction with PIMS and MITACS. The inaugural awards will be presented at the 2010 AGM.

8. **Future CAIMS•SCMAI Meetings:**

Bob Russell reported on the proposed First North American Meeting on Industrial and Applied Mathematics, Mexico City, 2010. Preliminary work for this joint meeting is underway. The Canadian representatives on the planning committee are Michael Mackey, Barbara Keyfitz, Uri Ascher and Bob Russell.

- CAIMS 2010: Memorial University of Newfoundland.
- CAIMS 2011: in conjunction with ICIAM 2011 in Vancouver.

9. **NSERC Presentation:**

Jacques presented a brief overview of the NSERC discovery grants changes. There were some discussions on the changes being made.

10. **Other Business:** None.

The meeting was adjourned at 2 PM.

Banquet:

The banquet was held on Friday, June 12, 2009. A major highlight of the banquet was the 30th Anniversary Celebrations spear-headed by Bob Russell, as well as a video presentation of St. John's, the host city for CAIMS 2010, by Sharene Bungay of Memorial University of Newfoundland. The following prizes were awarded at the banquet:

- CAIMS•SCMAI Research Prize: Presented to Mark Lewis (University of Alberta) by Jacques Bélair on behalf of the Research Prize Committee;
- Cecil Graham Doctoral Dissertation Award: Presented to Raluca Eftimie (University of Alberta) and Colin Macdonald (Simon Fraser University) by Raymond Spiteri (Chair, Doctoral Dissertation Award Committee);
- Arthur Beaumont Distinguished Service Award: Presented to Bill Langford (Guelph University) by Jacques Bélair. It is noteworthy that Bill received a rousing standing ovation, a fitting tribute to his great service and long-standing dedication to CAIMS•SCMAI and the advancement of mathematics in Canada.