

Australian Association of Gerontology

2015 Annual General Meeting

Thursday 05 November 2015 at 12.30pm

Alice Springs Convention Centre, Alice Springs, NT

Minutes

The Chairperson (AAG President) welcomed everyone to the AAG AGM and advised that only AAG financial members can vote or accept a proxy vote.

The Chairperson began with the Welcome to the Country:

Our conference is being held on the traditional lands of the Arrernte [pronounced ah-ren-dah] people and I wish to acknowledge them as Traditional Owners. I would also like to pay my respects to their Elders, past and present, and the Elders from other communities who may be here today.'

1. PRESENT

The Chairperson instructed all attendees to sign the Attendance Register that was at the entrance to the AGM room. The Meeting commenced at 12:39pm. Attendees at the meeting were:

A/Prof Briony Dow (Chairperson)	Olivia Farrer
Frank Schaper (Treasurer)	Debbie Faulkner
James Beckford Saunders (CEO)	Leon Flicker
Sejal Shah (Minutes)	Anita Frayman
Dianne Anderson	Sarah Fogg
Peter Balan	Sandra Forster
Peter Bastian	Sally Lisa Forsyth
Frances Batchelor	Jane Fyfield
Anthony Brown	Orla Hill
Lynsey Brown	Diane Goeman
Jacquelin Capell	Anne-Marie Goes
Colleen Cartwright	Ralph Hampson
Belinda Cash	Matthew Haren
Victoria Jane Cornell	Robin Harvey
John Cullen	Carrie Hayter
Julia Czajka	Danny Hills
Jenny Davis	Mary Ingrams
Kristen De San Miguel	Constance Kourbelis
Lui DiVenuto	Rza Kahlaee
Janey Dolan	Sharlene Lane
Samantha Edmonds	Gill Lewin
Mark Elliott	Judith Lewis
Annesley Farthing	Melissa Lindeman

Nancy Low Choy
 Elizabeth Mackinlay
 Jan McGregor
 Claudia Meyer
 Joanne Mihelcic
 Debra O'Connor
 Lynne Parkinson
 Nancy Peel
 Andrea Petriwskyj
 Glenda Powell
 Judy Ratajec
 Helen Rawson
 Melanie Robinson
 Josephine Root
 Constance Schneider
 Maria Shialis
 Chandra Shome

Jane Sims
 Ashleigh Smith
 Aneeta Snow
 Christine Stirling
 Barbara Squires
 Meredith Tavener
 Jean Tinney
 Karen Teshuva
 Colleen Towns
 Michael Tsianikas
 Sharon Wall
 Juanita Westbury
 Penelope Webster
 Yvonne Wells
 Jeni Warburton
 Rachel Winterton

2. APOLOGIES

The Chairperson read the apologies as follows and asked if there were further apologies:

Rajna Ogrin	Linda Isherwood	Hal Kendig (Barbara Squires proxy)
Anne Cumming	Irene Wagner	Tuly Rosenfeld (Briony Dow proxy)
Patsy Bourke	Mary Luszc	

3. Minutes of the AGM held on 27 November 2014 were reviewed.

The Chairperson stated that the minutes from the previous Annual General Meeting held on 27 November 2014 had been circulated prior to the AGM through an email to members. The Chairperson invited discussion of the Minutes of the 2014 AGM and asked if there was any business arising from them.

The Chairperson asked for a member to move that:

Motion: the minutes from the 27 November 2014 Annual General Meeting of the AAG be received and accepted.

MOVED:	<i>Helen Feist, Barbara Squires</i>		
SECONDED:	<i>Jane Sims</i>		
	CARRIED	DEFEATED	DEFERRED

4. PRESIDENT’S REPORT

The President presented her President’s Report as follows:

President’s report at AGM

Acknowledgement of Country

This conference is being held on the traditional lands of the Arrernte (ah-ren-dah) people and I wish to acknowledge them as Traditional Owners. I would also like to pay my respects to their Elders, past and present, and the Elders from other countries who may be here today.

The Acknowledgement of Country is part of AAG’s organisation-wide approach communicating its recognition and support of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, which is one of our initiatives for 2015

There have been many highlights in 2015 so I have listed most of them on the slide in no particular order. They are also being shown on the AAG booth if you want to take your time over them.

