

**Australian Association of Gerontology
2019 Annual General Meeting
Thursday 7th November 2019
Plenary Theatre, ICC Sydney, 14 Darling Drive, NSW 2000**

Minutes

The Meeting commenced at 12.50pm.

The Chair (AAG President) commenced the meeting by acknowledging the Gadigal people of the Eora nation as the traditional owners of the land and paying respect to their elders' past, present and emerging, and extending that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people present including members of the Stolen Generations.

The Chair then welcomed everyone to the 2019 AAG AGM indicating that the AGM complies with the Corporations Act and necessary papers have been provided to all current AAG members and advised that only AAG financial members can vote or accept a proxy vote.

The Chair requested that all attendees sign the Attendance Register.

1. PRESENT

Recorded attendees at the meeting were:

Christine Stirling (Chair/AAG President)	Nathan D'Cunha	Dianne Johnson
Claudia Meyer (Treasurer's Proxy)	Lui Di Venuto	Gill Lewin
Linda Rosenman (Chair of AAG Research Trust)	Briony Dow	Kristiana Ludlow
James Beckford Saunders (AAG CEO/ Company Secretary)	Kate-Ellen Elliott	Jennifer White
Josephine Antoniades	Colleen Doyle	Nicole McDerby
Frances Batchelor	Michael Fine	Susan McGrath
Irene Blackberry	Leon Flicker	Anne Meller
Kasia Bail	Jane Fyfield	Susan McGrath
Paul Bragaw	Diane Gibson	Anne Meller
Anthony Brown	Manfred Gogol	Annette Moxey
Collette Browning	Ilonka Guse-Brennfleck	Leone Muffett
Hazel Bucher	Robin Harvey	Debra O'Connor
Julie Byles	Chris Hatherly	Joan Ostaszkiwicz
Belinda Cash	Keith Hill	Deborah Parker
Mark Cooper-Stanbury	Danny Hills	Lynne Parkinson
Victoria Cornell	Anna Howe	Glenda Powell
Helen Creasey	Susan Hunt	Jill Pretty
Keryn Curtis	Maria Inacio	Katrina Radford
Nola Reis	Rachel Ambagtsheer	Julie Reeves
Paul Sadler	Christopher Shanley	Jane Sims
Barbara Squires	Harry Wu	Anne Tiedemann
Renuka Visvanathan	Sharon Wall	Yvonne Wells
Anita Westera	Xiaoyue (Luna) Xu	Marguerite Bramble
Ruth Inall		

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2. APOLOGIES with DIRECTED PROXY

The Chair noted that Claudia Meyer was in attendance with a directed proxy from the Treasurer, David Heath to present the 2018/19 AAG and AAG Research Trust Financial Reports.

No other directed proxies were provided.

3. APOLOGIES with NO DIRECTED PROXY

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

Annie Farthing	Helen Rawson	Ilsa Hampton
Dina LoGiudice	Joanne Mihelcic	Judy Lowthian
Linda Isherwood	Maree McCabe	Ngaire Kerse
Nicole Doran	Stephen Neville	

4. MINUTES OF THE AGM HELD ON 22nd NOVEMBER 2018 IN MELBOURNE WERE NOTED.

The Chair noted that the minutes approved by the Board from the previous Annual General Meeting held on 22nd November 2018 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 Chair confirmed that the meeting was quorate as per clause 18.2 of the Constitution of AAG, namely at least four directors and 20 other current financial Members.

6. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The Chair presented her AAG President's Report as follows:

'I would like to acknowledge the traditional owners of this land, the Gadigal people of the Eora nation on which we are holding the 2019 AAG Annual General Meeting and update on the AAG Research Trust. We recognise that the ongoing connection of Aboriginal people to the land is just as relevant today and pay respect to the cultural authority of Aboriginal people and to the Elders past and present.

While this has again been a busy and productive year for AAG in all areas of research, policy and practice, the Australian policy environment in 2018/19 has placed increased importance on the policy and practice focus of AAG as we work to improve the experience of ageing.

AAG provided three submissions to the Royal Commission into Quality and Safety of Aged Care:

- AAG's core submission presented a principles-based, conceptual framework to transform the change of services and other support for older people. Its focus has been borne out by the interim report of the Royal Commission released last Thursday, 31 October 2019.
- The AAG Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Ageing Advisory Group's (ATSIAAG) submission addressed the inequities of access and outcomes for older Aboriginal and Torres Strait

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Islander peoples and communities under the current aged care reform program and suggested directions for the future.

