

Minutes of NgoRS Officer and Board Meeting (July 1, 2021)

Present:

C. Genco (President)
J. Edwards (President-elect)
A. Criss (Treasurer)
M. Christodoulides
O. Harrison
K. Seib
A. Potter
H. Seifert (Past President)

Absent:

W. Shafer (Secretary)
M. Apicella
C. Cornelissen

Summary: The officers of the NgoRS (President C. Genco, President-elect J. Edwards, Treasurer A. Criss) and Board Members (M. Christodoulides, K. Seib, O. Harrison, A. Potter and H. Seifert) meet virtually on July 1, 2021 (0800 h, EST). The major topics of discussion were: scheduling of the NgoRS Officer and Board Meetings, NgoRS finance, membership, and fiscal calendar, and the plans for the next NgoRS Conference and for the NgoRS seminar series.

- 1. Scheduling of NgoRS Officer and Board Meetings:** Meetings are planned to be held quarterly (July, October, January, and April (Thursday 0730 h, EST), with additional ad-hoc meetings planned as needed.
- 2. NgoRS finance, membership, and fiscal calendar:** A. Criss (Treasurer) provided an update on Society finances and membership numbers (see attached).
 - The group discussed membership and the fiscal calendar of the Society. It was decided that going forward the financial year would be July 1 to June 30, with membership fees (\$50 Faculty/staff) due in July of each year. For people joining between January and June, reduced membership fees will apply (\$25 Faculty/staff). Board membership will follow the fiscal year, with members rotating on/off in July. (H. Seifert proposed the motion, J. Edwards seconded, vote unanimous in favour). H. Seifert will send an email to update members of these changes.
 - Membership Committee (A. Criss and M. Christodoulides) proposed options to expand the membership, including emailing members to encourage them to promote the Society, emailing attendees of the NgoRS Conference, advertising the NgoRS to other societies. Options for corporate/industry memberships were discussed and C. Genco and M. Christodoulides will investigate this further and reach out to companies/contacts who may be interested.
- 3. Plans for the next NgoRS Conference:** O. Harris provided an update on conference planning.
 - Committee membership: Jenn Edwards, Trevor Moraes, Stijn van der Veen, Odile Harrison,
 - Conference date: 10-14th January 2022 (3-4 days TBC)
 - Format: online; similar to last conference with 2 sessions/day to accommodate different time zones. 8 keynote speakers invited, and the format of other presentations is being developed and will be communicated to the membership in due course. Virtual platforms are being considered, and Zoom webinar was proposed as a low-cost option (via H. Seifert/NWU) that can also manage registrations.
 - The group discussed conference registration costs and it was decided that the following structure will apply (J. Edwards proposed, O. Harrison seconded, vote unanimous in favour):
 - o full fee paying NgoRS members - free.
 - o trainee NgoRS members - \$20
 - o non-members - \$75 (or join NgoRS and receive free registration)
- 4. NgoRS virtual monthly seminar series:** Update presented by A. Potter of the proposed seminar series.
 - Organizers: Aimee Potter (Criss lab, University of Virginia), Subhash Dhital (Naderer lab, Monash University), Ravi Kant (Saluja lab, University of Delhi),
 - Timing: Monthly – i.e., the first Wednesday of the Month. Hosted by each of the organisers to accommodate for different times zones, alternating monthly and presentations potentially available online for members to watch for ~1 week.
 - Format: 30-minute talk from a trainee, 30-minute talk from an established researcher