



BOARD MEETING MINUTES

**Meeting – Thursday 30th August 2018 (Meeting #7)
Commencing 11:00 AEST**

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

GoToMeeting: <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/889394573>

Meeting ID: 889-394-572

Phone No: +61 2 9087 3604

GoogleDrive Documents:

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1msP_8wpH40DMHzxY7ZwZJntqf9uU7hJ?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), 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 Apologies

Present: Don Driscoll (President), Bek Christensen (VP – Public Liaison & Policy), Chloe Sato (Secretary), Jeremy Huntley (Treasurer), Nigel Andrew (Austral Ecology – Chair), Pep Turner (EMR – Chair, Editorial Board), Gerry Turpin (Ordinary Director – Indigenous Engagement; left 12:33pm), Noel Preece (Ordinary Director; arrived 11:40am). Gail Spina (Executive Officer), Jacky Tierney (Finance & Membership Officer).

Apologies: Dieter Hochuli, Amy Hahs, Kate Umbers.

1.2 Minutes of Previous Board Meeting (July 2018) – for ratification*

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

Moved: Don Driscoll

Seconded: Chloe Sato

All in favour: motion passed.

2.0 ACTION ITEMS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

2.1 Matters Arising from Previous Board Meetings*

Action List attached.

Board	Jun (#3) 2017	5.6.2	Contact Perpetual philanthropic arm to maintain networks.
Done. Report back after meeting.			
Board	Oct (#5) 2017	5.4.1	Develop front end of Perpetual proposal. Feedback from Board to refine and strengthen.
Remove. Think about Perpetual projects again for next year's round.			
PD	Nov (#6) 2017	6.2.1	Finalise ESA sponsorship process.
Done. See at item 5.7			
PD	Nov (#6) 2017	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.

Ongoing. Hold over to February 2019.			
Board	Feb (#1) 2018	5.7.1	Discuss options for Giving Circle process for consideration by Board.
FGWG to come back to September Board with proposal, seeking to get approval in October, and kick off in early 2019.			
Board	Apr (#3) 2018	2.1.2	Develop online sponsorship/endorsement guidelines for circulation to Board.
Done. See at item 5.7 (related to item 6.2.1)			
Board	May (#4) 2018	6.2.1	Develop draft recommendations for member advertisement of crowd funding projects online (including ESA moderation and approval process).
Hold over to September Board. Membership WG needs to meet to discuss criteria.			
Board	Jun (#5) 2018	2.1.1	Undertake content audit of website and highlight areas requiring action with relevant portfolio chairs.
Work in progress. Toni 50% complete and fixing issues as she goes; wait until full audit complete for Board's consideration. Hold over to September Board.			
Board	Jun (#5) 2018	3.3.3	Sacha to contact nominating Practitioner Engagement working group members.
Done. See at Item 3.3.			

3.0 REPORTS

3.1 Treasurer's Report – Jeremy Huntley*

Financial statements attached.

Hitting all KPIs. A couple of improvement opportunities to be communicated at end of September. Circulate financial statement today or tomorrow for comment. Looking for sign off in September.

End of year evaluation for Perpetual = \$50k profit; KPI for budget deficit tracking well, and potentially more wiggle room for 3-year plan.

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 30 August 18
President	JOURNALS	Don Driscoll	Contract details in negotiation, but finalisation expected soon (see contract at Item 5.1).
	EQUITY	Vacant	Two new members: Adam Frew & Megan Good. A meeting is proposed for early September and a member survey is proposed during ESA2018 to identify equity issues and priorities within ESA membership.
	INDIGENOUS ENGAGEMENT	Gerry Turpin	Still working on date for WG meeting. Received and accepted abstracts for Indigenous Symposium; ready to roll at ESA 2018. At the recent International Society for Ethnobiology (ISE) Conference in Belem, Brazil, the ISE board

