



BOARD MEETING MINUTES

**Meeting – Thursday 28th February 2019 (Meeting #1)
Commencing 11:00 AEST**

[NSW, VIC, ACT, TAS, QLD - 11:00; SA, NT – 10:30; WA – 8:00]

GoToMeeting: <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/361103285>

Meeting ID: 361-103-285

Phone No: +61 2 9087 3604

GoogleDrive Documents:

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1McjNY8FW1jzm_lqyZxXo4wPuIVPUBd2K?usp=sharing

Distribution list: Don Driscoll (President), Bek Christensen (VP – Public Liaison & Policy; President-elect), Amy Hahs (VP – Research), Jodi Price (VP – Student Affairs), Kate Umbers (VP – Membership & Communications), Chloe Sato (Secretary), Jeremy Huntley (Treasurer), Nigel Andrew (Austral Ecology – Chair), Pep Turner (EMR – Chair, Editorial Board), Gerry Turpin (Ordinary Director – Indigenous Engagement), Leanda Mason (Ordinary Director – Early Career Research), Gail Spina (Executive Officer), Jacky Tierney (Finance & Membership Officer), Toni Stevens (Online Media Officer).

1.0 WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

1.1 Chairperson's Welcome and Introduction

Don welcomed all to the Board meeting. Particularly Jodi and Leanda.

1.2 Apologies

Present: Don Driscoll, Bek Christensen, Amy Hahs, Jodi Price, Chloe Sato, Jeremy Huntley, Nigel Andrew, Leanda Mason. Gail Spina, Jacky Tierney, Toni Stevens.

Apologies: Kate Umbers, Pep Turner, Leanda Mason

Absent: Gerry Turpin

1.3 Minutes of Previous Board Meeting (Planning Day 2018) – for ratification*

Motion: That the minutes of the previous ESA Planning Day be accepted as a true and correct record.

Moved: Nigel Andrew

Seconded: Jeremy Huntley

All in favour: motion carried.

1.4 Minutes of Previous Annual General Meeting (November 2018) – for noting*

AGM minutes noted.

2.0 ACTION ITEMS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

2.1 Matters Arising from Previous Board Meetings

Post-meeting action item table attached to minutes.

AGENDA ITEM #			ACTION ARISING	PERSON
PD	Nov (#6) 17	8.4.1	List of hot topics put together by Policy WG will be circulated to Board for feedback then Bek will liaise with STA.	Policy WG/Bek
Ongoing. Get on to this in the first quarter of 2019.				

AGENDA ITEM #		ACTION ARISING		PERSON
Amend to remove STA and capitalise Hot Topics. STA to link into Hot Topics and would that be valuable for informing politicians. Synergy between what they do and what we can provide. REPLACED by two separate actions: Board Item 2.1.1 & Board Item 2.2.2				
Board	Feb (#1) 18	5.7.1	Discuss options for Giving Circle process for consideration by Board.	FGWG
Ongoing. Discussion at next FGWG meeting and then take proposal to Board at June Strategic Planning Day as discussion point.				
Board	Apr (#3) 18	5.2.1	Research Awards WG to discuss AERA criteria and present proposed criteria to Board.	Board
Done. No further progress but adjustments made last year to remove career stage means that we can run again, as is, this year. Identify list of Executive Assistants at Universities that the AERA Award could be distributed to, to increase visibility of award.				
Board	May (#4) 18	5.2.1	Research Awards and Student Awards to discuss equity in ESA awards and bring key points about nominations, processes and equity (more broadly) in Awards to Board for PD discussion.	Amy/Dieter
Done. Identify AERA nominees to help with equity goals of ESA.				
Board	Aug (#7) 18	3.3.1	Discuss conference options to take back to the ISE Board.	Gail/Gerry
Done. Put in an expression of interest for 2020. To be discussed at the next conference WG meeting then to Board for April Board; Cairns for stand-alone event and Sydney if in tandem with 2020 conference. Discussing scope and how it might work.				
Board	Aug (#7) 18	3.4.1	Develop and roll out staged membership/feedback process.	Jacky/Gail/Toni
Done.				
Board	Aug (#7) 18	5.6.1	Membership WG to develop list of potential Honorary Fellowship recipients.	Membership WG
Ongoing. To be completed by March Board meeting.				
Board	Sept (#8) 18	5.3.1	Board recommends that the crowd funding application sits behind the ESA login. Don to email Gail to indicate that ESA Board recommends that ESA crowd funding guidelines/applications sit behind ESA login on website.	Don
Done.				
PD	Nov (#10)18	5.3.2	Follow up consultation timeframes for Austral/EMR marketing plan with Rebecca Ciezarek.	Don/Gail
Done. Don circulated Marketing Plans for EMR and Austral as a late item. Feedback from Nigel/Pep and Tein, and sent back to Wiley. Wiley to reconsider. Nigel not sure about how useful this is except for showcasing to general public. Wiley interested in publishing workshop – a couple of interesting slides about Altmetrics, and have good resources at the back end of their website. That is what they need to promote more through workshop. Potentially put up a couple of posters at workshop to highlight those materials. Need to synthesise and target the material for ESA audiences.				
PD	Nov (#10)18	6.1.2	Collate bid ideas and send to Board. WG Chairs to look for synergies in bids, then FGWG to prioritise bids.	Chloe
To be completed. Take table and circulate with strategic planning papers. March Board.				

