

# Minutes from 53<sup>rd</sup> Annual Business Meeting

October 11, 2010  
12:00 – 13:00  
Salle XXIII  
Palais des Nations  
Geneva, Switzerland

Jim Funck, Immediate Past President, presided over the Annual Business Meeting and called it to order at 12:00. He extended thank you's from the Society to key people and groups involved in this year's meeting. These included:

- United Nations Economic Commission for Europe – Timber Committee
  - Cooperation with SWST
  - Beautiful facilities
- Co-chairs –
  - Ed Pepke – UNECE Trade & Timber Div.
  - Susan Anagnost – SWST
- Co-chairs of various sessions
- Sponsors
- All those attending
- Last but not least – the Society's Executive Director, Vicki Herian

He then introduced the Officers and Board Members.

- President Susan Anagnost – SUNY
- President Elect – Todd Shupe – LSU
- Vice President – Alain Cloutier
- Director – Steve Quarles – U. of Cal.
- Director – Sheldon Shi – Miss. State U.
- Director – Susan Diehl – Miss. State U.
- Director – Tom Gorman – U. of Idaho
- Editor of Wood & Fiber Science – Frank Beall
- Newsletter Editor – Adam Taylor – U. of TN
- Vicki Herian – SWST Executive Director

## 1. Award Presentations:

George Marra Excellence in Writing – The committee this year was Steve Kelly, Chair; Kurt Bigbee, Nicole Brown, and Hongmei Gu.

**2<sup>nd</sup> place - Niels Peter K. Nielsen, Douglas J. Gardner, Torben Poulsen, Claus Felby,** “Importance of Temperature, Moisture Content, and Species for the Conversion Process of Wood Residues into Fuel Pellets”; Niels Nielsen and Douglas Gardner were present to accept the awards.

**1<sup>st</sup> place - Kevin B. D. White, Thomas M. Miller, and Rakesh Gupta,**  
“Seismic Performance Testing of Partially and Fully Anchored Wood-frame Shear Walls”; Rakesh Gupta accepted the award, as well as the \$1000 award (which was split among the authors).

Fellow Award – Audrey Zink-Sharp – Audrey was not able to appear in Geneva, but sent her thanks.

Student Poster Award Participants:

**Ali Fathollahzadeh,** Processing Problems Associated with New Generation Of Laminated Lumbers in Window Industry

**Seok Sean How,** A Conceptualization in Computer Simulation of Processing Radiata Pine Finger-jointed Wood and Glued-Laminated Lumber

**Seok Sean How,** Predicting Modulus of Elasticity of Short Length New Zealand Radiata Pine Finger Joint Shooks Using Flexural Vibration Method

**Alper Kiziltas,** Development of a carrier System for Cellulose Nanofibrils (CN) in Polymer Composites

**Neil Kohan,** Nondestructive Evaluation of Wood Strand Mechanical Properties Using Near-Infrared Spectroscopy

**Anthony McTigue,** A Probabilistic Approach to the Simulation of Non-Linear Stress-Strain Relationships for Oriented Strandboard

**Yucheng Peng,** Cellulose Nanofibrils Reinforced Inorganic Wood Composites

The Student Poster Competition took place after the Business Meeting on Tuesday afternoon. The judges were: Jim Funck, Alain Cloutier, Aldo Ballerini, and Sudipta Dasmohapatra. Winners were:

1<sup>st</sup> place: **Neil Kohan,** Nondestructive Evaluation of Wood Strand Mechanical Properties Using Near-Infrared Spectroscopy, Auburn University

2<sup>nd</sup> place: **Alper Kiziltas,** Development of a Carrier System for Cellulose Nanofibrils (CN) in Polymer Composites, University of Maine

3<sup>rd</sup> place: **Seok Sean How,** Predicting Modulus of Elasticity of Short Length New Zealand Radiata Pine Finger Joint Shooks Using Flexural Vibration Method, University of Canterbury

**Distinguished Service Award** - H. Michael Barnes – “Connections: Standing on the Shoulders of Giants” The Committee was: Jerry Winandy, Chair, Audrey Zink-Sharp, Paul Smith, Douglas Gardner, Jim Armstrong

## 2. Minutes of 2009 Annual Meeting

The Minutes of the 2009 Annual Business Meeting were published in August 2009 Newsletter. A motion was made, seconded and passed to accept the minutes.

