

**Australian Association of Gerontology
2018 Annual General Meeting**

**Thursday 22nd November 2018
Goldfields Room, MCEC, Melbourne**

Minutes

The Meeting commenced at 12.44pm.

The Chairperson (AAG President) commenced the meeting by acknowledging the traditional owners of the land and paying respect to the elders past and present.

The Chairperson then welcomed everyone to the AAG AGM, advised that only AAG financial members can vote or accept a proxy vote. The Chairperson instructed all attendees to sign the Attendance Register that was at the entrance to the AGM room.

1. PRESENT

Attendees at the meeting were:

Christine Stirling (Chairperson/AAG President)	Jenny Zirkler	Lynsey Brown
David Heath (AAG Treasurer)	Shazia Shehzad Abbas	Belinda Cash
James Beckford Saunders (AAG CEO/ Company Secretary)	Irene Blackberry	Kate-Ellen Elliott
Christine Toye	Anthony Brown	Leon Flicker
Rosanne Freak-Poli	Ralph Hampson	Kasia Bail
Keith Hill	Ngairé Hobbins	Joanne Hope
Nanda Gopal Jayaraman	Elizabeth MacKinlay	Claudia Meyer
Rajna Ogrin	Deborah Parker	Lynne Parkinson
Christopher Shanley	Jane Sims	Barbara Squires
Yvonne Wells	Befikadu Wubishet	Rachel Ambagtsheer
Briony Dow	Ilonka Guse-Brennfleck	Robin Harvey
Danny Hills	Mary Ingrams	Linda Isherwood
Bob Knight	Debra O'Connor	Paul Regal
Constance Schneider	Maria Shialis	Dawn Timmerman
Kristie Weir	Deidre Widdall	Julie Byles
Lui Di Venuto	Annie Farthing	Stephen Neville
Glenda Powell	Alison Rahn	Meredith Tavener

2. APOLOGIES with DIRECTED PROXY

The Chairperson noted that there were no apologies with directed proxy.

3. APOLOGIES with NO DIRECTED PROXY

The Chairperson noted the apologies with no directed proxy as follows:

Confirmed:

Chairperson at meeting

Approved by the AAG Board: 6 March 2019

Ruth Inall	Joanne Mihelcic	Ruth Bright
Jennifer Grieve	Tess Tsindos	Tony Broe

4. MINUTES OF THE AGM HELD ON 9TH NOVEMBER 2017 IN PERTH WERE NOTED.

The Chairperson noted that the minutes approved by the Board from the previous Annual General Meeting held on 9th November 2017 had been placed on the AAG website and members notified within one month of the meeting in line with Corporation Law.

No further discussion points were raised.

5. QUORUM

The Chairperson confirmed that the meeting was quorate as per clause 18.2 of the Constitution of AAG (4 directors, 20 other Members).

6. PRESIDENT’S REPORT

The Chairperson presented her President’s Report as follows:

AAG Chair’s Report

‘This year has again been a busy and productive year for AAG. We have continued to grow our membership base to 1,329, an increase of 12.8% year on year. Our influence in improving the experience of older people through connecting research, policy and practice has also significantly increased. The AAG success is largely due to our engaged membership base and the leadership of our CEO James Beckford Saunders and the work of our core staff Michael Tan, Tonye Segbedzi, Sandra South, Kathy Bell, Sue Riley and Matthew Jones. I would like to thank them for their hard work and significant contributions over the year. In addition, AAG has a strong volunteer base and I would also like to thank all the Board, Divisional Committees, ATSIAG, Student and Early Career Group, and Special Interest Group members who contribute to our success. I list here some of the key achievements that have resulted from all these contributions over the past year:

Our AAG annual conference remains AAG’s flagship national event. This 51st AAG Conference in Melbourne is no exception to the growth in quality, diversity and attendance for our conferences, and the vibrant content, with over 700 attending. The visit of Professor Sir Michael Marmot as AAG’s 2018 Gary Andrews Visiting Fellow, along with the extraordinary plenary speakers and the other 250 presenters have made sure delegates have a wonderful experience. Thank you to the Conference Planning Committee and the Scientific Planning Committee members, ably Chaired by Associate Professors Briony Dow and Danny Hills, and to Michael Tan who has shown strong leadership in managing the Conference, including in its smooth transition from running it in-house to using a professional conference organiser. Whilst running the conference in-house since 2015 has generated more energetic and engaging conferences, its organisation has taken its toll on AAG staff. It is likely that a PCO will be engaged in the future for the key logistics of the Conference.

