

ASSA AGM 2022 MINUTES

DATE	22 Aug 2022	TIME	16:00 to 17:25	VENUE	Virtual via Jitsi
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Present

ASSA Council

Bosman Olivier	Pretoria Centre Chair (AGM Host)
Chris Stewart	President
Case Rijdsijk	Vice President (Outgoing)
Dr Daniel Cunnama	Vice President (Incoming)
Dr Pierre de Villiers	Council Member
Adv AJ Nel	Treasurer
Lerika Cross	Secretary
Eddy Nijeboer	Membership Secretary
Amith Rajpal	Durban Centre Chair
Derek Duckitt	Hermanus Centre Chair
Johan Smit	Pretoria Centre Chair (Incoming)
Dr Christian Hettlage	Cape Centre, Acting Chair, SAAO Website Liaison

ASSA Appointees

Angus Burns	Observing Director
Auke Slotegraaf	SGAS Editor
Dave Blane	Double and Variable Stars Section Director
Dr Sally MacFarlane	Communications Coordinator
John Gill	Web Manager

ASSA Centre, Country, and Honorary Members

Andre van Staden	Country Member
Edward Foster	Country Member
Magda Streicher	Honorary Member
Paul Ludick	Country Member

Apologies

Dr Ian Glass	Council Member
Carmel Yves	Johannesburg Centre Chair
Tim Cooper	Honorary Member, Comet, Asteroid, Meteor Section Director
Bruce Dickson	Cosmology and Astrophysics Director
Dr Claire Flanagan	Convenor of Scholarships
Chris de Coning	Archivist, ASSA History Director
Martin Heigan	Astrophotography Section Director

Distribution:

The minutes and supporting documentation (underlined in the minutes) are placed on the ASSA website page <https://assa.sao.ac.za/about/council-and-officers/agm-reports/>

Recording of the meeting:

https://www.dropbox.com/s/qha55c6wj88aoyj/assa_agm%20on%202022-08-22%2014-54.mp4?dl=0
https://www.dropbox.com/s/2mbz01cb2tbadi6/assa_agm%20on%202022-08-22%2015-12.mp4?dl=0

	Agenda Points	Discussions / Decisions / Actions
1	Welcome	Bosman Olivier, outgoing Pretoria Centre Chair, fulfilled the role of host and Chair for the AGM and welcomed everyone in attendance and opened the virtual AGM. Apologies received are recorded under attendance in these minutes.

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	Agenda Points	Discussions / Decisions / Actions
		Items 4 & 5 were taken first to accommodate the Treasurer's work commitments.
2	Minutes	The <u>minutes of the previous AGM meeting</u> held on 4 August 2021 were accepted (Proposed by Chris Stewart, Seconded by Case Rijdsdijk)
3	Report on Council	<p>3. President's Report on Council The ASSA President, Chris Stewart, presented his Report on Council. His report looked back on the year, highlighted activities by the various Sections within the ASSA and noted his appreciation to all contributors.</p> <p>The full transcript of the <u>President's Report on Council</u> is attached to these minutes as are the report on <u>Scholarships, Director Reports, Membership Secretary's Report</u>.</p>
4	Changes to Constitution	<p>4. Changes to Constitution Chris Stewart explained the purpose of the changes is to enable ASSA to potentially register as a Public Benefit Organisation thus enabling ASSA to accept income from diverse sources to run projects in line with ASSA goals. He added that the changes have been accepted by Council and are now put to general membership as a formality.</p> <p>The new / adjusted clauses are to ensure fiducial responsibility that funds and assets will be appropriately deployed and explicitly require people dealing with them do so ethically and responsibly. The <u>marked up Constitution</u> is attached on these minutes, refer to clauses 1.40, 1.41, 1.42, 1.70, 1.101, 1.107, 1.106 <i>supra</i>.*</p> <p>No questions or objections were noted and the meeting formally accepted the changes.</p> <p>(Proposed to accept: AJ Nel, Seconded: Case Rijdsdijk).</p>
5	Financials	<p>5. Financials 5.1 Financial Report 2020 21 The <u>Treasurer's report</u> for 2021 22 is attached to these minutes and was presented by AJ Nel. The report includes comparison of items over the past 4 years. Highlights noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reduction in income mainly from Sky Guide sales royalty and advertising. - Scholarships were not paid in 2021 but restarted in 2022. - Accounting costs for 2022 included 2 years' annual financials. - Capitalisation of investment growth going forward should secure future payments. <p>He noted that bar funds already allocated for the Symposium in October and the bursary payments, no substantial expenses are foreseen for the next year.</p> <p>(Proposed to accept: Chris Stewart, Seconded: Case Rijdsdijk).</p> <p>5.2 For information: items approved by Council before the AGM</p> <p>1) Country Membership fees Country membership renewal fee cost approved by council for the 2022/23 year will remain at R100 as does entry fee at R50. Due to non-delivery complaints received the Sky Guide delivery option preferred by the Membership Secretary is via PAXI which will be for member cost.</p> <p>2) Independent Compiler: Peter Carlisle of CTFS remain Independent Compiler for ASSA. His Auditing business is independent of the normal bookkeeping and tax</p>

