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## MEETING MINUTES

### Pacific Rim Real Estate Society (PRRES) Board of Directors Meeting

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Date: 18 January 2012  
Time: 7:30 a.m.  
Held at: University of South Australia  
Adelaide, Australia

Present: David Parker (Executive Director), Valerie Kupke (President), Greg Costello (immediate past President), Hera Antoniadou (President elect and Treasurer), Michael Rehm (Secretary), Ming-Long Lee, Clive Warren, Connie Susilawati, Peddy Lai, Georgia Warren-Myers and Iona McCarthy.

Apologies: Graeme Newell, Garrick Small and Yasmin Mohd Adnan.

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The meeting was chaired by PRRES President Valerie Kupke. Joining the meeting mid-way was Chris Haywood who wished to share with the board information regarding the Australian Urban Research Infrastructure Network (AURIN).

#### **Item 1 – Apologies**

Apologies were received from Graeme Newell, Garrick Small and Yasmin Mohd Adnan.

#### **Item 2 – Acceptance of Minutes of Previous Meeting**

The minutes of the 15 January 2012 meeting were deemed to be an accurate record of that meeting.

Moved: David Parker  
Seconded: Clive Warren  
**Carried.**

#### **Item 3 – Matters Arising from Minutes of Previous Meeting**

One matter of indexing of conference papers by Elsevier was identified as something that requires a board resolution. After a brief discussion it was resolved that ExCo, led by Greg Costello, will initiate talks with Elsevier to formalise the appropriate documentation.

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#### **Item 4 – Tabled Agenda Items from the Previous Meeting**

##### **4 (8) Historian – Garrick Small**

David Parker spoke to Garrick's written report which suggests that we move to a digital archive rather than the present physical archive. It was resolved to ask Garrick if he could identify the materials to be held in a digital archive and what materials then remain for physical retention. David suggested items such as the Conference Organisers' reports and meeting minutes be archived. In addition the historian is to suggest which items are to be accessible on the PRRES website.

Moved: Valerie Kupke  
Seconded: Hera Antoniades  
**Carried.**

##### **5 (3) Postgraduate Colloquium Co-ordinator – Georgia Warren-Myers**

There was a strong turnout for this year's colloquium with 24 students submitting papers. Unfortunately five of these pulled out due to a range of valid, personal reasons. Twelve of the presenting students did exceptionally well. Georgia thanked those that refereed the students' papers and also thanked Chris Haywood and Prof Alistair McCulloch for the insightful talks they gave the students.

Georgia felt that the Saturday evening barbeque event was very beneficial to the many students who attended as they seemed comfortable and confident which shone through in their presentations.

Georgia confirmed that she is willing to co-ordinate next year's colloquium in Melbourne. Valerie suggested to Georgia that she nominate an assistant to help her manage the colloquium. Deborah Levy was identified as a suitable candidate who would also be keen on giving a short presentation to students during the event.

Valerie also suggested that the colloquium may want to incorporate a poster competition which would be associated with an award for 'Best Poster'. On a similar note, Georgia expressed an interest in adding a new award of 'Best Presenter on the Day' in addition to the current two scholarships for best submitted papers. Hera suggested that a 3<sup>rd</sup> PhD Scholarship be considered with Valerie and David further suggesting that one scholarship is best paper, one is for best presenter and the third scholarship is for early (1<sup>st</sup> year) PhD students, which may or may not be awarded in a given year depending on the students who participate. Each scholarship would be for \$250.

Moved: David Parker  
Seconded: Georgia Warren-Myers  
**Carried.**

##### **5 (4) Case Competition Co-ordinator – Connie Susilawati**

Connie thanked staff from UniSA for their support during the competition. The initial request for expressions of interest netted 10 universities. Of these, however, four subsequently pulled out due to insufficient funds. Of the six competing universities, the team from Curtin University competed for the first time.

Thanks to API and UniSA, Connie was able to secure four judges for the competition. At the close of Connie's report, Hera suggested that in the future any gifts presented to volunteer judges should be paid for by PRRES, Inc.

