

**MINUTES OF THE SOUTHERN AFRICAN SOCIETY OF AQUATIC SCIENTISTS**  
**49<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
**HELD on the 3 July 2012 @ 17h30, Conference venue, St Francis Resort, South Africa**

**1 WELCOME AND OPENING**

Jan Roos, the society president, chaired the meeting. All members were welcomed and the conference organizing team were thanked for their efforts.

**2 ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES**

**Attending: Members:** Jan Roos (in the chair), Janine Adams, Victor Wepener, Nico Smit, Mike Coke, Olaf Weyl, Mike Silberbauer, Denise Schael-Gama, Gordon O' Brien, Richard Greenfield, Wynand Malherbe, Deidre West, Nancy Rayner, Liaan Pretorius, Christa Thirion, Alan Whitfield, Brian Allanson, Bonani Madikizela, David Walker, Jackie King, Fred Ellery, Jenny Day, Bruce Ellender, Richard Peel, Johan van Vuuren, Ina Wagenaar, Taryn Riddin, Lucienne Human, Dimitri Veldkornet, Nuette Gordon, Russell Tate, Byron Bester, Ruan Gerber, Charon Farquharson, Martin Ferreira, Stanley Liphadzi, Johannes Iitembu, Jeanne Gouws, Geraldine Taylor, Dennis Appelhoff, Darragh Woodford, Candice Haskins, Hendrik Sithole.

**Non-members:** Ina Ferreira, Este Prinsloo, Marie Watson, Ryan Wasserman, Barbara Weston, Daniel Lemley, Pierre De Villiers, Guy Bate, Refilwe Mofokeng, Lukhanyisa Vumazonke, Ntuthuko Masikane, Hendrik Louw, Martine Jordaan, Peter Ramollo.

**Apologies:** Wynand Vlok, Paul Fouche, Chris Dickens, Nico Rossouw, Phumelele Gama, Digby Cyrus.

**3 ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA**

No new matters were added to the agenda

**4 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS AGENDA**

The minutes of the 48<sup>th</sup> Annual General meeting was accepted as a true reflection of the proceedings. Proposed by Nico Smit and seconded by Brian Allanson

**5 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE 48<sup>TH</sup> AGM**

These would be addressed under the agenda items.

**6 PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

The president's report for the period 2010/11 was presented to the meeting by Jan Roos.

The Water Research Commission and Eastern Cape Development Cooperation were thanked for sponsoring student registration. Funds from this sponsorship were also made available for student prizes. The top two students for conference presentations and posters would receive an amount of R3000 and the runners-up an amount of R2000.

**Conference – Cape St Francis Resort, EC, 2012:**

One of the main activities of the Society is to arrange a Congress. A special word of thanks to Prof Janine Adams (Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University) and Dr Olaf Weyl (South African Institute for Aquatic Biodiversity) as Congress chairperson and convenor for organising this 49<sup>th</sup> Congress with the central theme "Aquatic ecosystems; conservation and connectivity". Special sessions, for example, a short course on ecological risk assessment and workshops were incorporated into the conference that finally leads to more than 120 delegates with 70 talks and 17 posters! There is a diverse range of topics presented that showcases the fantastic diversity of people involved with aquatic research in the

region and demonstrates that Aquatic Science continues to be a key research area in South Africa. We all congratulate the organizing committee for a job well done.

The persons who supported them are also acknowledged: Petrie Vogel – Registration and Administration (SAVETCON). We would also like to extend the gratitude of the Society to two generous sponsors, the Eastern Cape Development Corporation and the Water Research Commission. Their sponsorship has, for the first time ever, allowed the Society to sponsor the registration fees of all 25 students who applied for support.

#### **Finances:**

The Society's finances are healthy with R75 000 in the savings account (31/12/2011) and between R80 000 ± R20 000 in the current account. The income for the Society is mainly generated through conferences. Expenditure (e.g. editor honorarium, life members, etc.) exceeds income. It is expected that approximately R20 000 per annum is required to break even, which is mainly through conference income. Many thanks to Prof Nico Smit (Honorary Treasurer) for his dedication and good bookkeeping.

