



Tropical Grassland Society of Australia Inc.
306 Carmody Rd,
St Lucia, Qld 4067
Australia

7 July 2010

Dear Member

Re: Wind-up of Tropical Grassland Society of Australia Inc.

I am writing to inform you of progress with winding-up the affairs of the Tropical Grassland Society of Australia Inc. Few members responded to the letter circulated to members in late 2009 seeking comments on the proposed closure of the Society, with only a limited number, especially overseas members, supporting a continuation of the Society. In view of this outcome, members attending the Annual General Meeting on 3 December 2009 voted to disband the Society at the end of 2010. The Management Committee of the Society is therefore taking the necessary steps to wind-up the affairs of the Society by the end of the year. The following is a summary of progress with various issues.

Special general meeting

In accordance with the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act 1981, a Special General Meeting of Society members must be held to confirm the closure of the Society. The affairs of the Society need to be finalised within 30 days of this meeting. It is proposed that this meeting be held at the Animal Research Institute, Yeerongpilly sometime in November 2010. Further details will be provided on the TGS Website as the time approaches.

Website

A major concern is the maintenance of information on the Society's website. The Committee considers it vital that the information on the site is preserved for future use. Discussions are underway with staff of the A.W. Howard Memorial Trust and CIAT with regard to incorporating this information on their sites. However, no firm decisions have been reached at this stage. Ian Partridge has indicated that there is considerable duplication on the site and he will be 'cleaning up' the site before the data are transferred, whatever the outcome.

Journal

The December 2010 issue of *Tropical Grasslands* (Volume 44, No 4) will be the last issue of the Journal produced under the auspices of the Society. Some members, especially overseas members, consider the Journal should continue to be published as it is the only journal specifically devoted to publishing research on tropical pastures. Discussions are underway with staff at CIAT regarding the possibility of combining

Tropical Grasslands with Pasturas Tropicales, CIAT's journal, as an international tropical pastures journal. Suggestions are that it would be electronic only, to minimise cost, and papers would be published in English or Spanish with the Abstracts in the opposite language. It would probably be managed by scientists principally in Colombia, with scientists from a range of countries on the Editorial Panel. While the journal would be supported by members' subscriptions, commercial funding support would be sought.

Society membership

The Management Committee is conscious that members may wish to join another grassland society following the disbanding of the Tropical Grassland Society. Therefore, we are providing website details for the Grassland Society of New South Wales and the Grassland Society of Southern Australia Inc. These details are as follows:

Grassland Society of New South Wales www.grasslandnsw.com.au

Membership is open to anyone interested in grassland management. The Society holds an annual conference, publishes a quarterly newsletter, holds field days and is establishing regional branches.

Membership cost is \$50 per year – July to June.

There are also Family/farm and Student membership rates.

Forms can be downloaded from the website.

Contact address for Membership applications or more information:

Secretary of the Grassland Society of NSW

PO Box 471, Orange, NSW 2800

Phone: +61 2 6369 0011 or Email: secretary@grasslandnsw.com.au

Grassland Society of Southern Australia Inc. www.grasslands.org.au

This Society is more oriented to temperate grasslands. It is a strong Society with more than 2000 members with 8 branches in Victoria, Tasmania, South Australia and southern NSW. Activities include an annual 2-day conference, a bi-monthly newsletter and field days.

Membership cost is \$88 per year (June to June); or \$231 for 3 years.

Student membership is \$22.

Corporate membership is \$440 (entitles 5 staff members to receive full member benefits).

The application form can be downloaded from the website.

The Society can be contacted at:

Grassland Society of Southern Australia Inc.

PO Box 1387, Echuca, Victoria 3564

Phone: +61 3 5480 3305 Fax: +61 3 5480 3033 or Email: office@grasslands.org.au

Both Societies would welcome new members. The Grassland Society of Southern Australia Inc. has expressed interest in supporting a Qld Branch and initiating discussions for closer interaction among the Grassland Societies, including the possibility of forming a National Grassland organisation. They would be interested in ascertaining the level of interest among Tropical Grassland Society members in a National Grassland Society.

Some members of our Society, especially overseas members, are keen to have a grassland society which has a tropical focus and a working party has been established to pursue this goal. This would be an International Tropical Grassland Society. They are also seeking to determine the level of interest among members of our Society in joining such a society.

The attached feedback sheet has been prepared to ascertain the views of members on these issues. If you are interested, could you please complete the form and return it to Kevin Lowe at the address indicated.

Finally, the Society has a large, but incomplete, supply of back issues of *Tropical Grasslands*. If anyone desires to complete their set of printed Journals, we will endeavour to satisfy your needs. Please contact Cam Mc Donald at the Society address above or by emailing cam.mcdonald@csiro.au.

Yours sincerely

Jim Pulsford
President

Richard Moss
Secretary

Tropical Grassland Society of Australia Inc.

Tropical Grassland Society of Australia Inc.

Feedback Form

Please return this form to the Tropical Grassland Society of Australia Inc. Executive:

By Email to Kevin Lowe: klowe5@bigpond.com

Or Post to Tropical Grassland Society of Australia Inc.

c/- Kevin Lowe

1 Japonica Court, YAMANTO, QLD 4305 Australia

Name:

Address:

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Email:

Organisation

1. Would you subscribe to an International Tropical Grasslands Journal?

Yes No

2. Would you publish in an International Tropical Grasslands Journal?

Yes No

3. Would you join an International Tropical Grassland Society?

Yes No

4. Would you join an Australian Grassland Society?

Yes No

5. Would you perform any executive or support role in a Qld Branch of an Australian Grassland Society?

Yes No

Comments:

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