#

The Australasian Society for Classical Studies

Executive Committee Meeting 2019

#### MINUTES

The Executive Committee Meeting of The Australasian Society for Classical Studies was held at the University of New England, Armidale, on 5 February 2019, commencing at 12.30pm.

**Present:** Tom Stevenson (presiding), Gina Salapata (secretary), Bronwen Neil (treasurer), K.O. Chong-Gossard, Marguerite Johnson, Kit Morrell, Kathryn Welch, Elizabeth Minchin, Han Baltussen, Robert Cowan, Andrew Connor, Lea Beness, Tom Hillard, James Kierstead, Amelia Brown, Tristan Taylor, Phoebe Garrett, Arthur Pomeroy, Nicola Ernst, ­ Enrica Sciarrino filling in for Gary Morrison, and Chris Mackie filling in for Gillian Shepherd.

1. **Apologies**

Caillan Davenport, Anne Mackay, Gary Morrison

1. **Minutes of the Meeting of 1 February 2018**

The draft Minutes of the meeting in Brisbane have been circulated. Correction: at Item 6 "Secretary's Report" it should say "the report will be available online later in the year".

Proposed: Kathryn Welch; seconded: Lea Beness. Minutes accepted.

1. **Business arising from the Minutes**

None.

1. **Correspondence and Business arising from the Correspondence**
	1. FIEC subscription and donation; congress attendance

We continue with our subscription and donation.

* 1. FIEC Congress Invitation

The 15th annual conference of the International Federation of Associations of Classical Associations / Fédération Internationale des Associations d'Études Classiques (FIEC) will take place in conjunction with the 2019 Classical Association Annual conference on 4th-8th July 2019 in the Institute of Education (UCL) in Bloomsbury, London.

* 1. Internationale Thesaurus-Kommission (support for the TLL):

Sven Guenther has agreed to be the ASCS liaison and sent a report. The Latin name of our society will be SOCIETAS AVSTRALASIANA STVDIORVM CLASSICORVM. Prof. Coleman suggested that, if no antipodean scholar is available to attend the triennial meeting, Simon Malloch from the University of Nottingham be co-opted as a substitute delegate of ASCS. She also urges our society to capitalize on ASCS’s relationship with the Thesaurus and further promote Latin scholarship “down under”, for example, by sending a promising graduate student to Munich in the (northern hemisphere) summer. The Thesaurus is very generous about mentoring such a person and giving him/her proper training, resulting in a publication in the TLL of two or three articles about words with a limited number of attestations.

* 1. Submission to UQ School of Historical and Philosophical Inquiry Review

The Senior Executive (minus the president, because of a possible conflict of interest) made a submission in support; the Review went well for the School.

* 1. Submission regarding Latin teaching in Greece

A submission was made against the proposal to expunge the teaching of Latin from Greek secondary schools.

* 1. Cambridge Core Share functionality for *Antichthon*

After email consultation, it was decided to enable the Core Share functionality for our journal. This enables anyone who has the right to view the full text of a journal article to generate easily and quickly a URL link that can be publicly shared, including on social sharing sites (e.g. Academia). The link leads to a read-only copy of the final published version of the article; in this way usage of the shared articles can be recorded.

* 1. Submission on New Zealand Scholarship Latin

A submission was made to maintain Scholarship Latin. This was successful as it has been decided that Scholarship Latin be maintained until the next review in two years’ time. ASCS has offered to help with examining, if necessary.

* 1. Submission on Australian Government’s stripping $4m from Humanities researchers

We were not successful in the above submission, but it appears we were taken seriously and accorded respect because we received a lengthy reply from Simon Birmingham, the Minister for Education and Training.

1. **President’s comments**

The President indicated his intention to highlight in his report our achievements during the year and to recognize how heavily invested in ASCS our members are and how collegial our society is.

Tom Hillard commended the President for his commitment to the role even under extremely testing circumstances.

Kathryn Welch expressed frustration with snippy emails from members in response to requests, for example, about membership fees or conference registration. She stressed that it is important to maintain politeness in our society, because we are all volunteers.

1. **Secretary’s Report 2018**

Reserved for the AGM.

1. **Financial Matters**
	1. Treasurer’s Report for 2018 and membership dues

Bronwen Neil reported that we had a good year financially, resulting in a surplus. This was a year of transition and Phoebe has been invaluable as Membership Secretary. Bronwen said there is a small mistake in the report circulated because she had misinterpreted a note from Phoebe. This is in section 2, where it says that Phoebe inherited 220 financial members when she took on the job in Feb 2018; it is not an improvement on 2017, as stated, because we ended up in 2018 with basically the same number of financial members (i.e. ca. 60 who were not).

New graduates can have concessional membership until they find full employment, as will be stipulated on the membership form from now on.

