The 112th Annual General Meeting of The Southern African Institute of Mining and Metallurgy was held at The Country Club, Johannesburg, Napier Road, Auckland Park on Thursday, 13 August 2009.

Welcome
The President extended a special welcome to the guests and representatives of our sister institutes and other associations, and also to recipients of awards, senior members of industry, Honorary Life Fellows, past-presidents, our members and other guests, among them the following:

M. Diliza, CEO, Chamber of Mines of South Africa
M. van Aswegen, President, The Geological Society of South Africa (GSSA)
T. Goba, Chief Executive Officer of ECSA
F. Fourie, President, Association of Mine Managers
T. Masendo, President, South African Colliery Managers’ Association
O. Letsholo, President, Association of Mine Resident Engineers
E. Dhlamini, President, Mine Metallurgical Managers’ Association

Past-presidents attending
John Cruise                    Robbie Robinson
Roger Dixon                   Dick Stacey
Henry James                   Willem van Niekerk
Rams Ramokgopa

Minutes
The minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting, which were published in the September 2008 issue of the Journal, and sent to all members, were confirmed.

Obituaries
The President announced the death, during the year, of the following members:
Honorary Life Fellows and Past-Presidents
M.D.G. Salamon
Life Fellow
D.E.R. Ayres

Fellow
J.L. Taylor

Retired Fellows

Members
M.L. Coetzee, R.L. Burger, I. Walton

Associate
D.A.R. Duke

In memory of the deceased and in sympathy with the bereaved, all rose and observed a moment of silence.

Honorary Fellowship

Nielen van der Merwe: Honorary Life Fellowship is awarded by the Council to corporate members of the Institute who have rendered outstanding service to the industry or to the Institute. It is my pleasure to announce that the Council has decided to award Honorary Fellowship to:

I. Walton, for his outstanding service to the SAIMM over many years. This award is given posthumously as Ian passed away in July 2009. Ian was the chairman of the Zululand branch of the SAIMM since 2000 and part of the organising committee for several very successful international heavy minerals conferences held in KZN. Mrs Kathy Walton accepted the award from Andrie Garbers-Craig.

Brigadier Stokes Memorial Award

Nielen van der Merwe: The Brigadier Stokes Memorial Award was instituted in 1980 to commemorate the outstanding contribution to the South African mining industry made by Brigadier R.S.G. Stokes, an Honorary Life Fellow and past-president of this Institute. The award is made to an individual for the very highest achievement in the South African mining and metallurgical industry. It gives me great pleasure to announce that the award for 2009 is to be made to Dr Constantinus Johannes Fauconnier.

Nielen van der Merwe called upon Alan Field, to read the citation:
Madame President, honoured guests, ladies and gentlemen. It is indeed a great honour for me to introduce Dr Con Fauconnier the winner of the Brigadier Stokes award for 2009. Con Fauconnier was born in Polokwane, South Africa and has spent his whole career dating back to 1966, in the mining industry.
Proceedings, 112th Annual General Meeting, 2009

Con worked for the Anglo American Corporation, Gencor and JCI Limited prior to joining Iscor in 1995 as General Manager Business Development. He joined the Board of Iscor Ltd in 1997 and became managing director of Iscor Mining in 1999. With the unbundling of Iscor into a mining and a steel company in 2001, Con was appointed chief executive of the mining company, Kumba Resources Limited. In 2006 Eyesizwe Mining and the non-iron assets of Kumba Resources merged to form Exxaro Resources Limited, and Con was appointed as chief executive officer of the newly formed company. He retired from Exxaro at the end of August 2007. He currently serves as an independent non-executive director on the boards of Namawka Diamonds Ltd, a London-listed integrated diamond producer and Merafe Resources Ltd, a JSE-listed ferrochrome producer. He is also an Honorary Professor in the Faculty of Engineering, Built Environment and Information Technology of the University of Pretoria and a Fellow of the Gordon Institute of Business Science (GIBS). Con served on the Executive Council of the Chamber of Mines of South Africa until November 2006 and was President for the period 2003 to 2005. He is a registered professional engineer and a Fellow of The Southern African Institute of Mining and Metallurgy, where he served on the Council for the periods 1985–86 and 1987–88. He is also a Fellow of the Institute of Directors of Southern Africa and the South African Academy of Engineering, and a Trustee of the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF), South Africa.

