



## BOARD MEETING MINUTES

**Meeting – Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2018 (Meeting #3)  
Commencing 11:00 AEST**

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

**GoToMeeting:** <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/497258685>

**Meeting ID: 497-258-685**

**Phone No: +61 2 9091 7603**

**GoogleDrive Documents:**

[https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1zPTmVOY4VsnKOetHLLgz\\_1NCehYbTwwi?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1zPTmVOY4VsnKOetHLLgz_1NCehYbTwwi?usp=sharing)

Distribution list: Don Driscoll (President), Amy Hahs (VP – Research), Dieter Hochuli (VP – Student Affairs), Bek Christensen (VP – Public Liaison & Policy), Kate Umbers (VP – Membership & Communications), Chloe Sato (Secretary), Jeremy Huntley (Treasurer-elect), Nigel Andrew (Austral Ecology – Chair), Pep Turner (EMR – Chair, Editorial Board), Gerry Turpin (Ordinary Director – Indigenous Engagement), Noel Preece (Ordinary Director). Gail Spina (Executive Officer), Jacky Tierney (Finance & Membership Officer).

### 1.0 WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

#### 1.1 Chairperson's Welcome and Introduction

#### 1.2 Present and Apologies

Present: Don Driscoll (President), Amy Hahs (VP – Research; left 12:37pm), Dieter Hochuli (VP – Student Affairs), Bek Christensen (VP – Public Liaison & Policy; left: 12:36pm), Kate Umbers (VP – Membership & Communications; left early: 11:54am), Chloe Sato (Secretary), Nigel Andrew (Austral Ecology – Chair), Noel Preece (Ordinary Director), Gerry Turpin (Ordinary Director – Indigenous Engagement), Gail Spina (Executive Officer), Jacky Tierney (Finance & Membership Officer; left early: 11:47am).

Apologies: Jeremy Huntley (Treasurer), Pep Turner (EMR – Chair).

#### 1.3 Minutes of Previous Board Meeting (March 2018) – for ratification\*

***MOTION: That the minutes of the previous Board meeting be accepted as a true and correct record.***

Moved: Noel Preece

Seconded: Nigel Andrew

All in favour: motion passed.

### 2.0 ACTION ITEMS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

#### 2.1 Matters Arising from Previous Board & Executive Meetings\*

Action List attached.

*Contact Perpetual philanthropic arm to maintain networks.*

To be discussed at next FGWG meeting. Ongoing.

*Proposal for developing a Mike Bull Memorial program around Austral Ecology.*

Completed. Memorial issue based on papers given at conference is underway. Mike Bull award will also continue as existing and ongoing award.

*Develop front end of Perpetual proposal. Feedback from Board to refine and strengthen.*

Postpone to May.

*Identify Perpetual projects to pursue in 2018.*

Circulated ideas need further development. Awaiting developed ideas. Indigenous WG and Early Career Researcher WG (meeting in May) most likely to be able to bring something to develop for Perpetual. If no projects put forward this year, or there is no capacity to develop proposed projects (and undertake if we do secure funding), need to consider whether to pursue in future.

Postpone discussion until May. Gail to send out Perpetual criteria again.

*Check content and links on website pages.*

Some WG had ambitions to complete projects in 2013/2014 and there is no info on them. Amy to follow up with WGs involved. Ask WG if they want to update, and if not, take it off the public pages. Dieter updating documents for award winners so webpages can be updated.

AGENDA ITEM #	ACTION ARISING	PERSON	DUE BY
Board_Apr_18_2.1.1	Amy to contact research chapter convenors about updating webpages; Gail to email WG Chairs to check and update relevant webpages if necessary.	Amy/Gail	May Board

*Identify database fields and membership that would be useful to WGs to progress objectives. Identify 2-3 fields related to member expertise/details that WG would like to be compulsory.*

Ongoing. Membership WG discussed and are planning to drive a project with Interlated to work out the best way to construct database so that it is searchable. Getting info from WGs at present (Policy WG and Media WG have had input already), then will kick off project with Interlated. Will be an ongoing project and Membership WG will keep Board updated.

*Finalise ESA sponsorship process.*

Hand over to FGWG. FGWG to come up with criteria, feedback from Amy, and bring to next board meeting.

*Follow up sponsorship of Victorian Biodiversity Conference*

Complete. Conference reports still required from Victorian Biodiversity Conference. One received, Amy will circulate information to Gail and Don.

*Circulate info about Invertebrate Conservation Council*

Complete. **REPLACE WITH:** *Develop online sponsorship/endorsement guidelines – GAIL*

Regarding endorsement process, Gail proposes to combine processes for sponsorship, endorsement and use of ESA logo. A single application form can then be published on centralised ESA webpage.

AGENDA ITEM #	ACTION ARISING	PERSON	DUE BY
Board_Apr_18_2.1.2	Develop online sponsorship/endorsement guidelines for circulation to Board.	Gail	June Board

*Circulate previous Perpetual Grant ideas.*

Complete.