## 3. President’s Remarks - Jim Funck then gave the President’s remarks.

“It has been a pleasure serving as president this past year and an officer for the previous three years. During that time, industry, academia, and government research and technology programs have undergone many changes. In response to those changes, the Society has gone through an extensive review of itself in order to prepare for the future. One of the primary ways we have accomplished this was through the development of the SWST Strategic Plan, which can be found on the Society’s web page at SWST.org. There are three key components to that plan.

- 1) Many of the action items relate to ensuring that the Society succeeds in serving the needs of its membership, as well as the science and technology community as whole.
- 2) The Society is aggressively working to ensure that it is truly international.
  - a. Changes were made to foster an increase in membership outside North America.
  - b. Accreditation of wood science programs is being encouraged on an international level, with our first non- North American accredited university being the University of Bio-Bio in Concepcion, Chile.
  - c. We are hosting our conventions in international cities.
    - i. 2008 – University of Bio-Bio in Concepcion, Chile
    - ii. 2010 – UNECE here in Geneva
    - iii. 2012 – Chinese Academy for the Wood Industry – Beijing, China (Aug 27-31)

We continue to hold the alternate year’s conventions with the Forest Products Society. 2011 will be held June 22 in Portland, OR, USA

- 3) We are continuing to make changes to the hallmark publication of the Society – Wood and Fiber Science.
  - a. We have a new electronic review and publication process
  - b. We have boosted the journal’s ratings
  - c. We are striving to become a truly electronic journal.

The success of the Strategic Plan and the Society as a whole of course, depends upon you. As a result, I encourage you to actively participate in the Society. If you have any comments or questions regarding the Strategic Plan or anything else, please contact any of the officers or Board members.

I am confident that the Society is in good hands with the current officers and board members, but it will take the effort of every member to see that the Society flourishes.

I thank all of you for your participation in this convention and the Society of Wood Science and Technology.”

### 3. Executive Director's Report

#### Current Paid Members as of 10/11/10

Full members	327
Student members	61
Retired members	39
Emerging Full	10
Emerging Student	<u>9</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>446</b>

USA members	273
Canada members	58
Mexico members	1
Overseas members	114

#### Paid Members as of 6/1/09

Full Members	297
Student members	72
Retired members	39
Emerging Full	9
Emerging Student	<u>5</u>
	<b>422</b>

#### Current Paid Subscribers as of 10/11/10

Subscribers	179
USA	71
Canada	12
Mexico	0
Overseas	96

#### Paid Subscribers as of 6/1/09

Subscribers 189

#### Delinquent Members

Delinquent members as of 10/1/10 for 2010 dues: total 67 – 27 full, 29 student, 2 retired, 6 emerging full, 3 emerging student.

Compared to delinquent members as of 6/1/09 for 2009 dues: 71 total –36 full, 32 student, 3 retired

Delinquent subscribers for 2010 as of 10/1/10: 39 total (23 USA, 2 Canada, 14 foreign)

Compared to delinquent subscribers for 2009 as of 6/1/09: 36 total (14 USA, 22 foreign)

#### Vanguard Accounts and CD's

The following are the account balances as of October 1, 2010. The balance in the Vanguard funds was \$96,381.8. The current balance for the Vanguard Index Fund (student poster money) is \$13,311.92. The CD balance was \$60,578.56. The savings balance is \$60,720.78.

#### Checking Account

The balance in the checking account as of October 1, 2010 is \$92,221.67.

## **Student Poster Competition Fund History and Status**

Contributors are: APA – The Engineered Wood Association, Asian Woods Company, Balazs Zombori, California Cedar Products, Entwood LLC, FPInnovations - Forintek, Iowa State University, Louisiana State University, Mississippi State University, North Carolina State University, Oregon State University, Pennsylvania State University, State University of New York (SUNY) ESF, Virginia Tech, University of British Columbia, University of Idaho, Washington State University, and Willamette Industries.

