

Annual General Meeting 25/09/2019 Volendam, The Netherlands

By kind permission of the organizers of the '6th International Workshop on Molecular Aspects of Seed Dormancy and Germination', the meeting took place during the programme of that meeting.

The meeting was chaired by The President (and the Editor in Chief of 'Seed Science Research') Henk Hilhorst and was attended by some 25 members, including J. Buitink (President- Elect), S. Penfield (Treasurer), G. Leubner (Elected trustee), and two national representatives (Tomasz Pawłowski, Poland, for Eastern Europe and Russia and newly nominated representative for Japan, Naoto Kawakami). Apologies were received from L. Colville, and J. Buitink was acting as Secretary.

1. Opening.

2. The agenda was adopted without modification.

3. The Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting (25 October 2018, Kyoto, Japan) were adopted without modification.

3. The President presented his [AGM President's report 2018-2019](#), and was adopted. Henk Hilhorst thanked J. Buitink for her help with taking over the Presidents duties for the last year, and S. Penfield our Treasurer and L. Colville our Secretary, for their work.

Implementation of Travel Grant Program;

The president presented the new executive committee members and communicated on several actions that were undertaken by the society during the last year:

- Improvement of communication with and among ISSS members: updated the ISSS web site, started regular emailing to members, and activated an ISSS Twitter account: @IntlSeedSciSoc;
- Ongoing discussion on streamlining of the cycle of the ISSS Workshops and Meetings, aiming at maximally one meeting per year;
- In the process of assigning more concrete duties to our regional representatives;
- Travel grants has been installed for the students.

5. AMG Secretary's report 2018-2019

The president presented the [AGM Secretary's Report 2018-2019](#)

- There are currently 164 active members, including 60 recent registrations using the new registration and payment system.
 - Leaflets have been produced to advertise the ISSS and sent to the National Representatives.
 - The secretary's email address (l.colville@kew.org) as advertised on the ISSS website should be used for contact with queries regarding membership or to request updates to the website etc.
- The report was adopted by the members.

6. AGM treasurers report 2018-2019

S. Penfield presented the [AGM Treasurer's Report 2018-2019](#)

The report was adopted by the members.

No student fellowships were asked for the Dormancy and Germination workshop. This will be advertised better for the General meeting.

A question was asked whether the fellowships can it be extended to Postdocs, and it was explained that this is not possible since they are student fellowships.
The report and the budget was adopted by the members.

7. Seed science research Editorial report

Henk Hilhorst presented the [Seed Science Research \(SSR\) Editorial Report 2018-2019](#).

The Impact Factor for 2018 is 1.329, down from an IF for 2017 which was 2.03, and IF 2016 which was 1.8. ISSS members are asked to advertise for our journal as much as possible.

8. News from the regional representatives

All national representatives receive a list with current memvbers in their region, leaflets of the society for distribution, access to the twitter account, and slides to present the ISSS society in regional meetings. Thomazs Pawłowski mentioned he received the information from Louise. Julia Buitink mentioned recently appointed representatives, being Hector Perez from the USA, and Naoto Kawakami for Japan.

9. Next meetings and proposal to modify the cycle to maximum 1 per year.

The president explains to the members that the Executive committee has reflected on changing the ISSS meeting schedule. Currently, the ISSS organises 4 meeting every 3 years. However, considering carbon footprint, busy scedules and lack of time and cost for traveling, as well as overlap between meetings, and the funding the ISSS can provide for the organisation of meetings, he explains that it is timely to reconsider the organisation of our society's meeting.

The suggestion would be to organise one General Meeting every two years, extending by one additional day. Different sections (seed development, dormancy, ecology, longevity) will be presented in blocks to avoid concurrent sessions, in the form of workshops. Members can register for one or several blocks.

P Toorop: why not once a year? President: difficult to organise it

L Bentsink: length? Proposition is to increase the current schedule with one more day.

Julia. We are also thinking of organising a premeeting day for postdocs and PhD students to exchange about their work and to networking.

Several members express their concern, mentioning that small meetings will allow for more interaction. It is agreed that if only general meetings are organised this should be done in a similar format as the workshops to increase interaction. S Penfield mentions that it should not become a marathon. On the other hand, members also mention that they can not go to all workshops, so one general meeting in which the different topics are discussed would be perfect.

F Lanfenmeijer: would it be possible to organise a workshop on a specific question? Abnswer
H. Hilhorst, yes, the idea could be that in the year in between the General meeting, members can come with suggestions around which question they would like to organise a workshop.

G Lenssen: See if it possible to follow the meetings by skype

L. Bentsink. It might also be more difficult to find people to organise the meeting.

It is suggested that the society can give it a try to go for every two years and see how it works.

The proposition is accepted to send out a survey to members to ask their opinion on different scenarios.

10. Nominations and appointments

The President asks for nominees for the Executive committee. Members should come forward by Juin 2020. A vote will be organised at the next AGM.

11. Any other business

The President asks the members to help getting the ISSS better. If you have good ideas, send an email to Louise to discuss it.

12. President closes the meeting 16h34.