## The Australasian Society for Classical Studies

## AGM 2019

**MINUTES**

The Annual General Meeting of **The Australasian Society for Classical Studies** was held in Arts Lecture Theatre 1, University of New England, Armidale, on 6 February 2018, commencing at 1.30 pm.

The meeting was attended by the President, Tom Stevenson (Chair), the Honorary Secretary, Gina Salapata, the Honorary Treasurer, Bronwen Neil, and 66 members.

## Apologies

Dexter Hoyos, Anne Mackay, Gary Morrison, Caillan Davenport, David Rafferty, William Dolley, John Whitehorne, Roger Pitcher, Elly Cowan, Paul Roche, Jacqueline Clarke, Stavros Paspalas, Beatrice McLoughlin, Craig Barker, Christopher Matthew, Gillian Shepherd, Tim Parkin, Frederik Vervaet, Louise Hitchcock, Hyun Jin Kim, Kim Harris, Tegan Gleeson, Alanna Nobbs, Matthew Trundle.

## Minutes of the Meeting of 1 February 2018

The Minutes of the meeting in Brisbane were accepted as a correct record of the 2018 AGM. Acceptance of Minutes. Proposed: Tom Hillard; seconded: Han Baltussen

## Business arising from the Minutes

None.

## Correspondence and Business arising from the Correspondence

* 1. FIEC subscription and donation

The International Federation of Associations of Classical Studies is responsible for several important initiatives. The continuation of our subscription and donation is recommended to maintain our affiliation.

* 1. FIEC congress attendance

Bronwen Neil volunteered to serve as delegate to the 2019 FIEC Congress.

* 1. *Internationale Thesaurus-Kommission*

We have been encouraged to send promising postgrad students to do research in Munich, especially during their summer—mentorship and training will be provided. This could result in the publication of 2-3 articles about words with a limited number of attestations. As suggested by Prof. Coleman, Simon Malloch from the University of Nottingham has been co-opted to attend the next triennial meeting (in July 2020) as a substitute delegate of ASCS. Sven Guenther volunteered to serve as ASCS liaison with the TLL and offered to do a workshop next year on how to use the TLL. The Latin name of our Society will be SOCIETAS AVSTRALASIANA STVDIORVM CLASSICORVM.

* 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*

It has been decided to support the Core Share functionality for *Antichthon*.

* 1. Submission on New Zealand Scholarship Latin

A submission was made to maintain Scholarship Latin; this has been successful and it has been decided that Scholarship Latin will 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.

# **Obituaries**

# a. John Penwill

# Peter Davis’ eulogy for John Penwill, who passed away on 2 April 2018, was read to the members by Tom Stevenson.

# b. Rhona Beare

# The eulogy for Rhona Beare, who passed away on 20 February 2018, was given by Marguerite Johnson.

# **President’s address 2018**

A/P Tom Stevenson commented on some of the good work that ASCS has been doing: allocating money for conferences, colloquia and individuals; strengthening links with academies and related bodies (like the TLL); becoming formally affiliated with the New South Wales Education Standards Authority (NESA); and writing letters in support of various causes. We also managed a reasonably healthy financial surplus. He thanked the committee and the campus reps for giving their time so freely during the year, and also the many other members who are heavily invested in ASCS, showing a high level of engagement and willingness to volunteer and serve in various roles. He encouraged members to keep up their current subscriptions because they create opportunities and support activities. Finally, he asked any member with experience in podcasts (5–10 min) to contact him.

* + - 1. Discussion

Tom Hillard moved an Expression of Appreciation for Tom Stevenson for his commitment to the presidential duties under extremely testing circumstances.

Tom Stevenson singled out for praise Matthew Trundle, who despite a serious illness did not relinquish any of his ASCS responsibilities.

Acceptance of President’s Report. Proposed: Lea Beness; seconded: Kathryn Welch

# **Secretary’s Report 2018**

A/P Gina Salapata reported that the year went smoothly and thanked the Executive Committee team and especially the senior members and our new president, Tom Stevenson, who showed once more how capable, hard-working and conscientious he is, even under very trying family circumstances during the last few months. She added that in 2018 we have again been able to provide financial support to occasional conferences and help several presenting postgrad students to travel to the *Amphorae* and ASCS conferences. Finally, she thanked the conference organisers, Bronwyn, Graeme and Clemens, for doing a wonderful job in making this conference such a successful event.

* 1. Discussion

None.

Acceptance of Secretary’s Report. Proposed: John Davidson; seconded: Elizabeth Minchin

# **Financial Matters**

* 1. Treasurer’s Report for 2018

Bronwen Neil reported we had a good year financially. 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 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. 60 who were not).

