

## NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY FOR EARTHQUAKE ENGINEERING

### Minutes of Annual General Meeting

5:30pm Thursday 14 April 2021

University of Canterbury

#### 1.0 Present, Apologies and Role of Honour

##### 1.1 Present

Helen Ferner, President and Lisa Moon, Executive Officer

and: 56 members

3 non-members.

##### 1.2 Apologies

Apologies received from Win Clark, Mick Pender, Graeme McVerry, George Walker, Ian Aiken, Jordan Bartlett and Alton England.

##### 1.3 Declaration of Proxies

Proxy forms were received from Win Clark and Ian Aiken, both of whom appointed the Chairperson to vote on their behalf.

#### 2.0 Roll of Honour

It was noted that the following member has passed away since the last AGM:

John Berrill

David Hutchison

Gavin Alexander

#### 3.0 Minutes of Annual General Meeting 23 April 2020

The minutes of the 2020 AGM were circulated to the members with the Notice of 2021 AGM.

Helen Ferner moved that the 2020 AGM Minutes be accepted Seconded: David Whittaker.

***Motion Carried.***

#### 4.0 Presentation and Adoption of Financial Statement

The Performance Report and associated audit report for the period to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2020 was circulated to members with Notice of AGM.

The Society's financial position to the end of September 2020 remained sound, although having to cancel the 2020 Conference due to government restrictions around the Covid-19 pandemic did affect the finances. Total income was \$250,000, significantly reduced compared with previous years due to the conference cancellation, but expenditure was also reduced at \$289,000.

Most years the small operating loss NZSEE has from our various activities is covered by a small profit from the conference, but this was not possible in this past year. The conference made a loss of just over \$31,000 and when combined with the small operating loss on our other activities brought our total loss for the year to just under \$40,000. Total equity is at \$306,000.

Items to note in the Performance Report

- Sundry in the revenue relates to funds the Society received from EQZ in support of the Ivan Skinner award and from QuakeCoRE for the Women Leaders in Earthquake Engineering Award.
- The related party transactions noted on page 11 of the report includes both fees for Engineering NZ of just under \$12,000 for administrative services they provide to the Society, and also the costs associated with the Executive Officer and Bulletin Editorship, which came to a total of \$72,000.
- The Resilient Building Project is featured both in revenue and expenditure in the accounts as the project is NZSEE led.
- Note 9 on page 12 shows that our equity is split between General Funds and Learning From Earthquakes Fund.

David Whittaker moved that the Performance Report to 30 September 2020 be accepted and approved. Seconded: Rajesh Dhakal

***Motion Carried***

## 5.0 Presentation and Adoption of President's Report

The President, Helen Ferner, presented her report on the activities of the Society over the last year. A copy of the President's Report is attached to these minutes of the AGM.

David Whittaker moved that the President's report be accepted. Seconded: Charles Clifton.

***Motion Carried.***

## 6.0 Confirmation of Management Committee

Nine nominations for 2021-2022 Management Committee were submitted. In accordance with the Rules of the Society there was no need for a ballot.

2021-2022 Management Committee confirmed as:

Julia Becker  
Pathmanathan (Brabha) Brabhakaran  
Charles Clifton  
Helen Ferner  
Tony Holden  
Geoff Rodgers  
Merrick Taylor  
Andrew Thompson  
SR Uma

Rajesh Dhakal (Editor in Chief of the NZSEE Bulletin)  
Lisa Moon (Executive Officer)

Helen Ferner moved that the new membership of the Management Committee for 2021-2022 be accepted. Seconded: Quincy Ma. ***Motion Carried.***

## 7.0 Remits and Recommendations

No remits or motions were put to the meeting.

## 8.0 2022 AGM

The 2022 AGM will be held at the 2022 NZSEE Conference.

## 9.0 Other Business

Peter Wood commended Helen Ferner on the good communication with Society members through the newsletter.

## 10.0 Closure

The President, Helen Ferner, declared the meeting closed at 5:50pm.