### 3.0 REPORTS

#### 3.1 Treasurer's Report – Jacky Tierney\*

The Treasurer's report was tabled and the balance sheet and profit/loss discussed.

Predicting a year end forecast of neutral/small profit; depends on final Wiley payment which will come through in the next week or two. Current income/expenditure is on track and next year's budget will be discussed at FGWG meeting tomorrow. In addition, final conference report will be discussed tomorrow but it is likely that a profit was made on 2017 conference. Excellent outcome for regional conference.

Gail thanked board members for submitting grant requests on time. However, given the amount requested, discretionary budget may not be able to cover all grants requested.

**3.2 Correspondence Report – Chloe Sato\***

Correspondence Report tabled and noted.

Bek explained that correspondence to her was responses to letters sent out on behalf of ESA. Victorian and Queensland responses provided contact details for further contact. Bek is going to follow up with Queensland contact suggested, and Melbourne-based Policy WG members will follow up with Victorian contact suggested.

**3.3 Working Group Report – All**

Substantial items tabled prior to the meeting. Verbal update to be provided for all WG from directors with WG oversight.

Oversight	Working Group	Chair	Update as at 26 April 18
President	JOURNALS	Don Driscoll	<p>Nigel has been in contact with Wiley regarding the new contract - discussions with Rebecca Ciezarek, new Wiley publishing manager for Austral Ecology. Journals WG need to convene in next couple of weeks to work out what is wanted in the new contract (what to change/keep the same) and what is needed for different journals.</p> <p>Online access to journals for members is a current issue that needs to be resolved asap.</p> <p>Pep discussing proposed journal format changes with Rebecca. Maggie Watson taking over book reviews.</p>
	EQUITY	Vacant	No update.
	INDIGENOUS ENGAGEMENT	Gerry Turpin	<p>As reported in March, planning face to face meeting and planning for the Indigenous symposium was proceeding well. Awaiting outcome of the submitted budget bid.</p> <p>* 6 members have committed to the IRC, with a few others yet to reply</p> <p>* With the assistance of Gail, have a draft Terms of Reference</p> <p>* Seeking funding for an initial face-to-face meeting. At this meeting, we would finalise ToR, define the aims and visions, etc.</p> <p>Planning going well for Indigenous Symposium,</p>

Oversight	Working Group	Chair	Update as at 26 April 18
			contact being made with the Traditional Owners of the area. Indigenous Plenary speaker has been identified and negotiations going well.
	ACADEMIC FREEDOM	Don Driscoll	<p>Membership now includes Don Driscoll; Bob Pressey; Euan Ritchie; Georgia Garrard; John Zichy-Woinarski; Martine Maron; Stephen Dovers. Noel Preece to join WG to represent consultants.</p> <p>Progressing preparation of the survey, with a view to getting it out during winter. Submitted ESA budget bid to support survey.</p>
VP Student Affairs	STUDENT ACTIVITIES & AWARDS	Dieter Hochuli	<p>Many applications of high quality late last year but only 17 for JLTF and 4 for applied forestry early this year. Unsure of reasons for this.</p> <p>Possibly separate the two so that they are open at different times. Complement with advertising.</p> <p>May also be a perception that there is better success with Holsworth as more awards given out (as opposed to just one JLTF).</p> <p>As Jill Landsberg was important to society, important that ESA raises priority of the grant – particularly at conference.</p>
	SCHOOL ENGAGEMENT	Vacant	<p>Contacted school engagement contacts. One piece of feedback was about educational approaches (e.g. include tertiary education? Include citizen science?) Drafting piece for e-news to encourage more involvement.</p> <p>Need to evaluate where we put our efforts, put options on table and have a discussion about directions/priorities after that.</p>
VP Research	EARLY CAREER ECOLOGISTS	Amy-Marie Gilpin	Early career to meet early May.
	RESEARCH CHAPTERS	Vacant	<p>Need more members and a chair. Advertise in e-news.</p> <p>Will canvas existing chapters for chair then extend to broader ESA membership.</p>

Oversight	Working Group	Chair	Update as at 26 April 18
	RESEARCH AWARDS	Amy Hahs	Have compiled a list of people to invite to WG and will send out invites asap.
<b>VP Member Communications</b>	CONFERENCES	Jodi Price	Going to meet in next couple of weeks when Jodi is back. Need to discuss registration fees for this year's conference.
	PRACTITIONER ENGAGEMENT	Sacha Jellinek	Sacha beginning to gather group to get WG underway.
	BULLETIN	Dustin Welbourne	No update.
	MEMBERSHIP	Kate Umbers	Met about database. On track to get things happening, starting with database project. Suggested Practitioner and Membership combine forces at beginning to gain momentum. Talking to Sacha about that.
<b>VP Public Outreach &amp; Policy</b>	MEDIA	Euan Ritchie	Met last week. Talked about membership database. Looking to confirm experts list for media opportunities that come up. Online media manager applications now closed – 50 applications.
	POLICY	Bek Christensen	Met last week. Flush of new volunteers have come on board. Still want someone from NT to join. Submission on UN Development Goals. Used existing submissions to pull points together – driven largely by members of WG. Focus now on how to operate together effectively as a group based on skills base etc. Jodie Cosham is on WG but based on UK. Keen to be conduit between BES and ESA.
	FINANCIAL GOVERNANCE	Jeremy Huntley	No update. FGWG meeting in next week.
<b>Treasurer</b>	FUNDRAISING & SPONSORSHIP	Vacant	No update.

