



## Norwegian Scientific Academy for Polar Research Minutes from the Annual Meeting

Longyearbyen June 4<sup>th</sup> 2010

Members present: Ola M. Johannessen (president), Gunnar Sand (general secretary), Bo Andersen, Anton Kjelaas, Kit Kovacs, Aleksey Marchenko and Ivar Ramberg.

The meeting was chaired by the president, Ola M. Johannessen.

The minutes were written by the general secretary, Gunnar Sand.

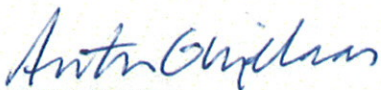
	<b>Issues</b>
1.	<p><b>Acceptance of call for meeting</b></p> <p><i>Decision: The Call for the general assembly June 4<sup>th</sup> 2010 is accepted.</i></p> <p><i>Anton Kjelaas and Aleksey Marchenko are chosen to sign the protocol.</i></p>
2.	<p><b>General secretary's information about activities and finances in 2009.</b></p> <p>The academy organized two scientific seminars in 2009: "Geopolitics in the High Arctic" in Longyearbyen June 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> and "Marin Monitoring using Satellite Information" in Bergen September 29<sup>th</sup>. The Bergen seminar was organized in cooperation with the Norwegian Academy of Technological Sciences (NTVA) and the Nansen Environmental and Remote Sensing Center (NERSC). Approx. 20 members and guests attended the Longyearbyen seminar while approx. 40 attended the Bergen seminar.</p> <p>16 new members were elected into the academy in 2009. The total number is now 71.</p> <p>Donations of NOK 100.000 each from the Nansen institute and the University of Bergen enabled the academy to have a surplus of NOK 61.691 in 2009. The academy has a debt, however, of NOK 1 mill. to the Nansen centre.</p> <p>The board met twice in 2009 and dealt with 26 issues.</p> <p>The academy secretariat is led by the general secretary Gunnar Sand and the academy's secretary Gerd Lønne. Sand receives no pay while Lønne's position is paid 20 % by the academy. The University Centre in Svalbard provides office, accounting and materials.</p> <p>The 2009 board consisted of Ola M. Johannessen (president), Willy Østreng (vice president), Gudmund Hernes, Rolf Langvatn and Gunnar Sand (general secretary). No board members are compensated for their contribution to the academy.</p> <p><i>Decision: The general assembly accepts the orientation by the general secretary.</i></p>

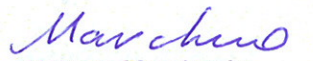
3.	<p><b>2009 Annual Report.</b></p> <p><i>Decision: The general assembly approves the 2009 annual report.</i></p>
4.	<p><b>General secretary's orientation about the economic state of the academy.</b></p> <p>The academy does not have a sufficient capital base for the board to carry out its duties. Fund raising must therefore have a high priority in 2010. The academy is in need of both a steady income to run the organization and donations for down payments of debts. Institutional memberships are a way of getting financial support that the board will pursue. Institutional members could come from any country that has members in the academy.</p> <p><i>Decision: The general assembly accepts the orientation about the economic state of the academy by the general secretary. The board is urged to strengthen its efforts to obtain funding from government, institutions and private companies. A list of candidates has been set up and the board will contact these institutions. All members who have good relations to potential funding institutions in any country are urged to contact the board.</i></p>
5.	<p><b>President's orientation about future plans and ambitions.</b></p> <p>The academy plans to organize yearly seminars in Oslo, Bergen, Trondheim and Tromsø in addition to Longyearbyen through cooperating with scientific academies seated there. The Nansen Scientific Society plans to organize an international summer school for PhD level students in Longyearbyen in 2011 in cooperation with NVP and UNIS. UNIS is discussing a conference in Longyearbyen on geopolitics and invites NVP as a partner.</p> <p><i>Decision: The general assembly accepts the orientation about future plans and ambitions by the president. Program committees need to be organized in Norwegian cities for the yearly seminars. Other initiatives by academy members are appreciated.</i></p>
6.	<p><b>Discussion about the role of the academy in society.</b></p> <p>The academy needs to increase its public profile as an independent scientific academy which is not steered by political or ideological interests. This can be done through seminars but also through presentations, publications and newspaper articles. The recent discussions about climate change issues prove the need for independent institutions.</p> <p><i>Decision: The general assembly urges all members to include their association with the polar academy in presentations and articles whenever suited.</i></p>
7.	<p><b>Presentation of new academy members by the head of the new members committee.</b></p> <p>The head of the new members committee Ivar Ramberg announced that the following members have been put forward by the committee as new members of the academy and have been accepted by the board: Prof. Artur N. Chilingarov, prof. Ivan Y. Frolov, prof. Bjørn Munro Jensen, prof. Aleksey Marchenko and prof. Snorre Olaussen.</p> <p><i>Decision: The general assembly welcomes the new members into the academy.</i></p>
8.	<p><b>Criteria for institutional memberships.</b></p> <p>The new members committee has suggested criteria for institutional memberships of the academy. These are institutions that have activities and/or interests in the development and understanding of the polar regions and who supports the academy financially. The</p>



	<p>criteria will be approved by the academy board. At present they are in Norwegian only.</p> <p><i>Decision: The general assembly approves of establishing institutional memberships.</i></p>
9.	<p><b>Election of new board.</b></p> <p>The new members committee which also functions as the election committee, advises the reelection of the present board to allow for continuity in this phase of establishing and developing the academy. One board member, Rolf Langvatn, has asked to step down. The committee suggests Kit Kovacs as his replacement.</p> <p><i>Decision: The general assembly follows the advice of the election committee and elects the following members as members of the academy board for the period 2010-2012: Ola M. Johannessen (president), Willy Østreng (vice president), Gudmund Hernes, Kit Kovacs and Gunnar Sand (general secretary).</i></p>
10	<p><b>Election of election committee and new members committee.</b></p> <p>The new members committee volunteers to continue for two more years. An independent election committee should be established and the following members were suggested: Bo Anderson, Anton Kjelaas and Hanne H. Christiansen.</p> <p><i>Decision: The general assembly follows the advice of the new members committee and reelects the following as members of the new members committee for the period 2010-2013: Ivar Ramberg (leader), Harald Loeng, Fred Sigernes and Willy Østreng.</i></p> <p><i>Decision: The general assembly elects the following as members of the election committee for the period 2010-2013: Bo Andersen (leader), Hanne H. Christiansen and Anton Kjelaas.</i></p>
11	<p><b>Any other business</b></p> <p>The academy property Isdammen 1 is available to all members who need a place for seminars, meetings or a quiet place to work. Please contact the general secretary.</p>

Longyearbyen 04.06.2010

  
Anton Kjelaas

  
Aleksey Marchenko