He is the co-author and editor of the book *Increased Underground Extraction of Coal*, and the author of some 40 papers published in technical and professional journals in South Africa and abroad. He is the recipient of a silver medal from the SAIMM for one of these publications.

He studied at the University of Pretoria and holds four degrees in Mining Engineering, including his doctorate (D. Eng.), from this university. He has an MBA from the University of Oregon, USA, and completed the Strategic Leadership Programme at Templeton College, University of Oxford. In April 2004 he received an honorary doctorate in Natural and Agricultural Science from the University of the Free State. In 2004 he also received the South African Boss of the Year award for his leadership style.

Con is an avid golfer, enjoys furniture making and wildlife photography and spends as much time as possible in the wilderness areas of Southern Africa birdwatching with his wife, Beverly.

Ladies and gentlemen, Con has contributed enormously to the mining industry over many years and will always be remembered for his caring attitude to both fellow managers and subordinates. On behalf of the SAIMM, I would now ask Con to come forward to receive the Brigadier Stokes Award for 2009.

**Con Fauconnier:** Madame President, fellow members of the Institute, ladies and gentlemen. I believe that in one’s working life there is no greater honour than recognition by your peers.

I am keenly aware that in our industry there are many individuals deserving of this award and I am deeply grateful to have been chosen as the 2009 recipient thereof.

I am also conscious of the great names that appear on the list of recipients, dating back to 1980 with the first award going back to Mr Harry Oppenheimer. Many of them were role models and mentors to me, such as the late Dr Austin Whillier, Prof. Danie Krige, Prof. Miklos Salamon, Prof. David Horsfall and Prof. G. T. van Rooyen who all, in some way or another, helped shape the technical part of my career and probably some of my views on the mining industry and its sterling people. They were all world-renowned experts in their respective fields and yet all of them were very humble and unassuming individuals.

Others on the list of recipients are giants who helped shape the corporate structure of our industry over the years, all of whom I got to know and several of whom I had the privilege of working for. Here I remember with great fondness, and in some instances with a measure of trepidation, the larger-than-life characters such as Dr Tommie Muller, Dr Wim De Villiers, Robin Plumridge, Graham Boustred, Ted Pavitt, Leslie Boyd, Hans Smith, Brian Gilbertson and, more recently, the first black recipient of the award, Patrice Motsepe.

Then there are those who just rub off on you and influence your career through friendship and interaction such as Oskar Steffen and Horst Wagner, both past presidents of our Institute and people who have already left their mark on our industry.

Madame President, having reflected on some of the great names on the list of recipients, I am profoundly grateful to you, the Council and members of this Institute for placing me in the company of such great people through this award. I am humbled by the award but also extremely proud.

I am privileged to receive an award for a career I thoroughly enjoyed and which served my family well over the years.

Two things stand out in my mind when I think back on my 42 years in the mining industry:

- The first is that it is a tough industry that has the uncanny knack of attracting some of the best talent the country has to offer and getting the best out of that talent. The industry is the foundation on which the modern economy of South Africa is built and to this day remains the backbone of the economy. Little wonder, therefore, that so many mining people have had such a profound influence on the economic landscape of this country.

- The second thing that comes to my mind is the enormous change that has taken place in the industry over the four and a half decades I have been associated with it.

I recall one of my first jobs at Western Deep Levels, after graduating in 1968, was to update the geothermal gradient graphs for the ventilation department, and for a period of about two weeks every morning I set a world record by being the first person entering the deepest point on earth in an underground mine. We were developing tertiary incline shafts below about 11 000 ft, or about 3 500 m at the time. Those were heady days with new deep level shafts being sunk all over the West Wits line and in the Free State, and South Africa was probing new frontiers in mining technology almost on a daily basis.

I was privileged in 1972 to be seconded by Anglo American to their Coal Division to get my coal Manager’s Certificate and worked on the first low-ash export coal plant at SA Coal Estates, which is also where I first met David Horsfall. Also starting then was the construction of the Richards Bay Coal Terminal for export coal with the massive capacity of 12 Mtpa.
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Who would have thought back then that by 2009 that capacity would be up to 91 Mtpa, making it the premier coal terminal in the world?