## **2010 Annual Conference**

The 2010 International Convention will be held in Geneva, Switzerland October 11-15, 2010, at the Palais des Nations, in conjunction with the UNECE/TC meetings. The general theme is “Innovative Wood Products are the Future”. We have 98 posters and 54 speakers from 43 different countries and 5 continents. A proceedings of all the papers available at the time of the meeting has been compiled and distributed at the meeting. We will end the week with a tour of CERN, Ecole Polytechnique Federale de Lausanne (where they are working on innovative building designs with wood), and the Sauvabelin Tower. We will have a banquet on Thursday evening at the Hotel Edelweiss, ending the meeting on a typical Swiss note. There is no registration fee, but a fee will be assessed for the banquet (\$50) and tour (\$75). IUFRO Division 5 has agreed to co-sponsor this meeting and the 2012 meeting as well. Other sponsors are Maney Publishing, Centre de Recherche sur le Bois and Université Laval, FPInnovations, Surface Measurement Systems, CEI-Bois, and Schweighofer Prize. A huge “Thank You” goes out to our sponsors. Information can be found on our website at <http://www.swst.org/meetings/AM10>

## **2011 International Convention**

The 2011 Convention will be cosponsored by Forest Products Society in Portland, Oregon, June 22, 2011, at the Doubletree Hotel in Portland, Oregon.

## **2012 International Convention**

We will co-host the meeting with the International Center for Bamboo and Rattan and hold the meeting at their hotel, The ICBR Tower. The meeting will take place August 27-31, 2012. Possible Session Titles were: 1) reducing carbon emissions and the 2) energy used to convert wood products to user products and to promote 3) bio-based energy and 4) resource sustainability. Others might be: Global Trade, Fundamentals of Wood Science, Advanced Processing, Sustainability and the Change Forest Resource. We continue to work on the planning of this meeting.

## **Miscellaneous**

SWST began selling Helmuth Resch’s book on “Drying wood with high frequency electric current”. The book sells for \$30 plus shipping. So far we have sold 24 copies. For each copy that is sold, SWST makes \$1.

As of October 11, 2010, the following is the status of delinquent page charges. They have been sent 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> email notices.

42(1) \$1000.00 Lee, et al; Seoul National University  
 \$1200.00 Lee, et al; Seoul National University

42(3) \$500.00 Schultz and Nicholas; Mississippi State University  
 \$1045.00 Kubojima et al; Forestry and Forest Products Research Institute, Japan  
 \$1100.00 Kamke and Kutnar; Oregon State University

42(4) has been invoiced and only 2 invoices are outstanding, even though the issue has not yet been published.

#### 4. Budget Presentation

### FISCAL STATUS DECEMBER 31, 2009

#### BALANCE SHEET

Total Assets	\$305,207.75
Total Liabilities	\$ 320.13
Total Equity	\$304,887.62
Total Equity & Liabilities	\$305,207.75

#### INCOME STATEMENT

	<u>2009 Budget</u>	<u>Actual 2009</u>
Total Income	\$162,325.00	\$159,427.12
Total Expenses	\$135,180.00	\$108,976.48
Budget Reserves	\$ 27,145.00	\$ 50,450.64

#### Budget 2011

<u>Category</u>	<u>Income</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Net</u>
W&FS	\$102,300	\$ 65,634	\$36,666
Dues	\$ 26,405		\$26,405
Member Services	\$ 12,225	\$ 37,047	\$(24,822)
Admin Services		\$ 28,881	\$(28,881)
Salary & Taxes		\$ 15,000	\$(15,000)
TOTAL	\$140,930	\$146,562	\$ -5,632

Negative Budget was presented for 2011 due to some extended member services that will be explored and it might be necessary to access some reserves.

## Wood and Fiber Science

- New Editorial Assistant. Barb Hogan, who had been an editor at USDA FPL started on 1 September and is now editing manuscripts.
- New editor. Mike Barnes will be starting as Editor on 1 Jan 2011. I am preparing a very detailed roadmap for dealing with manuscripts. We will work together through the first quarter of 2011.
- 42/4 (Oct) will issue with 13 research papers and 2 Technical Notes (TN). We have 23 manuscripts being processed: 12 in review, 6 being revised after review, and 5 essentially completed or moving ahead to or in galley-proof.
- Below are the number of manuscripts received (minus a few that were withdrawn or not acceptable). The “+” indicates TN. Over the last four quarters, we are averaging 20 papers submitted each quarter (including TN).