We would like to spend some of our surplus for the benefit of the members, particularly new graduates who are not in full employment yet. Such members can have concessional membership until they find full employment, as will be stipulated on the membership form from now on.

We really appreciate super-members and five-year rates.

The year started with a deficit because of the printing expenses for the commemorative volume and we have recouped less than half of that—the Treasurer urged members to purchase the volume. Other costs remain steady (though the honorarium for the Membership Secretary has increased).

At this point Phoebe Garrett, the Membership Secretary, presented a brief report in which she mentioned that at the beginning of the year there were 436 members (81% financial); please let her know if you are going to be late with payment.

* 1. Discussion

None.

* 1. Membership Dues 2019

They remain the same.

* 1. Discussion

None.

* 1. Budget for 2019

Proposed budget remains basically the same. The Treasurer explained that transfer fees are charged for NZ dollars, and that we receive some money from CUP for copyright and royalties. Membership subscriptions will remain the same as will the money allocated for awards with the exception of the 2nd prize for the NZ Barsby Essay Competition which has increased to $200. An honorarium is allocated for the Assistant Treasurer and the honorarium has been increased for the Membership Secretary. We are going to set up a new account for next year’s conference finances and hopefully subsequent conferences; payment will be set up through the ASCS website so we don’t get funds creamed off by the host institution, as has happened in the past. We received $3000 back from this year’s conference seeding subs.

* 1. Discussion
* Bob Cowan queried the double entry of CCNESA payment for archiving; it was established that this is OK because it includes last year’s payment.
* Bruce Marshall queried CUP’s printing charge for *Antichthon*. Kathryn Welch responded that the charge was part of an initial commitment with CUP and it will be reviewed in another two years. Bruce added that ASCS wanted to keep control of copy editing for a period of time, and it may be that CUP will arrange its own copyediting in due course.
* Bob Cowan reminded the membership that their copies were covered by fees.
* Phoebe Garrett added that this year several members asked to move from print to digital copies of the journal and asked members to let her know if they want to make this change.
* Kathryn Welch asked the meeting to task the Treasurer and the Executive with investigating and budgeting for a scheme to support recently completed postgrads who are not fully employed to attend the conference. She also suggested increasing the postgrad subsidies. Seconded: Bruce Marshall. Agreed.

Acceptance of Treasurer’s Report. Proposed: Tom Stevenson; seconded: Lea Beness

* 1. Auditor and Honorarium

Same as last year.

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

The editors of *Antichthon*, Han Baltussen and Art Pomeroy, reported that once again the journal was produced within the year. They are now assessing a request for a special issue in 2020. As is now the established pattern, they hope to have most approved papers by March 1, with a view to a timely delivery of final copy by July 2019. The change to CUP will involve further adjustments in terms of Open Access initiatives, but the journal is now available more widely and better advertised by a major press. They also pointed out that while CUP now owns copyright of the articles, they are welcoming authors to republish, and freely give their permission; in the future, they will be happy for authors to retain copyright.

The editors thanked their copy editor Heiko Westphal who is stepping down. Art is stepping down this year as editor after a five-year period of service.

* 1. Discussion

None.

Acceptance of Editors’ Report. Proposed: Lea Beness; seconded: Elizabeth Minchin

* 1. Journal Copy Editor 2019

The editors will soon advertise for a new copy editor.

* 1. The *Antichthon* Board

The membership of the Board needs to be reviewed. Han Baltussen said that the current Board members will be approached to see if they want to continue. He also invited people to contact him if they are interested in joining the Board. The editors would be happy to raise the number of members beyond the current five. Han also thanked Art for his contribution to the editorship and invited a round of applause. This readily followed.

**10. Conference Program Review Committee Report** (tabled)

Elizabeth Minchin reported on the process of anonymously evaluating 140 abstracts. Although a number of abstracts were returned to their authors for correction, elaboration or, in a few cases, reconsideration, none were rejected. The quality of the majority of the abstracts submitted was very high. She thanked the members of the committee who completed the reviewing in record time, and Kathryn Welch who coordinated the process.

1. Discussion

Clemens Koehn reminded abstract submitters to pay more attention to proofreading.

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

Email consultation has already been conducted on this proposal. The Meeting confirmed the decision—main advantage: we are not going to be dealing with a new payment system and conference website every year.

Dan Osland raised the issue of exchange rates and bank account access for conferences in NZ. Bronwen Neil pointed out that a new appointment of an Assistant Treasurer has been proposed (see below). The new appointment will set up an account in NZ to avoid conversion fees.

# **Changes to ASCS Early Career Award** (proposed by A. Griffith)

# Email consultation has already been conducted on this proposal. The Meeting confirmed the decision that tightens up the definition of what exactly an Early Career Researcher is.

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

Email consultation has already been conducted on this proposal. Bronwyn Hopwood has organized for ASCS to be endorsed as a Registered Professional Development provider for NESA and has already managed the 2018-19 cycle. 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 schoolteachers to come to our conferences. It is a good development for ASCS.

Discussion initiated by Bruce Marshall, who expressed some concerns: this proposal appears to be a fait accompli, decided by the Executive rather than the AGM, even though it diverges from the constitution according to which membership is open to tertiary level staff and postgrad students and alters the nature of what we do as a society. He added that very few teachers come to our conferences.

Several people spoke in support of having teachers attend our conferences as professional development and stressed the importance of including secondary schoolteachers for the future of our discipline. It was pointed out that several teachers are graduates of Classics departments and that the conferences are very helpful for extending the teachers’ knowledge in various subjects.

Tom Stevenson and Kathryn Welch pointed out that because the window of opportunity was very narrow the Executive used its authority (as delegated by the AGM every year) to investigate and take the opportunity to set up the NESA arrangement. In the email consultation, the members were in support of ASCS pursuing the endeavour. The only outstanding issue, which is being brought to the meeting and could not be passed otherwise, is whether a NESA representative will become a member of the Executive—this is a change to the constitution and everybody has a right to vote on this.

1. **Professional Development Workshops at ASCS** (M. Lewis on behalf of AWAWS) (for noting)

A survey of AWAWS members indicated that many postgrad students and early career researchers would like to have professional development workshops as part of the conference. The organization of such sessions can be arranged through the conference convenor. The meeting was in support of this initiative.

1. **Special Resolutions**

a. That the position of NESA Representative be created.

Proposed: Bronwyn Hopwood; seconded: Tom Stevenson

All present: for, except Bruce Marshall: against

Passed.

b. That the position of Assistant Treasurer be created.

Proposed: Kathryn Welch; seconded: Bronwen Neil

Passed.

# **Nomination for Honorary Life Membership of ASCS**

# The President read the citation for Prof. Greg Horsley who had been nominated for Honorary Life Membership for his services. The meeting approved with enthusiasm the endorsement of this nomination and Greg expressed his thanks.

# **Matters for Discussion**

* 1. The ASCS Code of Conduct and Implementation Policy (circulated earlier)

After extensive consultation, the Implementation Policy has been formulated. Tristan Taylor, who revised the draft, spoke briefly saying that the draft has now been set in a more legalistic framework.

Acceptance of the Policy document. Proposed: Tristian Taylor: seconded: Daniel Osland

* 1. Barsby Essay (B. Neil)

Bronwyn Neil said that the 2nd prize will be raised from $100 to $200.

* 1. Other matters

None.

# **ASCS Prizes and Competitions**

* 1. Appointment of assessors and co-ordinators for 2019

The 2018 assessors and coordinators will continue in 2019.

* 1. Winners 2018
     1. **Early Career Award**

Coordinator: Alison Griffith (Canterbury)

Judges: Elizabeth Minchin (ANU) and Robert Cowan (Sydney)

**Winner:** Dr Matthew O’Farrell (Macquarie)

Project: “Investigating Parallels in Byzantine and Sassanian Royal Biographies”

* + 1. **Essay Competitions**

**New Zealand John Barsby Essay competition**

Co-ordinator: Patrick O'Sullivan (Canterbury)

Judges: Enrica Sciarrino (Canterbury) and Arlene Allan (Otago)

**1st place:** Nicholas Ringwood (Auckland): Sex and Gender in Greco-Roman Literature: A Study of Sophocles’ *Antigone* and Catullus’ Poem 63

**2nd place:** Ryan Brown-Haysom (Auckland): Should the Nisus and Euryalus episode (*Aeneid* IX) be read as a tale of the triumph of love, or as a tale of the failure to perform a duty to the community?

**Douglas Kelly Australian Essay Competition**

Co-ordinator: Peter Davis (Adelaide)

Judges: Graeme Miles (Tasmania) and Michael Champion (Australian Catholic University)

**1st place:** Emily Kerrison (Sydney): *Psychagogia* in Lucretius and Virgil.

**Runner up 1**: Janek Drevikovsky (Sydney): *Promiscae scaenae*: theatrical perversion and the death of Seneca in Tacitus.

