

## **Radical Statistics Group Annual General Meeting Minutes**

26 February 2005

Central Methodist Hall, Manchester

Chair: Alison Macfarlane      Minutes: Kath Moser

1. Apologies from Ivan Rappaport. KM volunteered to take minutes.
2. 2004 minutes accepted as correct account of last years AGM.
3. No matters arising not otherwise covered in the agenda.
4. David Symes gave his report as Membership Secretary Feb 2004. He has tidied up the membership database removing duplicate records etc. 1100 ever-members; 312 existing members; 22 new members in 2004. He would like email addresses for as many members as possible, especially those not paying by standing order. Would be useful to have up-to-date recruitment leaflets printed. Troika to investigate redesigning leaflets. Troika also to explore ways of increasing membership especially possibly doing reciprocal mailings with sister organisations such as Health Matters, Politics of Health Group.  
DS was thanked for the work he has done.
5. Janet Shapiro gave her report as Treasurer. David Byrne has now audited the accounts. He noted that the net worth of RS was now 75% of that in 2000 since when it has been making a net loss. The treasurer reported that money has been put into scanning back issues onto the Radical Statistics web site and RS covers, both of which have been very worthwhile. 2004 conference covered its costs despite being held in an expensive location. Doubling of newsletter costs between 2002 and 2004 was queried. The reasons for this are the increased cost of covers, no longer able to use UCL postage or Printing Centre cheap rates. Current costs are now the true costs. The discrepancy between bank balance at the end of 2002 and start of 2003 needs checking. It was decided to try and get new recruits rather than increasing subscription levels. In order for subscriptions to cover newsletter and administration a target needs to be set of 150 new members needs setting. JS and John Bibby to look into credit card payments for international subscribers.  
JS was thanked for her work.
6. RS Editors report was given by Lee Williamson. Lee and Ivan Rappaport are happy to continue as editors. Next issues are a special issue on labour market statistics with Mike Quiggin as guest editor; and the conference issue. Volunteers are needed to peer-review papers

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(Jane Galbraith volunteered), and as editors or guest editors. Submissions are also required.

7. Email report given by Alison Macfarlane. Humphrey Southall reported there is now a second RS JISCmail which is limited to RS members, and will only contain Troika-approved messages. Need all RS members email addresses in order to set this up. Will put something in the Newsletter about it including a request for email addresses. A volunteer is sought to regularly summarise list discussion in a column in the newsletter.

8. Web-site report given by Robin Rice. Volunteers to help with the website are always welcome. Now that the 30 years of back issues are available online, she would like help from a volunteer to do a summary of Radstats activities over the years for the newsletter.

9. Troika elections. Robin Rice is standing down but will remain as web editor. Humphrey Southall is standing down but will be involved in organising 2006 conference. Mike Quiggin and Janet Shapiro will continue on Troika. Geoffrey Rendle and Shailen Nandy volunteered for Troika. Outgoing members were thanked for their work, and the new members were also thanked.

10. Janet Shapiro reported on the Essay Competition. Next one is due in May 2006 and the possibility of including school children is being considered. Russell Ecob was thanked for his work, and JS for taking it over.

11. Publicity database. The new Troika is to take forward exploring this and how it could be used for the Essay Competition.

12. RS members interests. This item was held over to be discussed another time.

13. Red Pepper approached RS as they are interested in including an occasional RS article. It was decided to send them review copies of the newsletter, and explore possibilities of them including RS recruitment leaflets in their mailouts, or an advert. Roy Carr-Hill to take this forward.

14. 2006 AGM. Humphrey Southall to investigate hiring Hathersage youth hostel for a weekend next March. Alternative is Crowden Y.H. for last weekend in February. Troika to arrange strong programme very soon, so it can be widely advertised early. Possible topics for Troika to consider include gender; middle East; using statistics in political campaigns; Roy Hattersley.

Thanks to Alison for chairing, Kath for taking minutes, Robin and Humphrey for their work on the Troika, and all organisers of the 2005 conference in particular Lee Williamson.

# **FINANCIAL REPORT**

## **RADICAL STATISTICS GROUP**

### **INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT**

for the year ending 31 December 2004

	2004	2003	2002	2001
	£	£	£	£
<b>GENERAL INCOME</b>				
subscriptions	£2,659.00	£2,916.00	£2,925.00	£3,940.00
Conference Fees	£1,125.00	£601.50	£341.00	£1,312.00
Publications			£16.00	£312.00
Other	£302.00	£212.00	£46.00	£165.00
subtotal	£4,086.00	£3,729.50	£3,328.00	£5,729.00
<b>INTEREST RECEIVED</b>	£173.45	£203.73	£276.00	£439.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	£4,259.45	£3,933.23	£3,604.00	£6,168.00
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>				
Conference costs	£839.79	£708.91	£433.00	£818.00
Radstats Newsletter	£3,104.76	£1,815.30	£1,605.00	£2,847.00
Administrative costs	£1,547.44	£534.36	£526.00	£1,367.00
Central publications			£0.00	£180.00
Bank charges	£33.62	£104.80	£24.00	£29.00
Other	£400.00	£3,490.75	£874.00	
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	£5,925.61	£6,654.12	£3,462.00	£5,241.00
<b>NET INCOME</b>	£1,666.16	£2,720.89	£142.00	£927.00

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### **RADICAL STATISTICS GROUP**

#### NET WORTH

As at 31st December 2004

	2004	2003	2002	2001
<b>BANK BALANCES</b>				
Current Account	£506.27	£345.88	£1,021.00	£1,154.00
14 Day Deposit	£9,569.07	£11,395.62	£13,334.00	£10,714.00
Instant Deposit			£0.00	£2,344.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£10,075.34</b>	<b>£11,741.50</b>	<b>£14,355.00</b>	<b>£14,212.00</b>
<b>INCREASE IN NET WORTH</b>				
bank balances at 1st Jan 2004	£11,741.50	£14,462.39	£14,212.00	£13,285.00
bank balances at 31st Dec 2004	£10,075.34	£11,741.50	£14,355.00	£14,212.00
 Net Income for Year	 -£1,666.16	 -£2,720.89	 £143.00	 £927.00

### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Last year's conference was very successful. It is difficult to apportion costs, but conference costs seem to have been covered by the takings.

The full cost of last year's newsletters are not included in this account. Even so, 2004 outgoings exceed takings. This is partly caused by the cost of scanning in back issues onto the website and in improved newsletter cover designs.

The AGM may decide that the deficit is not a problem while the 14 day deposit account remains at a high level.

In the future we may need to look closely at means of recovering our costs and/or gaining more income, but meanwhile I recommend that we improve publicity and aim for wider recruitment.

*Janet Shapiro, Treasurer*

*26th February 2005*

The above accounts were agreed as being in proper order by the auditor. He pointed out, for the attention of RadStats, that the Net Worth of the group at January 2005 is approximately 75% of its Net Worth in the year 2000.