**nzsee**  
NEW ZEALAND SOCIETY FOR  
EARTHQUAKE ENGINEERING

### NZSEE 2021 AGM ATTENDANCE REGISTER

Wednesday 14th April 2021 at the University of Canterbury, Christchurch

Name (please print)	Member?	Name (please print)	Member?
Tony HOLDEN	✓		
Mark Stirling	✓		
Michael Drayton	✓		
Kuss Van Nissen	✓		
Craig Stevenson	✓		
Grace Beattie	✓		
Graff Rodgers	✓		
Andrew Stoffe			
Julia Beles	✓		
Greg MacLure	✓		
Sean Gardner	✓		
Sharan Ghimire			
Dave Dean	✓		
Dave Bunsden	✓		
Levi Grady			
COURTNEY CHAPMAN	✓		
Paul Campbell	✓		
Maxim Muth	✓		
Merrilee Taylor	✓		
Noel Hepher	✓		
SRUMA	✓		
David Lai	✓		
Andrew Charlson	✓		
David Whittaker	✓		
Paul Alves	✓		





## NZSEE AGM April 2021 – Presidents Report

I am very pleased to present the Presidents report for the New Zealand Society for Earthquake Engineering activities over the past year and what a year it has been like no other we have ever seen.

### Covid 19

It was just over a year ago when Covid 19 hit and NZ went into lock down for the first time. It affected us all in myriad ways, (everyone at home, all those Zoom meetings) and inevitably it affected NZSEE too. Notwithstanding the various lockdowns and restrictions much has been happening in New Zealand's earthquake engineering world.

Our 2020 conference had to be cancelled, our 2020 AGM was held online and we have held most of the management committee meetings this past year online. Fortunately, we were able to hold a very successful webinar series in place of the conference using many of the originally planned plenary sessions for the webinar series. It was very popular with some of the sessions attracting over 850 participants. We followed this up with another later second successful webinar series held late last year.

At time of writing this report we are planning an in-person conference and AGM for 2021 but have developed contingency plans in case that becomes impossible. So many people have mentioned to me how much they have missed the interactions only possible when we gather in person so I am hoping the backup plans do not need to be used.

### Financial

We have just approved the financial statements for last year. The Societies finances remain strong. We took a significant financial hit from the cancellation of the conference last year but thanks to those who kindly left money in rather than taking a refund and our sponsors who left money in we limited the losses from an originally projected \$50k down to just over \$30k.

### LFE

LFE continues to be a significant focus for NZSEE. The management committee confirmed again this last year that NZSEE should focus our resources on high value trips with learnings likely to be relevant to NZ. Under the able leadership of Ken Elwood a LFE committee has been formed with the objective of identifying those events. Additionally the relationship with the EERI LFE group has been strengthened with an increased focus on the use of technology particularly virtual clearing houses to support LFE activities.

### World Earthquake Engineering Conference 2024 Bid

Unfortunately we learnt in December that we were not successful in our bid for the world earthquake engineering conference in 2024. Instead we can all enjoy going to Italy.

### Relationships with other Technical Societies

Our relations with SESOC and NZGS remain strong. We have attended each other's management committees periodically this past year to keep each appraised of developments and shared information .

### The Resilient Buildings Project

The NZSEE led Resilient Buildings Project is now well underway to gauge societal views on tolerable performance for buildings under different levels of earthquake shaking. The aim is to complete this work this year so it can inform allied work underway including for example the Seismic Risk Working Group. A plenary session is being held at the conference on the topic.

### Engineering New Zealand

Engineering New Zealand continues to provide NZSEE with excellent administrative support and

works as a central facilitation agency for industry issues. We have representation on their Programme Challenge Group which helps steer projects Engineering NZ manages for MBIE.

## EQC

EQC and NZSEE share objectives for promoting earthquake research and increased awareness about seismic resilience. EQC provides essential financial support to NZSEE including for the cost of publishing the Bulletin, sponsorship of the jointly managed Ivan Skinner award, sponsorship at our annual conference. Our MoU with EQC also provides support for Learning from Earthquakes and currently EQC are providing support for our Resilient buildings project. I would like to acknowledge and thank EQC for their continued strong support.