- The AAG ATSIAAG in partnership with the Healing Foundation submission focussed on the challenges facing the Stolen Generations entering aged care and proposed strategies to deal with this. It was based on a jointly held forum led by ATSIAAG and the Stolen Generations Reference Group of the Healing Foundation.

Many AAG members have been witnesses or asked to provide further information for the Royal Commission on a broad range of areas including on older Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and communities, people living in regional, rural and remote communities, housing and homelessness of older Australian, and reablement and wellbeing.

The AAG policy team generated a significant body of work in hand with AAG members as individual experts, as well as through our Special Interest Groups who work in the following areas:

1. Ageing, Workforce and Education
2. Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD)
3. Elder Abuse
4. Housing and the Built Environment
5. Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Intersex (LGBTI)
6. Regional, Rural and Remote

Each SIG provided an end of year report that was highly commended at the October 2019 AAG Board meeting.

Policy and practice initiatives include:

- **wellness and reablement.** AAG playing the lead role in unpacking the different research and policy perspectives, through working towards a consistent and coherent framework in this critical area. AAG launched a range of six fact sheets and three videos, regarding terminology, current practices and case studies, international guidance documents and supporting evidence, all developed with the support of the AAG Expert Reference Group.
- **Older women who are experiencing, or at risk of, homelessness.** Three papers were launched by AAG in collaboration with a range of experts, advocates and services providers. The Background paper (provided the evidence), which led to the Position Paper and the Things to consider when working with older homeless women, all of which were launched at the 2018 National Homelessness Conference. The abstract for the Position Paper was also published in the Australasian Journal on Ageing (AJA).
- **'A Fair Future for older women who experience sexual assault'** The report on this taboo and hidden topic was launched at the 2019 National Elder Abuse Conference.

The AAG Student and Early Career Group have played a critical role in professional development and networking. Their end of year report was also highly commended at the October Board meeting. Welcome to Rachel Ambagtsheer our new President of the AAG Student and Early Career Group.

AAG continues to play an active role in the National Aged Care Alliance (NACA), particularly through its leadership role in increasing the voice and influence of the health professional's constituency. As President I have represented AAG on the AICD Industry Reference Committee for Aged Care and will work over the next few years to facilitate members engagement with this national review of VET sector qualifications.

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AAG has continued to grow our membership base to 1,455, a 10% year on year increase.

Our AAG annual conference continues to blossom as AAG's flagship national event. The 51st AAG Conference in Melbourne attracted a record 702 delegates, many to see Professor Sir Michael Marmot, the AAG 2018 Gary Andrews International Fellow.

The 2019 AAG Conference in Sydney built on this success including through strong partnerships. The 52nd AAG Conference was immediately preceded by the ILC Global Alliance biennial meeting; AAG is the Executive Office for ILC Australia which AAG Life Member, Professor Julie Byles, leads. This collaboration facilitated the visit of Baroness Sally Greengross OBE as AAG's 2019 Gary Andrews Visiting Fellow, along with many other extraordinary International plenary speakers. Our role on the Coalition Steering Group of EveryAGE Counts led to Ashton Applewhite, anti-ageing author and activist from the USA also presenting and running a workshop. They joined over 280 Australian and other international presenters. Thank you to the Conference Planning Committee co-chaired by Carrie Hayter and Anthony Brown who both led the innovative and unique program of 'Extra' events focusing on engaging older people. Thanks also to the Scientific Planning Committee members, ably Chaired by Associate Professors Maree Bernoth and Marguerite Bramble. Special thanks to the AAG team that made this possible led by Michael Tan, which has been the glue and driving force in delivering such engaging and quality Conferences over the past four years.

Over the past year AAG has delivered over 32 events across the country including webinars, seminars, workshops and forums. 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.

Internationally AAG continues its role as the Executive Office for the IAGG Asia/Oceania Region. At the recent IAGG Region Congress in Taipei, Professor Keith Hill received the Chairman's Award at the Congress for leadership in the development of gerontology and geriatrics in the IAGG Asia/Oceania Region. Keith is an AAG Life Member.

Our influence in improving the experience of older people through connecting research, policy and practice has significantly increased. AAG's success is largely due to the leadership of our CEO James Beckford Saunders and the work of our growing policy team, Dr Sandra South, Tonye Segbedzi, Kathy Bell (who retired in January 2019) plus Kate Gainer, Sue Gherdovich and Tom Voigt (all of whom joined in February 2019). Special thanks to Michael Tan and Matthew Jones who have maintained and built upon the core operations of AAG including running the marketing and membership support, as well as the significant developments in the AAG Research Trust. I would like to thank them for their hard work and significant contributions over the year. In addition, AAG has a strong and growing 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.

