

ASCM January Executive Meeting

25th – 27th January 2003

Canberra

<u>1</u>	<u>ATTENDANCE</u>	<u>1</u>	9.7	ASCM RESPONDING TO CURRENT ISSUES	6
<u>2</u>	<u>APOLOGIES</u>	<u>1</u>	9.7.1	WEST PAPUA	6
<u>3</u>	<u>WORSHIP</u>	<u>1</u>	9.7.2	WAR ON IRAQ	6
<u>4</u>	<u>WELCOME</u>	<u>1</u>	9.7.3	GLOBALISATION	6
<u>5</u>	<u>RECEPTION OF MINUTES</u>	<u>1</u>	9.8	ASCM'S RELATIONSHIP WITH	
<u>6</u>	<u>RECEPTION OF THE AGENDA</u>	<u>1</u>		LOCAL CHURCHES AND FRIENDS	6
<u>7</u>	<u>REPORTS AND MOVEMENT SHARING</u>	<u>1</u>	9.8.1	LARGE NETWORK OF FRIENDS	6
7.1	ACT	1	9.8.2	HISTORY OF FRICTION	6
7.2	NEW SOUTH WALES	2	9.8.3	DIFFERENCES IN MISSION ?	6
7.3	QUEENSLAND	2	9.8.4	IS THERE A RISK ?	6
7.4	SOUTH AUSTRALIA	2	9.8.5	ADVANTAGES	6
7.5	TASMANIA	2	9.8.6	FUNDING	6
7.6	VICTORIA	2	<u>10</u>	<u>WSCF</u>	<u>7</u>
7.7	WESTERN AUSTRALIA	2	10.1	REARRANGING 2003 PROGRAM SCHEDULE	7
7.8	NATIONAL COORDINATOR	2	10.2	WORLD DAY OF PRAYER	7
7.9	TREASURER	3	10.3	WSCF FUNDRAISING ASSISTANCE	7
7.10	JUBILEE GRAPEVINE	3	10.4	SCMP INTERN	7
7.11	WSCF	3	10.4.1	GENERAL FEELINGS	7
<u>8</u>	<u>NATIONAL CONFERENCE</u>	<u>3</u>	10.4.2	CONCERNS TO BE ADDRESSED IN ANY PROPOSAL	7
8.1	WHO ARE OUR NEIGHBOURS ?	3	<u>11</u>	<u>CONSTITUTION</u>	<u>8</u>
8.1.1	DISCUSSION QUESTIONS / PROPOSALS RELATING TO THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE	3	<u>12</u>	<u>MEN'S AND WOMEN'S OFFICERS</u>	<u>8</u>
8.1.2	FEES FOR THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE	4	12.1	DISCUSSION PAPERS	8
<u>9</u>	<u>MOVEMENT BUILDING</u>	<u>4</u>	12.1.1	SMALL GROUPS DISCUSSION QUESTIONS	8
9.1	QUESTIONS AND ISSUES FROM GENERAL DISCUSSION	4	12.1.2	WAYS OF THINKING ABOUT THE ISSUES	9
9.2	WHAT CONSTITUTES A BRANCH	5	12.1.3	DISCUSSION PROPOSALS	9
9.3	NATIONAL COORDINATOR TRAVEL	5	12.1.4	CRITICAL FACTORS IDENTIFIED BY MEMBERS OF EXEC	9
9.4	STAFF NETWORKING	5	<u>13</u>	<u>FINANCE</u>	<u>9</u>
9.5	ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY PROJECT	5	13.1	STAFF WORKER TRAVEL POLICY	9
9.6	NATIONAL MEDIA OFFICER	5	13.2	NATIONAL AND LOCAL APPEALS	10
			13.3	AUDITOR	10
			13.4	BUDGET 2002-2003	10
			<u>14</u>	<u>VOTE OF THANKS</u>	<u>11</u>
				<u>APPENDIX LIST</u>	<u>11</u>

1 ATTENDANCE

Rachel Anderson (Minutes Secretary & Tas), Peter Bailey (Visitor – ACT Area Council), Anna Dalziell (Visitor – ANU Branch), Ruth Hagan (ACT Staff Worker), Jimmy Johnson (Qld Area Council), Chris Kia (Visitor – VU Branch), Don MacArthur (Vic Area Council), Rachael Palmer (National Treasurer), Daniel Robinson (ACT Area Council), Kate Watts (WA Area Council), Justin Whelan (NSW Area Council), Shawn Whelan (National Coordinator).

