

## **Minutes of the September 2003 AGM, held at the RGS-IBG Conference in London**

### **1. Apologies:**

Michael Samers (secretary): minutes taken by the Treasurer, Neil Coe.

### **2. Minutes of the last meeting (Belfast January 2002):**

To follow

### **3. Chair's Report:**

#### **3.1 Annual Conference 2003**

After a discussion about the pros and cons of the ongoing London Conference, three main points of concern were noted (to be forwarded to the conference organising committee):

Compression of paper sessions seemed to be squeezing out PGs somewhat

Order of sessions/plenaries could have been mixed up more

Embarrassing number of significant clashes in the programme

#### **3.2 Postgraduate Seminar 2003**

A verbal report was received on the 2003 postgraduate seminar in Hull. This was deemed to be a great success with ten papers presented. The Committee thanked the organisers (Amy Proctor and Pat Collins) for all their hard work.

***Action: Neil/Amy to mount report on EGRG website.***

***Action: to initiate next year's postgrad symposium in Sheffield (Michael).***

#### **3.3 EGRG seminar on Interdisciplinarity and Economic Geography, Nottingham, April 2003**

A verbal report was received on the 2003 Seminar. The event went extremely well with over 30 people attending and six speakers taking part. In addition, it raised over £400 for the EGRG coffers. It was reported that Neil Coe, Michael Samers and Roger Lee are putting together an edited collection based on the seminar: any royalties generated will go the EGRG. The book proposal is currently under review with Blackwells.

***Action: to start to think about next year's seminar: idea on something on methodology was floated, as was overlapping it by a day with the Bristol summer institute (Michael to liaise with Adam Tickell).***

***Action: add EGRG website link to summer institute in economic geography at Bristol (Neil)***

#### **3.4 Glasgow IGU Conference August 2004.**

The EGRG's potential involvement in the RGS-IBG segment of this conference was discussed. There was general support for sessions looking at regional policy in a global system, with a truly 'global' range of speakers.

***Action: to contact Sam Ock Park and Richard Le Heron about linking our Glasgow sessions with those of the IGU group at Glasgow (Michael).***

#### **3.5 Prizes.**

A lengthy discussion was held about altering the nature of our postgraduate prizes. In particular, the notion of undergraduate, MA and PhD prizes was debated.

***Action: to set up new £100 Ph.D and MA dissertation prizes - undergrad prize to possibly follow depending on finances – to replace existing paper and travel awards. Committee members to discuss the wording/timing/procedures for this before putting it on the web and circulating.***

**4. Secretary's Report:**

Secretary absent, issues covered in Chair's Report.

**5. Treasurer's Report:**

The EGRG Treasurer presented a brief synopsis of the group's financial situation. The major incomings came from the RGS contribution, an RGS grant for the Annual Seminar, and attendance fees for the Annual Seminar. The outgoings were a £100 travel award (Jane Holgate, QMW), travel and accommodation expenses for Annelise Riles (keynote speaker at Seminar), rail fares for other speakers, and the annual website hosting fee. As of 27 October 2003, the EGRG had approximately £1800, but with a large expenses claim from Annelise Riles still pending.

**6. Confirmation of new officers:**

Chair, 2003-2006: Jane Pollard, University of Newcastle

Book Review Editor, 2003-2006: Helen Lawton-Smith, University of Oxford

**7. AOB:**

Roger Lee, the outgoing Chair, was thanked for all his efforts over the previous three years.