

**IASPM Australia New Zealand
Annual General Meeting 2018**
Waikato Institute of Technology (WINTeC), Hamilton
Date: Wednesday 5 December
13:30 (Events room 1)

The Chair declared the meeting open at 01:05pm.

1 Attendance and Apologies

In Attendance: Liz Giuffre, A.V Kärjä, Michael Brown, Jadey O'Regan, Georgia Pike, Samantha Bennett, Matthew Bannister, Aleisha Ward, Victor A. Vicente, Andy Ward, Tai Neilson, Megan Rogerson-Berry, Paul 'Nazz' Oldman, Geoff Stahl, Kirsten Zemke, Sam Whiting, Martin Koszolko, Gavin Carfoot, Kathryn B. Cox, Jared Mackley-Crump, Ieva Gudaityte, Ben Green, Jeremy Mayall, Catherine Strong (Chair), Ian Rogers (Publications [Web] Officer), Catherine Hoad (Treasurer), Kat Nelligan (Secretary).

Apologies: Natalie Lewandowski, Gay Breyley, Roy Shuker, Julie Rickwood

2 Minutes of the 2017 AGM (Massey University, Wellington)

The minutes from the 2017 AGM were displayed on the projector screen and the Chair prompted the membership for feedback and/or questions. As there were no questions the minutes were moved by Geoff Stahl and seconded by Samantha Bennett.

3 Executive Reports

3.1 Chair's Report:

The Chair began her report by extending a warm thanks to the conference organisers, Matthew Bannister, Jeremy Mayall, Nick Braae, and Megan Rogerson-Berry, and she asked members to show their appreciation by giving them a round of applause. The Chair described the conference as fantastic, warm, and welcoming, and she noted the conference dinner as a highlight. She thanked the student volunteers who offered their time to ensure the conference ran smoothly, and she thanked the executive members for their work throughout the year. Catherine Hoad was praised for her excellent work in her first year as Treasurer, and she thanked Natalie Lewandowski, outgoing Treasurer (2017), for guiding Catherine in her new role. The Chair thanked Ian Rogers for his contributions as Publications (Web) Officer and for his work in setting up the IASPM International Conference website. The Chair thanked also Kat Nelligan who is stepping down from her position as Secretary. This position involves a heavy workload and she noted Kat's fantastic work managing these tasks, many of which include sourcing content and editing and collating *Soundings*, the annual newsletter; taking and writing up minutes for the AGM; sending out notifications and keeping the membership updated about academic opportunities, which, as the Chair noted, was an initiative of hers and a task that requires a lot of extra work behind the scenes. The Chair noted also Kat's timely responses to executive emails and her willingness to involve herself in

these discussions. The Chair then asked the membership to give Kat a round of applause.

The Chair addressed the Education Minister's recent vetoing of eleven ARC grants. She pointed out the political underpinning of this move, noting the Education Minister's clear targeting of projects in the humanities and social sciences, two of which were music-related. These grants, she noted, are subject to rigorous peer-review processes and are the most competitive, prestigious, and sought-after grants in Australia. One such vetoed project was by IASPM-ANZ members Sarah Baker, Raphaël Nowak, and Lauren Istvandy. The Chair wrote and distributed a press release addressing the issue but her comments gained very little traction.

The Chair went on to discuss the vetoing of ARC grants as one of many issues researchers face under precarious work conditions. She pointed to institutional restructuring, referring specifically to the way in which people's jobs are under threat or lost completely as a result, and this, she noted, is adversely affecting those who are involved. It's also indicative of the degree to which our research areas are under threat, and she stated the importance of acknowledging this as the situation in which we exist as researchers and scholars. She called upon the membership to encourage and support each other, to find ways to push back, and to be as vocal as possible in recognising that what we do is valuable and important. Leading by example, the Chair then drew attention to the way in which many IASPM-ANZ members have been working together to help each other, and this is reflected in the large output of collaborative publications that involve people from this organisation. These include Geoff Stahl's and Shelley Brunt's edited collection, *Made in Australia and Aotearoa/New Zealand: Studies in Popular Music*, which featured numerous chapters written by IASPM members; the publication of an edited collection based on the 2015 IASPM-ANZ conference, *Popular Music, Stars and Stardom*, edited by Sam Bennett, Julie Rickwood, and Stephen Loy. Worth mentioning also are the numerous single-authored publications, including Catherine Hoad's book, *Australian Metal Music: Identities, Scenes, and Cultures* (forthcoming in 2019) and the numerous journal articles which were published this year as part of a special edition on gender in Australia (*Journal of World Popular Music*). The Chair noted how it is encouraging to see such a "critical mass" of publications emerging in such a short time, and this, she explained, is one of the many ways in which we can bolster ourselves as scholars. She praised the membership for their collaborations and for getting behind each other in the face of threatening issues (such as the aforementioned vetoing of grants and job losses).

