

Date: 19th March 2015 at Poughkeepsie, NY, USA
Attendance: SoLAR Members at LAK15 (approximately 150)
SoLAR Executive in attendance: George Siemens; Caroline Haythornthwaite; Dragan Gasevic; Shane Dawson; Xavier Ochoa; Alyssa Wise; Phil Long; Stephanie Teasley; Simon Buckingham Shum; Erik Duval; Abelardo Pardo; Hendrik Draschler; Leah Macfadyen; Srecko Joksimovic; and Grace Lynch

President called the meeting to order at 12:05pm.

1. President's Welcome (George Siemens):

- LAK added a Practitioner Track with the goal to increase participation and diversity and over 50% of conference attendees were at their first LAK conference

2. Approval of Minutes from AGM 2014, 27 March 2014, Indianapolis, IN

- Moved by George Siemens and seconded by Alyssa Wise. Approval of minutes passed

3. President's report (George Siemens):

- General discussion and overview of SOLAR*
 - Thank you to organising host for LAK15 Marist College, Josh Baron, Nicole Maziarz and Grace Lynch, to programme committee, chairs and sponsors.
 - Working towards stronger connections with sponsors rather than just event driven
 - Overview of SoLAR activities completed in 2014 and activities for 2015
 - Benefits of membership include an investment in the field and support for doctoral students
- Statement of financial position*

For 2014 the closing balance was just over \$50,000. The major transactions included revenue from institutional memberships and research sponsorships with expenditures for research projects, doctoral students' scholarships, organisational support, LASI, LAK, Educause and Apero events.
- Research*
 - George Siemens, Shane Dawson and Dragan Gasevic report on Preparing for the Digital University will be released this month.
 - George Siemens, Shane Dawson and Grace Lynch report on Improving the Quality and Productivity of the Higher Education Sector was released in December 2013.
 - Shane Dawson and others are releasing the final report on research project with the Office for Learning and Teaching in Australia – review of the analytics activities in Australia and future directions.

4. 2015 Executive

- Incoming 2015 Executive – Office bearers*
 - President – Dragan Gasevic
 - Vice President – Simon Buckingham Shum

- Vice President – Phillip Long
- Secretary – Caroline Haythornthwaite
- Treasurer – Shane Dawson
- Executive Manager – Grace Lynch

ii. Members at large

- Xavier Ochoa
- Alyssa Wise
- Stephanie Teasley
- Abelardo Pardo
- Leah Macfadyen
- Hendrik Draschler
- Srecko Joksimovic

iii. Outgoing 2013 Executive

- Erik Duval
- Nancy Law
- George Siemens

5. New President Remarks

Dragan Gasevic thanked the outgoing Executive Committee members recognising that Erik Duval was the keynote speaker at the first LAK conference and he has been an integral member of SoLAR from the very beginning. Nancy Law was a keynote speaker at LAK14 and has been successful increasing participation in SoLAR and learning analytics in the Asian region. SoLAR and the community wished to formally acknowledge the importance of George Siemens in creating SoLAR as well as expanding discussion and communication in the field of learning analytics and presented him with a Certificate of Recognition for his work in the field as well as presenting him with a life membership in SoLAR.

There is a new SoLAR website, newsletters, branding guidelines, etc., and please see Alyssa Wise for further information. This year saw increased support for Doctoral Students, please see Stephanie Teasley or Grace Lynch for further information.

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SoLAR is exploring incorporation in the US in parallel with the current incorporation in Canada. Dragan spoke about the main SoLAR events that are working on translating research into practice.

6. Special Interest Groups

Xavier Ochoa reported on how to request SoLAR support for local events as well as the creation of SIGs. SoLAR Events: <http://solaresearch.org/events>

- LAK, LASI, LASI locals, Flares, SoLAR SIGS

7. Open Discussion

No questions from the floor.

The President officially called the meeting to a close at 12.59 pm.