#### **Journal – AJAS**

In 2011 we received 104 manuscripts, which is 30 more than in 2010. This is probably because of the new web-based manuscript management system offered by Taylor and Francis, plus the visibility that T&F now gives us. In 2010 NISC granted us a 15% increase in the number of pages we could publish per year, bringing us to an allowance of 345 pages. In 2011 we published 343 pages over the three issues of AJAS, and it looks like we'll easily continue to use up all our allowance.

A total of 54 manuscripts (52%) were rejected for reasons either of unsuitability to AJAS or of poor quality. We accept that AJAS is a 'regional' journal, with the whole of Africa as its region. Nevertheless, the reality is that authors get pressured into publishing their work in the highest-rated journals that will accept them. In July 2011 our journal was awarded its first Impact Factor rating, for 2010, of 0.479 – which is in the upper third of the range of rated South African journals. Your Editorial Board made various suggestions to overcome some difficulties – see Editor's report for more detail. Remember our editor's new e-mail address is: AJAS Editor [ajas.ed@gmail.com](mailto:ajas.ed@gmail.com). Thank you Mike for an excellent job done over many years.

#### **Website**

Dr. Mike Silberbauer is maintaining our web page and provides the following stats: The stats for the 26 June 2011 to 26 June 2012 are: Total page loads, 5 400 (average per month, 450): The number of times pages have been visited. Unique visits, 1 769 (average per month, 147): Total of the returning visits and first time visits - i.e. all visitors. First time visits, 1 413 (average per month, 118): If a person visits the website for the first time. Returning visits, 356 (average per month, 30): If a person is returning to the website for another visit an hour or more later. The Congress and Journal pages were the most popular. The most visitors by far were from South Africa, with some interest from the USA and Europe. Only a few were from the rest of Africa. For SASAQs web site updates, please E-mail information to Mike Silberbauer: [SilberbauerM@dwa.gov.za](mailto:SilberbauerM@dwa.gov.za). For those who don't know, our website can be found at: [www.riv.co.za/sasaqs](http://www.riv.co.za/sasaqs).

#### **Membership:**

By the end of 2011, we had 120 fully paid-up members and 16 student members. And it is increasing – undated figures by treasurer. The free AJAS page charge has had a positive influence on new memberships. It was decided to implement a student membership fee of R50 (no access to AJAS). We should aim to attract more members, including southern African members, and encourage members to expand our membership to approximately 150. I want to thank all Society members for their continued support.

#### **Awards:**

The medals awards committee (Janine Adams, chairperson), received nominations for medals and a bronze medal was awarded. 'A Bronze medal shall be awarded irregularly in recognition of the exceptionally high standard of a specific piece of work by a junior scientist or manager.' The previous bronze medal was awarded in 2004. To be presented at formal dinner.

In conclusion, I want to thank the EXCO committee for inputs during the year and also thank everyone for their continued support. May our Society continue to draw aquatic scientist from all over southern Africa together, share knowledge, and prosper in the coming years!

Kind regards



Jan Roos

**SASAgS Office bearers during 2011- 2012 were:**

**President** - [Dr Jan Roos](#)

**Vice-President** - [Prof Janine Adams](#)

**Honorary Secretary** - [Dr Paul Fouché](#)

**Honorary Treasurer** - [Prof Nico Smit](#)

**Additional member** - [Prof Victor Wepener](#)

**Honorary Editor** - [Mr Mike Coke](#)

**Webmaster** - [Dr Mike Silberbauer](#)

**7 TREASURER'S REPORT**

The report below was delivered by the treasurer, Nico Smit:

**SASAgS Financial report 2012**

The current positive balances of the money market and current account indicate that the Society's finances are in a sound position. There was a total balance of R283 966 on 1 January 2012. The payment from Savetcon for the 2011 conference was only deposited in March 2012, so the 1 January balances should actually have been higher. The finances are stable and there are no major concerns. The Money Market account is growing slowly with standard interest. At the 2013 meeting the Society should have some plans as what to do with the accumulated funds. The possibility of setting up a student travel fund had been discussed. The statements for 30 June 2012 were also presented. Student funding from ECDC paid in a few weeks before the conference will go to Savetcon for management and payment for the student registration fees. Profit from the 2012 conference will be added to the account. The Society is slowing approaching a total available balance of R300 000.