I witnessed our industry living through a boom period in the late sixties/early seventies taking direct employment up to almost one million people and then to decline to less than half that figure a decade and a half later, only to recover again in recent times on the back of unprecedented growth in China and other large-population emerging economies. Take my word, the current recession will ultimately be only a small blip on a positive long-term trend when measured with the benefit of 40 years’ worth of hindsight.

I guess the biggest change for all of us was the new dawn of 1994. Not only did our industry have to cope with the changed political environment but we were the first industry to face the introduction of new legislation attempting to redress the imbalances of the past. It seems almost unreal now that there was a time when black people were prohibited by statute from occupying certain positions in the industry and women were not allowed to work in mines at all! Even women office workers were prohibited from working after 5 p.m. The new legislation came in the form of the Mineral and Petroleum Resource Development Act and its attendant Charter which initially caused havoc on the JSE when a draft copy of a Charter, drawn up by someone in the DME, was leaked to the outside world. Within four days almost R50 billion of market capitalization was wiped out on the JSE and emergency measures had to be put in place to salvage the situation. I was privileged to be a member of the industry team, together with Barry Davison, Bobby Godsell, Zoli Dilliza and Roger Baxter, that sat down with the Government, Labour, emerging miners and the traditional communities to negotiate a new Charter acceptable to all parties and to investors. I was also privileged to be the signatory of the final Charter on behalf of the industry.

Madame President, may I conclude by acknowledging the change political environment and the introduction of new legislation attempting to redress the imbalances of the past. It seems almost unreal now that there was a time when black people were prohibited by statute from occupying certain positions in the industry and women were not allowed to work in mines at all! Even women office workers were prohibited from working after 5 p.m. The new legislation came in the form of the Mineral and Petroleum Resource Development Act and its attendant Charter which initially caused havoc on the JSE when a draft copy of a Charter, drawn up by someone in the DME, was leaked to the outside world. Within four days almost R50 billion of market capitalization was wiped out on the JSE and emergency measures had to be put in place to salvage the situation. I was privileged to be a member of the industry team, together with Barry Davison, Bobby Godsell, Zoli Dilliza and Roger Baxter, that sat down with the Government, Labour, emerging miners and the traditional communities to negotiate a new Charter acceptable to all parties and to investors. I was also privileged to be the signatory of the final Charter on behalf of the industry.

Madame President, when I reflect on these 40-odd years in the mining industry, I realize that I was extremely fortunate to be part of an industry that was both challenging and exciting. It was an honour to work with so many great people from all walks of life, many of whom were not only colleagues but also became good friends. I was also privileged to have the support of my family on this journey and I am pleased that my wife Beverly and two of my daughters, Anna-May and Celeste, are here this evening. It is also pleasing that two of my daughters have found a career in this great industry of ours.

Madame President, may I conclude by acknowledging the work of this Institute and the value it adds to its members. It is the preeminent organization for intellectual discourse on technical matters in our industry and has served its members well for over a century. I have always been proud to be a Fellow of this Institute and for this reason I again thank you and all the members of the Institute for the honour you have bestowed on me. It is an honour I will always cherish.

I thank you all.

Presentation of awards, medals and certificates

Nielen van der Merwe announced the following awards, medals and certificates, which were presented by Andrie Garbers-Craig.

50-year Membership Awards
(with effect from 1 July 1958 to 30 June 1959)

- J. Dear, elected 8 May 1959
- P.J. van der Walt, elected 9 January 1959
- R.H. Swan, elected 12 June 1959
- B.S. Tatterson, elected 12 September 1958

Gold Medals are awarded for papers that are of a world-class standard, and judged to be publications that will become key reference in their mining or metallurgy field in the future. The following paper was awarded a gold medal.

Gold Medal

I. Canbulat and J.N. van der Merwe for their paper published in the February 2009 issue of the Journal entitled:

‘Design of optimum roof support systems in South African collieries using probabilistic design approach’.

Presentation of Student Prizes

Nielen van der Merwe announced the student winners of the SAIMM Prestige Prize and Andrie Garbers-Craig presented the awards to the students adjudged by their departments to be the best final-year students in 2008:

University of the Witwatersrand

- Mining: M. Hand
- Metallurgy: M. Moropeng

University of Pretoria

- Mining: A. Angelov
- Metallurgy: D.B. Swanepoel
- Student Dissertation: M. Harris

University of Johannesburg

- Mining: J. Winnan

The following SAIMM student prizes were presented at the Western Cape Branch AGM on 6 August 2009.

