

Annual General Meeting of the
International Small Islands Studies Association (ISISA)

Held virtually via Zoom on
Tuesday, 23rd September 2025, from 13.00 to 14.00 (CEST)

Item 1: Welcome, Introductions

ISISA President Laurie Brinklow (LB) welcomed the participants and officially opened the Annual General Meeting (AGM) by asking participants to briefly present themselves.

The members present included:

Laurie Brinklow President (in the Chair)

Sarah Nimführ Vice-President

Anna Baldacchino Secretary

Bobby Macaulay Treasurer

Anica Čuka Executive Member and Newsletter Editor

Adam Grydehøj Executive Member

Rosemarie Azzopardi Executive Member

Andrew Jennings

Beate Ratter

Godfrey Baldacchino

Huan Zhang

Jae-Eun Kim

Jan Petzold

Jennie Teasdale

Jens Westerkov Andersen

Jorn Fricke

Nick Lu

Noburu Zama

Renske Pin

Samantha Kim

Sissal T Dahl

Stefano Malatesta

Stephen A Royle

Sun-Kee Hong

Tommy Larsen Segerlind

Item 2: Approval of Agenda

The agenda for the AGM was made available to all members via email 15 days prior to the meeting and was approved by those present (Proposer: Godfrey Baldacchino; (Second: Rosemarie Azzopardi).

Item 2: Approval of Minutes of last ISISA General Meeting in Lombok Indonesia on June 29th 2024.

The minutes were sent to all members via email in due time before the AGM and were approved unanimously.

Item 3: President's report – (Laurie Brinklow)

LB says this was the first time that ISISA has organised an online AGM following a change in its statute. Previously, general meetings were held biennially, in conjunction with the 'Islands of the World' conferences. Now, thanks to the enabling technology, ISISA is able to host a virtual meeting in the years between conferences. .

Amongst other things, LB thanked Andrew Jennings for his work as treasurer and thanked Bobby Macaulay for stepping in.

LB mentioned the upcoming ISISA conferences approved for the next 4 years: 2026 in South Korea, 2027 in Curacao, Caribbean, 2028 in Gozo, Malta and 2029 in Yokohama, Japan. A representative of the respective organising teams of the 2026, 2027 and the 2028 conferences will be giving a brief presentation about the conferences during this AGM.

LB talked about the visit to South Korea where some of the ISISA Executive Board members met with the ISISA 2026 organising team.

Laurie Brinklow said in her report that ISISA finally can receive memberships again and the paying platform is now working again. We have 80 annual and lifetime members at present. LB thanked various individuals who helped along the way during the past year – newsletter, Website, Media. Lastly, LB mentioned that there will be an election for a new ISISA Executive Board during the next AGM which will be held as part of the South Korea ISISA conference.

The report was approved (Proposer: Godfrey Baldacchino; Second: Adam Grydehøj). The motion was passed unanimously.

Item 4: Treasurer's report – (Bobby Macaulay)

Bobby Macaulay (BM) presented the Treasurer's report. He apologised for the delay in getting the membership payment platform up and running. It was a long process. STRIPE is now being used instead of PayPal as that was not working for ISISA anymore. BM reported that ISISA now has almost 100 members. He also talked about ISISA's bank account which bears a balance of £15,286.05. Here is a breakdown:

- Natwest Current- £1,938.40
- Natwest Reserve- £10,700.42
- Stripe- £2,647.23

- **Total- £15,286.05**

Membership fees remain unchanged. BM mentioned that he will be working on setting up a way that members will be notified when their membership is about to expire.

When Bobby Macauley finished reporting, LB mentioned that students' scholarships are sponsored with ISISA's money for the various conferences that it holds, matched with contributions by the conference organisers.

The Treasurer's report was approved. (Proposer: Andrew Halliday; Seconder: Jan Petzold) The motion was passed unanimously.

Item 5 – 2028 ISISA Conference in Gozo, Malta – Godfrey Baldacchino (GB)

GB gave some details about the conference: Dates 26-30 June 2028; the theme of the conference will be: *Island studies comes of age*. GB said that the conference has the support of the Gozo Tourism Association and the Ministry for Gozo.

When GB talked about accommodation he mentioned the wide range of hotels and AirBnB options in Gozo. Transportation (buses, ride hailing services) is affordable and easy to use. All necessary info will be available on the dedicated website in due course.

Item 6: 2027 ISISA Conference in Curacao, Dutch Caribbean – Renske Pin (RP)

RP presented the dates for this conference: 6 – 10 June. She said that participants would be visiting other islands during the conference. RP mentioned that connectivity should be okay as there are 22 direct flights to Curacao, and then it is a 15 mins drive to the city centre where the venue of the conference will be. RP introduced the organising team and various universities and entities supporting them. She also told us briefly what the programme would look like including various activities in the community. When mentioning accommodation RP said that there are around 60 hotels within walking distance.

Item 7 – 2026 ISISA Conference in Shinan County South Korea –

<https://www.2026isisa.kr/2026isisa/01.html> - SK Hong and Jae-Eun Kim (SKH and JEK)

SKH said that the organising team is preparing avidly for the conference. He mentioned the Call for Papers, now published, and said that they have not yet received many abstracts yet.

JEK talked about the conference homepage that is active and that the ISISA conference has also been advertised in the ISISA newsletter. She talked about the deadlines for abstracts/proposals which are now being accepted by 30 November 2025. JEK talked briefly about the excursions. JEK mentioned that there will be accommodation on Jae-Eun Island, Shinan County where the conference will be taking place but transportation might prove to be a bit difficult to get to the island. However, the organising team is working on transportations arrangements to be in place before the conference is due. JEK also mentioned that during the conference a Piano festival organised by the municipality government will be taking place. She encouraged us to visit the homepage for further details.

Anica Čuka, now president of the Islands Commission of the International Geographical Union, mentioned that there will be an IGU session during this ISISA conference.

Item 8: Other business – Jenny Teasdale (JT)

JT talked about her book: Island Gardens. Her plan is to have it launched at the ISISA South Korea Conference. JT said that there are 42-chapter writers and 71 authors.

Item 9: Vote of Thanks and Adjournment

President Laurie Brinklow extended her thanks and gratitude to all members present for the AGM and said that the next AGM will be held as part of the ISISA conference in South Korea. LB mentioned that it might be a hybrid meeting so that those who are not able to attend the conference will still be able to take part in the AGM.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.

Minutes taken by Anna Baldacchino (Secretary)