

**AUSTRALIAN SOCIETY FOR BIOCHEMISTRY  
AND MOLECULAR BIOLOGY INC**

**Annual General Meeting No. 61 (2017) Minutes**

The 61st Annual General Meeting of the Australian Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology Inc. was held on Thursday October 5th at 13:35 in Riverbank room 2 in the Adelaide Convention Centre

A quorum of over 20 people was reached.

**1. Apologies.**

Apologies were received from Peter Mabbitt (ACT State Representative, retired), Steven Polyak (SA State Representative, retiring), Kate Quinlan (NSW nominated State Representative), Kate Michie (NSW State Representative, retiring), Kate Brettingham-Moore (Tas. State Representative), Ben Schulz (Qld State Representative nominee).

**2. Confirmation of the minutes of Annual General Meeting No. 60.**

The minutes were confirmed and noted

**3. Council Elections.**

**Results of Council Elections.**

The President informed the meeting that single nominations had been received for all positions on Council for 2017 The Council membership is as follows for 2018:

President	Leann Tilley
President-Elect	Joel Mackay
Secretary	Briony Forbes
Treasurer	Marc Kvensakul
Editor	Suresh Mathivanan
Secretary for Sust. Members	Sally Jay
FAOBMB Representative	Paul Gleeson
Education Representative	Susan Rowland

**Representatives for:**

ACT	Matthew Johnson
NSW	Kate Quinlan
Qld	Ben Schulz
SA	Mark Corbett
Tas	Kate Brettingham-Moore
Vic	Erinna Lee
WA	Monika Murcha

The Council's acceptance of the single nominations for these positions were presented to the AGM and were accepted.

**4. President's Report.**

The President presented the report (to be published in the Australian Biochemist, December 2017).

### **Gold Members**

50 years+ standing: There were no gold members this year. However, the 50+ membership of *Professor Greg Barritt*, was acknowledged at ComBio2017.

### **Awards:**

The ASBMB awards (supported by Sustaining Members) were awarded to:

**Lemberg Medal:** Prof John Mattick

**Merck Medal:** Prof Lars Ittner

**Beckman Coulter Discovery Science Award:** Prof Mike Lawrence

**Eppendorf Edman Award:** Dr Natalie Spillman

**Shimadzu Education Award:** Dr Heather Verkade

**ASBMB Boomerang Award:** Dr Yan Yan Yip

**ASBMB Fellowships Award:** Dr Samuel Robinson (**Fred Collins Award**) (University of Utah, USA), Ms Georgia Atkin-Smith (La Trobe University), Dr Stephanie Begg (University of Adelaide) and Ms Yi Lin Kang (University of Melbourne).

### **ComBio 2017**

Thanks were given to the ComBio2017 Chair (Michael Michael) the local organising committee, Programme Chair (Natasha Harvey) and Treasurer (Terry Piva). Total registrants numbered 685 (includes 57 day registrants, 64 exhibitors). This is the first three-day meeting format and seems to be working well.

### **Future ComBio and Society meetings**

The planned meetings are as follows:

2018 ComBio Sydney – Convenor Liz Harry, Program Chairs Annemiek Beverdam and Brent Kaiser. This will be a joint meeting with the International Society of Differentiation (Patrick Tam). The Keynote speaker Prof. Randy Sheckman (Nobel prize winner) is a “Captains Pick”.

2019 ASBMB meeting Perth (Esplanade Hotel Fremantle)

2020 Expression of interest sought

2021 Joint ASBMB/ NZSBMB/ FAOBMB meeting in New Zealand under consideration

2024 Joint IUBMB/FAOBMB/ComBio meeting in Melbourne under consideration.

### **Membership**

The ASBMB membership is in decline (551 Ordinary members in total) with the greatest fall being in student numbers.

### **Council and Executive members.**

Thanks were given for the service of retiring Council members Peter Mabbitt (ACT State Representative), Kate Michie (NSW State Representative), Dominic Ng (Qld State Representative), Steven Polyak (S.A. State Representative), Nicolas Taylor (W.A. State Representative).

Thanks also were given to retiring Treasurer A/Prof Terry Piva (2013-2017) and Past President Prof. Mike Ryan (2014-2017).

Finally, thanks were given to current Council and Executive members, National Office/Secretary for Sustaining Members, Sally and Chris Jay, and the ASBMB Editorial team.

**5. Treasurer's Report.**

The Treasurer's report will be published in the *Australian Biochemist*, December 2017. The report highlighted the small loss (\$4,821) to the Society in the last year. This arose from the reduced profit from ComBio in 2016. The Society's finances remain relatively strong with current assets of \$535,197. Savings were made from removing the print version of the Australian Biochemist and videolinked Council and Executive meetings. The report indicated the need of the Society to further reduce costs where possible and to increase membership.

**6. Fees for 2017/18.**

The treasurer outlined the proposal to raise membership fees by the CPI (2%).

**7. Notification of Changes to the By-Laws of the Constitution.**

Notification of changes to the By-Laws of the Constitution were broadcast to members prior to the AGM. These changes were tabled at the AGM and members voted to accept these changes.

**8. Funding for ASBMB-sponsored symposium speakers at ComBio.**

All references to awards have been updated to reflect the current sponsors of these awards.

**9. Any Other Business.**

None

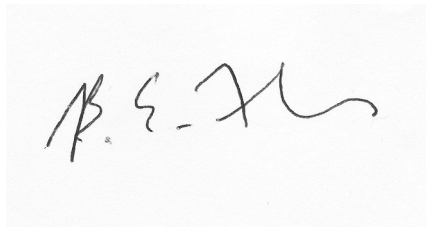
The meeting was adjourned at 14:00 hours.

Minutes confirmed:



Joel Mackay for

..... L TILLEY (President)



..... B FORBES (Secretary)