(20) July: 9; Aug: 2; Sep: 9

(17) Oct: 9 + 2; Nov: 4; Dec: 1 + 1

(19) Jan: 2 + 1; Feb: 7 + 2; Mar: 7

(25) Apr: 11 + 1; May: 6 + 1; Jun: 5 + 1

(14) Jul: 3; Aug: 2 ; Sep: 8

- Publication Report (\* time to publication is: print (preprint). \*\*Includes awards pages.)

Issue	41/3 (Jul)	41/4 (Oct)	42/1 (Jan)	42/2 (Apr)	42/3 (Jul)	42/4 (Oct)
Articles +TN	13	12	13	14	18	15
Pages	100	140**	119	135	157	136
Ave pub (mo)	5.6(3.5)	7.1(4.6)	5.6(4.5)	6.6(4.3)	6.4(3.8)	6.2(2.9)

- Impact Factor (same data as in Jul report; updates occur about mid-year)

	2007	2008	2009	5-yr
BioResources			1.406	1.426
Cellulose	1.406	1.844	2.156	2.257
Holzforschung	0.811	1.278	1.236	1.329
Wood Science and Technology	0.691	1.460	1.737	1.611
IAWA Journal	0.687	1.000	0.825	1.123
Wood and Fiber Science	0.555	0.702	0.654	0.786
Forest Products Journal	0.351	0.550	0.426	0.530

## 5. Committee Reports

- Accreditation – Bob Rice, Chair. All accredited schools have been notified of the requirement to send in their annual program update form. Jim Armstrong, West Virginia University, has been added to the committee and Bill Smith, SUNY, has been retained for another term. The committee unanimously approved the request made by

Oregon State University to postpone the decadal review of their program until late in 2012 and to extend their accredited status until 2013.

- b. Education: Cecelia Bustos from University of Bio Bio, Chili, has become the Education Committee Chair. The education Committee organized and will judge the student poster competition at the SWST Annual Convention in Geneva, Switzerland. The judges are:
- a) Aldo Ballerini, Vice president from Universidad del Bío-Bío, Chile
  - b) Alain Cloutier, Professor from Université Laval, Canada
  - c) Jim Funk, from Weyerhaeuser
  - d) Sudipta Dasmohapatra, Assistant Professor from North Carolina State Univ.
- c. George Marra Award – winners are announced above.
- d. Membership - **Report from SWST membership committee (Oct 4, 2010)**

1. The membership count for SWST is as follows:

	Approved		Total		
	<b>11/4/09 to 10/4/10</b>	11/15/08 to 11/3/09	<b>As of October 4, 2010</b>	<b>As of Nov. 3, 2009</b>	As of Nov. 11, 2008
<b>Non-emerging countries</b>					
Full member	<b>37</b>	27	<b>327</b>	<b>334</b>	307
Student member	<b>22</b>	29	<b>61</b>	<b>107</b>	78
Retired member			<b>39</b>	<b>40</b>	40
<b>Emerging countries</b>					
Full member	<b>5</b>	9	<b>10</b>	<b>19</b>	10
Affiliate member			<b>No longer valid</b>	<b>4</b>	4
Student	<b>16</b>	6	<b>9</b>	<b>15</b>	9
<b>Total</b>	<b>80</b>	71	<b>446</b>	<b>519</b>	444

Here is a summary of the members based on countries:

	Approved		Total		
	<b>11/4/09 to 10/4/10</b>	11/15/08 to 11/3/09	<b>As of October 4, 2010</b>	<b>As of Nov. 3, 2009</b>	As of Nov. 11, 2008
USA members	<b>12</b>	31	273	<b>348</b>	317
Canada members	<b>5</b>	8	58	<b>61</b>	53
Mexico members		0	1	<b>3</b>	3
Overseas members	<b>63</b>	32	114	<b>103</b>	71



2. The SWST Facebook is now linked to the SWST webpage. There are 77 Facebook group members as of October 4, compared to 57 on July 3.

3. An e-mail survey of three questions conducted in Apr 2010 was resent to student members. The survey results are attached at the end of this report.

4. A survey of membership payment issues was also sent out to members from emerging countries to address charge #3 for the membership committee. The survey results will be presented to the next board meeting

5. Sept-Oct 2009, announcements/letters had been sent out to the university contacts encouraging recruitment of student members.

