

Australasian Society for HIV Medicine

Minutes from the Annual General Meeting 2007

Date: Thursday 18 October 2007

Time: 17.30 pm

Location: Crystal Room, Level 1
Stamford Plaza Hotel
33 Cross Street, Double Bay NSW 2028

Present: Jonathan Anderson, Mark Boyd, Damian Conway, David Cooper, Levinia Crooks, Philip Cunningham, Greg Dore, Liza Doyle, Fraser Drummond, Sean Emery, Martyn French, Roger Garsia, Sonja Hill, Jennifer Hoy, Mark Kelly, Stephen Kent, Sharon Lewin, Stuart Loveday, Graham Mills, Adrian Mindel, Adrian Ogier, Damian Purcell, Tim Read, Joe Sasadeusz, Jo Watson, Edwina Wright

Associates: Bill Whittaker, Jenny MacDonald, Patricia Price

Apologies: Rex Melville, Tina Schmidt, Anne Robertson, David Bradford (Rtd)

Quorum: As of this morning ASHM has a financial VOTING membership of 527. The constitution requires that 10% of the membership participate in the Annual General Meeting either by being present at the meeting or by proxy. Quorum for this meeting is therefore 53 people

Proxies: Don Baxter, Mark Bloch, Katherine Brown, John Byrne, Marina Carman, Catherine Cherry, Deborah Couldwell, Suzanne Crowe, Elizabeth Dax, Dominic Dwyer, John Dyer, Beng Eu, Michael Kidd, Stephen Lambert, Stephen Locarnini, Patrick Mallon, Marilyn McMurchie, Richard Moore, David Orth, Catherine Pell, Alan Pithie, Ross Price, Dick Quan, Edward Reis, Darren Russell, Jan Savage, Catherine Sheppard, Denis Spelman, Graeme Stewart, Richard Teague, Joseph Torresi, Garry Trotter, Helen Tyrrell, Emanuel Vlahakis, Russell Waddell, Cammi Webb, Claudia Whyte, Jeff Willcox, Ian Woolley, Stephen Yeung

Minutes from the 2006 AGM:

Minutes as circulated are a true record of the meeting.

Moved: John Anderson **Seconded:** Tim Read
CARRIED

Presidents Report:

The report is published in the Annual Report. I present this to the members. Members will recall that a pdf copy of the report was sent with the reminder for this meeting. We also have hard copies of the report available for you this evening.

Although it is not included in my report, the IAS Conference has occurred since we last met. The meeting was a great success and I would like to thank David Cooper and John Kaldor as well as all the ASHM members who contributed to making that meeting a success. Particularly I would like to thank the rapporteurs Gilda Tachedjian, Sean Emery, Lisa Maher and the track co chairs, Damian Purcell, Jenny Hoy and Steven Kent.

Moved: Fraser Drummond **Seconded:** Jennifer Hoy

I would now like to move the report:
CARRIED

Treasurers Report:

Last year when I sat before you we were reporting a considerable overspend from retained earnings. This was a result of our continued support of our international programs, a function of our refitting of the office and the need to buy new equipment, finalising some activities which were carried over from previous years and a result of our investment in planning for the International Conference among other things. I said last year that that was out of the ordinary and that I did not expect that spending to continue. I am pleased to say that that prediction was correct and this year while our total expenditure is up, it is matching our income.

Secondly the income and expenditure in the 2006-2007 year is inflated because of the international conference. Some of the grants and sponsorship for the IAS Conference was filtered through ASHM. Some of this will carry over to next year as well. But we may not see figures this high as typical.

In the interests of time I will leave it there but am happy to take questions.

Moved: Mark Boyd

Seconded: Stephen Kent

Move that the Treasurers report be accepted:
CARRIED

MOTIONS ON NOTICE:

LEVINIA: Members will have received 2 motions on notice. The Board had previously decided not to put any substantive business at this meeting because of its out-of-the ordinary status and because members would be disadvantaged in attending. But the Board also wanted the secretariat to progress getting recognition for ASHM as a Non-self Accrediting Higher Education Provider and a Registered Training Organisation (RTO) educational courses both as vocational and higher education activities.