The Chair acknowledged the absence of Tony Mitchell and Ed Montano – both were very active members of the IASPM community. Tony Mitchell fell ill after having a stroke in late 2017 and has since been unable to participate in conferences in his usual capacity. She acknowledged that Tony would without question be here if he could. Ed Montano sadly passed away in February, 2018, after his battle with cancer. The Chair described him as a "champion" of the organisation, noting specifically his service on both the IASPM-ANZ and the International Executive committees and his hard work for the journal *Dancecult*. She highlighted Ed's preparedness to give up his own time and she presented this as an example of his commitment to IASPM. The Chair stated that Ed is missed by many, but he is especially missed by his colleagues at RMIT.

3.2 *Treasurer's Report:*

The Treasurer began her report by thanking Kat Nelligan for service as Secretary. The Treasurer's report was distributed to the membership via email prior to the AGM. She stated that we have just over \$11000 in our bank account and our expenses have increased this year by \$959, from \$5596 (2017) to \$6555 (2018). The Treasurer attributed this to numerous factors: a higher membership fee paid to the International Executive for the 2017 period (\$2606 in 2018 vs. \$2306 in 2017); the domain name renewal for the website; and an increase in banking fees, which has resulted from more members using Paypal for membership payments. The executive chose to award the full allocated amount to applicants for the Postgraduate Prize for the 2018 conference, with a total expense of \$1488, as opposed to 2017 wherein \$1000 was awarded. There were no entries for the Indigenous Travel Prize this year. Executive travel stipends to the conference have presently incurred an expense of \$980, with one more reimbursement to be paid out from these funds.

The Treasurer also reported that we have experienced a growth in membership payments, with a number of renewals and new members, and she expects there will be a rise in membership payments prior to the International conference in Canberra next year. Membership numbers have increased by 3 in the Waged category, with falls of 4 members in the Unwaged/student membership category, and an increase of 5 in the Institutional membership category. There are 17 non-renewals in this period. Overall, since last year we have 4 more memberships registered. The Treasurer identified the falling of Unwaged/student members as a trend. This has caused an increase in fees paid to the International organisation because we have more Waged members. The executive committee is hopeful that the number of postgraduate members will increase next year prior to the International conference in Canberra.

The Treasurer noted she has experienced issues when attempting to operate the Westpac bank account whilst living abroad in New Zealand, and she thanked Natalie Lewandowski for generously offering her time to help out. She also thanked the executive committee and the membership for their patience as she navigated her first year as Treasurer.

The Treasurer prompted the floor for questions. The Chair drew attention to the way in which our funds have been steadily decreasing over the last few years. She reassured the membership this is not an emergency situation, but it does suggest that we may need to reassess our expenses to ensure our sustainability, and she noted that the executive will be keeping a close eye on this moving forward.

3.3 *Secretary's Report:*

The Secretary noted 2018 as her final year as an executive member, but she explained that her appointment will continue until *Soundings* is finalised early next year. She thanked the membership and the executive committee for their support over the past four years, and for providing her with the opportunity to serve as Secretary. She thanked the current executive members, Catherine Strong, Ian Rogers, and Catherine Hoad for

their support, and she thanked past executive members, Natalie Lewandowski and Liz Giuffre, who offered guidance and support when she first stepped into the role.

3.4 *Publications (Web) Officer's Report:*

The Publications (Web) Officer informed the membership that our shift to Google Email in early 2018 was successful and this appears to have rectified the emailing issues we experienced in 2017 (concerns regarding this were discussed at last year's AGM). The website crashed for a few days at one point during the year, but no one seemed to notice, and it was up and running again after he consulted with the web provider. He is also working on optimising the website's useability. Currently it is difficult to find information on how to register with the organisation and this is an issue he is addressing.

4 **Election of 2018-2019 Executive and Non-Executive**

The Chair noted the following positions as ongoing: Chair, Treasurer, Web Officer, and New Zealand Representative. Two nominations were received for the role of Secretary – Sam Whiting and Pat O'Grady – and a vote by show of hands was carried out to determine who would step into the role. Nominees were not present as voting took place. Votes were counted for each nominee, the numbers were crossed checked, and Sam Whiting was elected as the new Secretary. The Chair thanked Pat O'Grady for his nomination and a round of applause was given to Pat for his willingness to serve as an executive member. The Treasurer clarified that Pat couldn't be present at the AGM because of the arrival of his newborn boy and the organisation passed on to Pat their well wishes.

