



Convenors report 2014

The last 12 months has seen NZAIA consolidating, focusing on its core activities and improving its management systems. The latter has been covered in the Treasurer/Secretary report (email systems, website, conference management, etc.) so I won't repeat that material. But I would like to thank Jamie, Sam, and Ben for their efforts in continuing to upgrade our digital systems.

The 2013 conference addressed fresh water, at Palmerston North. Many thanks to the core group, and especially our professional organiser, Hilary Campbell, for all their efforts in organising the conference. One thing that came out of the conference was an agreement that NZAIA should make a submission on the draft NPS on freshwater, and Ian Boothroyd managed that submission for the Association, so many thanks to Ian for that effort.

NZAIA also made a submission on the Environmental Reporting Bill: Richard Morgan co-ordinated that process, and the submission benefitted from input from a number of members, following a request to the membership.

I suggested last year that we will develop our website to reflect the growth in Pacific activities, and to develop our links to other IAIA affiliates, so providing a greater sense of an international network that members can make use of. Due to the changes in website management during the year we've not had a chance to do that this year, so would like to keep it on our "to do" list for the next 12 months.

The 2014 conference is currently underway and as ever has occupied a great deal of core group time during the year, especially in recent months. This year the process has benefitted from the contributions of our newest core group members, Ben Payne and Sam Lang, and bodes well for future conference organising in terms of the web-based tools we will have available.

As ever, I have to extend thanks to the core group for maintaining their input and enthusiasm throughout the year, and particular thanks to Jamie Newell for all his efforts during a very difficult time this year; to Christine Cheyne for taking on the role of Secretary and making an immediate impact on the way we conduct our core group, and to Hilary for her contribution to NZAIA until she headed overseas in July this year.

Richard Morgan,
Convenor, NZAIA
26 Nov 2014.