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	Agenda Points	Discussions / Decisions / Actions
		work done by CTF services for the ASSA.
6	ASSET	<p>6. ASSA Endowment Trust The <u>ASSET Trustees' report</u> is available on the website. None of the Trustees were able to attend the AGM</p> <p>Chris Stewart informed the endowment trust was established many decades ago with the intention to support the Society should it run into financial strictures some “rainy day”. He noted that he is confident that the Trust is in good hands and expressed Council’s appreciation to the Trustees for their dedication in this noble cause.</p>
7	Awards	<p>7. ASSA Awards Chris Stewart announced the annual awards agreed by the ASSA Awards Committee, comprising the ASSA President and Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary. The <u>full transcript of the awards</u> is attached to these minutes. In summary, the awards and recipients:</p> <p>Overbeek Medal Awarded to David L Blane “For 50 years of contributions to science through astrometry and photometry of double and variable stars”</p> <p>President’s Award Awarded to Chris de Coning “For many years of locating, collating and preserving items of historical interest for the benefit of future generations”</p> <p>Instrumentation Director's Award Awarded to Willie Koorts “For decades of contribution to and support of Amateur Telescope Making, including innovative advancements to the art”</p>
8	Office Bearers 2022/23	<p>8. ASSA Office Bearers 2022/ 23 Chris Stewart presented the new office bearers for the coming year and extended a warm welcome to the new incumbents and thanked them for their willingness to support the ASSA.</p> <p>The <u>list of Council Members and Appointees</u> is attached to these minutes.</p> <p>Chris Stewart, who will now fullfill the role of outgoing Vice-President, then proceeded with “passing of the baton” by introducing Dr Daniel Cunnama, the new ASSA President, wishing him success and the support of everyone. Dr Cunnama in turn thanked Chris Stewart for his tireless work during his term as President; the meeting agreed and give Chris a big round of applause.</p> <p>Bosman Olivier announced a 5 minute break before Dr Cunnama proceeded with his incoming address.</p>
9	Presentation	<p>9. Incoming President Presentation Dr Cunnama introduced himself to the meeting and shared his background with the meeting. The <u>full transcript of Dr Cunnama’s welcoming address</u> is attached to these meeting.</p>

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	Agenda Points	Discussions / Decisions / Actions
10	Closure	In closure of the AGM, Bosman Olivier, thanked all attendees and closed the meeting closed at 15:25
11	Next Council meeting	The Council meetings for the year will be confirmed in due course.

Minutes Approved: _____ Date: _____

Attachments to the minutes:

Refer item 2:

- ASSA AGM Minutes 210804 final

Refer item 3:

- ASSA AGM 2022 Presidential Report on Council
- ASSA Scholarships Membership and Director Reports

Refer Item 4:

- 2020-09-21 ASSA Constitution SARS Amendments (Draft 1)

Refer Item 5:

- Treasurer Report
- Financials 2020 ASSA signed
- Financials 2021 ASSA signed
- Financials 2022 - ASSA Signed

Refer Item 6:

- Report of ASSET to the 2022 AGM

Refer Item 7:

- ASSA Awards transcript

Refer Item 8:

- ASSA Council and Appointees 2022 23 final

Refer Item 9:

- ASSA AGM Presidents Welcoming Address