Executive:

- 4.1 Chair (Catherine Strong - ongoing): nom: Ian Rogers; 2nd: Shane Homan
- 4.2 Treasurer (Catherine Hoad - ongoing): nom: Kat Nelligan; 2nd: Catherine Strong
- 4.3 Secretary (Sam Whiting - incoming): nom: Ian Rogers; 2nd: Catherine Hoad
- 4.4 Publications (Web) Officer (Ian Rogers - ongoing): nom: Catherine Strong; 2nd: Shelley Brunt

Non-Executive:

- 4.5 New Zealand Representative (Kirsten Zemke - ongoing)

5 **New Zealand Representative Report**

The NZ Representative conducted informal discussions with NZ members and she stated that there are no issues to report. NZ members are very grateful for having two consecutive conferences held in New Zealand and she described this year's conference as successful and enjoyable. She asked the membership for suggestions on how she might improve as the NZ representative and she encouraged members to openly discuss these with her in the future.

The NZ representative commented on the vetoing of ARC grants in Australia. She noted how many NZ members were informed via Facebook and Twitter and she acknowledged the severity of the matter. She noted also that New Zealanders, like Australians, are facing job losses due to institutional restructuring, and she commented on how this affects people's mental health. She stated that it might be worthwhile

dedicating a session to discussing this issue at the next local conference (2020). This will provide members with an opportunity to share stories, productively discuss issues, and find ways to manage the process at a collective level.

The NZ representative stated that she can be contacted if anyone has issues getting to Canberra next year, and she reminded members that she is a point of contact for any other issues that arise throughout the year.

6 IASPM-ANZ Representative on the ICTM-ANZ Regional Committee

Narelle McCoy (the ICTM-ANZ Regional Committee Representative) was not present at the meeting so Jared Mackley-Crump spoke on her behalf. The ICTM-ANZ (International Council for Traditional Music) is an organisation that occupies the middle space between IASPM-ANZ, MSA, and NZMS and its key objective is to increase the visibility of ethnomusicologists and their research. He noted the ICTM-ANZ's involvement in both the MSA and the NZMS conferences this year where specific sessions were dedicated to representing ethnomusicological research. He hopes the committee's dialogue with IASPM will provide similar opportunities at IASPM-ANZ conferences, with the possibility of scheduling sessions dedicated entirely to ethnomusicology. The committee has discussed also increasing their visibility through ethnomusicological-themed publications by local scholars. For more information on how to join the emailing list or for general enquiries please contact ICTM-ANZ committee members Jared Mackley-Crump, Julie Rickwood, Donna Weston, Kirsten Zemke, or Oli Wilson.

7 Publication of Conference Proceedings

7.1 Report on Publication of 2017 Wellington conference "Mixing Pop and Politics"

Catherine Hoad informed the membership that an edited collection will be published based on last year's conference in Wellington, and Catherine Hoad, Geoff Stahl, and Oli Wilson will oversee the process as editors. An open call for articles was distributed earlier this year and fifty abstracts were received. She stated the publication will have a good representation of papers from the conference and they are currently discussing these details with Routledge. The editors are pleased with the breadth and depth of the abstracts they received and they are looking forward to bringing it together next year. Kirsten Zemke reported that she was approached by *Perfect Beat* to produce a special issue based on abstracts that were not accepted for the edited collection and members can expect to see a call for papers related to this in early 2019.

The Chair noted that Megan Rogerson-Berry and Nick Braae are willing to organise either an edited collection or special edition for this year's conference proceedings, and Matthew Bannister offered to guide them through the process. The Chair then thanked those who offer their time to work on time-consuming publications, such as edited collections, and she noted how such efforts provide the membership with opportunities to publish their work.

8 Conferences

8.1 2019 IASPM International Conference, Canberra

Sam Bennett thanked the membership for their ongoing support. She reported that 240-50 abstracts had been received from all over the world, including parts of Asia and Africa. Some abstracts were received as complete panels, others as individual papers. She acknowledged that the conference in Canberra might be smaller than those usually held in Europe, but she said this will not affect the breadth and depth of papers, and she anticipates that a broad representation of scholars from around the world will be participating in the conference. The call for papers has now closed and acceptance letters have been distributed. She thanked Aleisha Ward and Sam Whiting for their hard work in distributing these notifications in a timely manner, and she thanked Stephen Loy for organising the abstracts in Dropbox.