2 APOLOGIES

Cate Clarke (SA), Bronwyn Hatwell (WA Staff Worker), Katie Weir (ACT Area Council / ANU Branch).

3 WORSHIP

Worship was led by participants of the meeting.

4 WELCOME

Everyone present was welcomed.

Shawn Whelan gave a brief explanation of who is attending the meeting, the structure of ASCM and the role of the national executive.

An explanation of decision-making by consensus was given.

Resolution: Reaffirm that all decisions be made by consensus for this meeting; where there are multiple members representing an Area Council they shall have one “voice” in the confirmation of consensus.

5 RECEPTION OF MINUTES

Page 2: Spelling of Justin Whelan’s name (no e)

Resolution: That the minutes of the ASCM July General Committee 13th – 14th July 2002 be adopted with the changes detailed above.

6 RECEPTION OF THE AGENDA

Resolution: That the agenda be accepted

7 REPORTS AND MOVEMENT SHARING

7.1 ACT

ACT presented a written report (Appendix 1) and spoke to it.

Highlighted the success of their Day of Prayer for Students, which was held within the context of a Sunday service at the church that supports Ruth Hagan (ACT Staff Worker).

7.2 NEW SOUTH WALES

No active campus groups, a lot of potential members are involved with UCATSA.

Most sources of chaplaincy support have dried up since UCATSA was formed and supportive Catholic chaplains have been replaced with conservative ones.

Have been looking at developing off campus activities (eg. God Talk in the Pub), but not a lot of interest in this either.

7.3 QUEENSLAND

Queensland presented a written report (Appendix 2) and spoke to it.

7.4 SOUTH AUSTRALIA

A couple of people who would like to start SCM in SA however they are also looking at tapping in to local ecumenical groups who are active. There are currently no active SCM groups.

7.5 TASMANIA

Supporting existing ecumenical networks especially through cooperative work with the Catholic Youth Chaplaincy. Meet every now and then in a coffee shop under the name of the "Y files".

Lots of support from older SCM friends who are very enthusiastic to see that a group is starting to be formed to fill the role of SCM.

7.6 VICTORIA

Victoria presented a written report (Appendix 3) and spoke to it.

Victoria University new active branch supported by many overseas and refugee students – they have planned several O-week activities.

7.7 WESTERN AUSTRALIA

WA presented a written report (Appendix 4) and spoke to it.

Most activities held off campus with links on campus.

7.8 NATIONAL COORDINATOR

Shawn Whelan is still working out his role as National Coordinator. Shawn is still doing all the things that he said that he would do in July. Shawn attended the Asia-Pacific region National Coordinators meeting in Thailand. His report has been previously circulated by email – Shawn discovered that most countries are experiencing the same sort of problems as Australia with lack of student involvement. The big bonus of attending the meeting was that Shawn came back feeling more energized and enthusiastic about SCM. He has decided to set aside more time for SCM – is devoting an average of 4-6 hours a week to SCM however he acknowledges that some of the things that he is doing are not under the job descriptions of National Coordinator.

Resolution: A vote of thanks was expressed to Shawn for all his work as National Coordinator.

7.9 TREASURER

Rachael Palmer presented detailed written reports (Appendix 7) (to be further discussed under finance) and verbally highlighted the significant details. We are currently running at a surplus – we haven't spent our budget and have received more in donations than we were expecting.

Resolution: A vote of thanks was expressed to Rachael for all her work as Treasurer.

7.10 JUBILEE GRAPEVINE

A detailed written report (Appendix 5) was presented. Narelle McAuliffe has managed to get out one edition of JG in 2002 – is hoping that in 2003 three editions will be circulated. The first edition of JG will be out for O-week the second edition the end of first semester and the third in semester two. Narelle finishes as JC editor in July consequently we need to start to think about a new editor.

7.11 WSCF

A brief verbal report was received highlighting the main points of Sophia Wooldridge's written report (Appendix 6) (to be further discussed under WSCF). We have continued to send people to events overseas and endorse applications. WSCF has suffered a huge financial crisis the implications of which will be discussed during the meeting.

8 NATIONAL CONFERENCE

8.1 WHO ARE OUR NEIGHBOURS ?

A proposed program for the 2003 ASCM National Conference was distributed (Appendix 8):

Theme: *Who are our neighbours?* Organised by Queensland

Date: Tuesday 8th July – Friday 11th July (Followed by a General Committee Meeting)

To be held at St Francis's College (Brisbane) – this is close to the city centre and has good transport and accommodation therefore there is the potential for staying together or being billeted.