Membership details were presented. An interesting fact is that more people join than pay, therefore the difference between invoiced and paid up members. In 2011 there was an increase in membership because of the free page fees for the journal that are applied when you join the society. In 2012 there were 34 new members who joined and paid. To date we have invoiced 213 members. At this time we have 129 members that have paid, during the same period last year only 82 members were paid up. The hope is that fully paid up membership will increase to 150 people by the end of the year. Follow-ups on the payment of membership fees were made before the conference. Ten people cancelled their membership for a variety of reasons but none of these was dissatisfaction with the society. New student members (41) were invoiced in 2012; the new students were due to the 2012 conference. Bursaries were only awarded to those students that were Society members. Supervisors must discuss the payment of the R50 student fee with the students in order to entice them to continue as society members and not just become members to qualify for the discounted conference fees.

The membership fee of R360 in 2010 did not increase in 2011. In 2010, R305 went to NISC, this year R320 goes to NISC, thus only R40 per member of the fees goes to the Society. Therefore it is important that the society members use the facility of the journal. NISC indicated at a meeting yesterday that members are not utilising the facilities. The entire journal series can be accessed as a Society member through the personal subscription. All the papers that the Society has ever published were digitised. Current expenses includes the payment of the life members' membership fees (Prof Allanson is one of our life members) as well as the editor's honorarium. In addition the EXCO agreed to pay for the editor's 2012 conference fees and travel to the conference.

It was proposed to the meeting that the editor's honorarium be increased from R18 000 to R20 000. The Society agreed with this decision. The treasurer sought advice from the floor re: the requirement for a tax clearance certificate from some organisations e.g. CSIR. The Institutions cannot pay the subs as SASAQs does not have a tax clearance certificate. Prof Jenny Day suggested that SARS be contacted. At this stage the advice was that we must register as an NGO. Dr Weyl asked what this would cost. The treasurer would investigate this further and communicate with the society via email.

**ACTION:** Treasurer to investigate the need for a tax clearance certificate and registration of the Society as an NGO.

## **8 EDITORS REPORT**

The editor of AJAS, Mike Coke presented the report.

### **Impact Factor**

Our 2011 Impact Factor, announced the day before this AGM, is 0.471. This is very slightly lower than it was last year, which apparently is an expected trend in the initial years. Our getting our first I.F. rating last year, after 11 years of pushing for one, speaks as much of our own efforts and those of our authors as it does of those of NISC on our behalf. Having an Impact Factor is already affecting the number of manuscripts we receive per year.

Nevertheless, the reality is that authors get pressured into publishing their work in the highest-rated journals that will accept them. So, it's a chicken-and-egg situation: without well-cited papers we don't get a good I.F. rating and, without a good rating, we don't get papers that will be well cited! In this connection, authors are encouraged to cite papers previously published in AJAS so as to boost our citation rate.

Yesterday our Editorial Board had a very productive meeting with three key NISC staff members to discuss the publishing of our journal, and the future for us looks good. We congratulate Mike Schramm, who has very recently taken over as Managing Director of NISC, following the retirement of Margaret Crampton. We're most grateful to Margaret for drawing our journal into NISC's publishing stable, and for her efforts to promote it.

### **Page number**

In 2010 NISC granted us a 15% increase in the number of pages we could publish per year, bringing us to an allowance of 345 pages. In 2011 we published 343 pages over the three issues of AJAS, and it looks like we'll easily continue to use up all our allowance.

### **ScholarOne system**

We're now 18 months into using the web-based manuscript management system offered by Taylor and Francis, and things seem to be going smoothly. We've even tweaked the system here and there, the better to suit our particular needs. Because of this new system, plus the international visibility that T&F now gives us, we received a record number of 104 manuscripts in 2011. Now, if the first half of 2012's income (80 mss) is anything to go by, it looks like we'll receive even more this year. Thus there is increasing pressure on your Associate Editors, who oversee the manuscript review process. Two of them resigned during the year and so we're looking for replacements, as well as for additional subject editors.

A new and exciting benefit to authors is that, through a system called iFirst, T&F are now able to put accepted manuscripts online ahead of hard-copy publication date. In this way an author's work becomes visible and citable even before a specific issue of the journal is full, let alone published. At the end of last month Watson's paper "Evaluation of the Fish Health Assessment Index" became the first of our papers to enjoy this early exposure.