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### **Item 5 – Board Roles**

Ming-Long Lee confirmed that he is willing to continue this year as Director of Membership. With Clive taking over the role of Webmaster, a volunteer is needed to take over the role of Director of Awards. Iona McCarthy agreed to take on this role.

The role of Newsletter Editor was still vacant after David asked for volunteers. Georgia mentioned that Neville Hurst expressed an interest on joining the board and fulfilling a useful roll. Valerie will follow-up with Neville on this possibility.

During the discussion on board roles the subject of membership was raised in relation to submission of refereed papers and presenting a conference paper. It was resolved that prior to having conference paper sent off for refereeing at least one of the authors must hold PRRES membership. In addition, all conference presenters are required to be a member of PRRES.

### **Item 6 – Guest Presentation on AURIN by Chris Haywood**

Chris gave a brief overview of a fairly new research initiative called the Australian Urban Research Infrastructure Network (AURIN) which is a \$20 million initiative funded by the Australian Government's Super Science scheme, housed at his own institution (University of Melbourne). AURIN will provide built environment and urban researchers, designers and planners with infrastructure to facilitate access to a distributed network of aggregated datasets and information services.

Chris feels that property researchers would fit into this mix and could potentially benefit from AURIN. The requests for acquiring data (e.g. APS data) can come from individual researchers or institutions. It is not known whether PRRES could act as a single entity. Chris has offered to approach AURIN to better understand how PRRES can best participate.

For more information on the AURIN research initiative, please see <https://aurin.org.au/>.

### **Item 7 – EstateMaster Student Competition**

Valerie mentioned that following Martin Hill's EstateMaster proposal presentation which followed the case competition finals Lucy Craddock raised the issue of intellectual property rights. She was concerned that the students' work on a real world development project could be used in a commercial capacity. Clive was under the impression that the competition may involve a real site but would be based on an entirely hypothetical development. Therefore there may be no significant IP issues. It was agreed that this is an issue to keep an eye on and IP should be considered when more information is made available regarding the inaugural competition.

Greg expressed his views that the scope of the competition be kept to the Pacific Rim rather than being global as appears to be the desire of EstateMaster. He also had a reservation regarding the proposal that only one student from each final-round team physically travels to the conference. Greg further suggested that prize money for the lecturer/university and team would be better utilised if it went towards subsidising the costs of all final-round team members travelling to the conference. Lastly, he questioned whether or not it makes sense for a lecturer to be part of the team. Due to existing workloads it is unlikely that lecturers can commit their time to such a year-long, multi-phase competition. Greg also mentioned that some PRRES members have questioned whether or not it was appropriate that lecturers, and potentially outside consultants, be involved when it is billed as a student competition.

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As discussed in the previous board meeting, it is important that a board member be responsible for liaising and coordinating with a dedicated EstateMaster employee to organise the new student competition. Greg has generously volunteered to take on this role.

Valerie emphasised that this initial year's EstateMaster competition must be kept small with a clear focus on having a successful final-round competition at the conference in Melbourne. The discussion was closed with Valerie thanking Connie for organising the case competition and moved a resolution to formally cease the student case competition.

Finally, Greg offered to circulate to ExCo a draft email to Martin Hill to express the views of the board on how to best proceed forward on the new EstateMaster student competition.

### **Item 8 – Strategic Plan**

Valerie briefly outlined her intended approach toward reviewing the Strategic Plan. She welcomed any feedback and thoughts from board members on needed changes to the plan. One of her specific initiatives involves getting PRRES more pro-active in the research community. Specifically PRRES should be supporting the ranking of the Pacific Rim Property Research Journal, which has recently fallen in ranking in the Australian Business Deans Council list from 'B' to 'C'.

### **Item 9 – Any other business**

Hera suggested that a limit be placed on conference attendees that each individual can present a maximum of two papers. Clive added that this limitation should also be applied to refereed papers. Valerie pointed out that this would be difficult to implement because it is rarely clear who of the listed authors will actually present. Nevertheless it was agreed that ExCo will consider incorporating appropriate limitations in the conference protocol.

**The meeting closed at 9:00 a.m.**