Resolution: Thank everyone involved for their work thus far in planning the next National Conference. We would like to express to the organisers our enthusiasm for the program and express our desire that the organisers investigate the possibility of eating together and sleeping in the same location.

8.1.1 Discussion Questions / Proposals relating to the National Conference

Resolution: SCM student members and staff should be invited and encouraged to attend

Resolution: Actively involved Friends are invited to attend. The Exec asks the organisers to identify session(s) to which other, less involved Friends could be invited, while still maintaining the sense of student community.

Resolution: We invite other like-minded Student / Young Christian groups.

Resolution: We offer an invitation to someone from Cambodia and offer to pay all costs.

Resolution: We offer an invitation to AP-SCM staff workers.

International / Interfaith Student Groups

Resolution: We leave inviting International / Interfaith Student Groups up to individual states and contacts.

The suggestion was raised that we ask Queensland to investigate the possibility of an interfaith discussion dialogue – after much discussion it was decided that asking Queensland to include interfaith dialogues at this stage was not appropriate. This topic could be saved for a future conference.

8.1.2 Fees for the National Conference

Resolution: We suggest to the organising committee a two tiered fee structure based on a Waged and Unwaged (Student) price

Resolution: That the Queensland organising committee working within the basic framework outlined below will balance the conference costs:

Unwaged (Students) \$150 we feel that students would be unwilling to pay any more than this however the less that needs to be charged the better.

Waged \$250 we would like to use some of this money as a buffer for travel subsidies next year.

Travel subsidies a travel subsidies will be available upon application to students from WA and TAS to the value of \$150 who do not have their travel costs covered by National to attend the GC.

This will be administered by the National Treasurer.

9 MOVEMENT BUILDING**9.1 QUESTIONS AND ISSUES FROM GENERAL DISCUSSION**

The following are main points / questions raised in a general discussion following the reports: what themes/ideas regarding movement building emerge from the reports and discussion?

- Focus on building community
- Join up/network with likeminded groups?
- Including denominational groups (eg, UCATSA branches) within the ASCM ?
- Make use of existing ecumenical groups?
- Importance of being ecumenical (and seeing to be)
- What is in a name? Does it matter what a branch is called?
- Who is ASCM – What is a branch
- Identify the best points / what are we about – when promoting ASCM
- Build on our strengths – not necessarily feel bound to uni based branch structures
- Stimulate the interest of members to build from the bottom up
- How do we measure success
- What connections can we make with the more conservative evangelical groups – how can we let their members know about SCM

9.2 WHAT CONSTITUTES A BRANCH

Discussion Proposal - A General Meeting of the ASCM may recognise as a Branch any group of people that has carried on for a period of at least six months, effective work in line with the nature and Aims of the ASCM, and which operates under a name that does not suggest affiliation with a particular denomination.

Benefits of being a branch:

- GC rep with voting rights
- Subsidies to conferences
- Area Council representation

Discussion Proposal –

Justin Whelan proposed that he formulates a discussion paper detailing the role of denominational groups and ASCM.

Resolution: Agreed as above.

9.3 NATIONAL COORDINATOR TRAVEL

Shawn Whelan proposed that he travels to Queensland to meet with the Conference Organising Committee to pass on the views of National ASCM and to meet with the students.

Resolution: Shawn will liaise with Ray B regarding a visit to Queensland.

9.4 STAFF NETWORKING

Resolution: That we encourage Ruth to network as she sees fit with other staff workers

9.5 ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY PROJECT

Highlighted the resources that the Uniting Church has developed

Shawn Whelan will talk to Bronwyn Hatwell about taking on the role of Environmental Project Officer and the coordination of Simple living guidelines for ASCM.

Resolution: Shawn will liaise with Bronwyn Hatwell regarding taking on the role of Environmental Project Officer.

9.6 NATIONAL MEDIA OFFICER

Discussion Paper “National Media Officer” by David Wolstencroft 24/1/03 (Appendix 9).

Resolution: That we establish a media project with a project officer. The project officer has no honorarium but material costs and expenses will be paid to keep in touch with branches. This is not an executive position. The project may include the production of printed material and resources. The national coordinator retains responsibility for public enquiries. The project will be reviewed in July. We would like to invite David Wolstencroft to fill this position.

9.7 ASCM RESPONDING TO CURRENT ISSUES (notes of an informal discussion held during the last session)

What is our response / responsibility as a Christian

9.7.1 West Papua

Get in touch with Australian West Papua Association in Melbourne or your Local Area.