The AAG Board have also been busy, working closely with our CEO James Beckford Saunders. Over the last year we separated the Chair roles for the AAG Board and the AAG Research Trust Trustees to disseminate leadership and to improve the governance separation between the different entities. Professor Linda Rosenman is the new Chair of the Trustees of the AAG Research Trust. The Board and Trustees are making good headway in the development of the strategic plan from 1 July 2020, that began with a review of the 2017-2020 plan. We felt that the purpose, principles were still highly pertinent, with the new strategic plan having refreshed priorities and a shifting emphasis that reflects the changing environment and the development of

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AAG. Our key role is to ensure that AAG continues to flourish in meeting our purpose in a sustainable manner.

This year has seen a major turnover from our Board members, not I am happy to report due to dissatisfaction but due to relocation or changed work roles. I would like to thank Dr Lynsey Brown (SA), Professor Keith Hill (WA) Sue McGrath (ACT) and Annie Farthing (NT) for their work on the Board of AAG as they move on to other pursuits or locations.

Finally, I would like to congratulate Ruth Bright for being awarded Life Membership of AAG. Ruth Bright was a member (and served a term as President) of the Gerontological Society in NSW - which was amalgamated with other groups to become the AAG in 1964. Unfortunately, Ruth could not be here today to receive this award.

Congratulations are also owed to the following members who have been made Fellows of AAG: Alison Rahn (NSW), Ruth Walker (SA), Renuka Visvanathan (SA) and Elissa Burton (WA). Congratulations are also due to our new Distinguished Members of AAG: Keryn Curtis (NSW), Sam Edmonds (NSW), Kasia Bail (ACT), Sandra Forster (NSW), Lynne Parkinson (QLD) and Andrea Petriwskyj (QLD)).

I would also like to recognise Ruth Inall OAM who was awarded Life Membership in 1988. Ruth was instrumental both to the development of AAG in its early days and to the formation of IAGG Asia/Oceania Region in partnership with Gary Andrews and is still involved as the Executive Secretary of the Region. Ruth would you please accept this plaque as a token of our appreciation.

I trust that 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 and his team in growing the vision and activity of the AAG.'

A question was asked about how many people had registered for the 2019 AAG Conference and the response was 683 registrants.

There were no other requests for clarification or questions regarding the Report.

RESOLVED that the AAG President's Report be adopted.

MOVED:	Anna Howe		
SECONDED:	Elizabeth MacKinlay		
	CARRIED	DEFEATED	DEFERRED

7. 2018/19 AAG FINANCIAL REPORTS

Claudia Meyer, the Treasurer proxy 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 2019.

A summary of this follows:

- Higher membership and events income compared to previous financial year (2017/18). Obviously, the other major source of income is the Commonwealth Government funding.

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- While the higher event events income has also led to higher events expenditure, they are still contributing to profit and we recognise and thank the Conference organisers and AAG divisions for this.
- “Other” expenditure has risen primarily reflecting project and divisional expenditure.
- While we have had a small loss for 2018/19, this reflects the expenditure on external consultants to assist with the Royal Commission submission. Otherwise we would have been in similar position to recent years with a small profit.
- On the balance sheet, we’re aware that there is a large amount sitting in cash or at-call bank accounts. We are currently considering an AAG investment policy in order that the surplus can ‘work harder’ for members. This will be a balance, as we don’t want to jeopardise this money which effectively represents the accumulation of past member fees.
- It should be noted that the Audit report was clean with no queries.

There were no requests for clarification or questions regarding the Report.

The Financial Report, Director’s Report and Auditor’s Report for the year ended 30 June 2019 were noted by the members.

8. 2020/21 AAG MEMBERSHIP FEES

The Chair tabled the 2020/21 AAG Membership Fees as recommended by the AAG Board as follows:

	2020/20
Type of Membership	Price
Organisation (1-2 nominees)	\$580
Organisation (3-5 nominees)	\$1,099
Individual:	\$255
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 2020/2021 Membership Fees.

The motion to move that the 2020/2021 fees as put forward by the AAG Board be received and adopted was carried.

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<i>MOVED:</i>	Keith Hill		
<i>SECONDED:</i>	Ruth Inall		
	<i>CARRIED</i>	<i>DEFEATED</i>	<i>DEFERRED</i>

9. AAG RESEARCH TRUST REPORT

The Chair of the Trustees of the AAG Research Trust gave her report as follows:

‘I acknowledge that we are meeting on the lands of the Gadigal people of the Eora nation and pay my respects to their leaders, past present and emerging.