Oversight	Working Group	Chair	Update as at 30 August 18
			<p>expressed an interest to hold a conference in Australia. There hasn't been an ISE conference here yet (has been in NZ). 200-500 people attend from all over the world, every 2 years. Next conference will be planned for 2020. Could be opportunity for 2020 60th Anniversary.</p> <p>Gerry sought, and secured, Board's interest in potential conference options with ISE in 2020. Gail to discuss with Gerry, potentially in conjunction with Conference WG.</p>
	ACADEMIC FREEDOM	Don Driscoll	The survey will be finalized in the last week of August and should be opened in early September.
VP Student Affairs	STUDENT ACTIVITIES & AWARDS	Dieter Hochuli	No update.
	SCHOOL ENGAGEMENT	Vacant	No update.
VP Research	EARLY CAREER ECOLOGISTS	Amy-Marie Gilpin	All excited about preparing the workshop for ESA 2018.
	RESEARCH CHAPTERS	Vacant	No activity.
	RESEARCH AWARDS	Amy Hahs	AERA was awarded to Professor Angela Moles (UNSW) and the Wiley NextGen Ecologist Award went to Ayesha Tulloch (UQ/USyd). Both recipients are very excited to receive their awards and look forward to presenting at ESA 2018. Other nominees received letter to let them know of the outcome.
VP Member Communications	CONFERENCES	Jodi Price	<p>WG update provided in attached report.</p> <p>2019 conference in Launceston. Currently investigating option of putting in application for INTECOL in 2025.</p>
	PRACTITIONER ENGAGEMENT	Sacha Jellinek	<p>The practitioner working group has met twice via Skype, and is made-up of 4 members, with input from Pep Turner:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sacha Jellinek (Chair) - Michelle Evans - Alexi Williams - Lincoln Kern <p>At present we are working on an overview of the group, and are developing a list of practitioners that may be interested in joining ESA. We hope to send these practitioners a letter via email</p>

Oversight	Working Group	Chair	Update as at 30 August 18
			<p>telling them about ESA. We are also working on a workshop for next year's conference for students interested in other avenues of employment others than academia. We would hope that various practitioners would speak at this.</p> <p>Sacha tabled letter, WG overview, and a list of the practitioners to contact for Board feedback.</p> <p>Board agreed that letter should have a clearer strategy. It should also emphasize EMR and Hot Topics, highlight what ESA has to offer (e.g. size of membership), and provide a link to ESA practitioner page.</p> <p>In addition, Board suggested that letter one and two be combined.</p> <p>Don to forward notes on practitioner letter to Pep, and she will liaise with Practitioner WG. If there is a need to progress letter before next meeting, can approve out of session.</p>
	BULLETIN	Dustin Welbourne	Dustin has stepped down as editor of the Bulletin. Marie Dade is now acting as Editor (see Item 6.1).
	MEMBERSHIP	Kate Umbers	No update.
	MEDIA	Euan Ritchie	<p>There's been some discussion around the conference hashtag.</p> <p>Toni has been doing a great job with E-news!</p>
VP Public Outreach & Policy	POLICY	Bek Christensen	<p>On 30 July Bek gave evidence on behalf of ESA at hearing of Commonwealth Standing Committee on Employment, Education and Training with regards to their review of funding Australia's research. WG activities throughout the month have focused on the submission to the Inquiry into Australia's Faunal Extinction Crisis. Additional sub-WG led by Dale Nimmo starting work to prepare evidence-based biodiversity conservation targets for Australia. Future Policy WG priorities include: exploring options for capacity-building around policy engagement, looking at additional communication channels for Hot Topics, developing 'value proposition'</p>

Oversight	Working Group	Chair	Update as at 30 August 18
			for ecology in Aus to support engagement activities, lunchtime conference session to discuss review of EPBC Act.
Treasurer	FINANCIAL GOVERNANCE	Jeremy Huntley	No update.
	FUNDRAISING & SPONSORSHIP	Vacant	Group not active.

