

President's Report

Annual General Meeting of GOVIS 2005

23/9/2005

GOVIS – WORKING SMARTER NOT HARDER

General:

This year I think we have tried to work smarter, not harder. This has been necessary because of what I perceive as a reduction in the number of people with the passion to make a difference within the Government ICT community. There does not seem to be a single reason for it – but the impression I get, is that it is harder to find the time to focus on extra activities like GOVIS.

Committee:

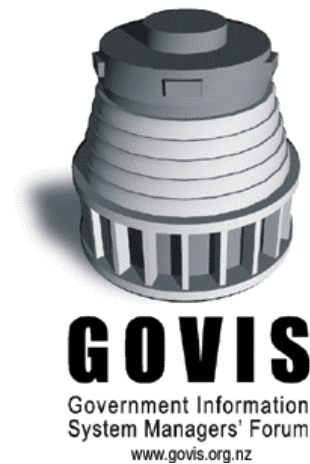
Therefore, my sincere thank the committee members who have found the time to participate on our behalf – GOVIS would not exist without them.

- Mike Pearson – President (SSC)
- David Fitzgerald-Irons – Treasurer (Statistics NZ)
- Ros Coote – Secretary (SSC)
- Trudy Rankin – Forum Coordinator (SSC)
- Michelle Edgerley (Cabinet Office)
- John Hanson (Mfish)
- John Preval (Parliamentary Services)
- Greg Goulding (Archives)
- Julie-Anne Maloney (Land Transport NZ)
- Marie Nordstrand (DIA)

Forums:

In addition, thank you to those who have put their time and effort into our forum activities. We currently have the following forums:

- GOVIS (227 members) – Trudy Rankin
- Information Management (147 members) – Ros Coote
- Information Technology (111 members) – Rob McNie
- Security (101 members) – Marc Barlow, Grant Streeter





- Websites (136 members) – Ian Kemp

The e-government forum was decommissioned, because it was felt that it was now part of “business as usual”.

Conference Details:

The other big event for 2005 was our bi-annual conference. GOVIS 2005 was held 18-20th May at the Wellington Town Hall and was the most successful conference we have ever run. There are a number of reasons for this, including: offering a shared ticket arrangement (upto 3 names sharing a ticket) and a free guest registration for dinner participants. Over 500 delegate registrations were received (compared with 350 last time).

We had a number of high quality international speakers, including Gerry McGovern and Bob Hayward. One note of regret is that we cancelled the Humour in Business Workshop due to a lack of interest. That’s funny in an ironic sense, but does raise the question in my mind about whether people feel it is ok to have fun in their job.

The web-casting/recording of the conference was another success. In the 6 weeks after the conference there were over 1,000 downloads of the presentations. In addition, there were over 100 DVDs distributed.

Planning for the GOVIS 2007 Conference, scheduled for May 9-11, will be starting shortly. We will be looking for volunteers for the Committee in November.

Other Initiatives:

Our idea of GOVIS SIG Sponsorship had a minor hiccup this year, when no one bothered to apply for sponsorship to a conference of interest. We will try again in 2006.

GOVIS has joined the Institute of Public Administration New Zealand, as a corporate member. The primary reason for joining IPANZ was to ensure access to their New Professionals (NPs) group, for any new IT/IM professionals. This came about because of a bright idea from Michelle, who was wondering how GOVIS could support new professionals. Note that GOVIS members are welcome to attend any other IPANZ event as well.



GOVIS is sponsoring the Innovation in Technology category of the BearingPoint Innovation Awards 2005. This is seen as a way to potentially provide worthy recognition to those GOVIS member agencies that are doing innovative things with technology (assuming they enter and win).

GOVIS is also negotiating to assist the Web Standards Group, which is intending to organise a Web Stock 1.0 conference in 2006. This conference should be of great interest to our Web forum group.

In my opinion, the above are all ways in which GOVIS is working smarter not harder. I welcome any other suggestions on how we can use the resources of GOVIS to further the objectives of our members.

Mike Pearson

GOVIS President