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RADICAL STATISTICS GOES MULTINATIONAL

May 1977

And in conclusion, your honour, this combination of characteristics could only occur by chance less than one in ten million times ...

The Future With Campbell Adamson?



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Report of business

Here is an account of Radical Statistics ACM we had at Imperial College on March 1977 and the resolutions and motions passed.

1) Bank Account

For the purpose of opening a bank account we agreed to the following resolution:

We resolve:

- 1. that Co-operative Bank Limited be and are hereby appointed bankers of the Organisation (Radical Statistics Group)
- 2. that a current account be opened with the said bankers on behalf of the Organisation.
- 3. that the said bankers be and are hereby empowered to honour cheques drawn on behalf of the Organisation by: Elizabeth Atkins and John Hodgson.
- 4. that the said account of the organisation with the said bankers be overdrawn from time to time to such an extent as the said bankers may think fit to allow, and accordingly that the persons at any time authorised to sign cheques as above for and behalf of the association be and are hereby authorised to overdraw for and on behalf of the Organisation on the daid account.
- 5. that all resolutions of the Or anisation affecting the foregoing, all whanges in the Organisation's rules regulations or bye-laws and all changes in those authorised to sign, be advised in writing to the said bankers.



The rules of the group we agreed were:

- 1. Membership of the Group shall be open to all those interested in or working in the field of statistics from a politically radical perspective.
- 2. Aims of the group as specified in the existing Policy statement, or any subsequent version thereof adopted by a general meeting of the group.
- 3. General meetings of the Group may be called by any six members, provided that notice of at least 14 days has been sent to all members.
- 4. A chairperson shall be elected annually at a general meeting.
- 5. A treasurer shall be elected anually at a general meeting and shall keep accounts of the income and expenses of the group to be presented annually to a general meeting.
- 6. Asserretary shall be elected annually at a general meeting and shall keep minutes of all general meetings and circulate them to all members.
- 7. Nominations for chairperson, treasurer and secretary shall be made in writing to the secretary at or before the general meeting to elect same. Nominations shall be signed by two members of the group.

The following were elected unopposed:

Liz Atkins as chairperson, John Hodgson as treasurer, Nic Wright as secretary.

2) Financial Position

We currently have about £100 in the bank. Each newsletter costs about £25 an issue for 200 cepies (12½p per copy), which at 4 newsletter a year comes to 50p. Admin costs which it was strongly felt should not be borne by individuals, plus advances to sub-groups about double this figure. Counting for inflation and poor members, it was felt that £1 pa for individuals and £2 pa for organisations was a reasonable figure.

Unfortunately, it is clear that contributions, while averaging correctly to keep us in the black are widely distributed between a lot of £0.00's and a few more generous contributions. It was felt to be too complicated to organise a strict subsciption scheme, and so members are encouraged to consult their consciences annually on the matter. Cheques made payable to Radical Statistics Group are now acceptable to John Hodgson, 65d, St. Peter's St., London Nl.

Health Group finances were also discussed. £105 had been raised as working capital for the production of "Whose Priorities?", but in fact a profit of £108 was made and no one wanted their capital back, so the sub-group has full financial backing for its future enterprises.

3) Health Group

A full account was given of the story of the production of "Whose Priorities?". After lack of success at finding a publisher they decided to go ahead themselves, not only writing and editing, but pasting up, binding, distributing and preas releasing themselves. They had much production and publicity help from BSSRS and New Scientist, and after interviews on LBC, review in Time Out and the Lancet and features in drug company handouts, together with personal contacts, they have sold out two editions of 750 each and are producing a third of 500.

Anyone contemplating a similar exercise is strongly recomended to talk to Alisen Macfarlane, Martin Bland and BSSRS to learn from their experiences. The pamplet is now rewritten as an article in the International Journal of Health Services.



4) Publication Policy

It has been felt that any group wanting to put the name "Radical Statistics" to a publication should seek the approval of the membership. After a full discussion the following motion was passed:

For any publication other than the newsletter to carry the name 'Radical Statistics' either on its own or attached to, for example, a sub-group, it should be consistent with the policy statement in RadStats newsletter no. 7, and the person or group producing such a publication should call a general meeting of all members of Radical Statistics Group to discuss a draft document, this document to be available on request before the meeting. A simple majority at this meeting in favour of the label 'Radical Statistics' being attached to the publication will suffice.

Health group have already two further publications in mind. One on the DHSS Resource Allocation Working Party Report, and one on paying fees for health care. Ian Miles said that though the co-authors of the forthcoming book on demystifying statistics would not have come together to do it except through Radstats, and though it would have a chapter on Radstats, C.I.S. and other such organisations, he did not think they were intending putting the 'Radical Statistics' label on it.

5) Address list

The suggestion has often been made that an address list of members be circulated amongst members. The meeting felt that such a list would not be much use if it did not include the interests/areas of expertise (cops, sorry) experience of members. Since our data on that is by no means complete, it was felt that we should attempt to update our information before sending out a list and the idea of another questionaire in the newsletter was put forward. People wishing to contact others with similar interests should contact Nic Wright to see if the list helps.

6) Royal Statistical Society elections of programme and the state of t

Two issues have arisen in addition to our concern over the suggested new election arrangements. Firstly, Liz Atkins will after the next AGM be our sole sympathetic ear and voice on RSS Council. It was felt that others should encouraged to stand. Secondly, the RSS Council nomination for president is Campbell Adamson, a name not wholly acceptable to many. Therefore, a subcommittee of RS/RSS members has been formed, and if they decide on some action they will contact all members who are also members of RSS.



Rome au cours de la manifestation de soutien aux 11 arrêes du Secours Rouge. (UPI)

Nic Wright

(rapporteur

for the ...

March AGM

----the challenge to

the next AGM?

(Which is When?)