It is my pleasure to present the 2019 annual report for the AAG Research Trust as Chair of the Trustees since May 2019, noting that the financials run 2018/19.

This year has been an exciting one in the growth and development of the Trust.

The Trustees finalised a Trust investment strategy, aiming for a secure growth of funds into the future and a dispersal strategy based on this. We also oversaw the comprehensive review of the purpose, guidelines and processes for each of the grant programs. In 2020 the Trustees will be working on a Development Strategy to enable us to grow the AAG Research Trust funds and to continue to expand the quality grants that we can offer.

AAG Research Trust has run funding rounds for the second year of the Strategic Research Grants and the expansion of the RM Gibson Research Fund, which were both made possible by the generous Nicolson bequest.

The Strategic Research Grants received 24 applications and resulted in the funding of two outstanding awardees who both received \$30,000, namely:

- A/Professor Nola Reis, University of Technology Sydney
- Dr Jacqueline Allen, Monash University

The Trustees signed an agreement to partner with the Dementia Australia Research Foundation (DARF) in May 2019. Following the Grants Committee review and recommendation by the Trustees, the DARF Board approved \$30,000 funding for a Strategic Research Grant application that focused upon dementia that was both highly ranked and of high quality.

Dr Emily Reeve, University of South Australia was awarded the inaugural 2019 joint AAG Research Trust/DARF Strategic Research Grant. The Trustees are extremely grateful for this partnership that has increased the reach of both organisations

Due to increased funds the number of awards under the RM Gibson Research Fund was increase from three to four grants and the funding from \$5,000 to \$7,000. Following a record 38 application the four excellent awardees were

- Kristen Carson-Chahhoud, University of South Australia -
- Pauline Mackell, NARI Institute & RMIT
- Dr Mandy Archibald, Flinders University
- Dr Claire O’Connor, HammondCare & University of NSW

This year we developed the Hal Kendig Research Development Program. This grant program was established following a generous gift from the family of Professor Hal Kendig whose death in 2018

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robbed Australia and the World of one of the leading thinkers in social gerontology. On behalf of the Trustees, I would like to express our deep and lasting appreciation to the Kendig family for their generosity and for their ongoing interest and involvement in the Hal Kendig Research Development Program. We also acknowledge Professor Julie Byles who has provided leadership in developing the Program focus, priorities and guidelines for the inaugural Kendig Program and ensuring that they are in line with Hal's wishes.

The inaugural round of the Hal Kendig Research Development Program received 17 applications and had two excellent awardees of \$20,000 each:

- Dr Claire Hutchinson - Flinders University
- Dr Amanda Krause – University of Melbourne

Following the expansion of the grants program there has been significant development in the governance and documented processes for reviewing the applications. The procedures for running the grants program and the guidelines are reviewed at the end of the grant rounds by the Program leads and approved by the Research Trustees.

The Grants Committee reports to the Trustees of the AAG Research Trust providing recommendation against approved guidelines. The Trustees highly commend and express our appreciation to Professor Renuka Visvanathan for her leadership as Chair of the AAG Research Trust Grants Committee, and lead of the Strategic Research Grants. We would also like to express our thanks to Professor Julie Byles as lead of the Hal Kendig Research Development Program, and to Associate Professor Anne-Marie Hill as lead of the RM Gibson Research Fund, and the members of the 2019 Grants Committee for the important voluntary role they play in reviewing and evaluating the grant applications. The 2019 Grants Committee members are:

1. Professor Renuka Visvanathan
2. Professor Julie Byles
3. A/Professor Anne-Marie Hill
4. A/Professor Anne Tiedemann
5. A/Professor Maria C. Inacio
6. A/Professor Kasia Bail
7. Dr Frances Batchelor
8. Dr Hannah Keage
9. Dr Tim Windsor
10. Ms Robin Harvey
11. Dr Susan Slatyer
12. Dr Judy Lowthian
13. Dr Katrina Radford
14. Dr Juanita Breen

A considerable amount of work is involved in supporting the Trustees of the AAG Research Trust and the Grants committee. The Trustees acknowledge and thank James Beckford Saunders particularly for his leadership in developing research funding partnerships and his support for policy development and Matt Jones for his tremendous supporting role of the Grants Committee.

On behalf of the Trustee, I can confirm that we are committed to continuing to grow and develop the AAG Research Trust as a leading funder of high-quality research in gerontology and a flagship for the AAG nationally and internationally.'

