AGENDA IAFSS Executive Committee Meeting

Venue: Teleconference
Date: 21/22 February, 2013

New Zealand - Fri 22 Feb 10 am toll free telephone 0800 440 140
Australia – Fri 22 Feb 8 am toll free telephone 1 800 896 026
Japan – Thurs 21 Feb 6 am toll free telephone 0120 937 691
London – Thurs 21 Feb 9 pm toll free telephone 0800 022 9200
Stockholm – Thurs 21 Feb 10 pm toll free telephone 0200 439 983
US/Eastern – Thurs 21 Feb 4 pm toll free telephone 1 888 882 0970

Online
Bogdan Dlugogorski (BD)
Margaret S. McNamee (MSM)
Patrick van Hees (PvH)
Chris Wieczorek (CW)
Arnaud Trouve (AT)
Carole Franks (CFr)
Charley Fleischmann (CFl)
Anthony Hamins (AH)
Craig Beyler (CB)

Apologies
Ai Sekizawa

Attachment

1. Update concerning 11th Symposium

Update given by CF. Things moving forward as planned. Some highlights from the report are given in point form below:

- Social events have been planned for Monday (Antarctic Centre) and Wednesday (Beer and Wine tasting in staff club – preferable outside), reception Sunday, banquet Thursday.
An additional 170 rooms reserved.

The University is officially allied with IAFSS on organisation of the event which means that they pay half of the venue hire.

Monthly conference calls (CF, AT, CK Chow, BD and Yaping)

A call to the members of the program committee for reviewers – typically have close to 200 papers submitted and 3 reviewers per paper. Typical reviewer will do 3-5 papers. Need as close to 100 reviewers.

Room for 3 parallel sessions in lecture theatres. Plenty of capacity (smallest can fit 270). Use a different room for the Workshops on Sunday. Facilities are booked for 5 days.

A call for plenary speakers will be distributed soon (email distributed by Yaping 19th March).

Process concerning awards (especially Emmons award) should be started soon. One issue is that whoever wins the Best Thesis award should be asked to make a paper presentation. If this person has not submitted a paper then they should be asked in time to submit this. CF noted that the poster awards were separate from other awards in Karlsruhe and in Maryland. It was agreed that this would be OK for NZ.

Action: BD will send Dieter an email and copy AT concerning the awards.
2. **Venue for 13th IAFSS Symposium in 2020 (North America)**

AH reported that there has been little interest in bidding for this. FM and UL have shown a little interest. FM mainly in terms of if no one else is interested then they could be. They will get back to AH in June. Russ Thomas has also been contacted and will help to identify potential candidates at NRC. Have not identified other candidates in North America. Waiting to hear back from FM/UL

AH has spoken to Fred Mowrer about having an academic institution as host but he was not particularly interested. The question of whether FPRF might be interested was raised.

**Action:** AH will talk to Kathleen Almand to determine FPRF interest.

This will be discussed again in conjunction with INTERFLAM.

3. **Student scholarships from IAFSS**

BD asked PvH as rep of Educational Sub-committee to discuss and make a recommendation. It was discussed that it might be better for the students if they were to win a prize instead (look better on their CV).

**Action:** PvH will look into what already exists in terms of awards and give the Committee a recommendation of whether we should introduce a student scholarship, increase the number of student awards or perhaps increase the money given for each award.

This will be discussed again at the next meeting.
4. **Funding of travel to Interflam**

At previous meeting it was recommended that we should fund travel to those working on the webpages to INTERFLAM (Michael Gollner and Terry Fay). There was no consensus at the previous meeting to the issue was deferred to this meeting.

It was generally agreed that there is a need for good communication with Terry and Michael. However, it was felt that it would be more appropriate to invite them to participate in an IAFSS conference than in INTERFLAM (the decision to invite them to NZ was deferred until later).

**Action:** BD will write to Terry and Michael to participate in the INTERFLAM meeting via Skype with a copy to appropriate Exec Committee members.

5. **Association Website update**

AT and CW vet everything that gets posted on the website. AT, CW feel that the process works well. There have only been a small number of issues that have been elevated to review by BD.

Website guidelines – draft version:

- BD was happy with how they were written
- One week to make further comments

6. **Job descriptions for key positions within the IAFSS**

**Action:** BD look into what this is about and defer to next meeting or possibly email decision.
7. Criteria for IAFSS endorsement of conferences

We are approached on occasion to endorse conferences. This should only be extended to high quality conferences.

Conferences should be selected based on their promulgation of fire science and high scientific merit. How we have dealt with this in the past is OK and will continue with this. BD will be the first port of call and ask the Exec Committee for their input if appropriate on a case by case basis.

8. Technology Subcommittee: Federated Search and IAFSS Internet Community

After previous meeting BD wrote to Amanda, who replied but nothing has happened. Either we need more people to start this effort. Tell the Technology Sub-committee that the Exec Committee would like to see more development in the area of a federated search and IAFSS internet community.

Stalled in terms of getting Google to recognise our archives. BD has same experience with Web of Science.

Action: If anyone has been able to get google to respond to requests then please pass on information to assist how to proceed.

9. FSJ – New agreement with Elsevier

This is a very difficult issue that BD has not been able to resolve. The new agreement is not good in BDs opinion and he is asking for our advice. In the past we have agreed with Elsevier that they would consult the committee when the editor or board is changed. In the new agreement then they do not even need to consult us. The stumbling block is that IAFSS does not own the Fire Safety Journal as it is the property of Elsevier.
BD has the impression that Elsevier is ignoring IAFSS.

**Action:** BD will circulate proposed agreement and we can have an email discussion.

10. **IAFSS Nominating Committee**

**Action:** BD will get back to the committee with suggestions soon.

11. **AOB**

As of this morning the official membership is 619 members.

**Action:** CFr will send an updated membership list.

New membership campaign will start when the numbers are clear towards April/May.

Lack of Japanese representation in Committee. They have been a mainstay previously but are not as important presently. If anyone has any ideas about how to increase Japanese membership they should communicate with BD.

12. **Next meeting**

Towards the end of April.

**Action:** MSM/BD will circulate a new set of date suggestions.