

## **Minutes of Risk Theory Society Annual Meeting**

Madison, WI

May 6, 2017

President Greg Niehaus called the meeting to order at approximately 5:19 pm.

The President thanked Joan Schmit for her work in organizing the meeting. Joan received a round of applause from the members.

### **Approval of the Minutes**

The President called for the approval of the minutes of the 2016 meeting. Dick Butler moved that the minutes be approved. The motion was seconded and the minutes were approved by a show of hands.

### **Program, Attendance and Membership**

Patty Born (Secretary) reported that there were 38 papers submitted for the conference. The program committee consisting of Alex Muermann (Past-President), Greg Niehaus (President), and Patty Born selected ten papers for the program.

A total of 56 people attended the meeting, including 11 new members accepted into the Society at the meeting. The new members of the Society are: Shan Ge, Irina Gemmo, Yu Huang, Ruo (Alex) Jia, Shinichi Kamiya, Andreas Landmann, Wanda Mimra, Corina Mommaerts, Justin Sydnor, Andre Veiga, and Zenan Wu. The new members were applauded by those assembled.

Having missed two consecutive meetings, Eduardo Azevedo, Jeffrey Butler, Martin Kocher, Eric Stephens, and Jinjing Wang were expelled from the Society.

There was one new life time member, Etti Baranoff, who became a member in 1998.

One member passed away. Laureen Reagan was a member from 2010-2017.

The Society currently has 106 members. A table at the end of the report provides a historical perspective on members, attendance, and submissions.

Patty reported that the Call for Papers went to the usual outlets, including ARIA, the JRI, RMIR, the Geneva Association, and EGRIE. She asked the membership to send her suggestions for any other outlets that may be appropriate.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Greg Niehaus reported that Gene Lai did not yet have a Treasurer's Report, but it would be provided soon after the meeting. [A report was subsequently sent to the membership on May 9, 2017 indicating that the current balance in the RTS Vanguard money market account is \$5568.77. The February 2016 balance was \$5,538.95].

## **Other Business**

Two issues were raised by President Niehaus.

The first issue was the desire to clarify the society's rules regarding inviting non-members to the meeting. The current Customs and Traditions document does not address this. This led to several suggestions from various members, including Keith Crocker and David Eckles, and a motion to allow the host organization to invite anyone they want. After some discussion, the membership agreed and the motion passed unanimously. The Customs and Traditions document will be updated with this information.

The second issue was the existing rule regarding expelling members that do not attend two years in a row. President Niehaus suggested that the Society give the Executive Board authority to make exceptions. There was much discussion about the rule; arguments against making a change to the rules included "the rule is harsh but it keeps the incentive for members to attend *every year*," "an expelled member can always submit a paper and get back in," and "the Board's decisions to grant exceptions will be arbitrary and discriminatory". President Niehaus moved that we table the discussion.

## **Future Meetings**

Nominations for the site of 2019 Meeting were opened. There were two nominations: Lars Powell offered University of Alabama (Tuscaloosa, AL) and Jim Garven offered Baylor University (Waco, TX). Both offers included a promise of good barbecue food. Nominations were closed. The members voted and the University of Alabama will be the site of the 2019 meeting.

Ajay Subramanian reported that planning is underway for the 2018 meeting that will be held from April 6-8 in Atlanta, GA.

## **Election of the Secretary**

President Niehaus asked for nominees for the position of Secretary of the Society. Marty Grace nominated Ty Leverty. Lars Powell moved that nominations be closed, which was seconded. Ty Leverty was approved by acclamation.

Joan Schmit thanked the Executive Committee, and especially Alex Muermann for his service to the organization, which was followed by a round of applause.

Mark Browne thanked Joan Schmit and shared the membership's appreciation for the conference support received from American Family Insurance.

President Niehaus moved that the meeting be adjourned, which was seconded, and the meeting ended.

## **Meeting Statistics**

<b><u>Year</u></b>	<b><u>Members</u></b>	<b><u>Attendance</u></b>	<b><u>Submissions</u></b>	<b><u>Location</u></b>
<b>2005</b>	67	33	32	University of Mississippi, Oxford, MS
<b>2006</b>	66	39	49	Virginia Commonwealth Univ., Richmond, VA
<b>2007</b>	70	51	60	Pennsylvania State Univ., University Park, PA
<b>2008</b>	75	42	43	Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO
<b>2009</b>	71	41	54	University of Texas – Austin, Austin, TX
<b>2010</b>	73	43	42	University of Georgia, Athens, GA
<b>2011</b>	83	54	57	University of Arkansas – Little Rock Little Rock, AR
<b>2012</b>	90	52	54	Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL
<b>2013</b>	92	68	44	Temple University, Philadelphia, PA
<b>2014</b>	98	58	42	Ludwig-Maximilians University, Munich, Germany
<b>2015</b>	99	58	69	Cornell University, Ithaca, NY
<b>2016</b>	101	62	55	St. John’s University, New York, NY
<b>2017</b>	106	56	38	University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI