

MINUTES OF THE 2024 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

THE AUSTRALIAN PSYCHOLOGICAL SOCIETY LTD ACN 000 543 788

DATE: Tuesday 19 November 2024

TIME: 6:02 pm AEDT/5:02 pm AEST/5:32 pm ACDT/4:32 pm ACST/3:02 pm AWST to
6:49 pm AEDT/5:49 pm AEST/6:19 pm ACDT/5:19 pm ACST/3:49 pm AWST

LOCATION: Hosted online by Computershare at <https://meetnow.global/MN6PQH4>

PRESENT:

Directors

Dr Catriona Davis-McCabe (Chair and President), Dr Sara Quinn (President-Elect), Stacy Bell, Tamara Cavenett, Paul Flanagan, Elizabeth Kennedy, Mark McEnallay, Katrina Streatfeild, Professor Monica Thielking.

Honorary Fellows

Bruce Crowe, Professor Simon Crowe, Adjunct Associate Professor Amanda Gordon AM, Professor Kevin McConkey AM.

Fellows

Gina McCredie.

Members

John Alder, Pauline Allingham, Ernest Antoine, Russell Barnard, Dr Marisa Barnes, Rachel Benedikt, Dr Catherine Bishop, Andrew Chua, Diya Dey, Associate Professor Patrick Dunlop, Andrea Fernandez, Christina Fersterer, Hayden Fricke, Phoebe Gervaise, Dr Mandy Goldstein, Dr Kelly Gough, Angela Haydon, Samantha Hill, Nicole Hope, Heather Ikin, Vicki Kavadas, Caroline Keating, Dr Julia Lam, Karen Lang, Lisa Lashansky, Vivian Leung, Colin Longworth, Tracy Martin, Violette McGaw, Dr Sarah Milsome, Dr Zoe Morris, Dr Sean Murray, Ronita Neal, Dr Lynette O'Grady, Marie-Rose Paterson, Elizabeth Payne, Liz Pritchard, Noel Pye, Ceara Rickard, Dr Johanna Saltis, Matt Saxinger, Keryn Short, Hannah Singer, Philip Slade, Professor Dixie Statham, Dr Daniel Sullivan, Dr Karen Wallace, Georgena Watt, Dr Stephen Wolfson, Associate Professor Bethany Wootton.

Associate Members

Nargiz Salimova.

Apologies

Patricia Boyhan, Associate Professor Nicola Burton, Dr Lisa Chantler, Li Mei Chew, Bianca Comfort, Hyacinth da Gama Montneiro, Ray Elliott, Dr Nik Kazantzis, Ros Knight, Judy Marty, Professor Gene Moyle, Carol Morgan, Claire Nabke, Dr Sarah Wells.

IN ATTENDANCE:

APS Staff

Dr Zena Burgess (Chief Executive Officer), Harry Georgalas (Chief Operating Officer and Company Secretary), Anne-Marie Guergues (Relationship Manager Branches), Ty Halse (Chief Strategy & Transformation Officer), Victoria Hills (Member Experience Manager), Alana Langan (Senior Media & Communications Advisor), Sam Miller (Board Secretary), Olga Papadopoulos (Head of Education, Training & Assessments), Alison Williams (General Manager Member Experience), Leah Williams (General Manager Communications).

External

Chris Dedrick, Computershare (Returning Officer), Kristie Dundon, RSM (Auditor), Yoni Ungar, Moores (Election Adjudicator).

ORDINARY BUSINESS

1. Welcome and Acknowledgement of Country

- A quorum having been achieved (64 Members), the meeting was declared open at 6:02 pm (AEDT). Members were advised to contact Computershare on +61 3 9415 4024 for assistance, if required, at any time during the meeting.
- The President and Chair, Dr Catriona Davis-McCabe, acknowledged the traditional owners and custodians of country throughout Australia.
- Dr Davis-McCabe further acknowledged those with personal experience of mental health issues, and the importance of lived experience in the work of the APS.
- Dr Davis-McCabe introduced the Board Directors, Returning Officer, Audit Partner and Election Adjudicator present at the meeting.
- Members were advised that all resolutions of the meeting would be decided by poll, inclusive of valid proxy votes cast. Members were advised of the process for voting and for asking online questions.
- The Notice convening the Annual General Meeting was distributed by email to Members on 25 October 2024 and published, along with meeting papers, on the APS website. The Notice was taken as read.

2. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting 15 November 2023

- Dr Davis-McCabe reported that the minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting held on 15 November 2023, as published on the APS website for inspection by Members, had been approved by the Board and signed by the President as Chair of the Annual General Meeting.

3. Reports and Financial Statements

3.1 President's Report

- At the end of her term of office, Dr Davis-McCabe reflected on the privilege and honour of serving as APS President.
- Dr Davis-McCabe indicated that the APS achievements, over her tenure, of which she was most proud, included the securing of crucial funding and government recognition for key initiatives to better support the psychology profession, the establishment of focused presidential taskforces and the renaming of the Division of Professional Psychology in recognition of the evolution of a diverse profession.
- Dr Davis-McCabe acknowledged the support of the Chief Executive Officer and all APS staff and thanked Members for the expert advice, perspectives and encouragement which inform and inspire the work of the APS.
- Dr Davis-McCabe wished the incoming President and Board the very best in bringing new energy and ideas to continue the advancement of the psychology profession.

Annual Report

- Members received the 2024 Annual Report video, highlighting key achievements over the past year.

3.2 Chief Executive Officer's Report

- The Chief Executive Officer, Dr Zena Burgess, reflected on the work of the APS over 2024, supported by consultation with individual Members and Member Groups. Dr Burgess acknowledged the valuable work undertaken by those Members who have served on taskforces and working groups contributing to an inclusive and representative organisation.
- Dr Burgess thanked the Executive Leadership Team for their efforts in another successful year of advocacy, growth and recognition.

- Dr Burgess thanked the departing President, Dr Davis-McCabe, for her open and collaborative leadership and welcomed the incoming President, Dr Sara Quinn, and new Board members.

3.3 Finance, Investment & Audit Committee Chair's Report

- The Finance, Investment & Audit Committee Chair, Mr Mark McEnallay, provided an overview of financial performance for the 2023-2024 year and financial position as at 30 June 2024, as detailed in the financial statements published on the APS website.
- The deficit of \$2.26 million for the year was attributed to continued investment in the APS's digital transformation program, cost-of-living impacts on membership numbers and events/professional development revenue. Mr McEnallay advised that the overall position as at 30 June 2024 was strong, with significant realisable cash and investment balances offsetting operating liabilities. The APS's Auditor issued an unqualified report for the reporting period.
- Members received the APS financial statements, Directors' report and Auditor's report for the financial year ended 30 June 2024.

4. Member Questions

- Question: There has been a 33.5% increase in marketing costs. Could you please comment on what is driving this?
Response (Mr Harry Georgalas, Chief Operating Officer, Company Secretary): Marketing costs for the 2023-2024 year were attributable to the APS rebranding exercise (currently paused), marketing of events/conferences and general publicity/promotion.
- Question: What are the current Directors' fees?
Response (Mr Georgalas): In the order of \$30,000 per annum per director plus superannuation.
- Question: What is the President's remuneration?
Response (Dr Davis-McCabe): In the order of \$100,000 per annum plus superannuation.
- Question: This year, Interest Group fees were waived. Will this impact financials for those Groups?
Response (Mr Georgalas): This initiative was designed to offer value and choice to Member Groups and there is no impact on funds available to Interest Groups for their activities.
- Question: What has happened to the mentoring program for new psychologists?
Response (Dr Burgess): The mentoring program continues to operate. Those wishing to participate should contact the Chief Executive Officer or General Manager Member Experience.
- Question: What other reasons (i.e. other than financial) are Members giving for not renewing their membership? How is this information gathered and what percentage of people leaving are contacted?
Response (Dr Davis-McCabe and Dr Burgess): The primary reasons given are cost-of-living impacts, retirement and the APS White Paper/Medicare 'two-tier' issue. Staff contact Members soliciting feedback on non-renewal whenever possible.

SPECIAL BUSINESS

5. Ordinary Resolution of the Australian Psychological Society Limited – Director Remuneration

- IT WAS RESOLVED THAT, with effect from the end of this AGM and pursuant to clause 72(d) of the APS Constitution, Director fees (excluding superannuation) will increase by 4.0% as set out in the Explanatory Note.

Moved: Dr Catriona Davis-McCabe

Seconded: Dr Sara Quinn

Carried: 65.08 % of votes in favour.

6. Ordinary Resolution of the Australian Psychological Society Limited – Establishment of a Functional Neurological Disorder and Psychology Interest Group

- IT WAS RESOLVED THAT, pursuant to clause 44(a) of the APS Constitution, the APS establishes a Functional Neurological Disorder and Psychology Interest Group.

Moved: Dr Catriona Davis-McCabe

Seconded: Professor Monica Thielking

Carried: 97.06 % of votes in favour.

7. Members Elected to the Grade of Fellow

- Dr Davis-McCabe announced and congratulated the APS Members elected by the Board to the membership grade of Fellow:
 - Margaret Charlton
 - Jillian Harrington
 - Kathryn Kallady
 - Jeanette Krass
 - Melissa Oxlad.

8. Awards

8.1 The President's Award for Distinguished Contribution to Psychology in Australia

- Dr Davis-McCabe announced and congratulated the recipient of the President's Award for Distinguished Contribution to Psychology in Australia:
 - Anthony Cichello.

8.2 Outstanding Supervisor of the Year Award

- Dr Davis-McCabe announced and congratulated the Outstanding Accredited Supervisor of the Year Award:
 - Dr Catherine Hart.

9. In Memoriam

- Members acknowledged colleagues and friends who passed away during 2024.

10. Acknowledgment of Directors Retiring at the Conclusion of the 2024 Annual General Meeting

- Dr Davis-McCabe thanked and acknowledged the contributions of the Directors whose terms of office would conclude at the end of the Annual General Meeting:
 - General Director – Division of Professional Psychology: Stacy Bell
 - Additional (Psychology) Director: Paul Flanagan
 - General Director – Division of Colleges: Katrina Streatfeild.

President-Elect's Address

- The incoming President, Dr Sara Quinn, thanked Dr Davis-McCabe for APS accomplishments under her leadership and, on behalf of the Board, wished her well in her new academic role.
- Dr Quinn thanked all Members and staff for their diligent work and ongoing commitment to the APS community of psychologists. Dr Quinn undertook, as custodian of the President's role, to foster the strong connections that define the APS, to uphold the vision and values that guide and support the APS, and to continue building a strong, inclusive community that reflects the best that can be achieved together.
- Dr Quinn indicated that all Members and staff should know that their input and feedback would always be welcomed and treated with deserved respect, and that she looked forward to those conversations.

11. Announcement of the Outcome of the 2024 Board of Directors Elections

- Dr Davis-McCabe announced the results of the Board of Directors elections for the positions of:
 - General Director – Division of Colleges: Kathryn Kallady
 - General Director – Division of Professional Psychology: Andrew Chua.
- Dr Davis-McCabe congratulated and welcomed the new Board Directors whose terms of office would commence at the end of the Annual General Meeting.

12. Meeting Close

- Dr Davis-McCabe advised Members that the poll results regarding the Ordinary Resolutions would be published on the APS website once finalised by Computershare, the Returning Officer.
- Dr Davis-McCabe thanked Members and guests for their attendance and declared the meeting closed at 6:49 pm AEDT.

Signed by the President as an accurate record of the meeting, in accordance with the provisions of section 251A of the Corporations Act 2001



Dr Sara Quinn

25 March 2025