AGENDA ITEM #	ACTION ARISING	PERSON	DUE BY
Board_Aug_18_3.3.1	Discuss conference options to take back to the ISE Board.	Gail/Gerry	October Board 2018

AGENDA ITEM #	ACTION ARISING	PERSON	DUE BY
Board_Aug_18_3.3.2	Pep to liaise with Practitioner WG to refine practitioner letter, for Board approval.	Pep/ Practitioner WG	September Board 2018

3.4 Web Officer Report – Gail Spina*

Online media report attached.

Given the scope of this role, the Board is advised that this standing item will be changed from 'Web Officer Report' to 'Online Media Report' in future agendas.

4000 subscribers to e-news. Don queried how we convert subscribers to members. There is a join now link on e-news but a staged feedback process for non-members would be useful: (1) targeted email to non-members; (2) see proportion of email recipients who sign up after email; and (3) follow up with feedback survey to non-members who do not sign up.

AGENDA ITEM #	ACTION ARISING	PERSON	DUE BY
Board_Aug_18_3.4.1	Develop and roll out staged membership/feedback process.	Jacky/Gail/Toni	October Board 2018

3.5 Membership Report – Jacky Tierney

974 members (July 2018); standard 548 members. 47 expiring by end of July, which leads to several questions: how do we get back expiring members? Are one-year memberships renewing? How are we tracking financially compared with last year, and is this due to membership fee increase, or more members?

Jacky to send around preliminary membership report after meeting. Send Jacky feedback on report – particularly anything information you are interested in seeing. She will try to incorporate this information in future reports.

3.6 Conference Report – Gail Spina*

Conference report, preliminary budget and program template attached. Travelling well with conference this year!

4.0 SUBMISSIONS

4.1 QLD Govt Review of threatened species management – Bek Christensen*

For noting: a private submission was made by Noel Preece to the Queensland Government review of threatened species management.

5.0 GENERAL BUSINESS (Discussion and/or Voting)

5.1 Austral Ecology/EMR contract – Nigel Andrew*

Austral Ecology contract negotiations have been occurring over the last few months. Wiley have now presented ESA with a contract for signing. The ESA Journals Working Group are happy with the contract. The Wiley contract has been circulated for consideration and endorsement by the Board.

Four queries from FGWG:

ADVERTISING: advertising conferences on online pages possible. Also, ESA has ability to approve advertisements before they are put up (non-ESA or non-Wiley advertisement become prevalent).

GROUP MEMBERSHIP: family and corporate membership categories possible, but Wiley wanted further information about these groups before progressing.

INCREASES IN FEES: ESA will be consulted first.

CONFERENCE PRESENCE: Wiley's general position on conference booths is that it isn't beneficial anymore (people aren't purchasing books etc). Willing to be involved via workshops and more targeted activities, and happy to discuss further.

Corporate membership option needs to be discussed before we can sign off on the contract. Looking to sign off before the end of the year.

AGENDA ITEM #	ACTION ARISING	PERSON	DUE BY
Board_Aug_18_5.1.1	Discuss corporate membership options and support of conferences/2020 event with Wiley.	Gail	September Board 2018

AGENDA ITEM #	ACTION ARISING	PERSON	DUE BY
Board_Aug_18_5.1.2	Discuss implications of mismatch in 5-year Wiley contract with 3-year ESA editorial term.	All Board	Planning Day 2018

MOTION: That the Board approve the signing of the Austral Ecology/ Ecological Management and Restoration Publishing Agreement 2019-2023, subject to further discussions about Corporate Membership and broader Wiley support of ESA events.

Moved: Nigel Andrew

Seconded: Jeremy Huntley

All in favour: motion passed.

5.2 Bank signatories – Jacky Tierney

The finance officer is seeking to remove ex-Board members as current bank signatories, and seeks the Board's endorsement to remove Jason Cummings as signatory from all ESA bank accounts.