### **Manuscript flow**

Of the 104 manuscripts received last year (Table 1), 35% came from *outside* Africa, from as far away as Iran (16), India (6), China (4), plus Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Mexico, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Denmark and France (1 each). Clearly, we have now become a much more internationally visible

journal. Of the 70 manuscripts received from within Africa, 24 were from South Africa, 12 from Nigeria, 11 from Egypt, 6 from Zimbabwe and 1-3 from each of 10 other African countries.

Notably, 60% of the manuscripts got rejected for reasons either of unsuitability to AJAS or of poor quality. To date, 23 manuscripts have been published, and 19 are still under review. It's interesting to note that, of the 39 papers we published in 2011, 21 came from northern Africa, and only 12 from South Africa. This is a reversal of the 2010 situation, when South Africans published more than any other group did.

**Table 1. Analysis of AJAS activity from 2001 to 2011.** \* = Volumes with 3 issues. + = 15% increase

in page count. Peaks indicated in bold type.

<b>Year</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>
No. of MSS received	66	62	84	93	75	<b>104</b>
No. of MSS rejected or withdrawn	37	34	<b>53</b>	41	42	[62]
	56%	55%	<b>63%</b>	44%	56%	[60%]
Volume Number	31	32*	33*	34*	35*	36*
Total No. of pages	<b>328</b>	317	289	304	311	<b>343</b> <sup>+</sup>
Total No. of papers	34	<b>39</b>	38	33	35	<b>39</b>
Total No. of book reviews	5	4	1	4	2	1
<b>Authorship</b>						
SASAqS members	7	13	9	15	17	8
Non-members	<b>24</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>29</b>	18	18	<b>31</b>
<b>Number of articles published per region</b>						
South Africa	<b>20</b>	13	<b>17</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>18</b>	12
Southern Africa	4	9	4	9	5	5
Northern Africa	10	<b>16</b>	16	11	12	<b>21</b>
Overseas	0	1	1	0	0	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>39</b>

#### **Manuscript selection**

Recently we have been receiving many low-quality manuscripts on 'non-African' subjects from authors outside Africa. Therefore the Editorial Board decided that AJAS should focus primarily on 'African' material, whilst not totally excluding interesting or valuable 'non-African' manuscripts. Consequently, we consider ourselves a 'regional' rather than an 'international' journal, even though we publish papers from many different countries within Africa. We now aim to be the journal of choice for authors writing about African waters.

#### **Journal subscriptions**

In 2011, total AJAS subscriptions fell to an all-time low of 130, four less than in 2010 (Table 2). SASAqS Society subscriber numbers fell by three overall, but we signed up our first 'international individual' subscriber.

**Table 2: AJAS subscription statistics : 2002-2011** (data from NISC)

	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
RSA SASAqS	122	127	95	95	92	96
African SASAqS	7	8	3	2	8	8
Internat <sup>nl</sup> SASAqS	5	7	7	4	2	5
<b>[SASAqS subtotal]</b>	<b>[134]</b>	<b>[142]</b>	<b>[105]</b>	<b>[101]</b>	<b>[102]</b>	<b>[99]</b>
SA Institution	12	14	14	14	16	14
African Institution	3	6	3	3	2	3
Internat <sup>nl</sup> institution	21	12	8	12	9	9
<b>[Institut<sup>n</sup> subtotal]</b>	<b>[36]</b>	<b>[32]</b>	<b>[25]</b>	<b>[29]</b>	<b>[27]</b>	<b>[26]</b>
SA Individual				2	3	2
African Individual			1	1	2	2
Intern <sup>nl</sup> Individual						1
<b>[Individ<sup>l</sup> Subtotal]</b>			<b>[1]</b>	<b>[3]</b>	<b>[5]</b>	<b>[5]</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>174</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>133</b>	<b>134</b>	<b>130</b>

### Journal usage

Through NISC's link with Taylor & Francis, our journal has suddenly become much more internationally visible. AJAS content is now available to 1792 Institutions through T&F themselves, 4047 Institutions through Research4Life, and 5941 Institutions through EBSCO Host. The proof of this pudding is going to be in the number of manuscripts we receive in future.