I would like to commend Dr Sandra South, Tonye Segbedzi and Kathy Bell who make up our new and dynamic policy team, following an increase in funds from the Commonwealth Government from 1 July 2017. They have worked closely with members and special interest group members to produce some quality outputs – to name just a few highlights:

Confirmed:

Chairperson at meeting

Approved by the AAG Board: 6 March 2019

- AAG's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Ageing Advisory Group (ATSIAAG), released a landmark report, 'Assuring equity of access and quality outcomes for older Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples: What needs to be done'.
- The report was launched at Parliament House, Canberra by the Minister for Aged Care and Indigenous Health, the Hon Ken Wyatt AM MP, during a roundtable hosted by AAG's ATSIAAG on improving aged care access, with the theme 'Better data to drive better aged care for older Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people'.
- A suite of three papers addressing older women who are experiencing, or at risk of, homelessness (part of our 2017-2018 Diversity Project), was launched in August at the 2018 National Homelessness Conference in Melbourne. These papers were developed in collaboration with a range of experts from the housing, homelessness and aged care sectors and were endorsed by 17 organisations from these sectors.
- Released the Report on 'Developing an ethical framework for research with ageing culturally and linguistically diverse –communities', in collaboration with FECCA and NARI.
- AAG Reablement Project has produced papers and videos to provide resources for reablement practice improvement.
- The LGBTI Ageing Research Position Paper, which is in final stages of development.
- In addition to these key papers, the policy team have led submissions to the Medical Research Future Fund, the Aged Care Workforce Strategy Taskforce, review of the Aged Care Quality and Safety Commission Bill 2018, the Terms of Reference to the Royal Commission into Aged care, and the Australian Building Code consultations on accessible housing.

The team's ability to be both responsive and strategic has taken AAG's impact on policy to new heights.

Over the past year AAG has delivered over 32 events across the country including webinars, seminars, workshops and forums through the Divisions in every state and territory. Two large regional conferences have been highly successful, with one focusing on Rural issues in Wagga Wagga as a collaboration with Charles Sturt University, plus the ongoing and highly successful Adelaide SAGE conference.

As President I have participated in NACA, as a member of the AJA Board, and led the Technical Advisory Group for Health and Aged Care Interface for the Aged Care Workforce Strategy Taskforce. My recent appointment to the Australian Industry Skills Committee Industry Reference Group Aged Services, is I believe one of many examples that reflects AAG's growing influence.

The AAG Board have also been very busy and have worked closely with our CEO James Beckford Saunders. In 2013, we changed our constitution and structure to become a Company under the Corporations Act. It is fair to say that since then the Board members have been on a strong learning curve. Over 2018 we have started to bed down some important processes – with Board training helping the Board to consider governance boundaries and responsibilities, skill development needs and evaluation strategies. We have improved our processes around risk management and compliance, as well as in nominations and remuneration. Over the next year the Board will review the constitution and by-laws and ensure they remain fit for purpose.'

AAG Research Trust Chair Report

The Board Directors also form as Trustees for the Australian Association of Gerontology Research Trust (AAG Research Trust). This year we have finalised a disbursement strategy,

Confirmed:

Chairperson at meeting

Approved by the AAG Board: 6 March 2019

developed and run a funding round which received 34 applications and had two worthy awardees for the new Strategic Research Grants. We also provided grants to four quality applicants for the RM Gibson Research Fund, which received 31 applications.

Following the expansion of the funding rounds, there has been significant improvement in the governance and documented processes of the Grants Committee, which was expanded and will grow to 16 members in 2019 to support the additional workload. I would like to commend Professor Renuka Visvanathan for her leadership as Chair of the AAG Research Trust Grants Committee, and Matt Jones for his excellent supporting role in these changes, as well as the members of the Grants Committee.

The Board are finalising a Trust investment strategy, aiming for a secure growth of funds into the future.

Towards the end of his life, Professor Hal Kendig gave some thought as to how a research development program could be set up and supported by him and his family, and how it would operate. Although it is early days yet, the AAG Research Trust has agreed to administer donations given in Hal’s name in accordance with his wishes.