6. Attached is a list of the new approved applicants from Nov 4, 2009 to Oct 4, 2010.

By : Dr. William Tze, SWST Membership Chair, 612-624-2383 (tel), [wtze@umn.edu](mailto:wtze@umn.edu) and  
Dr. Ben Dawson-Andoh, Membership Vice Chair, 304-293-8750 (tel), [bdawsona@wvu.edu](mailto:bdawsona@wvu.edu)

## Student Membership Survey 2010

The membership committee is charged to develop a plan for a phased, multiple-year transition from student to full member status. The objective of this survey is to find out if full membership payment is indeed an issue for new graduates, and if the one-year grace period that we have now is sufficient to help them remain to be a member, and if a phased transition would be a solution they find appealing.

Student members were requested to respond by e-mail to the following three questions:

- (1) Are you interested in continuing your membership after graduation?
- (2) Would one year of student-rate membership after graduation be sufficient to help you convert your membership to full members? If no, please state reasons or suggest alternative incentives that you would like to see.
- (3) Which SWST service(s) do you find most helpful and least helpful to you as a student? Please feel free to elaborate.

Out of 89 student members contacted (60 paid members and 29 delinquent members), 30 responded (27 paid members and 3 delinquent members). The response rate for paid members is 45%, while the overall response rate is 34%.

**Responses for Q1:** 29 said “yes”; 1 said “no” (because he is no longer researching wood).

**Responses for Q2:** 20 said “yes”; 11 said “no”, and the elaborations could be summarized as follows:

- (i) Unsteady/unpredictable income due to:
  - a. one might or might not be able to find a job within one year after graduation (**2** responses from Canada; **1** response from Ghana);
  - b. early career and impermanent (e.g. post-doc) employment (**2** responses from Canada);
- (ii) No mention of financial issue but feel that post-doc should pay student member rate (**2** responses from Canada), and one of the two respondents indicated that the period during which one remains a post-doc varies;
- (iii) Not able to apply financial support (due to early teaching career) to pay for the (full) membership fees (**1** and only response from China);
- (iv) Other professional societies offered :
  - a. a longer grace period of two years (**1** response from USA);
  - b. a more friendly model (**1** response from Canada; referring to Forest Product Society’s phased transition from \$25 student membership to \$45 voting membership, then \$70, then \$95 before attaining the full-member rate of \$145 in year 4);
- (v) No reason provided; just suggested that after the one-year grace period, “the price may increase gradually e.g. 25%, 50%, 75%, and then full membership” (**1** response from Turkey).

It is noteworthy that seven out of ten “no”s for Q2 are from Canada (there were 12 respondents from Canada). It is also noted that only one (from Iran) out of three respondents from emerging countries said “yes” to Q2. Also for Q2, all three delinquent members said “yes”, including the one who “left” the field (mentioned in Q 1), and another one who expressed interests in paying her overdue membership renewal. So, there is no conclusion to be made about the reason of delinquency.

***Alternative incentives to continue membership after graduation:*** Of the total 11 “no”s for Q2, four suggested a student-rate of 2 years, while one preferred 3 years, two are inclined to a phased transition, two emphasize on post-doc to be charged student rate as opposed to a fixed grace period, and the remaining two did not provide alternative solutions.

**Responses for Q3** (note: in some cases, one respondent provided more than one comment):

Helpful:

- (i) Electronic access to WFS (18 similar comments);
- (ii) Hard copy of WFS (2 similar comments, one of whom also said electronic access is important);
- (iii) Career and educational information on the SWST webpage (4 similar comments, two of which also pointed out that the information needs to be updated regularly);
- (iv) Conference information posting on the SWST website (2 similar comments);
- (v) Newsletter (2 similar comments, one of which specified the posting of scholarship and job opportunity);
- (vi) Member directory;
- (vii) Resume posting;
- (viii) Information sharing and announcement on the SWST webpage (1 general comment);
- (ix) Online introductory tutorials;
- (x) Travel grant to attend conference;
- (xi) Annual convention;
- (xii) All services are benefitting (4 similar comments)

Least helpful or not working:

- (i) Hard copy of WFS;
- (ii) SWST merchandise;
- (iii) Job info on SWST webpage because there is not much information;
- (iv) Inactive on-line page of SWST wiki; the respondent indicated that “its popularization as R&D initiatives forum may be helpful”.