We have been working on this and it appears that our attempts will be rejected unless our organisational rules (or constitution) explicitly indicate we support "free intellectual enquiry" and that the ASHM Board would be the authority within the organisation which awards any qualification.

I have taken legal advice on these matters and we could probably wage a case that the first is implicit in our constitution and that the Board is the instrument through which the Society works according to our constitution. But that it would be easier to amend the constitution as a fight could be long, would require rejection of our application first and might be lost.

Is there any discussion

The first Motion on Notice would change objective f from:

(f) To foster education for health professionals and the general public

To

(f) To foster education for health professionals and the general public through the provision of higher and vocational education courses (and any other continuing education courses) which encourage free intellectual inquiry;

Moved: Sharon Lewin

Seconded: Jonathan Anderson

All those in favour
All those against
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The second Motion on Notice:

Add the clause d to Powers of the Board and would read

12 (d) will award any higher education qualifications that ASHM is approved for and keep a register of such awards.

Moved: Sharon Lewin

Seconded: Jonathan Anderson

All those in favour

All those against

CARRIED

ELECTION OF THE BOARD:

It now gives me great pleasure to ask Levinia to provide the result of the election for the Board and the procedures for filling the casual vacancy. But before doing that I would like to take this opportunity to thank two retiring members.

Kath Fethers, Kath joined the Board when she was working in Alice Springs in Sexual Health. Kath brought an intimate understanding of indigenous health issues to the Board and was also a tremendous insight into the difficulties of working in the HIV, viral hepatitis and sexual health area in a remote or isolated location. Kath then moved to Byron bay working as a general practitioner and remained on the Board. She has recently moved to Melbourne where she is studying for her PhD.

Liz Dax is also leaving the Board. Liz has been on the Board since 1999 and has held positions of both President and Vice President. Liz is a great contributor to ASHM through the international division and also through her work in policy and governance. Liz is unfortunately unable to join us this evening but can you please join with me in thanking her.

Nominations for the Board

Nominations closed on 31 July at which time there were 13 nominations for 14 vacancies. Those people nominated were elected unopposed they are:

Jonathan Anderson	President
Greg Dore	Vice President
Edwina Wright	Secretary
Joe Sasadeusz	Treasurer
Sharon Lewin	Immediate Past President

Darren Russell	Ordinary Members
Stephen Lambert	
Alan Pithie	
Mark Boyd	
Philip Cunningham	
Garry Trotter	
Nick Medland	
John Dyer	

That left no nomination from South Australia or the Northern Territory. Members will recall that SA and NT are viewed as one state for the purposes of representation on the Board. We are required by the constitution to fill that casual vacancy from SA/NT first, and only if we can not get a nomination from there to seek a nomination from another jurisdiction.

We have received a nomination from Russell Wardell for this casual vacancy. If any other member, from SA or the NT, would like to nominate for that position they can do so now. In which case there would be a vote by show of hands.

There are no other nominations then we declare Russell Wardell elected as an ordinary member of the Board.

HAND OVER TO THE INCOMING PRESIDENT:

The President then handed over to Jonathan Anderson as the incoming president. Jonathan Anderson thanks Sharon and the out going Board members, welcomed the new Board.

SETTING OF MEMBERSHIP FEES:

The Board has discussed this and arrived at the following proposed schedule.

That the annual fees for:

- full voting member remains at \$100
- associate member be set at \$100
- student and retired associate member remain at \$60
- individual sustaining member remains at \$100

Moved: Liz Dax **Seconded:** Sharon Lewin

Is there any discussion

65 in favour and 2 against
CARRIED

Meeting closed at 6:15pm