AGENDA ITEM #	ACTION ARISING	PERSON	DUE BY
Board_Feb_19_2.1.1	Compile list of potential strategic/priority Hot Topics that can be circulated to Board for feedback.	Policy WG	April Board 2019

AGENDA ITEM #	ACTION ARISING	PERSON	DUE BY
Board_Feb_19_2.1.2	Liaise with STA to identify whether compiled list of Hot Topics may be useful for informing actions undertaken by STA or discussions undertaken by STA with politicians.	Bek	June Board 2019

AGENDA ITEM #	ACTION ARISING	PERSON	DUE BY
Board_Feb_19_2.1.3	Send call for AERA nominations to Holsworth Distribution List and Council of Deans List, in consultation with Amy.	Gail/Amy	ASAP

AGENDA ITEM #	ACTION ARISING	PERSON	DUE BY
Board_Feb_19_2.1.4	Investigate and add links on ESA website to Wiley's publishing advice and training documents.	Toni/Nigel	March Board 2019

3.0 REPORTS

3.1 Treasurer's Report – Jeremy Huntley*

Financial statements tabled. Not meeting KPI on expenditure as more people attended conference so greater overall expenditure. However, conference balanced and finalised with Kaigi. A total profit of 47K. There is also some wiggle room between now and end of financial year to allocate funds to projects/items. Risk appetite means no rush to spend, just more flexibility for years ahead.

3.2 Correspondence Report – Chloe Sato*

Correspondence noted.

3.3 Working Group Report – All*

Working Group Portfolio Chairs should submit a written dot point report for their Working Groups allowing for discussion of questions and issues only, rather than taking time for verbal updates. Directors with WG oversight to collate and forward dot point reports to Secretary prior to Board meetings.

Oversight	Working Group	Chair	Update as at 28 February 19
President	JOURNALS	Don Driscoll	<p>Austral Ecology update As Editor-in-Chief of Austral Ecology (Nigel Andrew), I co-ran a publishing workshop for ECR's in Malaga, Spain as part of the International Biogeography Conference 7th January 2019. We had about 40 participants, and I have some good ideas to run similar workshops at ESA annual meetings</p> <p>Austral Ecology is now paying artists to draw three comics for papers from each issue. Initial feedback is very positive.</p> <p>We have also had the first paper commentaries by ECR's. They started with 1 in the first issue for 2019, but hopefully, more ECR's will get involved as they get a higher profile.</p> <p>The 'titles' of the Editorial board also were changed to keep in line with current practice: so the old 'Managing Editor' is now 'Editor in Chief'; and 'Associate Editors' are now 'Editors'.</p>

