



Association of Industrial Laser Users
Minutes of the 30th Annual General Meeting

Hybrid meeting: TRUMPF, Luton and online via Zoom

15 May 2024, 14:30

Present Online

President: Ric Allott (STFC)
Vice President: Paola De Bono (TWI)
AILU Members: Cliff Jolliffe (PI); Steve Kidd (PowerPhotonic); Chris Peters (UKAEA); Danijela Rostohar (Coventry University); Tian Long See (MTC)

Present in Person

Executive Director: Dave MacLellan (Anode Marketing)
Vice President: Richard Carter (Heriot-Watt University)
AILU Members: Tom Chaffer (TRUMPF); Tony Jones (Cyan Tec); David Lawton (Kentek); Wojciech Suder (Cranfield University); Chris Waters (Micrometric); David Waugh (Coventry University); Catherine Rose (AILU, Minutes Secretary)

Opening remarks

Ric Allott warmly welcomed members to the 30th AILU AGM.

Apologies received

Apologies were received from: Sinan Bilgin (SSLS); Rachel McBain (Laser Trader); Pratik Shukla (MTC); Stan Wilford (IPG Photonics)

Approval of the Minutes of the last AGM

The minutes of the 29th AGM (31.05.2023) were approved (Proposed: Richard Carter; Seconded: David Lawton; unanimous approval).

Matters arising from the minutes

There were no outstanding matters arising.

Presentation of the Annual Report

Ric Allott, AILU President, thanked all for attending the meeting and reported on the past year of his Presidency. He reminded attendees of AILU's Purpose, Vision and Mission statements, commenting that AILU adheres to these well and is improving. Ric also gave an overview of AILU's 3-5 year plan and a snapshot of AILU's activities throughout the year. These included active Steering Committee Working Groups, regular AILU officers' meetings, future collaboration opportunities, training and knowledge exchange, additional revenue sources and sustainability.

Event attendance during 2023 was reported graphically, with a dashboard layout showing consistent numbers at workshops and a 78%/22% split between members and non-members. Increasing diversity was identified as an area to focus on in the coming year. Following a query from Tony Jones, it was clarified that data collected before and after events can identify additional categories such as the number of presenters and exhibitors at each event.

Dave MacLellan reported on forthcoming AILU events including workshops on different topics of interest as well as online webinars, an Early Careers Group seminar, and the annual Job Shop business meeting. ILAS 2025 will be held in March 2025 and will celebrate AILU's 30th anniversary.

Adoption of the Annual Report

There were no objections to the President's Annual Report, which was duly adopted (Proposed: Chris Peters, Seconded: Tian Long See; unanimous approval).

Presentation of accounts for 2020-21

Dave MacLellan presented income and expenditure charts for the Financial Year 2022/23. Total income was £194K. The largest contributor towards total income was membership followed by events income (notably ILAS 2023 with other workshops). Most of the additional income came from advertising revenue.

Total expenditure for the year was £188K. The largest expenditure was the Secretarial Contract paid to Anode Marketing to administer AILU. Other expenditure such as running events, website/internet and printing/postage contributed were detailed.

A graph showing AILU reserves (historical and current) illustrated a good recovery from a dip during the pandemic years to a healthy £30K. Chris Peters queried whether there was a desired upper limit for reserves and Dave replied there would be no requirement to build reserves above £50K.

Adoption of accounts

Those present unanimously approved the accounts (Proposed: Cliff Jolliffe; Seconded: Paola De Bono).

Election of Officers of the Standing Committee

Dave MacLellan explained that all officers are 1 year into a 2-year term of office and were prepared to continue in post. There being no other nominees, the following were re-elected:

Ric Allott as President of AILU, Paola De Bono and Richard Carter as joint Vice-Presidents, Dave MacLellan as Executive Director. Proposed: Tony Jones; Seconded: Chris Waters. Unanimous approval.

Election of Ordinary Members of the Standing Committee

Dave, on behalf of AILU, thanked the outgoing officers who had served their term of office: Tom Chaffer (TRUMPF), Clive Grafton-Reed (Rolls Royce), Tony Jones (Cyan Tec Systems), Cliff Jolliffe (PI), Danijela Rostohar (Coventry Uni), Tian Long See (MTC), Sinan Bilgin (SSLS). He also thanked those who had retired from the committee in 2023 due to a move to non-AILU member companies (Nesma Abulkhair, Derrick Jeppson, Mike Poulter, Prveen Bidare).

Three nominees were put forward for election as Ordinary Members of the committee for 3 years: Ben Mills (University of Southampton), Donald Risbridger (Heriot-Watt, AILU Early Careers Group), Wojciech Suder (Cranfield University). The following were nominated to be co-opted onto the committee for a 1-year period: Tom Chaffer (TRUMPF), Clive Grafton-Reed (Rolls Royce), Tony Jones (Cyan Tec Systems), Cliff Jolliffe (PI), Danijela Rostohar (Coventry Uni), Tian Long See (MTC).

Nominations for Ordinary Members were approved en bloc (Proposed: Richard Carter; Seconded: David Lawton; unanimous approval).

Any other business

Chris Peters suggested that the term 'inclusivity' should be entered into the formal definition of AILU's Purpose, Vision and Mission statement as appropriate.

Action: Paola De Bono to take this to the Internal Working Group.

Ric thanked the outgoing officers and members of the AILU committee and closed the meeting at 15:25.

Minutes prepared by Catherine Rose, AILU
23 May 2024

List of documents available prior to the 30th AGM:

Notice of 30th Annual General Meeting
Agenda of 30th Annual General Meeting
Minutes of 29th AGM 2023
Abbreviated accounts 2022/23