



Association of Laser Users

Minutes of the 21st Annual General Meeting

Central Laser Facility Visitor Centre, Rutherford Appleton Laboratory, Oxfordshire

22 April 2015, 14:30

Present

President and Chair: Neil Main, Micrometric
Vice President: Ric Allott, STFC Rutherford Appleton Laboratory
Executive Secretary: Mike Green, Pro Laser
Others: Mike Barrett, Pro Laser; Nick Hay, Powerlase Photonics; Janet Hull, InnoLas (UK); Tony Jones, Tec Systems; Louise Jones, KTN; Gerry Jones, TRUMPF; Lin Li, University of Manchester; Dave MacLellan, Anode Marketing; Stuart McCulloch, SPI Lasers UK; Adrian Norton, thinklaser; Catherine Rose, Pro Laser (Minute Secretary).

Opening remarks

The Chair welcomed members to the AGM.

Apologies received

Apologies had been received from Peter Baker, Laser Institute of America; Neil, Ball, Directed Light Inc; Mark Barry, Prima Power Laserdyne; John Bishop; Jonathan Blackburn, TWI; John Cocker, Laser Trader; Duncan Cooper, Acal BFi UK; Louise Geekie, Croft Additive Manufacturing; Clive Grafton-Reed, Rolls-Royce; Duncan Hand, Heriot-Watt University; Roger Hardacre, Advanced Laser Technology; Roy Harris, Coherent (UK); Mohan Jassi, Carlton Laser Services; Tim Millard, ES Technology; Gay Penfold, Birmingham City University; Walter Perrie, Lairdsie Laser Engineering Centre; Martin Sharp, Liverpool John Moores University; Stan Wilford, IPG Photonics; Stewart Williams, Cranfield University.

Approval of the minutes of the last AGM

The minutes of 20th AGM (10.04.14, NEC, Solihull) were approved (proposed: Dave MacLellan; seconded: Ric Allott).

Matters arising from the minutes

There were no actions arising from the minutes.

Presentation of the Annual Report

The President reviewed the activities of the last year, distributed in advance of the AGM [1].

Adoption of the Annual Report

The members present unanimously approved the annual report.

Presentation of accounts for 2013/14

The Executive Secretary reviewed the FY 13/14 accounts, the abbreviated accounts and a short report having been circulated with the calling notice [2]. The Secretarial Contract allowed only £65k to be taken in FY 13/14. Over the year, thanks especially to Liz Guntert's tenacity, most of the long overdue debts have been paid, making way for a clear hand over to the new Executive Secretary, with accumulated reserves of £15.7k.

Adoption of Accounts

The members present unanimously approved the accounts (proposed: Lin Li; seconded: Mike Barrett).

Election of Directors and Officers of the Standing Committee

There having been no additional names put forward for any of the officer positions, the following were duly endorsed: Ric Allott (President), Lin Li (Vice President) and Dave MacLellan (Executive Secretary).

The new officers introduced themselves, outlining their vision for the development of AILU. A common theme was the development of end-user engagement. Mike Green was heartily thanked for his 20 years of dedicated service to AILU as Executive Secretary, with all best wishes given for the future. Neil Main was thanked for his considerable input and support of AILU during his two-year Presidency, and Ric Allott, Lin Li and Dave MacLellan were warmly welcomed in their new roles.

Election of the Ordinary Members of the Standing Committee

Three AILU members had put themselves forward as Ordinary Members ahead of the meeting: Paul Goodwin (Laser Cladding Technology); Tony Jones (Tec Systems); and Roger Hardacre (Advanced Laser Technology). In addition, Adrian Norton (thinklaser) put himself forward at the meeting. These four were elected en bloc as Ordinary Members.

AOB

Lin Li had two items to raise:

1. Lin wished to stand down as Chairman of the Product and Process Innovation Special Interest Group in view of being elected as AILU Vice President. The replacement he had in mind (named but not recorded here) had not yet been approached and Lin asked for approval to pursue this. No objections were raised.
2. Lin is President Elect of the Laser Institute of America (LIA) and has recognised that there is no Job Shop group in the US (although AILU's Job Shop Committee is very popular here). Lin raised the possibility of AILU helping the US laser community to establish Job Shop meetings (and had already received a time commitment from John Powell of Laser Expertise to assist in this endeavour). Several advantages to AILU were outlined, including the possibility of increased membership. Lin sought approval to pursue this, which was given.

Mike Green took the opportunity to say a few words as outgoing Executive Secretary. He will be supporting Dave MacLellan in his new role until the end of October to ensure a smooth transition period. Mike described his 20 years with AILU as 'a great experience' and recognised the opportunities that change will bring the Association. Dave then spoke about his vision for AILU outlined in a 5-point plan, including a growth in membership in all business/research areas, but particularly focusing on recruitment of end-users to attend events and become Corporate Members. The first steps would involve listening to existing members via discussions and a survey, promoting AILU more widely through social media and enhancing the content and style of publications and websites to deliver attractive content. This would facilitate more networking between members from all categories and enhance the membership value for all.

Concluding remarks

The Chair thanked the Committee for their hard work, thanked Ric for his support as Vice President and wished the best of luck to Ric, Lin and Dave as they take up their new roles.

There being no further official members' business, the AGM was closed at 15:30.

C L Rose, Minute Secretary
29 April 2015

[1] AILU Annual Report 2013-14

[2] Presentation of the AILU accounts FY13-14