University of Cape Town

- Chemical Engineering: T. Richards

University of Stellenbosch

- Process Engineering: M. Rama

Cape Peninsula University of Technology

- Chemical Engineering: M. Chowdhury

Annual Report and Accounts

John Cruise presented the financial statements.
Proceedings, 112th Annual General Meeting, 2009

This past year was the year of international economic meltdown. People with stocks and shares on the world bourses saw their investments slashed over a short period of time. Your Institute did not come out of this meltdown unscathed. Fortuitously, we had instructed our share portfolio managers to increase our liquidity from 10% to 30% just prior to the meltdown, which has resulted in the value of our portfolio decreasing over the financial year to June by only 14% as compared to the JSE decrease of 27% over the same period.

Midway during the year, we anticipated that the economic climate would result in a disastrous year financially for our banquet, colloquia and conferences and we prepared to tighten our belts. Our first move was to limit the downside of those functions which already had incurred substantial costs and for which cancellation would have been a total loss. The first function to be hit was the annual banquet, which we rescued by drastically reducing the price of tables, thus ensuring attendance that could cover the overheads and sunken costs. We called this the ‘Austerity Dinner’.

Our second was an international conference on shotcrete, which when it looked like the attendance would be low, we invited the final year university students to attend at reduced rates. The result of this was a well attended conference, which surprisingly also made an excess of income over expenditure. Since then, the conferences we have held have shown no sign of the recession.

In addition we were most fortunate to have held the ever popular Platinum Conference just before the meltdown. Thus, our conferences continue to be the prime source of revenue for our Institute allowing us to show an operating surplus for the year of R513 013 (previous year R91 944).

If we look at the income statement summary of the annual statements, we see that the overall loss for the year was R799 647 (R1 568 699 surplus). This was due in the main to the depreciation in the value of shares of R1 806 398 (R744 301 appreciation) and loss on shares sold of R248 744 (R742 482 gain). Investment income increased to R742 482 (R650 149).

The reporting of revenue changed during the year to show the true turnover values. In previous years we had shown only the excess of income over expenditure as income from conferences. Therefore the current value for revenue of R12 617 408 should not be compared to last year’s value of R5 063 861. Nor should the operating expenses value of R12 104 395 be compared to last year’s value of R4 972 725. However, the bottom line of operating surplus of R513 013 can be compared to last year’s value of R91 944. This in a year of economic meltdown! That which was under our control, namely the operations, we were able to adapt to the circumstances and we showed a surplus. That which was beyond our control, namely the share market, showed a loss in value.

The detailed income statement shows that advertising revenue increased to R732 512 (R672 568), company affiliates subscriptions increased to R696 183 (R691 782) and membership entrance fees and subscriptions increased to R1 558 860 (R1 497 184). As mentioned in the previous paragraph, the income from conferences, colloquia, schools and miscellaneous of R9 629 853 cannot be compared to last year’s value of R2 202 327, as the former is total revenue and the latter is revenue less cost of sales. Similarly, in the operating expenses, the conference expenses of R6 421 202 cannot be compared to last year’s R601 731. In addition, this year’s employee costs of R2 882 430 are for all employees on the staff, whereas last year’s R1 800 938 omitted the conference staff whose costs were included in the conference cost of sales.

In summary, the total income for the year is R13 359 890, being revenue from operations of R12 617 408 plus dividend revenue of R281 856 plus interest received of R460 626. The operating expenses for the year are R12 104 395, thus producing an operating surplus of R1 255 495.

After including the sale of shares loss of R248 744 and the share value adjustment of R1 806 398, a deficit for the year of R799 647 is taken forward to the statement of changes in reserves.

The effect of this on our reserves is shown. Our total reserves have dropped from R17 219 573 to R 16 432 441.

During the year, we had a blitz on outstanding debtors to clean up our books. This was undertaken by the entire staff for a period of a few months and I must thank them all for their effort. The job of the honorary treasurer is made easier by having such a dedicated secretariat and I must thank our Institute manager, Julie Dixon, and our accountant, Alf Bettoni, for their unstinting efforts throughout the year. To our auditor, Robert Kitching, thank you for placing the SAIMM at the top of your workpile in July and for getting the annual financial statements in record time for our annual general meeting.

