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ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – ISANA VIC/TAS

Thursday 9 December 2021

AGM Chair: Jen Walsh

Attendees: 13 Margaret Dawson, Danielle Hartridge, Molly Bonnefin, Helen Nicholls-Stary, Jen Walsh, Aleisha Cox, Pauline Bowles, Zita Tattersall, Paula Durance, Deleine Gavin-Cox, Margaret Vella, Leisl Bruhn, Suzanne Fernandes

Apologies: 2 Cameron Ward, Sue Alton

The meeting commenced at 4.04 pm and was held online, via Zoom. Chair, Jen Walsh opened the meeting with an acknowledgement of country.

1. **Acceptance of Minutes of previous AGM** held on 23/11/2020 with minor amendment that surnames of those proposing/accepting and seconding are included in the record of the minutes.

Proposed: Danielle Hartridge

Seconded: Molly Bonnefin

2. **President's Report – Margaret Dawson**

- Apology for holding the AGM later than usual, due to family isolation requirement
- Being the President during two years of COVID-19 have been difficult and Margaret does not intend to continue in the role.
- Thanks to the Committee for their efforts and insight
- It is good to see that the Council has cross representation from all education sectors
- We have changed the way we work and interact
- Thanks to the National Council for their support

- (1) Webinar ‘Longing for Belonging’ presented by Ly Tran was held jointly with VISION International. 130 attendees.
- (2) 3 day Conference was held with sponsorship by City of Melbourne and IGLU. Funds are still available for a face to face catch-up in the near future (day three component). It was decided to charge a fee for the conference because ISANA noted that free webinars result in many registrations but increased nonattendance. Recordings were not made available.
- (3) Consultation on papers was made during the year – The notice period to consult of papers can be very short therefore the branch council was consulted rather than the wider membership.
- (4) 116 Members are currently registered. Membership has changed. It is noted that many members have lost their jobs due to the pandemic situation. There is a need to keep trained staff within the sector.

Received: Jen Walsh

Seconded: Helen Nicholls-Stary

3. Treasurer’s Report: Danielle Hartridge

Opening Balance	\$26,723.72
Income from Conference	\$ 4,572.60
- sponsorship and registration	
Current balance	\$31,296.32

Received: Molly Bonnefin

Seconded: Suzanne Fernandes

4. Election of Office Bearers

Confirmed, uncontested nominations:

Vice President	:	Deleine Gavin-Cox
Secretary	:	Aleisha Cox
Regional Representative	:	Helen Nicolls-Stary
Schools Representative	:	Suzanne Fernandes

Nominations at the AGM

President 2021-2023 (2 yrs)	:	Helen Nicholls-Stary	
			<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Proposed: Danielle Hartridge• Seconded: Margaret Dawson
Treasurer (2 yrs)	:	Danielle Hartridge	
Deputy Conference Coordinator	:	Jen Walsh	
Communications Coordinator	:	Margaret Dawson	
PD Coordinator	:	(Gary Lee) TBC	
Tasmanian Representative	:	(Cameron Ward) if able to TBC	
Regional Representative	:	Zita Tattersall	
			<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Proposed: Helen Nicholls-Stary and• Seconded: Danielle Hartridge

5. Other Business / Future Topics

Margaret Dawson: There are challenges for ISANA moving forward.

- The way the National organisation works in relation to the State Committees came under the spotlight during the pandemic. Can the current structure continue?
- There is a risk of losing voice and advocacy in the sector without the constancy of support staff to run the organisation.
- The Constitution should be reviewed, and changes made as required. This may require to be managed as a project

Danielle Hartridge:

- Endorse the need to review the constitution and make constructive changes. This needs to happen at an AGM.
- Should focus on and build on strengths
- ISANA's is an important voice to have to represent the sector
- Need to employ a paid staff member for continuity (e.g., IEAA model)

Margaret Dawson:

- A secretariat that operates on a limited basis means that there could be a delay in response, and this can create challenges
- The role of International Student Advisers has changed, and we need to survey members nationally
- We need to look at how we make the organization grow, to attract the right membership across functions and sectors.
- We need to maintain viability in this space

Jen Walsh:

- Organizations have restructured due to the pandemic and therefore membership has changed.
- ISANA needs to do the same
- Need to review who we are, how we differ from other organisations such as IEAA, how do we come together to support the education sector.

Margaret Dawson: We need to have a broader understanding of what is required.

Danielle Hartridge: ISANA is a niche association and focuses mainly on student issues. Whereas IEAA is not in that arena. IEAA and ISANA are talking about putting together something on the topic of Racism.

Margaret Dawson: Maybe we can fund a small project to look at this, using someone in the sector who is currently not in a job, but has the required skills.

Helen Nicholls-Stary: In New Zealand, the association conducted a review and received Government funding for a full time position to support the sector. Perhaps we can do something similar. Conduct a review and look for full time support.

Zita Tattersall: In Warrnambool, the 60 odd stakeholders discussed what's strong, not wrong.

- Reviewed the assets to mobilise expertise among members
- Focused on reshaping and growing to maximise potential
- Looked at the asset base and used that to move into that direction.
- Good strategy to review and restructure, with a view to continue

Molly Bonnefin:

- Agrees with Margaret's points
- ISANA has a legacy structure
- The branches have not had a voice at National Council
- It was interesting to note that being online meant that we could broaden how PD was delivered
- Agrees that the Constitution is worth revisiting

Margaret Dawson:

- It will be a huge job, more like a project requiring the allocation of funds
- Probably use someone out of work at present, with the required work skills
- Consider as a short term project
- Margaret is willing to be part of a team for the project person to consult
- Perhaps Helen Nicholls-Stary, as new President could take this on as a task to organise.

Paula Durance:

- This is a question that should be deliberated at National level and should be a National initiative.
- Vic/Tas can submit a Brief of the review for consideration/deliberation

Danielle Hartridge: Is National Council already thinking about this?

Jen Walsh: Yes, National is considering member voice and focusing attention on what is happening in the sector, and when things will move forward for international education.

Margaret Dawson: Thank you to those who attended the AGM, and congratulations to the new President, Helen Nicholls-Stary, and to Jen Walsh for chairing the AGM.

The meeting was declared closed at 4.38pm