

Australian Regolith Geoscientists Association (ARGA)

Committee meeting

4.00 pm AEDT Tuesday 10th March 2015

Phone conference

Minutes

1. Welcome and apologies

The meeting opened at 4.15 pm AEDT.

Present: Vanessa Wong, John Keeling, Carmen Krapf, David Gray, Nathan Reid, Matilda Thomas, Jon Clarke, Steph McLennan, and Margi Sweeney.

Apologies were received from Ian Roach and Martin Smith.

2. Adoption of minutes of previous meeting (November 5th 2014)

Vanessa Wong moved the minutes from the previous meeting to be adopted. Jon Clarke seconded.

3. Matters arising from Minutes not dealt with elsewhere

The Future of Regolith discussion document and ARGA website are standing items in the agenda and no other matters were arising from the Minutes of the previous meeting.

4. Correspondence

Steph McLennan had no correspondence to report. The ARGA Secretary e-mail address has been re-directed to stephanie.mclennan@ga.gov.au (from stephanie.mclennan@adelaide.edu.au). This has seen a big improvement in spam filtering.

5. Finances

Account balance as of March 10th 2015 is \$29,941.29

Expenses: Nil.

Income: \$131.79 (bank interest)

6. Conference planning

Matilda Thomas reported that the Tasmanian Tourism Bureau has been in contact to offer their services helping us to organise a conference in Tasmania. The organiser of the next ARGA conference may want to follow this up.

Committee to decide on conference date by next meeting. Please check preference for either the week of the 8th February 2016 or week of the 15th February 2016.

7. Website

Ian Roach was absent and the website report will be held until the next meeting. Items from previous meeting to be followed up by Steph McLennan with Ian Roach:

Ian to write a request and send to CSIRO IT for a link to the ARGA website on the CRC LEME archived website.

Vanessa Wong and Steph McLennan to be made administrators on the facebook page.

Jon Clarke suggested a report on the usage of the ARGA website would be good to show at the conference. **Steph McLennan to follow up with Ian Roach.**

8. CRC LEME data requests

Ian to write a request and send to CSIRO IT for a link to the ARGA website on the CRC LEME archived website – Steph McLennan to follow this up with Ian

9. ARGA presence at ANZGG conference

ANZGG conference was smaller than usual. The date of their next conference is possibly early 2016 (and so possibly clashing with the ARGA conference). It was decided that rather than waiting for the ANZGG conference to be organised and trying to work around them, that the ARGA conference date should be decided soon so we can go forward with advertising and organising venues.

10. 'Future of Regolith' discussion paper and UNCOVER

Key discussion points:

- What are we going to do with the discussion document?
 - 'White Paper'
 - Keep it internal and review on a regular basis
 - Circulate to the membership for comment
 - Submit to the Geological Society of Australia or Academy of Science
- People missing from the document
 - Some regolith researchers were missed from the document, eg Ravi Anand and David Gray at CSIRO. **Jon Clarke to give list of missing researchers to Steph McLennan to include in the document.**
- Geological Society of South Australia
 - Carmen Krapf with Malcom Sheard have been running a theory and hands-on regolith course internally for the GSSA.
 - Attended by GSSA staff and vacation work students
 - There is scope for this to be extended to a one-day technical course at the SAREIC conference

- Future of the regolith MTEC course at ANU
 - With the retirement of Bear McPhail in the coming years, there is concern the regolith MTEC course for honours and postgraduate students could be discontinued.
 - There is possible scope for Monash University to contribute to the course.
 - Leah Moore and Ken McQueen run a third year course for regolith this could possibly be adapted for honours and postgraduate level.
 - **Matilda Thomas will talk to Bear McPhail re: the future of the regolith MTEC course.**
- By the next meeting the Future of Regolith document will be finalised for upload onto the ARGGA website.
 - **Committee to send amendments and suggestions to Steph McLennan and Vanessa Wong for inclusion.**

11. Other business

No other business was raised.

12. Close of meeting

The meeting closed at 5.00 pm AEDT. The next meeting will be a phone conference on Tuesday May 5th at 4 pm AEST.