

AAG NT Division – Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: 10 December 2025

Location: Online

Meeting Type: Annual Members' Meeting & Committee Elections

Attendees: Judy Ratajec, Mary Ingrames, Susan Williams, Paulene Mackell, Bridget Riggs, Kim Clayworth, Renu Borst (AAG National), Michael Tan (AAG National)

Apologies: Anastasia Economou, Wendy Hubbard

1. Welcome & Acknowledgement of Country

Members acknowledged Traditional Owners across NT and Victoria.

2. Year in Review – Chair's Report (Judy) 2025

- NT Division remained active and well-connected, meeting seven times between February–October.
- Thanks extended to office bearers:
 - Mary Ingrames – Secretary
 - Susan Williams – Treasurer
 - Acknowledgement of contributions from committee members: Wendy Hubbard, Pauline Mackell, Bridget Riggs, Caroline Phillips, Nicole Tate, Alison Welsh and Kayleen Hinchcliffe.
- NT representation on the AAG Board changed in 2025:
 - Outgoing: Ben Poona
 - Incoming: Kim Clayworth
- NT membership grew from **28 to 41** following the AAG Conference.

3. AAG National Conference – Alice Springs 2025

- Strong NT involvement: speakers, co-chairs and delegates.
- Appreciation for support from Bridget, Pauline and Susan.
- Positive feedback received; conference video to be circulated across NT.
- Acknowledgement of significant logistical challenges due to flight disruptions and negative media attention, gratitude extended to all for their support.

4. Division Activities & Events 2025

- Regular meetings continued to provide valuable networking across NT.
- ****Dementia Action Week event**** (Darwin Trailer Boat Club, 17 Nov) led by Susan Williams:
 - 30 attendees
 - Hosted in partnership with Darwin Aged & Disability Service Network and Carers NT
 - Planning to repeat in 2026, with potential for an Alice Springs version.

5. Awards & Recognition 2025

- Conference Bursary: Awarded to Gucki Reissenberger (PhD research: *Creative Echoes*).
- Aged Care Worker Award:
 - Winner: Estelle Carter (Central Desert Regional Council Aged Care Service) - NT Winner for Outstanding contribution in the Practice of Age Care Award
 - Nominee: Alana Manhire (Aged Care unit, Memory Service, Darwin Memory Service)

6. Committee Elections

- All positions declared vacant in line with the 3-year cycle.
- Elected Positions
 - Chair: Susan Williams (nominated by Bridget Riggs, seconded Judy Ratajec, unanimously supported)
 - Secretary: Vacant
 - Treasurer: Vacant
 - Committee Members:
 - Bridget Riggs (Nominated Mary Ingrames, 2nd Susan Williams)
 - Mary Ingrames (Nominated Judy Ratajec, 2nd Paulene Mackell)
 - Judy Ratajec (Nominated Mary Ingrames 2nd Bridget Riggs)
 - Wendy Hubbard (Nominated Judy Ratajec, 2nd Paulene Mackell)
 - Anastasia Economou (nominated Mary Ingrames, 2nd Bridget Riggs)
 - Ex-officio: Kim Clayworth (Board Representative)

All accepted nominations unanimously accepted by all in attendance

- Other Notes
 - Committee members can now serve indefinitely at the division level.
 - Pauline (now in Victoria) will remain connected but likely step back from NT committee duties.

7. National Office Update (Renu)

- Constitution amended to allow AAG to apply for DGR1 status to diversify income and support research grants.
- Goal to reduce reliance on peak-body funding and stabilise long-term sustainability.
- Ongoing negotiations for the IAGG 2030 MOU.
- 2026 Conference to be held in Melbourne

8. Planning for 2026

- First meeting proposed for February 2026 after the holiday season.
- Aim to secure greater representation from Central Australia among new NT members.
- Personal outreach suggested to welcome new members and encourage committee participation.

9. Closing & Thanks

- Warm thanks expressed to all committee members for their contributions throughout 2025.
- Meeting closed with holiday well-wishes and appreciation for everyone's support, especially around the Alice Springs conference.