

Minutes from the Annual Meeting for the Norwegian Scientific Academy for Polar Research (NVP), 2013.

Location: Isdammen 1, Longyearbyen, Svalbard, Norway
 Time: 29th of August 2013, 10:00 – 13:00

Participants: Willy Østreng, President,
 Ole Arve Misund, Vice President,
 Gunnar Sand, styremedlem
 Anton Kjelaas
 Paal Brekke

Secretariat: Thor S. Larsen, Secretary General (referee) and Kine Stiberg, Office Manager

1.	<p>Opening of the annual meeting. The Annual Meeting was opened and chaired by NVP's President, Willy Østreng. The participants presented themselves with a short briefing about their expertise, backgrounds and positions.</p>
2.	<p>Approval of the call and election of members to sign the protocol. The agenda, which had been sent with other documents to the members with an e-mail from the Secretariat 23 August 2012, was approved. Anton Kjelaas and Paal Brekke were elected to sign the protocol.</p>
3.	<p>Financial Statements and the Board's report 2012. The financial statements and the Board's report for 2012 were in attachment 1 to the call of 23 August. The reports were approved.</p>
4.	<p>Information about the Academy's financial situation. Kine Stiberg referred to the financial statement up to the annual meeting. NVP's economy is sound, but an improved income, e.g. by more institutional members who pay an annual fee, will allow for more flexibility for NVP's many activities, Willy Østreng reported about his contacts with the University of Nordland and the Norwegian Shipowners' Association. The financial statement was approved.</p>



<p>5.</p>	<p>Information about activities in 2012.</p> <p>Information about activities (in Norwegian only) was part of the Board's report in attachment 1 to the call of 23 August. Willy Østreng reported about NVP's application to the Arctic Council for NVP to become an observer, which is pending. He also reported about the ongoing efforts to establish a price for dedicated and promising young polar scientists (the Mohn price.) NVP is now member of the University of the Arctic, which allows for cooperation with many new partners. NVP explores the establishment of an internal web-based internal discussion platform for the members. We are also exploring opportunities for streaming of meetings and conferences over internet so that such events can be made available to members and others. The Secretariat is considering different options, which will be discussed with the Board.</p> <p>The report was approved. The Annual Meeting thanked NVP's Office Manager for her dedication and hard work for NVP.</p>
<p>6.</p>	<p>Presentation of new members.</p> <p>NVP's nomination committee had proposed 20 new members as of attachment 3 to the call of 23 August. They were presented by Anton Kjelaas:</p> <p>Tor Bjørn Arlov Tore Aunaas Pål Brekke Lawson Brigham Salve Dahle Julian Dowdeswell Ove Tobias Gudmestad Jon Ove Hagen Lassi Kalevi Heininen Sven Holtmark Grete Hovelsrud Jørn Hurum Ingibjörg Svala Jónsdóttir Maarten Loonen Jürgen Mienert Arild Moe Hans Arne Nakrem Jens Petter Nielsen Eigil Reimers Olav Schram Stokke</p> <p>The memberships had been approved by the Board according to the statutes' item 6.3 and provided the Annual Meeting 2013 also approves the proposed amendment of the Bylaws para 5.5. See item 7 below. The Annual Meeting recommended that future nominations prioritise women, social sciences and candidates with Antarctic expertise. The Secretariat was requested to write the new members and to welcome them to NVP. The Secretariat will also prepare diplomas for the new members.</p>



7.	<p>Proposed amendments of the Bylaws. Thor S. Larsen presented proposed amendments of the bylaws, which were attached to the call of 28 August (Attachment 4, in Norwegian and English.) NVP's ambitions include "... a bipolar focus (Arctic and Antarctic), is multi- and interdisciplinary in approach, utility and user friendly in orientation, independent in work, international in effort, collaborative in solution and knowledge based in contribution..." (NVP's strategy 2012 – 2014.) In order to achieve this, there should not be a limit to the number of members under the age of 70, which today is set at 100. The proposed amendments to the statutes para 5.5. were approved.</p>
8.	<p>Presentation and discussion about Academy's general activities in 2012 - 2013. In addition to what is presented in the Board's report and under item 5 above, Willy Østreng gave a brief presentation of some key issues, e.g:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Efforts to strengthen Norwegian/ Russian cooperation on interdisciplinarity in research and education. • Academic seminars on mainland Norway under the auspices of NVP's committees in Longyearbyen, Tromsø, Trondheim, Bergen and Oslo. • Ongoing efforts to strengthen the institutional membership base. • Cooperation between NVP, the Norwegian Research Council, IASC and other relevant institutions. • Cooperation with other Norwegian scientific academies. • Expand NVP's cooperation with like minded institutions, e.g. with the University of the Arctic's members and networks. • NVP's summer school for 2013 "Shipping in Arctic Waters" will become a regular course at UNIS. NVP will explore other topics for future semi-annual summer schools. • Develop a media strategy for NVP. • Continuation with seminars, workshops, excursions etc over 2-3 days back-to-back with NVP's Annual Meetings.
9.	<p>Any other business. No items were raised.</p>

Place and date

Norødden 8/11/13

Anton Kjelaas

Place and date

OSLO 17/11/13

Paal Brekke