The number of our article downloads rose from 4434 in 2010 to an astonishing 6600 in 2011. The major increase came via T&F (Table 3), the high usage in 2011 being as a result of the World Fisheries Day campaign, when they offered two weeks' free online access to all fisheries titles.

**Table 3. Number of article downloads per year**

Access point	2009	2010	2011
Taylor & Francis Online	n/a	2690	6249
EBSCOHost	850	1744	351
TOTAL	850	4434	6600

### Top articles downloaded in 2011

The top ten articles downloaded via T&F Online and via EBSCO Host in 2011 were as follows:

**Table 4. Downloads via Taylor & Francis Online**

AJAS	Author	Title	No. of downloads
35(3) 2010	AK Whitfield	A century of fish research in South African estuaries	570
29(2) 2004	J O'Keeffe	Book review: Measuring Biological Diversity	461
35(1) 2010	NA Rivers-Moore & PS Goodman	River and wetland classifications for freshwater conservation planning in KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa	368

<b>AJAS</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>No. of downloads</b>
<b>32(1) 2007</b>	GE Otiang'a-Owiti, IA Oswe	Human impact on lake ecosystems: the case of Lake Naivasha, Kenya	<b>84</b>
<b>34(3) 2009</b>	JC van Dyk, et al.	Histological changes in the gills of <i>Clarias gariepinus</i> (Teleostei: Clariidae) from a polluted South African urban aquatic system	<b>67</b>
<b>34(3) 2009</b>	R Gerber et al.	Age estimation, growth rate and size at sexual maturity of tigerfish <i>Hydrocynus vittatus</i> from the Okavango Delta, Botswana	<b>66</b>
<b>27(1) 2002</b>	CWS Dickens, PM Graham	The South African Scoring System (SASS) Version 5 rapid bioassessment method for rivers	<b>64</b>
<b>34(3) 2009</b>	M-N Jonker et al.	The impact of feedlot effluent on water quality and aquatic macroinvertebrate community structure in streams of the upper Vaal River catchment, South Africa	<b>59</b>
<b>36(2) 2011</b>	J Kwetegyeka et al.	Fatty acids of polar lipids in heart tissue are good taxonomic markers for tropical African freshwater fish	<b>51</b>
35(3) 2010	M Sinchembe, WN Ellery	Human impacts on hydrological health and the provision of ecosystem services: a case study of the eMthonjeni Fairview Spring Wetland, Grahamstown, South Africa	<b>50</b>

**Table 5. Downloads via EBSCOHost 2011**

<b>AJAS</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>No. of downloads</b>
33(3) 2008	MR Vinson et al.	Effects of oil pollution on aquatic macroinvertebrate assemblages in Gabon wetlands	30
34(1) 2009	FO Masese et al.	Macroinvertebrate assemblages as biological indicators of water quality in the Moiben River, Kenya	25
35(1) 2010	PSO Fouche & W Vlok	Water quality impacts on instream biota of the Shingwedzi River, South Africa	18
33(1) 2008	CH Traynor	<i>Juncus kraussii</i> harvesting in Umlalazi Nature Reserve, KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa: socio-economic aspects and sustainability	15
33(2) 2008	GB Luilo	Lake Victoria water resources management challenges and prospects: a need for equitable and sustainable institutional and regulatory frameworks	13
33(3) 2008	AA Ansari & FA Khan	Remediation of eutrophic water using <i>Lemna minor</i> in a controlled environment	12
35(1) 2010	NA Rivers-Moore & PS Goodman	River and wetland classifications for freshwater conservation planning in KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa	11
34(3)	TM Ansara-	Application of a direct toxicity assessment approach to	11

AJAS	Author	Title	No. of downloads
2009	Ross et al.	assess the hazard of potential pesticide exposure at selected sites on the Crocodile and Magalies rivers, South Africa	
33(3) 2008	NH Aneck-Hahn et al.	Preliminary assessment of oestrogenic activity in water sources in Rietvlei Nature Reserve	10
34(2) 2009	PD Vorwerk & PW Froneman	The importance of estuarine-derived carbon for the nearshore marine environment: studies on two contrasting South African estuaries	10

Mike Coke  
3/7/2012

## 9 WEB MASTERS REPORT

The content of the webmaster's report formed part of the president's report. Facebook, Google, Twitter were proposed as communication channels for the students to discuss.