There were no requests for clarification or questions regarding the Report.

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The Chair of the Trustees of the AAG Research Trust Annual Report 2019 was noted.

10. AAG RESEARCH TRUST FINANCIAL REPORTS

Claudia Meyer, the Treasurer proxy gave a short commentary on behalf of the Trustees of the AAG Research Trust regarding the AAG Research Trust Financial Report, Director’s Report and Auditor’s Report for the year ended 30 June 2019.

A summary of this follows:

- Income attributable to additional grants (via Hal Kendig), as well as investment income.
- Trustees have formalised grant process and amounts for medium term focus. Consistent with this we have decided upon an investment policy for the Trust that balances our role as custodians of the donated funds and the ability to receive higher investment returns in the medium to long term. The investment policy is consistent with the expected pattern of grants in the medium term.
- The Trust pays a fee to AAG representing the administrative and financial support provided to the research trust.

There were no requests for clarification or questions regarding the Report.

The AAG Research Trust Financial Report, Director’s Report and Auditor’s Report for the year ended 30 June 2019 were noted by the members.

11. APPOINTMENT AND FIXING OF REMUNERATION OF THE AUDITOR

The Board recommend to AAG Members that APL Pty Ltd be appointed as the AAG auditor for the year ending 30 June 2020 and that their Auditors fees be accepted.

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 the AAG Auditor for 2019/20 with their proposed remuneration adopted.

<i>MOVED:</i>	Ruth Inall		
<i>SECONDED:</i>	Barbara Squires		
	<i>CARRIED</i>	<i>DEFEATED</i>	<i>DEFERRED</i>

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12. Election of Directors & Office Bearers

The Chair announced the appointment of the following Directors onto the AAG Board and congratulated them on their new roles:

Name of appointee	AAG Division nominee
Ms Toni Roberts	Northern Territory
Dr Claudia Meyer	Victoria (renominated)
Prof Gill Lewin	Western Australia
Dr Chris Hatherly	Australian Capital Territory
Dr Victoria Cornell	South Australia

The appointed Directors noted that they took office at the close of the AGM.

The Chair confirmed the following office bearing roles.

Name of appointee	Office bearing role
<i>Professor Christine Stirling</i>	<i>President of AAG</i>
<i>Professor Linda Rosenman</i>	<i>Chair of AAG Research Trust</i>
<i>Mr David Heath</i>	<i>Treasurer</i>
<i>A/Professor Marguerite Bramble</i>	<i>Vice President</i>

Christine Stirling and David Heath were both reappointed as non-elected Directors for two years and reappointed as President of AAG and Treasurer respectively for two years from 9 November 2019.

Linda Rosenman and Marguerite Bramble were appointed as Chair of the Trustees of the AAG Research Trust and Vice President of AAG and AAG Research Trust respectively for two years from 2 May 2019.

The Chair congratulated both on their appointment.

13. Other Business

The Chair conveyed condolences for the loss of the following members and friends of AAG:

- ‘Dr Keith Hirschenfeld, who was the fifth AAG president between 1972 to 1976, who will be remembered as a brilliant physician “with a loud voice and engaging smile”
- Professor Derek Prinsley AM who was a leading geriatrician and played a key role in AAG’s development and was the first Director of the National Ageing Research Institute (NARI) based in Melbourne.
- Associate Professor Sarah Cope, previous secretary of AAG ACT, who was an inspiring leader known for her energy and passion for aged care nursing.

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- Professor Duncan Boldy from WA who is fondly remembered by AAG members for his significant contributions in the aged care space and collaborative spirit.
- Although not a member of AAG, Margarita Solis was a woman of amazing courage and exceptional resilience. She was the first woman in Australia who was prepared to share her story of sexual abuse as an older woman. Her powerful testimony has brought this taboo subject into the light that Dr Catherine Barrett, AAG's 2019 Glenda Powell Travelling Fellow facilitated.'

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

A member expressed his pride at the significant achievement that the 2019 Conference represented but questioned the high cost of registration fees. He suggested that reducing the cost of registration by ceasing to include catering may enable more persons to register in future. He stated that he was aware of potential delegates from organisations lacking the necessary funds who felt excluded by this year's high registration fee.

The Chair thanked him for his input and indicated that registration fees would be thoroughly reviewed as they were each year to ensure a quality, sustainable Conference that can reach as many people as possible.

There was no other business raised for discussion.

14. Close

The Chair thanked everybody for their attendance and engagement and closed the 2019 AAG Annual General Meeting at 1.27pm.

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