

**MINUTES AGES ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
**Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2023**

**Attended by:** Rachel Green, Catarina Ang, Bassem Gerges, Nyasha Gwata, Amani Harris, Tal Jacobson, Shamitha Kathurusinghe, Kate Martin, Jennifer Pontre, Emma Readman, Michael Wynn-Williams, Mary Sparksman, Losena Biuvanua, Fariba Behnia-Willison, Robert Carey, Sarah Choi, Danny Chou, Helen Green, Keryn Harlow, Martin Healey, Supuni Kapurubandara, Andrew McIntyre, Heather Pardey, John Maxwell Pardey, Roni Ratner, Charlotte Reddington, Mark Ruff, Apputhurai Anpalagan, Dianne Avery, Alison Bryant-Smith, Kirsten Connan, Ashmita Desai, Simon Edmonds, Sarah Fitzgibbon, Alex Hubczenko, Kent Lin, Stephen Lyons, Martin Ritossa, Phillip Thomas, Jim Tsaltas, Anna-Marie Van Der Merwe, Anusch Yazdani

**Apologies:** George Condous, Lourdes St. George.

**Meeting Opened:** 4.45PM AEDT.

Item	
<b>Welcome</b>	Bassem Gerges welcomed members to the AGM.
<b>Board Election results</b>	<p>New President is Rachel Green.</p> <p>New Vice President is Michael Wynn-Williams.</p> <p>New Secretary is Emma Readman.</p> <p>New Treasurer is Bassem Gerges.</p> <p>New Board Ordinary Directors: Catarina Ang, Amani Harris, Tal Jacobson, Shamitha Kathurusinghe, Kate Martin, and Jennifer Pontre.</p> <p>New Board Trainee representative is Nyasha Gwata.</p> <p>The new office holders were congratulated by AGES members.</p>
<b>Previous AGM minutes</b>	The minutes of the 2022 AGM were approved as a true and accurate record. Proposed by Rachel Green, seconded by Stephen Lyons.
<b>President's report</b>	<p>Stephen Lyons presented the report.</p> <p><b>Board Priorities</b></p> <p>Board priorities during the term were inclusion of members, prevention of discrimination, and education for all AGES members and for women. The COVID pandemic posed a challenge for the Board and for AGES during the term in meeting these priorities.</p> <p><b>Membership</b></p> <p>There are 846 members currently (719 at the corresponding period last year). Membership is expected to increase during the year as events are held.</p> <p><b>Meetings and events</b></p> <p>Affected by COVID in 2021, but virtual options were held. Many events were cancelled or rescheduled. Sponsorship was affected as a result.</p> <p>In 2022 a successful hybrid event has held in Adelaide with 158 in-person attendees. The Queenstown NZ meeting in August was attended by 176 delegates in person. The Annual Scientific Meeting in Melbourne in November attracted 457 delegates, and there are 439 delegates for this ASM in Sydney.</p> <p><b>Workshops</b></p> <p>Only two workshops were held in 2021 (AGES/RANZCOG and LAP-D). In 2022 all workshops were held in person.</p> <p><b>Webinars</b></p> <p>Suite of webinars held from 2020-2022 that were well attended, and these are still available to be viewed on the AGES website.</p> <p><b>Financial progress</b></p>

	<p>AGES have recorded a significant loss during the 2-year term, mostly due to a loss of sponsorship and low interest rates. Despite this AGES remains in a healthy financial position.</p> <p><b>Portfolios</b></p> <p>Highlights of work by Board committees included:</p> <p>Women’s Health – Patient video library developed, and more topics will be added in the new term. Several patient information sheets have been developed and are due for publication.</p> <p>Electronic media – Surgical procedure consent library nearing completion. Core surgical procedure library in development.</p> <p>Equity, Inclusion, Diversity – Diversity and Equity statement completed and is available on AGES website. AGES supported the Pride in Medicine float at the Sydney Pride 2023 Mardi Gras parade. AGES members survey is also planned.</p> <p>Education – AATP curriculum has been reviewed and updated has been circulated to unit heads and training supervisors. Six new units were accredited in the 2-year period. New rubric is being developed for training supervisors. Training unit guidelines is the next project.</p> <p>AATP representative – Stephen praised the contribution of Kate Martin. Positive feedback has been received from trainees that their concerns were being addressed. An extended leave policy was developed. Mandatory requirement for Anatomy of Complications workshop was removed.</p> <p>Stephen thanked the Board for its work over the past 2 years during a very challenging time, and wished the new Board success.</p>
<b>Treasurer’s report</b>	<p>Michael Wynn-Williams presented the report.</p> <p>AGES recorded a loss of \$219K for 2022, mostly due to decline in sponsorship of \$167K and bank interest by \$44K. Despite this loss AGES continues to have a solid financial position with net assets of \$2 million.</p> <p>Main meetings and workshops have been delivered face-to-face in 2022, for the first time since 2019 due to the COVID pandemic.</p> <p>Membership, sponsorship, and conference fees have been increased to account for increased operating costs. The new Board will continue to monitor revenue stream and expenditure.</p>
<b>Other business</b>	<p>Peter Maher was recently awarded honorary membership of AAGL which is a rare honour and a great achievement. The AGES members congratulated Peter on his award.</p> <p>Rebecca Deans was yesterday named NSW Woman of the Year. Rebecca was part of the team that carried out the first uterine transplant in Australia earlier this year. The AGES members congratulated Rebecca on this recognition.</p>

**Meeting Closed:** 5.03PM AEDT.