Share Resources – Circulate information around SCM networks

9.7.2 War on Iraq

Petitions at O-week/O-day stalls

Link with networks of similar like-minded organisations

Interfaith dialogue

Participate in events, demonstrations etc. (co-operate with other groups)

Share Resources – Circulate information around SCM networks

9.7.3 Globalisation

Preparation of an Ethical Consumption booklet (to be overseen by Kate Watts)

Preparation of a special issues section of our website to facilitate the shearing of resources.

9.8 ASCM'S RELATIONSHIP WITH LOCAL CHURCHES AND FRIENDS (notes of an informal discussion held during the last session)

9.8.1 Large network of Friends

Not sure how to bridge, reach out to this network and involve them

9.8.2 History of Friction

Feelings that Friends are interfering and controlling

9.8.3 Is there a difference in missions between the Church and SCM

SCM is essentially about addressing students spiritual needs.

The mission of the church and of SCM in the world?

9.8.4 Is there a risk

In reaching out to / inviting church group to become more involved in SCM?

What can we offer the groups to make it worth while for them to be involved?

9.8.5 Advantages

Church facilities (i.e. meeting place) can be used by SCM to make an attractive place for others (outsiders) to come.

Does not necessarily involve that church's congregation

The Church doesn't exist for itself but to serve

9.8.6 Funding

How do we afford support workers?

Can we, do we reach out to the local churches

Churches don't understand or appreciate differences with youth of today

Need education to make this a plausible option

10 WSCF

A detailed report titled *ASCM WSCT Liaison Officer Report, submitted to ASCM Exec meeting held on Jan 25th to 27th 2003 in Canberra* was received from Sophia Wooldridge (WSCF Liaison officer for ASCM (Appendix 6)).

10.1 REARRANGING 2003 PROGRAM SCHEDULE

It was felt that it is not a good idea to combine the SELF program and the RCM Meeting.

The recommendation from ASCM maybe that we can live with either option one or two depending on the feeling of other SCMs on the basis that it is only for this meeting not changing the constitution. However Australia is not in favour of option three.

Resolution: ASCM is happy to support either option 1 or 2 but not 3.

Direction – Shawn to follow up and write letter (Appendix 10):

10.2 WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

Shawn highlighted the availability of the liturgy for World Day of Prayer. Rachael will upload it to the web site for general access.

10.3 WSCF FUNDRAISING ASSISTANCE

Resolution: We endorse Georgia Yam's nomination to the position of WSCF Fundraiser. We encourage Georgia to explore sources of funding outside of our normal "Friends" networks. We will direct the \$1001, donated in 2002 by Friends for "WSCF" to the WSCF-AP.

10.4 SCMP INTERN

10.4.1 General Feelings

There is support for the idea/notion and essence of the project, however there were numerous concerns raised regarding the application of the project.

There appears to be a general feeling that we are not ready to receive an intern yet. Several people have concerns with the idea of someone coming to just be part of the ASCM community rather than there being clear vision /proposal/project regarding what the Intern would do.

10.4.2 Concerns to be addressed in any proposal

- How can we help the intern to cope with inevitable culture shock/ dislocations/ homesickness/ general demoralisation?
- How do we deal with our own culture shock?
- Who will direct their work and how?
- Logistics- housing, office space
- Visas (advice from Steph Tashkoff, UCA)

- Accurate (realistic) budget
- Financial control/accounting/supervision
- Job description/project goals
- Orientation for intern and Australians getting ready
- Travel to other states
- Dates July to July (Start with the conference and finish with the conference)

Resolution: That Melbourne puts up a proposal for the visiting intern to be presented to the Exec by the 20th February 2003 for discussion by teleconference.

Resolution: That the exec meets by phone conference on Tuesday the 25th February 2003 8:00pm Eastern Summer Time.

11 CONSTITUTION

A draft new constitution for ASCM based on the “Model Rules” and explanatory notes was distributed (via email) by Shawn Whelan prior to the meeting.

Resolution: To continue discussion on the constitution Shawn will circulate discussion questions on the policy email list, one issue at a time, for general discussion.

12 MEN’S AND WOMEN’S OFFICERS

12.1 DISCUSSION PAPERS

A discussion paper on the Men’s Officer Position prepared by Matt Bell was presented (Appendix 11).

A discussion paper on the Women’s Officer Position prepared by Sophia Wooldridge was presented (Appendix 12).