Highlights from the past year

- Membership numbers – Membership at 30 June 2015 was 1,042, finally over the 1000 member target set for me by Marie Curlis back in 2012. This represents a 9% increase on the previous year
- We have two new chapters, one in the Gold Coast in Queensland and one in Albury/ Wodonga in Victoria/ NSW
- Very active Special Interest Groups – I would like to congratulate LGBTI Group on the AJA supplement and the Student and Early Researchers Group on a myriad of activities both in Australia and Internationally.
- New Special Interest Group for Gerontological Nurses
- We had a very successful ATSIAG workshop on Tuesday this week focusing on what AAG can do to support our Aboriginal colleagues whose elders will be adversely affected if the remote community closures go ahead.
- In 2010/11 there were 10 webinars, compared with 7 the previous years. We ran webinars in partnership with the Australian and New Zealand Society for Geriatric Medicine and the New Zealand Association of Gerontology both of which paid a fee for their members to access the webinars for fee
- We were successful with ATSIHAG funding application, giving us funding for the 2015/16 and 2016/17 financial years
- In 2015, AAG awarded over \$31,550 in Bursaries and Grants
- The first female AAG National Travelling Fellow, Professor Elizabeth Beattie, will travel 11,166 kms across Australia visiting Canberra, Bunbury and Wollongong.

- We held a successful conference in Adelaide. Another highlight was the Quality Indicator forum in Canberra in August, which brought together local and international academics, government officers, service providers, peak bodies and a range of other stakeholders to discuss the development of quality indicators in aged care
- Professors Keith Hill, Julie Byles and our new CEO James Beckford Saunders were involved in the organising of the very successful IAGG Asia Oceania conference held in Chiang Mai in October with over 1000 delegates including 134 Australians
- Our hot topic on mental health was promoted with various events, a publication in the AJA as well as other print media.
- we held 28 educational events overall – with over 900 people attending
- Finally, we also had a strong financial result, which as I said last year is crucial for our ongoing sustainability – I won't steal Frank's thunder again by giving you the final figures
- We also for the first time took the organisation of the conference in-house and although we will still have to await the formal evaluation, I think we can agree that it has been a fantastic conference so far

So how did we achieve all this?

There are many people who I would like to thank for their contributions to AAG's success this year. First of all, I would like to acknowledge Dr Tony Coles for his leadership as our inaugural CEO. Tony had 6 years with AAG and saw us through the process of becoming a company limited by guarantee, a large increase in membership numbers, development of the webinar program, two successful ATSIHAG grant applications amongst many other achievements. Tony left in May 2015 to take up a position as CEO of Audiology Australia and I am sure we all wish him well in his new role.

Secondly I would like to thank the Board. The Board directors are volunteers who contribute a great deal to the smooth running of our association during the year. They pay close attention to the financial management and strategic direction as well as represent AAG on various committees and groups, such as the AJA Committee of Management and the National Aged Care Alliance. Special thanks to Melissa Lindeman who has made a substantial contribution both to the NT AAG and AAG Board. She was instrumental in establishing the NT Division and has had a key role as conference chair in organising this conference but has announced she will be stepping down as the NT Board member.

I would also like to acknowledge the organisations which employ the Board Directors, especially the National Ageing Research Institute where I work. Although much of the Board time is their own, some of the time is supported by their employers and I would like to acknowledge their support to the AAG as well.

I would also like to thank all the State and Territory Executive Committees. Most of the AAG activities, forums, conferences and workshops are run at a State and Territory level. The Executive members are also volunteers and I thank them and the rest of the volunteers at every level of AAG for their ongoing contributions. All that we have achieved this year would not be possible without the level of engagement we have with members. A great characteristic of AAG.

The Northern Territory Committee have done a fantastic job of organising this conference and I would like to thank the whole conference committee, ably chaired by Melissa Lindeman, our

external consultant Monique Van Wierst, who gave us her expertise free of charge, the scientific committee, chaired by Leon Flicker, and the additional volunteers who reviewed abstracts but I would like to especially thank Annie Farthing for being our local Alice Springs expert.

I would also like to thank the editorial team and committee of management of AJA, especially the Editor in Chief Lynne Parkinson, who continues to do a fantastic job at the helm as well as run workshops at all AAG and IAGG conferences on writing for publication. Thanks too to all the reviewers, many of whom are AAG members and who also do this on a voluntary basis. I would also like to welcome the new deputy editor Dr Jane Sims.

Last, but by no means least, I would like to thank our staff. First I would like to welcome James Beckford-Saunders who ably stepped into the role of CEO in June and had to immediately get his head around the entire gerontology sector, NACA, IAGG, ACIHAG, ATSIAGG, just to name a few acronyms. I hope you all take the opportunity of this conference to meet James and I am sure he will be travelling around more next year to meet all of you.