Oversight	Working Group	Chair	Update as at 28 February 19
			<p>I am also starting to talk to Austral Ecology Board members based in Brazil and Argentina to visit them in July/August to run some publishing workshops and increase the profile of the journal in South America.</p> <p>EMR update Submissions to EMR are continuing at a healthy rate. January saw the publication of a special issue on feral horse management in Australia's alpine parks, an important contribution to peer reviewed literature on the topic, featuring papers from the 'Feral Horse Impacts: The Kosciuszko Science Conference held on 8th Nov, at the Australian Academy of Science, Canberra.</p> <p>The editorial board has had a restructure, with three members retiring and four new members joining. We thank retiring members Ian Davidson, Amy Hahs and David Norton for many years of valued service, and welcome Timothy Curran, Neil Davidson, Ashley Sparrow and Cathy Waters to the board.</p> <p>EMR is now online only, although some hard copies will be supplied to ESA.</p>
	INDIGENOUS ENGAGEMENT	Gerry Turpin	<p>Currently developing expression of interest for the 2020 ISE EthnoBiology Congress – proposed venue will be Sydney or Cairns. It may be in conjunction with ESA20 or a standalone event.</p> <p>ESA has registered to develop a Reconciliation Action Plan and we are liaising with Stephen Leeuwin (WA group member who has been through this process with WA Gov) re progressing this initiative</p> <p>Indigenous Ecological Knowledge Hot Topics being progressed by Emilie Ens.</p>
	ACADEMIC FREEDOM	Don Driscoll	<p>The academic freedom survey was closed in early February. 363 people started the survey, but 245 filled in substantive parts of the survey. Preliminary evaluation of the results suggest the Academic Freedom Working Group will</p>

Oversight	Working Group	Chair	Update as at 28 February 19
			not be closing its doors soon. For example, there was a high proportion of people who reported harassment for making public statements, and substantial evidence that everything from tweets to peer-reviewed journal articles have been either unduly modified or prohibited. Analysis of the data will reveal whether responses vary by work place type, gender and career stage.
VP Student Affairs	STUDENT ACTIVITIES & AWARDS	Jodi Price	First awards due next week. Forestry Award has one application, so send through networks and encourage to apply. Extend by a week.
	ECOLOGICAL EDUCATION	Dieter Hochuli	No update.
VP Research	EARLY CAREER ECOLOGISTS	Stephanie Courtney Jones	Ran an excellent workshop at the conference and attendees provided positive feedback. Send out survey to capture ideas about it and for future. Amy Marie Gilpin setting down from WG. Amy to send thankyou letter from Board.
	RESEARCH CHAPTERS	Eleonora Egidi	New members needed. Advertise in e-news. Contact Leanda and link in with group. New Chair is Eleonora Egidi. Looking for members. Advertise in e-news.
	RESEARCH AWARDS	Amy Hahs	Website review will help with progression of Research Chapter actions. Awards advertised.
	EQUITY	Vacant	No update.
VP Member Communications	CONFERENCES	Jodi Price	LOC happening in Tasmania. Looking good. Sponsorship is good.
	PRACTITIONER ENGAGEMENT	Sacha Jellinek	Large membership now. Going to have face-to-face meeting for April 1 st to develop strategy to move WG forward and develop tangible actions.
	BULLETIN	Marie Dade	No update.
	MEMBERSHIP	Kate Umbers	Discussion around website database is next step. Potentially offer incentive (e.g. 10% discount) if you complete data fields. One off to try to get

Oversight	Working Group	Chair	Update as at 28 February 19
			<p>more information. Or could do a promotion/gift option of “do xx by xx time, you go in the draw for an xx \$ gift voucher.” – but may need to be more substantial to encourage completion of many fields.</p> <p>Important to communicate why we are running this drive at the head of the incentive.</p> <p>Continue to discuss incentive and bring decision to board for endorsement.</p>
<p>VP Public Outreach & Policy</p>	<p>MEDIA</p>	<p>Euan Ritchie</p>	<p>First meeting for 2019 was 27th February.</p> <p>Plans around more closely theming communications activities throughout the year. Look at what different WGs are doing, then try to pick a topic every 2 months and work to the same aim so we are all working towards a larger body of work together. Will help to give Scientell more direction. Good to bring ideas and strategy to Board so it is minuted.</p> <p>Instagram, Twitter and FB all progressing well.</p> <p>Toni away in April, looking to backfill position.</p> <p>Reinvigorating on Scientists Declaration on Land Clearing. Looking at how we can get individuals to sign on to this through ESA Communication channels.</p> <p>Individual stories to get out into the media.</p>
	<p>POLICY</p>	<p>Bek Christensen</p>	<p>Prepared submission for inquiry into vegetation management practices and agriculture.</p> <p>Bek appeared on behalf of ESA at Senate Committee hearing into Faunal Extinction; Policy WG currently working with Bek to prepare answers to questions taken on notice at that hearing.</p> <p>Policy WG commencing work on an election statement from ESA to outline key issues (will be based on 2018 conference statement and other recent submissions); Board members</p>

Oversight	Working Group	Chair	Update as at 28 February 19
			<p>are invited to participate in this process. Please let Bek know if you are interested; progressing over next 4-5 weeks.</p> <p>Policy WG put in budget submission for face-to-face meeting to kickstart 2019 actions and planning for next few years.</p> <p>WG has established regular monthly meeting time to maintain momentum.</p>
Treasurer	FINANCIAL GOVERNANCE	Jeremy Huntley	Many actions to progress. Will meet soon.
	FUNDRAISING & SPONSORSHIP	Vacant	Group not active.

