

## **Minutes of the Accredited Members' Annual General Meeting 2009 SSC Annual Meeting**

The meeting was held on Tuesday June 2 2009 at 12:00-1:30 pm in IKBarber 155, University of British Columbia, Vancouver.

Present:

Arnason, Neil (chair)	
Schwarz, Carl (acting secretary)	
Al-Khalidi, A. Sattar	Keen, Kevin
Allen, Brian	Koval, John
Amrhein, John	Lesperance, Mary
Bakal, Jeff	Lix, Lisa
Binder, David	Macdonald, Peter
Bocci, Cynthia	Myles, Jamie
Chipman, Hugh	Pageau, Francis
Gibbs, Alison	Stewart, Sam

1. Approval of agenda –approved.
2. Approval of minutes from annual general meeting at Ottawa, Monday June 26 2008: approved after fixing of errors in names.
3. Business arising from minutes (none).
4. Report from the Chair (A. Neil Arnason)
  - (a) It has been now 5 years since the first A.Stat/P.Stat. were awarded (in April 2004). A birthday card from Judy-Anne Chapman (JAC) was circulated.
  - (b) Introduction of new P.Stat., A.Stat members  
 Applicants for AStat and Pstat in a fall and winter competition were reviewed by members of the accreditation committee with recommendations forwarded to the board, resulting in the following:  
 5 AStat and 2 PStat. applicants were approved at the October 2008 Board meeting:

AStat #027	Choi, Bernard	(Municipal Property Assessment, Toronto)
AStat #028	Lécuyer, Jean-François	(Transport Canada)
AStat #029	Yang, Fang	(Toronto)
AStat #030	Huang, Y. Celia	(University of Waterloo)
AStat #031	Shrestha, Prasanna Man	(TERA Environmental Consulting)
PStat #107	Brenning, Alexander J.	(University of Waterloo)
PStat #108	Bakal, Jeffrey A.	(University of Alberta)

6 Astat and 7 PStat applicants were approved at the May 2009 Board Meeting

AStat #032	Wu, Tim	(Vancouver)
AStat #033	Yin, Ling	(McDougall Scientific Ltd - Toronto)
AStat #034	Wang, Qinggang	(Alberta Cancer Board)
AStat #035	Moreira, Frederico	(Université Laval)
AStat #036	Chen, Hong	(McDougall Scientific Ltd - Toronto)

AStat #037	Burkhalter, Robin	(Population Health Res. Group - U. Waterloo)
PStat #109	Wang, Jim (Chungui)	(McDougall Scientific Ltd - Toronto)
PStat #110	Schanzer, Dena	(Public Health Agency of Canada - Ottawa)
PStat #111	Ma, Xuefeng	(McDougall Scientific Ltd - Toronto)
PStat #112	Karunanayake, Chandima	(University of Saskatchewan)
PStat #113	Fu, Guangyu	(Royal Bank of Canada - Toronto)
PStat #114	Nebebe, Fassil	(Concordia University)
PStat #115	Adamic, Peter	(Laurentian University)

(c) Distribution of P.Stat, A.Stat buttons

(d) Report on Accreditation matters and the Board of the SSC (not covered in later items)

- A few members have been suspended because of non-payment of dues. A modification to the dues structure should be considered for retired/out-of-workforce members.
- Renewal forms have been streamlined to ensure that renewal of SSC membership and Accredited Status go together
- Works needs to be done on revising current documentation to generate operating documents etc. Now that the accreditation has been up and running for a while, we can make minor revisions to codify existing practices and streamline procedures.
- JAC and the chair (ANA) attended the SSO chapter meeting in Ottawa in April 2009 and presented a session on accreditation. We reviewed the history and benefits of accreditation and talked a bit about future plans and challenges. Some feedback on the application process was provided by the attendees.

(e) Public Database

- Still under development. This needs to be prioritized.
- It may require paid help to accomplish rather than relying on volunteer work.
- It should reside on the SSC web site (Hugh Chipman is now revising the SSC website so can provide some advice on how to do so).
- There are many potential problems: initial upload, maintenance and updates, second language translation, security and different access levels (members, public); public search format and criteria (see RSS site for an example: <http://www.rss.org.uk/main.asp?page=1991>)
- A model site is that for professional psychologists in Canada (<http://www.crhsp.ca/findlist.php>).

5. Report on Services to members

- Professional Development. This needs more development for our accredited members. Some ideas of services: Videotapes of John Amrhein presentation on longitudinal studies to SORA; videotapes from ASA at reduced rates;
- Need to publicize more the role of A.Stat/P.Stat. to employers
- One method to increase profile is to fill gap in newspaper cutbacks on science reporters
- At the next AGM meeting (at Laval, May 2010), it has been suggested to have some events restricted to A.Stat/P.Stat. Some examples are a panel discussion on consulting; videos from ASA; short workshops that are webcast for those who can't attend SSC; panel discussion on mentoring; social event; a survey of current levels of

consulting fees; codes of best practise. Need to poll our A.Stat/P.Stat members to see what they would like?

6. Other business (David Binder).

- changes to A.Stat/P.Stat. email list – you will now get monthly reminders much like SSC lists
- ASA has been talking to members of the executive about the Canadian approach to accreditation of individuals. They will likely introduce an accreditation program before next year's JSM; it will be modeled closely on our P.Stat. accreditation. There will likely be some provision for cross-accreditation (still to be discussed).
- color of seal is wrong; correct pantone number will be available for next printing of certificates and buttons; brochures are to be revised this year and this will also include fixing their colour.

7. Adjournment