I hope this report gives you all some insight into the breadth and depth of work being carried out by AAG staff, members and volunteers. I would again like to thank you all, and to commend the achievements of our CEO James Beckford Saunders in growing the vision and activity of the AAG.’

There were no requests for clarification questions regarding the Report.

RESOLVED that the 2017/2018 President’s Report be adopted.

MOVED:	Briony Dow		
SECONDED:	Annie Farthing		
	CARRIED	DEFEATED	DEFERRED

7. FINANCIAL REPORT

The Treasurer gave a short commentary on behalf of the Board regarding the Financial Report, Director’s Report and Auditor’s Report for the year ended 30 June 2018.

A summary of this follows:

- While necessarily backward looking, the accounts reflect several key issues. 1. Continued membership growth, 2. Increased grant expenditure (which is effectively locked in until 30 June 2020), 3. Events mostly cost neutral
- Small surplus, largely reflecting that events are cost neutral and investment returns.
- Healthy net assets.

AAG is the Trustee of the AAG Research Trust although it is a separate entity. Although not required, a summary of the AAG Research Trust financials follows:

- Assets reflect both Nicholson bequest (cash and shares) and the RM Gibson Research Fund transfer (cash).
- Very healthy net assets.

There were no requests for clarification questions regarding the Report.

RESOLVED that the AAG Financial Report, Director’s Report and Auditor’s Report for the year ended 30 June 2018 be adopted.

MOVED:	Lynsey Brown		
SECONDED:	Keith Hill		
	CARRIED	DEFEATED	DEFERRED

8. APPOINTMENT AND FIXING OF REMUNERATION OF THE AUDITOR

The Treasurer recommended that APL Financial Pty Ltd be re-appointed Auditor for 2018/19 in view of their previous solid work and the reasonableness of their quote(s) (\$5,800 for AAG and \$2,500 for AAG Research Trust), which was no increase on the previous year.

There were no requests for clarification questions regarding the Appointment and fixing of remuneration of the Auditor.

RESOLVED that APL Financial Pty Ltd be re-appointed as Auditor for 2018/19 with their proposed remuneration adopted.

MOVED:	Claudia Meyer		
SECONDED:	Barbara Squires		
	CARRIED	DEFEATED	DEFERRED

9. 2019/20 MEMBERSHIP FEES

The Chairperson tabled the 2019/20 AAG Membership Fees as recommended by the AAG Board as follows:

	2019/20
Type of Membership	Price
Organisation (1-2 nominees)	\$570
Organisation (3-5 nominees)	\$1099
Individual:	\$250
Student:	\$60
Early Career Researcher/ Practitioner:	\$100
Concession/ Retiree:	\$100
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and Maori peoples:	No cost
Honorary/ Life Members:	No cost
Any member who wants to receive printed copies of AJA	Additional \$10 to receive 4 copies p.a.

There were no requests for clarification questions regarding the 2019/2020 membership fees.

The motion to move that the 2019/2020 fees as put forward by the AAG Board be received and adopted was carried.

MOVED:	Jane Simms		
SECONDED:	Keith Hill		
	CARRIED	DEFEATED	DEFERRED

10. Election of Directors & Office Bearers

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

Name of appointee	AAG Division nominee
Professor Linda Rosenman	Queensland
Dr Kate Ellen-Elliott	Tasmania
Ms Annie Farthing	Northern Territory

The Chairperson congratulated the appointed Directors noting that they would take up their roles at the close of the AGM. The Chairperson thanked Andrea Petriwskyj for her service on the Board over the years.

The Vice President confirmed that David Heath and Christine Stirling were appointed as non-elected Director for two years and one year respectively. The Vice President also confirmed that Christine Stirling will continue as President for one year.

The Chairperson confirmed the following office bearing roles that will take office at the first Board meeting of the new Directors on Saturday 24 November 2018.

Name of appointee	Office bearing role
David Heath	Treasurer

11. Other Business

The following were each presented a plaque to acknowledge their existing status as AAG Life Members; Leon Flicker AO, Briony Dow, Barbara Squires, Julie Byles, Keith Hill and Glenda Powell. The President thanked them all again for their service to AAG.

Mark Elliot was given AAG Life Membership for his significant leadership role within the AAG Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Ageing Advisory Group (ATSIAAG).

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

There was no other business raised for discussion.

12. Close

The Chairperson closed the AAG Annual General Meeting for 2018 at 1.12pm.