

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

Annual General Meeting No. 60 (2016) Minutes

The 60th Annual General Meeting of the Australian Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology Inc. was held from 1815 hours on Thursday 6th October 2016 in the Brisbane Convention Centre, Mezzanine M1.

A quorum of over 20 people was reached.

1. Apologies.

Apologies were received from Marie Bagoyevitch Paul Gleeson, Diana Stojanowski, Janet Macaulay, Katherine Michie, Adele Holloway.

2. Confirmation of the minutes of Annual General Meeting No. 59.

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 2016, except that of Victorian State Representative. An election was conducted at the AGM for the Victorian State Representative. The Council membership is as follows for 2016:

President	Michael Ryan
President-Elect	Leann Tilley
Secretary	Briony Forbes
Treasurer	Terrence Piva
Editor	Chu Kong Liew
Secretary for Sust. Members	Sally Jay
FAOBMB Representative	Paul Gleeson

Representatives for:

ACT	Peter Mabbitt (Chit Heng Chooi Retired)
NSW	Kate Michie
Qld	Dominic Chi Hiung Ng
SA	Steven Polyak
Tas	Kate Brettingham-Moore (Adele Holloway retiring)
Vic	Erinna Lee (Diana Stojanovski retiring)
WA	Nicolas Taylor

The Council's acceptance of the single nomination of Kate Brettingham-Moore (replacing the retiring Adele Holloway) as Tasmanian State Representative was presented to the AGM.

Two nominations were received for Victorian State Representative (Erinna Lee and Marc Kvensakul). An election was conducted (votes received via email and at the AGM) and Erinna Lee received most votes.

Upcoming retirements of Janet Macaulay (Education Representative) and Chu Kong Liew (Editor) were announced. The AGM was informed that calls for these positions would be made shortly following the AGM.

4. **President's Report.**

The President presented the report (to be published in the Australian Biochemist, December 2016).

Gold Members

50 years+ standing:

- *Dr Robert Blakeley,*
- *Professor Phillip Nagley*
- *Professor Chris Parish,*
- *Professor Bernard Stewart*
- *Professor Ian Young*
- *Professor Greg Barritt,*
- *Professor Robert Baxter,*
- *Mr Kenneth Kenrick*
- *A/Prof Clem Robinson*

Website

The website was launched in August and is looks great. Thanks go to Suresh Mathivanan.

Awards:

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

Lemberg Medal: Prof Jane Visvader

Merck Millipore Medal: A/Prof Brett Collins

LabGear Discovery Science Award: Prof Joel Mackay

Eppendorf Edman Award: Dr Michelle Dunstone

Beckman Coulter Education Award: Dr Giovanna Di Trapani

ASBMB Boomerang Award: -

Bioplatfroms Australia Award: Dr Yit-Heng Chooi

ASBMB Fellowships Award: Mr Stanley Xie (Fred Collins Award) Mr Stephen

Fairweather Dr Sweta Iyer Dr Wei Hong Toh

ComBio 2016

Thanks were given to the ComBio2016 Chair (Joe Rothnagel) the local organising committee, Programme Chair (Dominic Ng) and Secretary (Terry Piva). Total registrants numbered 661 (includes 73 day registrants, 76 exhibitors & 19 cancellations). There were more exhibition booths in 2016 (~30).

Registration numbers were lower due to several factors including having to hold the meeting in a teaching week, the high registration cost and increasing numbers of competing overseas and local meetings.

Membership

The ASBMB membership is in decline (521 in total) with the greatest fall being in ordinary and student numbers.

Future of ComBio

There are two planned upcoming ComBio meetings: Adelaide 2017 and Sydney 2018. Headline speakers have already been secured with Immanuelle Chaptier presenting at Adelaide. These will be 3 day meetings.

Three alternate proposals were presented as options for the future of ComBio meetings. A two yearly ComBio was proposed with smaller Society meetings to be held in alternate years. Members were informed that a vote on the future structure of ComBio would be conducted in the weeks following ComBio2016.

Thanks were given for the service of retiring Council members Diana Stojanovski (Vic State Representative), Adele Holloway (Tas State Representative), Janet Macauley (Education representative) and to all Council members for their service.

5. Treasurer's Report.

The Treasurer's report will be published in the *Australian Biochemist*, December 2016. The report highlighted the small profit (\$3,946) to the Society in the last year arising from the profit made at ComBio2105. The Society's finances remain relatively strong with current assets of \$546,507. Savings were made from removing the print version of the *Australian Biochemist*, increased number of sustaining members, videolinked Council and Executive meetings, and some reduced payments to speakers and fellowships. The report indicated the need of the Society to further reduce costs and 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.

There were no changes to the By-Laws of the Constitution

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

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

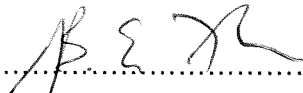
9. Any Other Business.

None

The meeting was adjourned at 19:00 hours.

Minutes confirmed:


..... M RYAN (President)


..... B FORBES (Secretary)