

Australasian Virology Society.

2017 Annual General Meeting.

Date and time: Thursday December 7th 2017, 1pm.
Place: Stamford Grand Hotel, Glenelg, South Australia.

Draft minutes.

1. Present and apologies.

Present: P Speck, G Tachedjian, M Beard, D Purcell, J Mackenzie, H Drummer, K Johnson, V Ward, P White, P Young, M Hibma, J Taylor, F Coulibaly, J Hobson-Peters, L Herrero, N Prow, K Helbig, J Flynn, R Bull, A Eltahla, A Underwood, G Oliver, G Marsh, C David, C Deffrasnes, M Aloï, T Zhao, G Moseley, A Harrison, V Torok, N Bartlett, P Reading, M Warner, C Lin, J McGregor, G Mbogo, D Delgado Dior, J Hayward, N Eye, N-X Setoh, K Short, H Jin, K Subbarao, J Randles, A Rozario, A Pombioulos, S Londrigan, M Tate, S Asgari, A Khromykh, J Carr, A Mathews Abraham, S Cabezas, N McMillan.

Apologies: B Slobedman, A. Abendroth.

2. Minutes of the 2016 Annual General Meeting (Feb. 16th 2017, Lorne, Victoria).

These were accepted as a true record.

3. President's report.

The President thanked the Local Organizing Committee and the Executive Committee, mentioning the success of AVS9. He thanked all members present at AVS9 and at the AGM. He spoke to the activities of the AVS in the past and upcoming.

4. Consideration of financial matters:

4.1. Treasurer's report. The Society financial statements as of October 31 2017 were presented.

4.2. Schedule of fees for joining and annual membership. No change was made to the schedule of fees.

5. Secretary's report.

The secretary reported that the Society is in compliance with the requirements of Victorian Association Incorporation law, and on the number of members who had joined since the last Scientific Meeting.

6. Society gender equity policy: Prof. Gilda Tachedjian to address.

Professor Tachedjian spoke to the gender equity policy and the implementation of targets to hold the society accountable as well as developing a mentoring program, which has had particular input from G Tachedjian, J Carr, L Herrero (with assistance from Maree Overall) and H. Drummer. GT presented AVS gender balance metrics which overall have met or exceeded targets indicating that the policy has been successful. GT thanked H Drummer for her highly successful women in virology breakfast at AVS9.

The meeting voted to accept the gender equity policy.

7. Changes to the Society constitution: P Speck to address.

There was discussion re the need to make changes to the constitution. A motion was proposed:

"That changes be made to the constitution, in accordance with the documents as circulated". Proposer: P. Speck, seconded: G Tachedjian. Passed.

8. Venue for 2019 Biennial Scientific Meeting; position of Meeting Convener.

There was discussion around the venue for the 2019 meeting. A proposal was put forward to host the 2019 meeting in Queenstown, New Zealand. There was discussion around this. The meeting concurred that the December 2019 meeting will be held in Queenstown, New Zealand. Professor Marilyn Hibma is the Meeting Convenor.

9. Declaration of vacancy of all committee memberships and offices.

All committee memberships and offices were declared vacant.

10. Acceptance of nominations for committee membership and offices.

One nomination was received for each of these offices:

President:	Gilda Tachedjian
Vice-President:	Heidi Drummer
Treasurer:	Jason Mackenzie
Secretary:	Peter Speck
Meeting Convener:	Merilyn Hibma
Membership Officer:	Natalie Prow

11. Election of office holders and committee members.

All persons nominating to offices were elected unopposed.

The following nominations were received for the positions of ordinary committee members:

G Oliver, D Purcell, P Young, L Herrero, R Bull, K Helbig, J Flynn, A Khromykh, G Moseley. A ballot was held. The ballot was counted by N McMillan and P Speck. The following members were elected:

R Bull, D Purcell, G Moseley, L Herrero, K Helbig, P Young.

12. Role of the AVS? What do members want the AVS to do?

There was discussion around this. The meeting concurred that in addition to convening a biennial scientific meeting, the Society could continue to have roles in advancing the status of virology in our region, in advocating for causes relevant to the discipline, and in providing resources to members.

13. Any other business: nil.

14. Close of meeting. The meeting closed at 2pm.