



The Australian Rangeland Society

Council meeting # 216 Out of Session MINUTES

4.15 pm EST Tuesday 5 July 2011 via Teleconference

1. **Present:** John Taylor, Carolyn Ireland, Larissa Lauder, Annabel Walsh, Ben Forsyth
2. **Apologies:** Graeme Tupper, Peter Marin, Kate Masters.
3. **Future Publication of The Rangeland Journal**

Ken Hodgkinson reported the following to the Publications Committee about the search for a Publisher for TRJ. Among the candidates, Wiley-Blackwell did not reply and Cambridge Uni Press appeared to have a conflict of interest with CSIRO Publishing. Elsevier were not looking for new titles but would produce TRJ online only for \$50,000. CSIRO Publishing was the only credible and acceptable deal.

Recommendation of the Publication Committee to Council: That Council develop a contract with CSIRO Publishing using Option 1 – a five year contract to include an advertising role for TRJ, RMN and Website.

Moved to accept the recommendation: John, Seconded: Carolyn, Carried unanimously.

Actions: Carolyn to convey acceptance to Ken and thank the Publications Committee for their work. John will send an email to CSIRO Publishing accepting the contract and congratulating them on being awarded the contract if Ken thinks this would be in order. Council is happy for Ken to move the process forward from here.

4. **Progress of Editor-in-Chief position**

Progress on finding a new EiC; applications have now closed and there are three – Tony Pressland, John Milne and Anastasia Markantonatou.

A four person panel will be chosen to independently assess the applicants and then comment will be sought from Wal after this assessment. Candidates for the panel are Ian Watson, Iain Gordon, Andrew Ash, Mark Stafford Smith and Steve Morton. Wal proposed the last four with Ian Watson as a spare. Ken will ask them for an independent assessment of the three candidates for Editor-in-Chief. He will send them CV's and a description of the job. When feedback is received from the panel and Wal the Committee will conduct

interviews if necessary. It is anticipated that a recommendation will be made for Council's 28 July meeting.

Wal is happy to continue as Editor-in-Chief for two months and will work with the new incumbent to make the transition as smooth as possible.

Process endorsed by Council and the Publications Committee is encouraged to proceed with all haste.

5. The Global Rangeland Repository (GRR)

Carolyn took the Chair as John has a conflict of interest.

A letter of acceptance outlining our contribution to the GRR was sent to Dr Barbara Hutchinson on 17 June 2011.

The Publication Committee (Noelene and Ken) is scanning the Newsletters for placement on the ARS Website and are exploring the best-cost option for copying the Conference Proceedings. A copyright cover page for each article has been developed for use on the ARS Website and the GRR website.

Council agreed that the ARS would need to have copies on our website as well, and that this should be part of the arrangements.

Noted by Council

6. Other Business

John gave a warm welcome to Ben at his first meeting.

Ben has made contact with the SRM Young Professionals Conclave (YPC) and the International Affairs Committee (IAC) and had discussion with the next Chairs to see if there is some way we can work together. Need to get the communication flow going and to share experience. Ben was also welcomed to sit on the next IAC meeting if he was attending the SRM Conference. John thanked Ben for his interest - he encouraged Ben's initiative and added that he (John) had been to several SRM meetings and would continue to do so.

Carolyn to update the contacts list for Council

Meeting closed at 4.10 pm