I would also like to welcome to Cassandra Glover who has done an amazing job of conference organising, especially as she only stepped into the role in September this year.

Then there is Sejal Shah, what would we do without Sejal, she keeps the whole operation going, answering member enquiries, looking after local events, organising the newsletter, taking the Board minutes and many other tasks too numerous to mention. Unfortunately Sejal has also let us know of her intention to gradually reduce her hours at AAG to start her own business. She will be missed but we wish her well and whatever business she goes into, she will have over 1000 potential customers!

My final thank you goes to Savio. He has truly done an amazing job in leading the team who organised this conference. He has kept in touch with everyone involved, keeping all the balls in the air, and personally secured a record level of sponsorship, an excellent line up of keynote speakers, great deals on accommodation, catering and pre and post tours and terrific social events.

This year we have sadly had to some of our most valued and long-standing AAG members and leaders, Professor Graeme Hugo, Dr Arthur Everitt and David Simmons. All three men made an outstanding contribution to the field of gerontology and the AAG and they will be sadly missed.

So what next? Plans for next year

- I will be stepping down as President having completed my 2 year term. I have thoroughly enjoyed this role and I am confident that we will have an excellent candidate from within the Board to take on the role for the next 2 years. We have resolved that it should be a 2 year term with the option to renominate.
- Board set up an Advocacy Working Group to review the process and implementation of AAG position papers. This group will also look at how AAG can increase its voice through the expertise within the AAG membership both through the media and discussion papers. An Advocacy SIG may develop if there is interest
- Currently recruiting for a senior policy officer – 2 days per week
- The hot topic for 2016 will be intergenerational relationships

Finally I am pleased to announce that Dr Glenda Powell, the first woman President of the AAG has kindly agreed to have the National Travelling Fellow named after her. From now on the National Travelling Fellow will be known as the Glenda Powell National Travelling Fellow.

The Chairperson asked for a member to move that:

Motion: the AAG President’s Report be received and adopted.

MOVED:	<i>Jean Tinney, Anthony Brown, Colleen Cartwright</i>		
SECONDED:	<i>Claudia Meyer, Anita Frayman</i>		
	CARRIED	DEFEATED	DEFERRED

The Chairperson invited questions or discussion of the Report.

5. TREASURER’S REPORT/AUDITOR’S REPORT TO BE RECEIVED AND ADOPTED

The Treasurer reported on AAG financials primarily:

5.1 Surplus of \$62,750.

5.2 AAG total funds are \$1,223,909; an increase on the previous year.

The Treasurer asked for a member to move that:

Motion: the AAG Treasurer’s Report and Audited Accounts for AAG Ltd. (1 July 2014 – 30 June 2015) be received and adopted.

MOVED:	<i>Barbara Squires</i>		
SECONDED:	<i>Marianne Cummins</i>		
	CARRIED	DEFEATED	DEFERRED

The Treasurer invited discussion of the Treasurer’s Report and Audited Accounts.

6. 2016/2017 MEMBERSHIP FEES

The Treasurer tabled the 2016/2017 AAG Membership Fees as recommended by the AAG Board as follows:

Membership	2016/17	
	Without AJA	With AJA
Corporate Membership:	N/A	\$535.00
Individual Membership:	N/A	\$285.00
Student Membership:	\$50.00	\$160.00

Emerging Researcher Membership:	\$90.00	\$200.00
Concession Membership:	\$90.00	\$200.00
Retired Membership:	\$90.00	\$200.00
Complimentary Membership:	N/A	\$110.00
Presidential Life/Life Membership	N/A	\$110.00

The Treasurer asked for a member to move that:

Motion: The 2016/2017 fees as put forward by the AAG Board be received and adopted.

MOVED:	<i>Elizabeth Mackinlay</i>		
SECONDED:	<i>Sarah Fogg</i>		
	CARRIED	DEFEATED	DEFERRED

7. APPOINTMENT OF DIRECTORS

The Chairperson announced the appointment of the following Directors onto the AAG Board:

Name of appointee	AAG Division
Andrea Petriwskyj	Queensland
Christine Stirling	Tasmania
Annie Farthing	Northern Territory

The Chairperson congratulated the appointed Directors noting that they would take office at the close of the AGM.

8. OTHER BUSINESS

The Chairperson invited discussion on any Association issues relevant to the AGM.

9. CLOSE

The Chairperson closed the AAG Annual General Meeting for 2015 at 1:05pm.