3.4 Online Media Report – Toni Stevens*

Online media report tabled. Social media going well. Identifying and tailoring content based on the people who are accessing different forms of media. Twitter = scientists; Facebook = ECRs and general public; Instagram = 900 subscribers, photos from photocomp. Filtering out bots from e-news and looking to target recruitment of non-members. Look to expand the use of Instagram to issues, rather than just pictures. Can test with the theme-based communications being rolled out this year.

3.5 Membership Report – Jacky Tierney*

Membership report tabled. As at 10th February. Number of members consistent month to month at around 1100 members.

3.6 Conference Report – Gail Spina

Verbal report. Brisbane great result. Record attendance and majority of people gave positive feedback. Good financial outcome. Launceston underway. 50K funding incentive helps financially. Different conference, but looking promising. Venue has comfortable capacity of 650 attendees; with limitations around concurrent sessions. Keep in back of mind, but would be surprised if there needs to be a ceiling on attendance.

4.0 SUBMISSIONS

4.1 Inquiry into Impact on the agricultural sector of vegetation and land management policies, regulations and restrictions – Bek Christensen*

On 5 Dec, Min for Agriculture asked House of Reps Standing Committee on Agriculture and Water to conduct an inquiry into the impact on the agricultural sector of vegetation and land management policies, regulations and restrictions. Policy WG coordinated a submission from ESA and submitted end of January.

5.0 GENERAL BUSINESS (Discussion and/or Voting)

5.1 Strategic Planning Day – Don Driscoll*

Don has circulated a rough timetable for Strategic Planning Day for discussion by the Board. Please check whether timing is appropriate, and whether the general approach seems appropriate. Feedback and additions are welcomed.

March is the first deadline and requires a brief paragraph explaining to the Board how the WG will go about getting the information required for Strategic Planning Day. VPs will need to talk to Chairs of WGs, give the milestones document to Chairs, and explain that the milestone actions will inform Strategic Planning Day so deadlines need to be met. As part of communications with WG chairs, VPs need to send the collated small bid/large bid ideas (collated by Chloe) to WGs for their comments on whether it is still how they want to pursue directions for their group.

5.2 Engaging Orion to review ESA website – Toni Stevens/Gail Spina*

Board endorsed the engagement of Orion to review the ESA website, as Interlated no longer meeting the needs of ESA. The review will provide options going forward for Board, and aiming to have it delivered by April Board.

5.3 Sharing content of Bulletin more widely than ESA members – Toni Stevens/Gail Spina*

Board endorsed the broader dissemination of the Bulletin content to non-ESA Board members. The Bulletin team are keen to see stories go to broader audience and are also interested to see who is reading Bulletin content more broadly.

Consider at Strategic Planning Day: what is the value of membership; consider value proposition more broadly.

AGENDA ITEM #	ACTION ARISING	PERSON	DUE BY
Board_Feb_19_5.3.1	Consider the value proposition of ESA membership.	All Board	Strategic PD 2019

6.0 OTHER ITEMS (Noting and/or Information)

6.1 Report from INTECOL conference meeting/strategic planning weekend – Nigel Andrew

Day 1 - meeting with the Local Organizing Committee (LOC) for the 2021 Geneva Congress
 Day 2 - meeting with the stakeholders - Ecological Society reps
 Day 3 and 4 - re-organisation of INTECOL policy and procedures!

As part of this re-organisation, Nigel will step down as a Board member and work on the external committees, with the possibility of putting my hand up for a position in 2 years. The elections in the coming 6 months will allow for another Oceania representative to put their hand up for the Board.

INTECOL should be sending information to ESA soon about the new board structure, as well as a call for new member applications.

6.2 2018 STA AGM Minutes – Chloe Sato*

STA AGM Minutes sent through to ESA on 13th December 2018. Noted by the Board.

6.3 2019 Contact Details – Chloe Sato*

Please check your contact details (once more), for final distribution among ESA Board Members and WG Chairs.

7.0 LATE ITEMS

No late items raised.

8.0 NEXT MEETING

March Board – 28 March 2019.

Meeting closed 12:33pm