Membership dues remain the same. We really appreciate super-members and five-year rates. The Treasurer urged members to purchase the commemorative volume.

Bronwen thanked Michael Champion and Kit Morrell.

* 1. Discussion

Kathryn Welch has already suggested to the Senior Executive to spend some of our surplus for the benefit of the members, particularly new graduates who are not in full employment yet. We will be asking the meeting to task the Executive with establishing a scheme, similar to that which exists for postgrads (which should also get a financial boost) for the benefit of such members (e.g. so that they can present at conferences).

Michael Champion said that a few members reported they have had problems with accessing *Antichthon* electronically. He asked members to advise him if they have had similar problems.

1. ***Antichthon***
	1. Editors’ Report (tabled)

Art Pomeroy mentioned that we need to find a new copy editor since Heiko Westphal is stepping down. Art is also stepping down as an editor.

* 1. Discussion

None.

1. **Conference program review committee report** (tabled)

Elizabeth Minchin thanked all colleagues who were involved in the refereeing and especially Kathryn Welch for coordinating the process. 140 abstracts were received.

* 1. Discussion
1. **Centralising ASCS Conference finances and website production and managing; reassessing subsidies for 2020 ASCS and beyond** (B. Hopwood)

Email consultation already conducted on this proposal. Main advantage: we are not going to be dealing with a new payment system and conference website every year.

This proposal will be beneficial especially for smaller departments. Kathryn Welch pointed out that University finances are being increasingly centralized. Direct control over the finances of our conferences will be a great advantage for our Society and we will save money; we can appoint someone to handle this side of the budget. Bronwen Neil suggested we appoint someone different every year, who will be on the convenors’ panel; also, that we may need to consider increasing the subsidy for the conference (though we cannot be sure that we will get any of that back—UNE did, however, give back $3000). Kathryn added that if we have a permanent account for conferences, we may be able to grow the funds available; profits and fundraising money can go straight into that account to be used for future conferences. Kit Morrell said she will try to set up online payments and the website for conferences but we may need to hire someone to assist.

1. **Changes to ASCS Early Career Award** (A. Griffith)

Email consultation has already been conducted on this proposal to tighten up the definition of what an Early Career Researcher is. Gina Salapata reported that during the consultation it was suggested that exhibitions, poster presentations, etc. might be included in addition to research towards articles and books. Bob Cowan suggested that the possible uses of the award might be extended to include subsistence, since many applicants need research time away from paid employment, more than they need research trips or resources.

1. **ASCS as endorsed provider of NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA) Registered Professional Development at Proficient Teacher level** (B. Hopwood)

Email consultation has already been conducted on this proposal. This means that attendance at our conference papers will be eligible to be treated as professional development recognized by NESA. This will encourage NSW secondary school teachers to come to our conferences. It is a good development for ASCS and the President thanked Bronwyn Hopwood for all her hard work for this endorsement.

Kathryn Welch suggested we award teachers hours even for other activities approved by ASCS (e.g. study days, public lectures)

1. **Professional development workshops at ASCS** (M. Lewis on behalf of AWAWS)

A survey of AWAWS members indicated that many students and early career researchers would like to have professional development workshops as part of the conference. The President encouraged postgrads to organize such sessions with the conference convenor.

1. **Special Resolutions**

a. That the position of NESA Representative be created. The proposal has been moved by B. Hopwood and seconded by T. Stevenson.

b. That the position of Assistant Treasurer be created. The proposal has been moved by K. Welch and seconded by B. Neil.

1. **Nomination for honorary life membership of ASCS**

A nomination for Prof. Greg Horsley has been received and will be put forward to the meeting.

1. **Matters for discussion**
	1. The ASCS Code of Conduct and Implementation Policy

Tristan Taylor revised the draft Implementation Policy and forwarded it to lawyers who sent it back relatively unscathed. He suggested that we review it in a couple of years to take into account newer developments. During the email consultation, Anne Mackay pointed out the omission of reference to NZ laws regarding discrimination in para. 2 of the Code and wondered if these would not be relevant when conferences are held in NZ. Bob Cowan pointed out that Clause 2a says “Australian and New Zealand law”. Tristan suggested that in all cases “Australian law” should be changed to Australian and New Zealand law”.

Kathryn Welch said that the lawyers worked on the document for free; one is a member of ASCS and the other is one of his associates; she suggested we reward the member with a number of years of membership and his colleague with an appropriate gift.

* 1. The *Antichthon* Board

Renewal of the Board is due.

* 1. Barsby Essay (B. Neil)

Bronwyn Neil suggested raising the 2nd prize from $100 to $200.

* 1. Other matters

None.

The meeting closed at 1:25 pm.

February 2019 Gina Salapata

ASCS Honorary Secretary

(with thanks to Kit Morrell)