Finally, to our desktop publishing department once again you have got the financials to the printers on time. Well done all.

Your Institute continues to be in financial good health, as it has been for the last decade.

Office bearers and Members of Council for 2009/2010

Andrie Garbers-Craig announced the office bearers for the ensuing year, elected by the retiring Council in accordance with Clauses 3.2 and 3.3 of the Constitution:

President J.C. Ngoma
President-elect G.V.R. Landman
Senior vice-president J.N. van der Merwe
Junior vice-president G.L. Smith
Immediate past-president A.M. Garbers-Craig
Honorary treasurer J.A. Cruise.

In terms of the election of ordinary members of Council (bylaw 3.2.7), there is a letter from the scrutineers stating: ‘We have to report that we inspected the nomination papers for members of Council for the 2009/2010 session, and have found that the ballot papers sent out to Corporate Members of the Institute were in order. As a result of our scrutiny, we find that the following members have been elected (in alphabetical order):

A. du Plessis W. Joughin
J. du Plessis A.S. Macfarlane
M. Dworzanzowski M.J. Mothomogolo
P.A.F. Fouche J.L. Porter
M.F. Handley M.K.C. Roberts
N. James P.J. van der Plas
R.T. Jones D.J. van Niekerk

Clauses 3.2 and 3.3 of the Constitution:

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In terms of Clause 3.2.8 of the Constitution, the chairman of the branches are as follows:

- Botswana: Vacant
- Bushveld: C.A.F. Sweet
- DRC: N. Schoeman
- Johannesburg: M. Woodhall
- Lesotho: M. Lebitta
- Namibia: J. Coetzee
- Pretoria: O. Mothibi
- Western Cape: J. Sweet
- Zambia: S. Mulenga
- Zululand: W. Erasmus
- Zimbabwe: W. Kutekwatekwa

These chairmen will serve on Council.

The following past-presidents have signified their willingness to serve on Council for the ensuing year:

- H.E. James
- R.D. Beck
- J.A. Cruise
- D.A.J. Ross-Watt
- N.A. Barcza
- R.P. Mohring
- J.R. Dixon

Andrie Garbers-Craig thanked those past-presidents, who indicated that they cannot serve on Council for the next year, for all their time, effort and dedication in the past.

She also thanked past-presidents for their continued support. She congratulated all those elected, and thanked those who agreed to serve another term of office.

Election of auditors and honorary legal advisers for 2009/2010

Andrie Garbers-Craig proposed and it was agreed, that R.H. Kitching be reappointed as auditor for the coming year and that Van Hulsteyn, Attorneys, be reappointed as honorary legal advisers.

Induction of President

Andrie Garbers-Craig introduced the new President, Joshua Chimankula Ngoma, and then called upon Nielen van der Merwe to read his curriculum vitae.

Joshua is a businessman, and the founding Chief Executive Officer of Tranter Group of companies.

Joshua was born in Chipata (the then Fort Jameson) in the Eastern part of Zambia. He did his ‘O’ Levels (Matric equivalent) at Chizongwe Secondary School, in Chipata, and his ‘A’ Levels at Mplemebe Secondary School in Kitwe.

He obtained a Bachelor of Engineering degree in mining engineering in 1988 from Camborne School of Mines in the Southwest of England, and a Master of Engineering degree in project management from the University of Pretoria in 2001.

Joshua has worked all his life in the mining industry. He started with the Zambia Consolidated Copper Mines on the Copperbelt of Zambia, working from Senior Assistant Mining Engineer through to Senior Project Engineer. He also worked briefly in the dimension stone industry between 1990 and 1991, on secondment, in Carrara and Tivoli in Italy. He then moved to South Africa in 1994, just before the first democratic elections, to work for Cementation Mining (the then GFC) in shaft sinking and mechanical drilling. He later joined De Beers in 1997 as the Drilling and Blasting Engineer, and then Sasol Mining in 1999, as a Senior Project Engineer.