Sam flagged the difficulties of having to navigate three organising committees – local, academic, and executive – all of which have different roles, and she pointed specifically to issues of cross-communication between all three. She suggested streamlining and simplifying this process, and she noted this will form part of her feedback to the International executive committee. Sam thanked Ian Rogers for creating the International conference webpage, and she stated this will go live shortly. The portal for payment and registration has been set up and it will be launched with the website. The school building and catering are booked. She noted that lunch and morning/afternoon tea will be fully vegetarian, and this decision was made by the local organising committee based on the feedback provided by delegates at previous conferences. The committee is now booking social events and excursions, and the schedule will be organised between January and March of next year. Information about scheduling is deliberately limited at this stage. This is to avoid any problems that might arise when programs are distributed prematurely (Sam pointed to Sao Paolo as an example).

Sam noted that the local organising committee met whilst in Hamilton, and she thanked executive committee member A.V Kärjä for his input and presence at the meeting. Sam prompted the membership for questions but none were posed.

The Chair reminded the membership that a local conference will not be held in 2019, but an AGM will be organised and held in Canberra. The next local conference is scheduled for 2020, and while we have received some interest from a possible hosting institution, an official decision is yet to be finalised. The Chair will distribute an email regarding this early in the new year and an official announcement will be made in Canberra.

9 Announcement of the IASPM-ANZ Publication Prizes

The Chair thanked the judges for giving up their time, which often involves reading multiple works and in some cases books, and she asked the membership to give them a round of applause. The Open Prize was awarded to Nabeel Zuberi for his article “Listening While Muslim”. The judges offered the following comments:

Nabeel's article provides a deeply personal and insightful narrative that explores marginalised experiences in the post September 11 context. Here, listening is presented as a means to understand ideas about diasporic Muslim identity, when for the author, speaking as Muslim has proven much more difficult. The highly innovative piece artfully blends the personal and theoretical, and in doing so, articulates the capacity for popular music to narrativise complex and nuanced understandings of self with immense clarity.

A commendation was awarded to Samantha Bennett for her article "Songs about Fucking: John Loder's Southern Studios and the construction of a subversive sonic signature". The judges offered the following comments:

Sam's article is an original and fascinating piece that examines the understudied work of the influential sound engineer and record producer, John Loder. The article contextualises the technical aspects of production, as well as creative sites and processes, within the broader subversive social and stylistic contributions made by Loder, and the various artists he worked with.

The judges were impressed by the quality and variety of submissions to the Rebecca Coyle prize. This year's winner was awarded to Chris Bourke for his book *Good-bye Maoriland: the Songs and Sounds of New Zealand's Great War*. The judges offered the following comments:

This elegantly written and highly illustrative work aimed at a readership beyond the academy represents a significant contribution to our historical understanding of music in Aotearoa/New Zealand during the First World War. It covers the role of a wide range of music traditions and practices in the lives of soldiers overseas and people on the home front. *Good-bye Maoriland* captures with striking force the ability of music to engender collective feelings and belonging during the war. The book weaves together stories of musicians and soldiers, instruments and songs, performances and battles. Bourke pays significant attention to Maori and women in emergent New Zealand musical identities shaped by imperial culture and other transnational flows. The variety and presentation of archival material is impressive and the writing gives a rich sense of the musical sounds of war. Please join us in congratulating Chris Bourke.

The Chair congratulated the winners and she asked the membership to give the winners a round of applause.

10 Announcement of the 2018 Postgraduate Prize Conferences

The Chair noted there was a broad range of postgraduate papers at the conference this year and she commended the postgrads on the quality of their work. The winner for this year's postgraduate prize went to Megan Rogerson-Berry for her paper "'If I ever need to come out to someone I'll just show them my playlist': queer music collections in the digital age". A commendation was awarded to Ieva Gudaityte for her paper, "The borders of fun: decoding rock tradition in Soviet Lithuania".

A round of applause was given to both awardees.

11 Other Business

11.1 Tony Mitchell update

Liz Giuffre clarified that Tony is still in a Sydney-based care facility, despite messages on the email lists stating otherwise. She noted that he is open to visitors and anyone wishing to visit Tony can contact her for more information. She specified the

importance of checking his schedule first by calling the facility a few days in advance. She reassured the membership that Tony is receiving high-quality care from the same facility that cared for Gough Whitlam. She pointed out that Tony does in fact receive our messages and she encourages members to send him a card if they so wish. She is not confident he will be back with us any time soon, but she regularly teases and encourages him to attend conferences, particularly the upcoming Canberra conference given its close proximity to Sydney.

11.2 Other Business

The Chair prompted the membership for other business. Matthew Bannister clarified details for a planned social event that evening. No other business was presented.

The Chair called the meeting closed at 1:47pm.