

42nd Annual General Meeting of the Australian Society of Viticulture and Oenology Inc.

held on the 14th of November 2022

1. Attendance

Brooke Howell (Chair), noted that a quorum was present in accordance with the constitution and declared the Annual General Meeting open at 5:13 pm

Seventeen (17) members, were present in the room as recorded on the registration sheets

Eveline Bartowsky	Andy Clarke	Brooke Howell	Alana Seabrook
Marlize Bekker	Katie Dunne	Anna Hooper	Rob Walker
Paul Boss	Paul Grbin	Russell Johnston	
Mark Bourne	Mike Hayes	Mark Krstic	
Rob Bramley	Markus Herderich	Tony Robinson	

Nine (9) members, were present as reported by webinar ID 918 3429 7000

Shelley Ray-Brennan	Richard Fennessy	Alana Seabrook
Nick Dry	Dr. Gail Gnoinski	Terence Wong
Paul Epee	Paul Petrie	Chris Waters

Fourteen (14) members submitted proxy forms

Andrew Allen	Benjamin Gibson	Cath Oates	Amanda Tanga
Mike Davies	Ben Gibson	Matt Partridge	Corrina Wright
Gregory Dedman	Duncan Hamm	Phillip Reschke	
Jeremy Dineen	Simon Nordestgaard	Leigh Schmidtke	

2. Apologies

Twenty-nine (29) members' apologies were recorded

Andrew Allen	Steve Faulkner	Brett McClen	Prof Leigh Schmidtke
Pete Bissell	Dr Leigh Francis	Simon Nordestgaard	Philip Shaw
Peter Clingeleffer	Benjamin Gibson	Cath Oates	Dr Vanessa Stockdale
Martin Cole	John Gledhill	Matt Partridge	Amanda Tanga
Mike Davies	Duncan Hamm	Tony Proffitt	Corrina Wright
Gregory Dedman	Stuart Hordern	Atsuko Radcliffe	
Mike DeGaris	Patrick Iland	Phillip Reschke	
Dr Peter Dry AM	Dr Mardi Longbottom	Jerome Scarborough	

3. Confirmation of Minutes

The Chair asked if there were any amendments to the published minutes of the 41st Annual General Meeting held on the 14th of November 2021. No amendments were noted.

MOTION: *That the amended minutes of the 41st AGM are recorded as a true and correct record*

Moved Brooke Howell

Seconded Rob Bramley

The motion was carried.

4. President's report.

The Chair presented the report to the members noting that the 2022 financial year was a challenging one with COVID-19 and an event embargo due to the Australian Wine Industry Technical Conference.

Despite the challenges, the ASVO declared a modest surplus of ~\$12,000, which was a result of the Board carefully managing expenses.

The Chair shared some of the key highlights of FY22 including;

- Collaborating with Wine Australia, Australian Grape and Wine and Wine Communicators of Australia to share a WineTech stand at the Australian Wine Industry Technical Conference in June 2022.
- Collaborating with the University of Adelaide, Wine Communicators, Wine Australia and Wine Industry Suppliers Australia to deliver the expanded Wine Industry Mentor Program.
- Offering scholarships and student subsidies for early career members to enhance their professional development.
- Signing a 3-year agreement with Wine Australia to deliver services related to the extension and adoption of current research.
- Delivery of the new Wine Business Webinar series.

5. Treasurer's report

The Chair advised that the Treasurer could not be present but had prepared a video discussing the audited financial reports for the year ended 30 June 2022 to the members.

Unfortunately, the recording malfunctioned and was not played in its entirety. In the absence of the Treasurer, the Chair opened the meeting for questions on the report.

Q. A member asked for clarification on the Special projects expense line

- A. The Chair advised that the Special projects related to expenses made for activities and projects related to the deliverables from the Wine Australia

funding agreement.

Q. A member asked for the current membership numbers

A. The Chair advised that as at June 30 2022 there were 670 members.

6. Auditor

The Chair stated that the ASVO had appointed DW Johns & Co as the association's Auditor for FY23.

7. Journal

The Chair of the Journal Subcommittee reported that the transition to the new publishing partner, Hindawi had been completed noting that the change to the Hindawi workflow model had required some changes to the Editorial team and Deputy Editors were no longer required.

The Chair of the Journal Subcommittee stated that modelling showed that the *Australian Journal of Grape and Wine Research* (AJGWR) could potentially be cost-neutral by FY24 saving the ASVO substantial funds.

The chair of the Journal Subcommittee explained that member feedback showed that the AJGWR was not considered by many members to be a tangible member benefit and the Board believed that funds traditionally directed to supporting the AJGWR could be better utilised in funding other activities that have the potential for greater uptake and perceived benefit by all members.

