

**THE ASSOCIATION OF RHODES SCHOLARS IN AUSTRALIA
INCORPORATED**

MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The 2019 ARSA AGM was held on Saturday 2 March 2019 between 2:00pm and 3:07pm at the Nous Group, Level 19, 567 Collins Street, Melbourne and by teleconference. These Minutes were written by Gillian Fullilove.

Attendees: Tim Orton, Tanya Smith, Kate Vinot, John McKenna, Jess Radford, Graham Craig, Peter McCullagh, Sam Wells, Laura Hilly, and Gillian Fullilove.

Apologies: Marnie Hughes-Warrington, Greg O'Mahoney and Aron Chakera.

1. Election of Chair

Graham Craig was elected Chair of the meeting.

2. Attendance and Apologies

See above.

3. Confirmation of the Minutes of the previous AGM

The Minutes of the previous AGM in March 2018 were confirmed.

4. Business arising

There was some discussion about welcoming returning Scholars back from Oxford. Tim and Gillian confirmed that ARSA is still working on how best to do this.

Tim noted that the issue raised by Marnie in the 2018 AGM about the new selection process (see 9b in the 2018 AGM Minutes) is on hold. No decision has been made about the revised selection process yet. Tim will discuss the matter with the Warden in March. The current model (of 1 Scholar per state and 3 Australia-at-Large Scholars) remains in place.

5. Reports

(a) National Secretary

In Marnie's absence, Tim spoke on her behalf. He noted her numerous successes in 2018, namely: broadening the pool of applicants; increasing the number of applicants in each jurisdiction, and greater diversity of Scholars elected. Tim also advised that 2019 will be Marnie's final year as National Secretary, as long planned. Peter Kanowski, currently Master of House at University House at the ANU, will become the Deputy National Secretary later in 2019. In 2020, Peter will step up to assume the role of National Secretary and Marnie will support him as the Deputy (before she steps aside completely in 2021).

(b) ARSA State Reports

Accepted. Gillian noted that New South Wales' report would be circulated following the meeting as it was not received in time to be circulated prior to the AGM. There was also a request for Gillian to assist State Secretaries with their lists of Scholar contact details. Gillian will work with Rhodes House and the State Secretaries to make sure they have the most up-to-date lists possible.

(c) Hon President's Report

Tim highlighted three points:

- He asked for any advice the Secretaries can give the Executive and Gillian about how to encourage more ARSA memberships. Laura suggested that Scholars have the option of paying their ARSA memberships when they buy their tickets for the National Dinner. Gillian will investigate how best to set this up on TryBooking.
- He explained that, to date, ARSA has been sending members and non-members alike *The Australian Rhodes Review*. It was agreed by all that this policy of inclusion should remain in effect.
- He explained that the ARSA Scholarship remains a tricky problem. It will be a long-running matter and will take 2-3 years of work to resolve.

(d) Hon Treasurer's Report, including

- (i) Statement of the Association's Accounts for 2018.
- (ii) Auditor's report.

Accepted without comment, apart from Kate's suggestion that ARSA keep a close eye on how it balances its revenue and expenses in the long-term.

6. Proposed Special Resolution to amend paragraph 8[1] of the constitution to increase the maximum membership of the Executive from five to eight.

Following some discussion on this point, it was agreed that ARSA would increase the total number to 10 positions on the Executive - that is, 2 ex officio positions (National Secretary and RSA Chair) and 8 spots for representatives from the States and the ACT. The attendees adopted the Resolution to delete the number '5' in paragraph 8[1] of the Constitution and replace it with '10'.

It was agreed that ARSA would revisit this issue next year to ensure the new system was working well.

7. ARSA Life Membership for Graham Hutchinson and John Poynter

It was agreed that there would be a small ceremony at the upcoming National Dinner to recognise the contributions of Graham Hutchinson and John Poynter. Gillian will create an appropriate certificate and arrange for Rhodes gifts to be presented.

8. Election of the New Executive

In line with the revised ARSA Constitution (see point 6 above), Jess, Graham, Peter, John, Laura and Sam were all nominated as members of the ARSA Executive. Subject to Gillian confirming the matter with Greg, his nomination was also supported.

9. Subscription Rates

It was agreed by all that subscription rates for 2020 would remain unchanged, and that they would stay at their current level (\$40 and \$80) for the foreseeable future.

10. Venue for the Next AGM

The venue for the 2020 AGM was confirmed as Melbourne. Like 2019, AGM attendees will have the choice to meet in person at the Nous office, or to dial-in via teleconference.

9. Other Business

Two votes of thanks were recorded.

- a) John thanked Kate for her time serving as ARSA Treasurer. Tim echoed the sentiment, pointing out that Kate stepped forward to take on the role while many others were stepping back.
- b) Tim thanked Gillian for the transformative contribution she has made to multiple aspects of ARSA – the Scholarship, the new microsite, the increased engagement

via *The Australian Rhodes Review*, etc. The attendees moved that a vote of thanks be recorded.

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