AGENDA ITEM #	ACTION ARISING	PERSON	DUE BY
Board_Apr_18_3.3.1	Contact Jodie Cosham to see if she can discuss opportunities for BES and ESA to link together, as well as capacity to negotiate diffusion of Academic Freedom survey to BES members.	Bek	June Board

AGENDA ITEM #	ACTION ARISING	PERSON	DUE BY
Board_Apr_18_3.3.2	Send description and purpose of Academic Freedom survey to Nigel for discussion at INTECOL Board meeting.	Don	May Board

### 3.4 Web Officer Report – Gail Spina

Verbal update. Online media manager position closed and assessment process hopefully complete by end of May.

### 3.5 Membership Report – Jacky Tierney

Verbal update. Ongoing issue with access to journals. Wiley modified back end of their site meaning members can't access journals online. Unable to fix until Wiley gives advice. Broadcast sent out to members. Nigel to flag Wiley issues with Wiley, next time he contacts them. Interlated exploring a workaround solution to make online copies available until permanent solution found. Nigel will email Wiley today and ask for Wiley to upload PDFs.

Membership is good; members are renewing and reminders going well.

AGENDA ITEM #	ACTION ARISING	PERSON	DUE BY
Board_Apr_18_3.5.1	Contact Wiley and ask for journal PDFs to be uploaded.	Nigel	ASAP

AGENDA ITEM #	ACTION ARISING	PERSON	DUE BY
Board_Apr_18_3.5.2	Update Board on Wiley access issues and resolution to access issues.	Gail/Jacky	May Board

### 3.6 Conference Report – Gail Spina

Verbal update. Conference planning going well. Call for abstracts currently open and registration will open soon. All but one plenary has accepted. Sponsorship is OK, but still needs to be explored. Any contacts for sponsorship, let Gail or Conference WG know.

## 4.0 SUBMISSIONS

### 4.1 Submission for UN Sustainable Development Goals – Bek Christensen\*

ESA tendered a submission to the Senate Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade References Committee Inquiry into the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. Item addressed at 3.3 (Policy WG update).

## 5.0 GENERAL BUSINESS (Discussion and/or Voting)

### 5.1 STA Communique – Bek Christensen\*

STA is hosting a meeting of member organisations on 1 May. They have prepared a draft statement to release after this meeting, and member organisations are asked to provide feedback prior to Friday 27 April. Member organisation logos will be included on the statement.

ESA Board members suggested that something about the environment needs to be included in the communique for ESA to endorse it.

**MOTION: Subject to ESA's suggested modification to include the environment, the Board endorses the STA communique.**

Moved: Don Driscoll

Seconded: Noel Preece

All in favour: motion passed.

## 5.2 AERA Criteria – Don Driscoll\*

The issue was raised that the criteria for AERA as a mid-career ecologist is not aligned with the original intent of AERA, which was to bring the absolute best recent ecology (sustained body of research in the last 5 years) to the conference. Does the purpose of the award need to be reconsidered? Why is mid-career reinforced?

Research Awards WG to discuss current criteria. Now that Board are all aware of initial criteria, will be able to better align and regulate awards. However, as an immediate action, remove mid-career restriction, extend current AERA deadline and re-advertise the award through e-news.

Gail suggested that in future, profile raising of award through additional advertising and/or online streaming of conference talk might be worth investment. Nigel added that potentially sponsoring AERA awardee to give a plenary at a Northern Hemisphere conferences may increase profile and attractiveness of award.

AGENDA ITEM #	ACTION ARISING	PERSON	DUE BY
Board_Apr_18_5.2.1	Research Awards WG to discuss AERA criteria and present proposed criteria to Board.	Research Awards WG	July Board

AGENDA ITEM #	ACTION ARISING	PERSON	DUE BY
Board_Apr_18_5.2.2	Extend current AERA award round, remove mid-career criterion and re-advertise through e-news.	Gail	ASAP

## 6.0 OTHER ITEMS (Noting and/or Information)

### 6.1 Updates to WG documentation – Chloe Sato

Chloe is looking to update the WG documentation (mainly membership of different WGs). Chloe will circulate current information about WGs and WG composition. Could all Board members with oversight of WGs please check WG membership details (and any other changes that may affect WG documentation) and send any changes to Chloe.

AGENDA ITEM #	ACTION ARISING	PERSON	DUE BY
Board_Apr_18_6.1.1	Send documented WG composition to Board members with oversight of WG. Board members with oversight to update lists and send to Secretary.	Chloe/Board members	June Board

## 7.0 LATE ITEMS

No late items raised.

## 8.0 NEXT MEETING

**May Board** – 31 May 2018.

Meeting closed: 12:38pm

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