12.1.1 Small Groups Discussion Questions

1. Do we have Men’s and Women’s officers in the Constitution as exec & GC members?
 - Yes
 - No
 - Unspecified project officer spots.
2. If yes does the men’s officer vote?
 - Yes
 - No
 - Yes if the women are at least 50% of the exec.
3. What if anything do we do to fill these positions?
 - If no or if not filled
 - What do we do with the Sexual Abuse policy’s references to these positions?
 - What do we do to keep the issues alive and discussed at branch level?

12.1.2 Ways of thinking about the issues

1. Distinguish gender project officers from harassment officers
2. Distinguish positions from issues
3. Distinguish project officer role from an Exec/GC member position
4. Distinguish men's and women's officer from general 50% membership of Exec rule
5. Distinguish the monitoring of gender impact on process from participation generally

12.1.3 Discussion Proposals

1. Keep the Men's and Women's officers in the constitution. Don't kill ourselves trying to fill them. Leave SH policy as it is. Both are full voting members.
2. Men's and women's project officers – encourage gender issues explored at branch. (Staff worker/students do this if projects not filled). Not in constitution or exec. Each Exec/GC appoint monitor of group process. Sexual harassment officers must be appointed.
3. Revise SH policy to include other harassments and use a mediator (Constitution 5.8)

12.1.4 Critical Factors identified by one or more members of Exec

- Gender stuff needs to happen
- Minimise cost
- Critical question is not whether to have the projects, but whether the officers should be on exec.
- Separate at the SH approach from issues about men's and women's officers
- Need to articulate more clearly the reasons why they should be at exec.
- Importance of connecting education about women's issues with decision making.
- Importance of monitoring meeting process.
- Importance of balance representation on exec.

Resolution: We ask Peter Bailey to initiate a discussion paper detailing potential changes to and inclusions in the Sexual Harassment Policy to be released by the 30th of April 2003 for circulation and discussed at the GC in July 2003.

Resolution: That Justin Whelan moderates a discussion about the men's and women's officer issues, with a view to bringing proposals to July GC 2003 that take into account the range of views being expressed within the movement.

13 FINANCE**13.1 STAFF WORKER TRAVEL POLICY**

Resolution: If an AC wishes to send a staff worker to the GC and/or conference or Exec meeting, then once a year if a request is made than travel can be split 50% with national based

on the existing travel policy. Above and beyond this staff workers are welcome to attend any national event however the cost will not be borne by national.

(Appendix 13 details the updated travel policy)

Resolution: That we move a vote of thanks to all our staff workers past and present in recognition of all their gifts and commitment. – resolved with acclamation.

13.2 NATIONAL AND LOCAL APPEALS

Area councils if they wish can raise money for their own purposes through local appeals. The ASCM Exec wishes to encourage Area Councils to run their appeals in February / March – definitely the first half of the year. Subsequently the National appeal is to run in September. It is thought that local appeals will not include donating to WSCF etc.

Discussion Point – There is a feeling from ACT friends that they don't want two appeals.

Discussion Proposal – That perhaps there is a combined appeal.

Practical Question – How could we combine local and national information.

Discussion Solution – Perhaps each appeal could have a note highlighting the fact that there maybe a local appeal and vice verse.

Resolution: That there will be two appeals each year a local appeal as early as possible in the beginning of the year and a national appeal in the second half of the year (as detailed / decided at the July GC 2002). Each appeal will have a note detailing what this appeal is for and highlighting the fact that a second appeal will follow or has been.

13.3 AUDITOR

Resolution: That we endorse the actions of our Directors in appointing a new auditor.

13.4 BUDGET 2002-2003

A request was raised that the treasurer follows up the issues of public liability insurance.

Resolution: That we accept the budget as outlined in Appendix 14.

14 VOTE OF THANKS

Resolution: That a vote of thanks be moved to Roger for all his work on the ACT Area Council and for his work organising our billets.

Resolution: That a vote of thanks be moved to ACT Area Council for their work towards hosting our meeting and providing lunch and dinner.

Resolution: That a vote of thanks be moved to ACT Branch for their work in hosting our meeting.

Resolution: That a vote of thanks be moved to Shawn Whalen for his work in organising and chairing this executive meeting.

APPENDIX

1. ACT Branch Report
2. Queensland Branch Report
3. Victoria Branch Report
4. Western Australia Branch Report
5. Jubilee Grapevine Report
6. WSCF Report
7. Treasurer Report
8. Proposed Program For 2003 ASCM National Conference
9. Discussion Paper National Media Officer
10. Shawn's Letter RE: Rearranging 2003 program schedule
11. Discussion Paper On Men's Officer Position
12. Discussion Paper On Women's Officer Position
13. ASCM Updated Travel Policy
14. ASCM Budget 2002-2003