It is noted that two SWST services, WFS hard copy and web posting of job opportunities, were mentioned as both helpful and least helpful. There seem to be contradict opinions regarding the

hard copy of WFS but the comments from both sides on job posting does not necessarily contradicts each other.

Curious how it works:

- (i) Curious about how the visiting scientist program works.
  
  - e. Newsletter – P. David Jones will be the new Newsletter Editor starting January 1, 2011.
  - f. Past Presidents' Council – DSA - Mike Barnes, Fellow – Audrey Zink-Sharp
  - g. Policy and Critical Issues – Adam Taylor – Chair. Work has not yet started on the “carbon footprint” white paper, but should start soon. Adam has been in contact with Jim Bowyer to discuss the schedule for completing the paper. The “Need for Hazardous Fuels Reduction on Public Land” and “Advantages of Using Lignocellulosic Biomass Rather than Food Products for Bioenergy” position papers were posted on the SWST website for member comment and have now approved as SWST position statements. No progress has been made on summarizing the SWST National Research Needs Assessment.
  - h. Publication Policy - 1. The Committee was charged to initiate the process for a new editor for 2011. Dr. Michael Barnes, Mississippi State University, has accepted the role as editor starting January 2011.  
  
2. The impact of page charge reductions that would result from converting Wood and Fiber Science from print to electronic delivery only is still being determined. This impact needs to be known before making such a change, since the Society does use those page charges for a portion of its operating budget.
  - i. Research Initiatives: The committee membership has changed. Adam Taylor is now chair, Jingxin Wang is now vice-chair, New members are Martin Claude Yemele and William Gracitua Ongoing members are Azzeddine Oudjehane, Jingxin Wang, Dave DeVallence , and World Nieh. Ted Wegener is past chair. Thanks are extended to Steve Kelley, Mike Wolcott, Rich Vlosky and Sudipta Dasmohapatra for their service to the committee
  - j. Visiting Scientist Program:  
Requests were received from 11 students for travel money to the 53<sup>rd</sup> Annual Convention. All 11 students were provided \$500 in travel money. An International Visiting Scientist Award was provided to Dr. Jae-Woo Kim to travel to the University of Natural Resources and Applied Life Sciences in Vienna, Austria. Dr. Kim investigated the nanomechanical properties of wood using nanoindentation. In addition, a survey was sent to all 441 SWST members at the request of the board concerning Wood Scientists Without Borders. Results were published in the Newsletter.
6. Old Business – None
  7. Teller’s Report - Announced earlier

## 8. President's Remarks – Sue Anagnost

First, I'd like to thank Jim Funck for his service as SWST President this past year. He has been an effective leader through our transition to the new strategic plan.

Adam Taylor is stepping down as Newsletter Editor. On behalf of the Executive Board and all of the members I'd like to thank Adam for your service for the past 6 years as Newsletter Editor. During this time Adam began sending out the newsletters via email and updated the format for the email platform. We appreciate his professionalism, his contributions at our Board meetings and his willingness to serve. Adam will continue his service to SWST as Chair of the Research Initiatives Committee.

I'm pleased to announce that, in January, David Jones will take over as our new Newsletter Editor.

Frank Beall is stepping down as Editor of Wood and Fiber Science. Frank has been Editor for 4 years. During his term as Editor the journal went through many changes. When Frank took over as Editor the journal was transitioning to electronic format in addition to the paper copy. This involved working with a new system for editing and publication. During his years as service, Frank shortened the time from submission to publication and evaluated and tracked the journal's impact factor compared to similar journals. I'd like to thank Frank for his dedication to the society through his service as Editor.

I'm pleased to announce that Mike Barnes will be the new Editor of Wood and Fiber Science. Mike will work with Frank Beall on the upcoming issues to insure a smooth transition.

I'd like to thank Vicki Herian for her service this past year and in particular all of the work she has done to make a successful annual convention here in Geneva.

I'd like to introduce Dr. Fei from the International Center for Bamboo and Rattan (ICBR) in Beijing, China. Dr Fei is going to tell us about the 2014 SWST Annual Convention which will be held at ICBR.

9. New Business – Dr. Fei from International Centre for Bamboo and Rattan gave a powerpoint presentation about ICBR and their research, as well as about the facilities we will be using for the 2012 International Convention. He welcomed us to Beijing.

A motion was made, seconded and passed to adjourn the meeting at 13:15.