It was just after he had joined Sasol Mining in 1999 that he was approached by Sipho Nkosi, the current Exxaro CEO, to join the Eyesizwe Consortium that was bidding for the mining assets that were put together by Anglo American and BHP Billiton for a BEE deal. After the consortium won the bid and took over business in 2001, Joshua moved to work full time for Eyesizwe Coal. He formed the Technical and New Business Development Department, and became the company’s Group Technical and New Business Development Manager. When New Clydesdale Colliery became a stand-alone operation in 2002, he took over as the operation’s General Manager. He later became General Manager of Matla Colliery in 2004. In 2005, he was invited to join Anglo Platinum as the Group Manager: New Mining Technologies, where he was responsible for the development and implementation of the Group’s new mining technologies. Then in August 2007, he left Anglo Platinum to head Tranter, which he has since developed into a group of companies, investing both in resources and services.

Joshua became a member of the Institute in July 1995, and has been actively involved in the activities of the institute’s Technical Programme Committee (TPC) Mining since 2001. He was initially co-opted on the Council in 2004, and officially elected in 2005. He has served on the Council ever since.

He became a professional engineer with ECSA in May 1997, and has served on the Professional Advisory Committee on Mining Engineering since 2002. Joshua has also served on several other professional bodies, including Coaltech, where he was chairman of the Coaltech Management Team, CSIR-Miningtek Advisory Board, Minerals Education Trust Fund, as well as PlatMine and PlatTech.

Joshua is married to Susan, and they have two children, Daliso (17) and Natasha (15). In his spare time, he enjoys photography, reading, particularly business and world politics literature, listening to news and current affairs, watching wrestling and boxing, and playing an occasional game of golf. When he is on break, he also enjoys travelling, and seeing places. Every year he and his family travel to at least one new place on the planet that they have never visited before.

Presidential Address

Joshua Ngoma then presented his presidential address entitled: Swimming with the black swan, which is reproduced elsewhere in this edition of the Journal.

Vote of thanks

Rod Pickering gave the vote of thanks.

Closure

The meeting closed at 18:00.
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Nielen van der Merwe, Master of Ceremonies

Ian Walton was awarded the Honorary Fellowship Award (posthumously) Kathy Walton accepting the award from Andrie Garbers-Craig

Alan Field reading the citation of Constantinus Fauconnier, recipient of the Brigadier Stokes Award

Con Fauconnier, recipient of the Brigadier Stokes Award, receiving his Platinum Medal from Andrie Garbers-Craig

I. Canbulat and J.N. van der Merwe, receiving their Gold Medal Awards, for their paper that was published in the Journal

M. Hand, receiving her Student Prize at the University

M. Moropeng, receiving her Student Prize

A. Angelov, receiving his Student Prize

J. Winnan, receiving his Student Prize
Proceedings, 112th Annual General Meeting, 2009

John Cruise, delivering a summary of the financial report

Joshua Ngoma presenting Andrie Garbers-Craig with her Presidential Plaque

Joshua Ngoma, delivering his Presidential Address

Office Bearers for 2009/2010—Front row (from left to right): Julie Dixon (Manager), Joshua Ngoma, Andrie Garbers-Craig, and Nielen van der Merwe; Back row (from left to right): John Cruise and Gordon Smith
Past presidents of the SAIMM


Council members and past-presidents of the SAIMM

Council members for 2009/2010 and past-presidents—Front row (from left to right): Julie Dixon (Manager), Matthew Handley, John Cruise, Joshua Ngoma, Andrie Garbers-Craig, Nielen van der Merwe, Gordon Smith, Sixtus Mulenga, and Dirk van Niekerk;
Back row (from left to right): Rodney Jones, Rod Pickering, Dick Stacey, Jim Porter, William Joughin, Paul van der Plas and Wence Kutekwatekwa
Members and their guests at the Cocktail Party

Celeste, Con, Beverley and Anna-May Fauconnier

Gerhard and Beverly Keyter, William Joughin, and Dick Stacey

Rod Pickering, Con and Beverley Fauconnier, and Oskar Steffen

Peter Knottenbelt, Dirk van Niekerk, and Frik Fourie

Rodney Jones, Kevin Hay, Marcia van Aswegen, and Alan McKenzie

Dave Tudor, Mark Cresswell, Peter Radcliffe

University students enjoying the cocktail party after the AGM