**Runner up 2**: David Pittavino (Sydney): οὐ τῷ δήμῳ, ἀλλὰ τοῖς ἀρίστοις: The Democratisation of History in Herodotus and Thucydides.

* + 1. **Translation Competitions**

Co-ordinator: Amelia Brown (Queensland)

Judges: Jane Bellemore (Newcastle) and John Davidson (VUW)

**Latin**--Winner: Janek Drevikovsky (Sydney)

Honourable mentions: Patrick Ryan (Sydney); Clare Pryor (ANU)

**Greek**--Winner: Patrick Ryan (Sydney)

Honorable mentions: Janek Drevikovsky (Sydney); Liam Maldoni (ANU)

* + 1. **OPTIMA Award**

Co-ordinators: Matthew Trundle (Auckland) and Lea Beness (Macquarie)

Judges: Lara O’Sullivan (WA), John Davidson (VUW), Lea Beness (Macquarie)

Winners will be announced on Thursday at afternoon tea.

Thanks to Lea Beness for the co-ordination of the awards.

# **Election of Office-Bearers, Editorial Committee and AAIA Representative**

John Davidson presided.

The following members were elected to the Executive Committee for 2019:

• President: Stevenson, Tom (Welch/Beness)

• Vice-President: Beness, Lea (Welch/Salapata)

• Vice-President: Welch, Kathryn (Beness/Stevenson)

• Secretary: Salapata, Gina (Welch/Stevenson)

• Treasurer: Neil, Bronwen (Welch/Beness)

• Editor, *Antichthon*: Cowan, Robert (Minchin/Lewis)

• Editor, *Antichthon*: Baltussen, Han (Pomeroy/Minchin)

• Publications Manager: Champion, Michael

• CPR Committee Chair: Minchin, Elizabeth (appointment)

• Web Manager: Morrell, Kit (Salapata/Welch)

• AAIA Liaison: Paspalas, Stavros (appointment)

• Membership Secretary: Garrett, Phoebe (Neil/Beness)

• Postgraduate Representatives: Emily Chambers (Austr.); Katherine Torres-Munro (NZ)

• Messages Secretary: Daniel Hanigan & Dustin Mackenzie (appointment)

• AWAWS Representative: Brown, Amelia (Beness/Burton)

• Rep. ACU: Hanaghan, Michael (Champion/Crawford)

• Rep. Adelaide: Baltussen, Han (Salapata/Beness)

• Rep. ANU: Londey, Peter (Minchin/Burton)

• Rep. Auckland: Armstrong, Jeremy

• Rep. Campion College: Flynn, Thomas

• Rep. Canterbury: Morrison, Gary (Sciarrino/Griffith)

• Rep. La Trobe: *vac*.

• Rep. Macquarie: Laurence, Ray (Davenport/Beness)

• Rep. Massey: Tracy, Jonathan (Salapata/Richardson)

• Rep. Melbourne: Chong-Gossard, K.O. (Vervaet/Turner)

• Rep. Monash: Connor, Andrew (Bowen/McLardy)

• Rep Newcastle: Lindsay, Hugh (Bellemore/Baynham)

• Rep Notre Dame: *vac*.

• Rep Otago: Allan, Arlene (McConnell/Hall)

• Rep Sydney: Rogerson, Anne (Rocher/R. Cowan)

• Rep Tasmania: *vac*.

• Rep UNE: Taylor, Tristan (Koehn/Stanton)

• Rep UQ: Keenan-Jones, Duncan (Brown/Stevenson)

• Rep UWA: *vac*.

• Rep VUW: Kierstead, James (Pomeroy/Salapata)

1. **Future General Meetings and Conferences**
   1. ASCS 41, 2020: Otago (28-31 Jan)
   2. ASCS 42, 2021: UTas or La Trobe
   3. ASCS 43, 2022: ANU
   4. ASCS 44, 2023: NZ (Auckland or Canterbury)
   5. ASCS 45, 2024: UTas or La Trobe (depending on 2021)
   6. Amphorae XIII, 2019: 7-9 June at Monash University (conveners: Sarah Chandlee, Melanie Hechenberger, Aimee Turner)

# **Delegation of Authority**

The meeting tasked the Executive Committee with conducting the Society’s business for the next 12 months.

1. **AOB**

* Art Pomeroy added to the *Antichthon* report that CUP are very pleased that our subscriptions remain steady, especially in view of declining Humanities subscriptions.
* John Davidson proposed a vote of thanks to UNE and the organisers for a wonderful conference.

The meeting closed at 3.30 pm.

February 2019 Gina Salapata

ASCS Honorary Secretary

(with thanks to Arlene Allan and Kit Morrell)