

JPS

The Journal
of the
Polynesian Society

VOLUME 126 No.3 SEPTEMBER 2017

THE POLYNESIAN SOCIETY
THE UNIVERSITY OF AUCKLAND
NEW ZEALAND



MINUTES OF THE 126th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
OF THE POLYNESIAN SOCIETY (INC.), 24 MAY 2017,
DEPARTMENT OF MĀORI STUDIES,
UNIVERSITY OF AUCKLAND.

Present: Dr Michael Reilly in the Chair and 9 members.

Apologies: Dr R. Benton, S. Mallon, R. Hooper
Carter/Allen: “That the apologies be sustained.” Agreed.

Minutes of 2016 AGM: Goldsmith/Macdonald: “That the Minutes be received as a true account of the meeting.” Carried.

Presentation and Adoption of the Council’s Report

Dr Michael Reilly presented and spoke to the Council’s Annual Report.

- The Society relies heavily on the Institutional Subscriptions and the Society is able to maintain its operations even though there has been a significant decrease in Ordinary members. The decrease in members could also be attributed to the online accessibility. Payment from online providers helps with income revenue and therefore we prefer not to increase subscriptions this year. Annual dues and subscriptions cover production and postage of the *JPS* and the Society’s running expenses. Although member dues and subscription payments do not cover other expenses, income from other sources (e.g., royalties on publications) help cover these.
- Online access has been provided to 94 individuals and 74 institutions.
- The Society’s website and Facebook page are maintained by designated Council members who post *Journal* contents and information regarding membership, submission of manuscripts, etc. Contents and information regarding membership are also sent to several appropriate newsletters and websites. Having the *Journal* online also is publicity.

Carter/Allen: “That the Report of Council be received. Carried

Presentation and Adoption of Annual Accounts

- Annual accounts have been completed for 2016 and were presented for information by the Hon. Treasurer Rangimarie Rawiri.
- The Reviewers report was attached to the Annual Accounts and the Treasurer noted: The Accounts are prepared on a cash basis—i.e., people who have not paid do not receive the *Journal*. The Income derived from royalties and copyright fees has enabled us to maintain the membership fees at the current level. The decline in

full membership has been offset by growing online subscriptions. Council will continue to monitor the effect of online access to the *JPS* on subscription income and the extent to which payments from online providers helps compensate for any income decline.

Macdonald/Sheppard: “That the 2016 Accounts be accepted.” Carried.

Honoraria

Goldsmith/Carter: “That the honoraria for the year 2016 be at the same rate as 2015, and that they be paid.” Carried.

Presentation and Adoption of the Editor’s Report

- In June of 2016 Judith Huntsman retired as Co-Editor of the *Journal*, with Melinda Allen assuming full editorial responsibilities from that point forward. Throughout the year, the Honorary Editors were well supported by the editorial team: Ethan Cochrane and Lyn Carter as Book Review Editors and Dorothy Brown as Editorial Assistant. Hamish Macdonald continued to provide exceptional services as Production Editor and Manager of the *Polynesian Society* website (<http://thepolynesiansociety.org/jps/index.php/JPS/index>). Melinda thanks the editorial and production team, and the Council, for their support throughout the year, along with Council Secretary/Treasurer Rangimarie Rawiri, who oversees the *Journal* distribution and financial affairs. The many referees who gave generously of their time and provided valuable feedback to the authors are also recognized and thanked; they are crucial partners in our efforts to maintain the high quality of the *Journal*.
- Currently manuscript submission and acceptance rates are healthy. Issues are appearing online in a timely manner, with only minor lags in the production of print copies. We continue to solicit Special Issues, the most recent being the September 2016 issue: *Ceremonial Architecture in East Polynesia: Development and Variability* with Guest Editor Guillaume Molle of The Australian National University.
- The *Journal* metrics continue to improve and *JPS* now ranks 52nd out of 84 Anthropology journals worldwide (Thomson Reuters Journal Citation Reports, 2016). Our 2016 *Impact Factor* was 0.607, higher than some other multi-disciplinary journals in the region. *JPS* also has a stand-alone page on the academic site *Researchgate*, which shows annual increases in use of and citation rates for *JPS* articles (https://www.researchgate.net/journal/0032-4000_The_journal_of_the_Polynesian_Society_Polynesian_Society_NZ). Data from *Journal Citation Reports* shows improving annual metrics over the last few years, largely the result of our CrossRef membership and implementation of DOIs.
- Financial data provided by Secretary/Treasurer Rangimarie Rawiri indicates *Journal* costs for the period 1 May–31 August were as follows: June 2016: Layout \$1408; Print \$3301, March 2016: Layout \$1320; Print \$3398.
- We are currently in the process of obtaining quotes for additional copy editing support due to personnel availability in the second half of 2017, to reduce the Editor’s workload, and to insure stability and consistency going forward. A goal for the coming year is to make better use of the online submission system. It has the potential to be a more robust archive of submitted and revised manuscripts.

It also could be used more effectively to communicate the progress of individual submissions and to automate routine communications to authors and referees. Some authors have indicated difficulties in using the online submission system—the team will follow up on these concerns and improve instructions where possible.

Facebook Update

Ben Davies continued as webmaster for the Society's *Facebook* page (<https://www.facebook.com/ThePolynesianSociety>) and assisted Hamish with the website as appropriate. Highlights for the year include:

- The Society now has 991 followers, up from 817 in 2016.
- Most issue publication notices attract around 1000 views, except the December issue, which attracted less than 400; this was attributed to the announcement being made during the holiday period.
- Experimentation with a “photosphere” (a 360-degree panorama) post in August, taken from one of the *pa* sites in Ngaruawahia was successful, attracting around 1000 views (<https://www.facebook.com/ThePolynesianSociety/posts/654694611349544:0>)

Huntsman/Sheppard: “That the Hon. Editor Report be adopted.” Carried.

Election of Officers

Having been duly nominated and seconded, the following were elected to hold office until the year 2018 AGM:

President: Richard Benton
 Hon. Secretary: Rangimarie Rawiri
 Hon. Treasurer: Rangimarie Rawiri
 Hon. Editor: Melinda Allen

Election of Council Members

The following, whose nominations were duly nominated and seconded, were elected as Members of the Council for two years: L. Carter, H. Macdonald, M. Muru-Lanning, M. Reilly.

Election of Reviewers:

Rawiri/Allen: “That Tane & Assocs., Chartered Accountants be the elected Reviewers.” Carried.

General Business

There being no more business, the Chair thanked members for their attendance and declared the 2017 AGM meeting closed at 6:00pm

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Members reconvened for the PRESENTATION OF THE NAYACAKALOU MEDAL to Assoc. Prof. Judith Huntsman who then spoke on the topic “Treasures of Tokelau”