## 10 COUNTRY REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS.

The Treasurer reported that African members only join to get the benefit of the free page charges for journal publication. They do not join thereafter. Membership currently includes one Nambian, Botswana and Malawian. The President stated that it was difficult to establish a larger African chapter as there were so few members.

## 11 STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES

At the AGM Bruce Ellender offered to convene a student group meeting the following day of the conference. The following feedback was received from Bruce.

### **SASAgS Student Report 2012**

In the absence of the current SASAgS student representative Kyle McHugh, the student meeting was chaired by the Rhodes University student representative Bruce Ellender.

### **Progress to date:**

A Facebook page has been created. The students feel that this provides an important link between institutions for information sharing (literature, career opportunities, problem solving etc....) Thanks for the e-mail! The link is

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/276071419145241/>

it is called SASAQS students.

### **Issues raised**

The general feeling among students was that due to the high turnover rates (i.e. students only being members of the society for the duration of their study period) students are not seeing the benefits of belonging to the society. Although student membership is extremely cheap, this is primarily seen as a benefit for the supervisor (reduced conference fee). The students did however feel that free online access to the journal would be beneficial if fully paid up. This would also promote citing articles from AJAS. There was also general consensus that certain incentives would increase student participation at SASAgS conferences. It was proposed that the society consider making contributory funds available for a student member to attend an international conference. It was also felt that the student should not have to publish in AJAS to receive this benefit, but must be a fully paid member for a minimum duration of two years to be eligible. An additional incentive in the form of an event such as a cheese and wine held for students to promote networking during the conferences was also suggested.

## **Nomination of student representatives**

Two students were nominated as SASAqS representatives, Geraldine Taylor from Rhodes University ([g07t2509@campus.ru.ac.za](mailto:g07t2509@campus.ru.ac.za)) and Steve Osmond ([stevenjosmond@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:stevenjosmond@yahoo.co.uk)) from the University of Johannesburg. The jobs of the student representatives were agreed to be the sharing of relevant information about the society with the student members through Facebook, encouraging students within the society to participate more, and to try to encourage students from other universities to join.

## **11 CONFERENCES**

### 2013 Conference

Pierre De Villiers (CapeNature) proposed that the venue for the conference in 2013 is Arniston. Dr David Walker from (CPUT) would assist with the organisation. Lara van Niekerk (CSIR, Stellenbosch) also offered assistance. Some of the topics that the conference would include were suggested; science / management interface, rehabilitation, best practice – case studies. Society members agreed that the conference should take place in the first week in July 2013.

### 2014 Conference

University of the Free State, Prof Jo van As and Deidre West offered to host the conference.

## **12 AWARDS**

This was covered in the President's report.

## **13 HONORARIA**

The Editor's honoraria would increase as indicated in the Treasurer's report.

## **14 BY-LAWS**

No proposals were received.

## **15 CONSTITUTION**

This was reviewed last year.

## **16 EXCO COUNCIL**

A new EXCO council was needed. The following was proposed;

PRESIDENT Present: Jan Roos, Nominated: Janine Adams

VICE PRESIDENT Present: Janine Adams, Nominated: Nico Smit

TREASURER Present: Nico Smit, Nominated: Gordon O'Brien

SECRETARY Present: Paul Fouche, Nominated: Denise Schael

Ordinary members for continuity: Victor Wepener, Wynand Vlok, Paul Fouche

This was accepted by the Society.

**17 GENERAL**

**SACNASP**

Prof Johan van Vuuren provided feedback. In the future the Society will have to provide the guidelines on how to remain registered.

**Wetland Society**

Prof Jenny Day reported that the proposed Wetland Society was offered an opportunity to join SASAqS but declined this. The wetland scientists had a specific agenda on how to gain accreditation.

Prof Jenny Day thanked Mike Coke for his efforts in improving the journal impact factor.

The president Jan Roos delivered a philosophical farewell message.

Prof Brian Allanson thanked the President and EXCO for their leadership and growth of the society.

**18 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING**

To be held at the 2013 conference.

**19 CLOSING**

The meeting closed at 19:10

Signed		3 August 2012
	_____	_____
	Vice President	Date
Accepted		3 August 2012
	_____	_____
	President (J Roos)	Date