

**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Australasian Mycological Society  
Wednesday 27 October 2021, 12:00 PM AEDT (Zoom teleconference)**

**Present:** Tracey Steinrucken (president), Bevan Weir (vice president), Laszlo Irinyi (secretary), Adam Frew (treasurer), Jonathan Plett (councillor), Anna Hopkins (councillor) Wieland Meyer (IMA president), Tom May, Peter Buchanan, Jeff Powell, David Catcheside, Pamela Catcheside, Alexander Idnurm, Ellie Bradley, Jeroth Diggeden, Susie Webster, Cecile Gueidan

**Apologies:** Dee Carter, Elaine Davison

**12:00 PM**

**Presentation:** Professor Levente Kiss from from University of Southern Queensland - "Mycoparasitic fungi in action"

**12:50 PM – 1:00 PM Break**

**1. 1:00 PM – Welcome and introduction by AMS President Tracey Steinrucken**

Tracey Steinrucken welcomed the audience to the meeting, thanked them for their attendance and outlined the Agenda of the Meeting.

**2. 1:10 PM Acceptance of the minutes of the 2020 AGM**

Minutes of the previous AGM (2020) were accepted with no changes.

Wieland Meyer moved the acceptance of the Minutes of the 2020 AGM and David Catcheside seconded it.

**3. 1:20 PM President's report and summary**

Tracey Steinrucken presented the president's report to the meeting.

The Society had no scientific meeting in 2021 due to Covid. However, a monthly online seminar series was set up.

Two Council members departing, Adam Frew (Treasurer) and Laszlo Irinyi (Secretary). The Society thanks their work and contribution.

Hannah McCarthy and Ellie Bradley are also leaving and therefore the Council is looking for two Student Representative from New Zealand.

The Society's financial health is good. The only expenditures were Zoom subscription, website hosting, and financial service fees. This year was only 43 active memberships which are mainly due to the lack of scientific meeting.

There was no Research Grant awarded this year. The Society is also working on a new Research Grant in collaboration with Fungimap focusing on citizen science, conservation or other Fungimap's projects.

The virtual seminar series have been a great success. There were attendees from around the world. The series will be continued next year. There is a plan to make the recorded

presentations available online only for Members. The final virtual seminar in 2021 will be special featuring two Research Grant Awardees (Elaine Davison and Rebecca Webb) from last year.

The Newsletter has been reformatted for 2021 with everyone in the Council getting a chance to prepare a Newsletter for circulation every month. The Newsletters are featuring research, researchers alongside news from the Society, Seminar Series, and mycological events.

Dee Carter will continue to be the Webmaster to update and refresh the Society's website. The Society is appreciating her hard work.

The mushroom ID's enquires have been redirected to the Australian and New Zealand iNaturalist pages as the Society do not want to comment on edible fungi.

The Society's Facebook page has been well managed by the Students Representatives and currently has more 1700 followers which is 400 more than last year. The Twitter page has 860 followers with constant engagements from well-known mycologists.

The Australasian Plant Pathology Society (APPS) put a bid to host the 2028 International Congress of Plant Pathology (ICPP) in Gold Coast. The AMS supported the bid and in case it will be awarded it will hold a satellite meeting alongside the ICPP.

The Society is planning the next Scientific Meeting in 2022 in New Zealand.

Wrapping up her report, Tracey thanked the work of all Council Members as well as Pamela and David Catcheside.

Bevan Weir moved the President's report and Laszlo Irinyi seconded it.

#### **4. 1:30 PM Treasurer's report**

Adam Frew presented the treasurer's report.

The key figures as follow:

2020-2021 Financial year Summary:

Closing balance: \$14955.42

Commonwealth Bank account: \$14167.14

PayPal account: \$788.28

The active memberships were 43 in 2021 and the early memberships for 2022 were 14.

Wieland Meyer moved the treasurer's report and Bevan Weir seconded it.

#### **5. 1:35 PM Subcommittee reports**

Tom May presented the Fungal Conservation Subcommittee Report

A Google Group was set up for anyone who is interested in Fungal Conversation.

The term "funga" has been adopted for the fungi in the area instead of the term fauna or flora.

The website has been updated.

Anyone interested and has further questions please email to Tom May.

Taxonomy Australia was created as part of the implementation discovering diversity in Australia and New Zealand. Taxonomy Australia supports the exploration and discovery of Australia's biodiversity.

Bevan Weir moved Fungal Conservation Subcommittee Report and Laszlo Irinyi seconded it.

## **6. 1:45 PM Election of office bearers for 2022**

- President: Tracey Steinrucken (nomination to continue)
- Vice President: Bevan Weir (nomination to continue)
- Treasurer: Vacant
- Secretary: Vacant
- Councillor 1: Anna Hopkins (nomination to continue)
- Councillor 2: Jonathan Plett (nomination to continue)
- AMS student representative(s):
  1. Australia: Christina Stephenson
  2. New Zealand: Vacant

Jonathan Plett suggested Johanna Wong to be the next Secretary.

Tom May moved the election of office bearers and David Catcheside seconded it.

## **7. 1:50 PM Other Businesses**

Wieland Meyer was concerned about the low memberships of the Society. He also proposed that AMS talks should be advertised for the members of Australian Society for Microbiology and vice versa. More advertisements and collaborations with other societies would be beneficial.

AMC 2022 was postponed to July 2024 and it will be held in Maastricht, Netherlands.

AMS should nominate someone for the Young Mycologist Award.

Wieland talked about the changes in IMA.

Wieland Meyer suggested a motion to increase the Membership and Ellie Bradley seconded it.

**ACTION:** to increase the active membership of the Society. Tracey to get in touch with Wieland about the Young Mycologist Award

**The AGM 2021 meeting concluded at approximately 02:00PM AEDT.**