Members raised the following concerns:

Q. What investment has the Board planned to communicate articles published now that the Journal is a continuous publication?

A. The Chair of the Journal Subcommittee replied that the Board had plans to fund a communication plan to increase broadcasts to members.

Q. How many members does the Board predict will be lost because they feel they were losing a member benefit?

A. The Chair of the Journal Subcommittee replied that the Board had listened to member surveys and stakeholder groups and had decided that the value proposition was sufficient to mitigate the risk of members who perceived the Journal as the only reason to be a member.

Q. Is the Board prioritising cost over the quality of the articles published in the AJGWR?

A. The Chair of the Journal Subcommittee replied that publishing costs will be minimised, but editorial costs would remain. Feedback received from authors has centred around time to publication being a major concern for AJGWR. The Chair of the Journal Subcommittee also highlighted that Hindawi publishes over 200 other Journals and uses the same workflows to enhance speed and efficiency.

Moving to such a model will make the AJGWR more competitive against Oeno One.

Questions were raised regarding the risks associated with moving the AJGWR to an open access model.

Q. Has the Board considered that an Article Publication Charge would be a disincentive and the AJGWR could lose Authors?

A. The Chair of the Journal Subcommittee replied that the Board had considered the risk and decided that the future of peer-review publishing globally was shifting to open access as more funders and institutions align their policies towards open access.

Furthermore, the Chair of the Journal Subcommittee stated that the Board had carefully considered the options and felt that the Journal may become unviable and was at risk of failing if the ASVO renewed the contract with Wiley and could only offer open access at USD\$3500. In addition, the ASVO would be outlaying significant members' funds to support the journal with no tangible benefit.

The Board decided that there were sufficient reasons to move to a lower cost open access publisher to reduce the financial commitment of the Journal, increase the speed of publication and divert the savings to other membership offerings.

Q. Has the Board considered the risk of the quality of the Journal sliding without the editing of the Chief Editor?

A. The Chair of the Journal Subcommittee replied that the Board had considered the risk and decided that Authors and readers accepted the trade-off between quality and speed of publication.

Q. Has the society entered into a fixed-term or rolling contract?

A. The Chair of the Journal Subcommittee replied that the Board had entered into a rolling contract with Hindawi.

The Agreement ends on 31 December 2025 and shall be automatically renewed on the same terms and conditions herein for succeeding two (2) calendar publication year periods (each a "**Renewal Term**," together with the Initial Term the "**Term**") unless either party notifies the other in writing that it does not wish to renew the Agreement, such notification to be given at least twelve (12) months prior to scheduled expiration of the Initial Term or any Renewal Term.

Q. Do the current CAUL agreements extend to Hindawi?

A. The Chair of the Journal Subcommittee replied that the current CAUL agreements with Wiley did not extend to Hindawi, but it has been discussed with

them.

Q. Do members still have access to the back issues of the Journal?

A. The Chair of the Journal Subcommittee replied that members continued to have access to the back issues on the Wiley online library and it was the intention of the Board to make the back issues of the Journal open access.

8. Board elections

The Chair announced changes for the 2022-23 Board of Directors. The Chair welcomed Jeremy Dineen as the incoming Regional Director for Queensland, Tasmania and Western Australia and Regional Directors Andy Clarke, Victoria, Dr Alana Seabrook, South Australia, and Nadja Wallington, New South Wales all who stood unopposed and were re-elected for a further two year term. The Chair thanked outgoing Director Dr Richard Fennessy for his contribution having served on the Board for two terms (four years).

9. Admission of Fellows of the Society

The Chair stated the ASVO Board of Directors had decided that two members be granted honorary membership as Fellows of the Society. The Chair announced that The Fellow Selection Advisory Committee had recommended Prue Henschke and Russell Johnstone be invited to become Fellows of the ASVO.

The Chair introduced Prue stating that Prue became a member of the ASVO in 1981 and has been a strong and professional contributor to the Association and the Australian wine industry ever since.

Unfortunately, Prue was unable to join the AGM, but she provided a video of acceptance. Due to unforeseen circumstances, the video could not be played, and the Chair asked that the video be circulated to members.

The Chair introduced Russell Johnstone. Russell has been a member of ASVO since 1995 and served on the ASVO Board for an extended period from 1999 until 2009. During this time, he was Treasurer for four years (2003 – 2006), Vice President in 2002 and President in 2009. He also edited ASVO seminar and AWITC proceedings and was involved in the Journal Advisory Committee from 2004-2017. Russell was also actively involved in planning AWITC events over a number of cycles.

The Chair invited Russell to the stage to accept the honour.

10. Other business

The Chair invited all those present to raise any further matters that have not been dealt with on the agenda.

There being no further business the Chair declared the meeting closed at 6:37 pm