## MBIE

It is pleasing to see the sector programme initiated eighteen months ago by MBIE with Engineering NZ is continuing to thrive and the arrangement has now been confirmed for a further five years.

A number of projects have been / are being undertaken as part of this programme including the Seismic Risk Working Group and the C5 Evidence Project, the Low Damage Seismic Design Project and the Geotechnical Modules Finalisation Project. A number of NZSEE members are members of the teams for these projects along with members of the allied technical societies. In addition I represent NZSEE on the Programme Challenge Group along with others from the different technical societies to support and advise the programme.

It is also pleasing to hear the progress underway on the comprehensive update of the National Seismic Hazard Model (NSHM) that GNS is working on. MBIE have very recently advised they are planning a follow on project to the Seismic Risk Working Group starting shortly to support and further develop advice to MBIE on preparing the building code to incorporate the outputs of the NSHM once the revision is complete.

NZSEE have made several submissions to MBIE over the past year including on the interim seismic hazard issue in central Wellington and also on our suggestions regards MBIEs proposed programme of work in preparation for the revision of the National Seismic Hazard Model.

NZSEE continues to be represented on the MBIE Code Advisory Panel (formerly the Building Code Technical Risk Advisory Group), providing our organisation with the opportunity to contribute to the ongoing improvement of the NZ Building Code alongside other industry stakeholders.

NZSEE is also represented on Building Management in an Emergency (BMIE) Technical working group, a new forum recently established by MBIE to consider improvements for managing buildings in an emergency.

## QuakeCoRE

We were delighted that QuakeCoRE was successful in the recent funding round from the Tertiary Education Commission. We value the relationship with QuakeCoRE and our relationship continues to deepen. This year QuakeCoRE have planned a series of workshops earlier this week prior to the conference which I know many NZSEE members enjoyed. Together for the past several years we have jointly run the QuakeCoRE / NZSEE women leaders in Earthquake Engineering award. The winner will be announced at conference.

## Younger members

This past year the management committee has spent some time considering the interests of our younger members. We have modified our membership arrangements so New Zealand based student members can join the society for free and join in our activities thus starting what we anticipate and hope will be a long relationship with the society.

We have started this year a new activity at conference a design competition especially for our younger members. Teams of four have designed and built model buildings. These models will be tested during the conference on the shake table. I encourage you to come and watch. I am sure it is

going to be a lot of fun.

## Membership

Current membership numbers are currently 864 an increase of 40 compared with last year

## Diversity in EQ Engineering

NZSEE is continuing its efforts to support diversity in earthquake engineering. The developing leading women networking dinners initiative has over this past year expanded to now include Wellington as well as Auckland. Notwithstanding various lockdowns a series of very successful events have been held. Research completed last year at Auckland University is informing future plans for the diversity initiative so watch this space and of course we continue with our QuakeCoRE / NZSEE women leaders in Earthquake Engineering award.

## The Bulletin

Over the past several years , under the stewardship of Rajesh our Editor in Chief, a number of changes have been progressively instituted for the Bulletin. This has resulted in a sustained rise in its ranking to over 80% amongst both Civil and Structural Engineering and Geotechnical and Geology Journals.

## Oral Histories

Several members have commented they would like more oral histories of members. The management committee agrees this would be a good idea and request that all members who would like to contribute by volunteering to write up oral histories of some of our illustrious members please contact Lisa Moon. We have a long list of possible subjects, we just need some members to take up the task of preparing the oral histories.

The EERI oral history for Nigel Priestly is nearly ready for publication, thanks in a large part to the efforts of Richard Sharpe, and I have recently provided a forward as president of NZSEE.

## Management Committee

The next agenda item will confirm the Management Committee for the 2021/2022 year. The new Management Committee will meet following this AGM.

## Executive Officer

Thanks to Executive Officer Lisa Moon for her support to the management committee and to me as President over the past 12 months.

## Finally

I want to thank all members, the management committee and executive officer for your support of the Society and me personally as your President over the course of this past year. Thank you.