MOTION: That Jason Cummings be removed as signatory from all ESA bank accounts.

Moved: Nigel Andrew

Seconded: Jeremy Huntley

All in favour: motion passed.

5.3 Draft submission to Faunal Extinction Crisis – Bek Christensen*

Senate Standing Committee on the Environment called an inquiry in Australia's faunal extinction crisis, with submissions due Monday 10 September

(https://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/Senate/Environment_and_Communications/Faunalexinction). ESA Policy WG has liaised with members and other organisations (SCB, WWF, Academy) to prepare a submission on behalf of ESA. Seeking any critical feedback from ESA Board prior to finalisation of our submission. Email feedback to Bek in next 24 hours.

How to communication completed submissions to members? Added to website but look to also add to e-news (and refer people to website where they can read it).

5.4 Endorsement of horse conference – Don Driscoll

A conference addressing horse impacts in the Australian alps is being organised by Don Driscoll and others from ANU. It will be held at the AAS in November. Seeking ESA endorsement, permission to use logo. Also looking to publish special section in EMR.

Board recommends using new sponsorship process, with consideration of proposal out-of-session.

AGENDA ITEM #	ACTION ARISING	PERSON	DUE BY
Board_Aug_18_5.4.1	Don to use ESA sponsorship process to seek out-of-session horse conference endorsement from Board.	Don	September Board 2018

5.5 NSW Threatened Species Scientific Committee nominees – Gail Spina*

Two applications for the NSW TSSC are attached for consideration by the Board.

Two applicants were incumbents. NSW Government happy for them to stay. ESA happy for them to be representatives but request periodic feedback on what is being discussed at meetings as we are currently receiving little information (standpoints, whether they represent ESA views etc.). Send report after meeting to VP – Membership & Communications or VP- Research. Can form part of WG report or can flag issues as they arise. Additional challenge is communicating to membership that there are opportunities for feedback – looking for two-way communication.

Gail will respond on behalf of Board to endorse continued representation by nominees but that the Board requires more frequent reporting from TSSC committee meetings.

5.6 Proposed Honorary Fellowship award – Gail Spina*

A proposal is attached for consideration by the Board for an honorary ESA fellowship award. The award targets high profile communicators who have made a significant contribution to ecology over a long period of time. Award not conditional on attendance at conference. Nominations can be made at any time, but Board can make final decision on whether to award and when. Recipient could be 'spokesperson' for specific issue that ESA wants to highlight (e.g. they make a statement, but not required to be extensively available for commenting).

AGENDA ITEM #	ACTION ARISING	PERSON	DUE BY
Board_Aug_18_5.6.1	Membership WG to develop list of potential Honorary Fellowship recipients.	Membership WG	October Board 2018

5.7 ESA logo, endorsement & funding process – Gail Spina

A weblink for review by the Board was distributed to the Board. Email feedback ASAP to Gail about anything that should be added in (info/criteria).

5.8 Nominations for ESA Board 2019 – Gail Spina*

It is time to nominate again for Board positions! Two positions to renominate: President-elect and VP – Student Affairs.

6.0 OTHER ITEMS (Noting and/or Information)

6.1 Dustin stepping down as editor of the Bulletin – Don Driscoll*

Dustin contacted the Board to advise that he will not be standing for re-election as Editor of the Bulletin at this year's AGM. He also advised that Marie Dade has been shadowing the Editor role over the last couple of Bulletin issues, and is now managing the Bulletin Editor email and general communications.

The President thanked Dustin for his outstanding work on the Bulletin, and for turning it into a publication that ESA members take notice of. The President also welcomed Marie as the new editor of the Bulletin.

Motion: The Board sincerely thanks Dustin Welbourne for his valuable contribution to the ESA, as Editor of the Bulletin.

Moved: Don Driscoll

Seconded: Bek Christensen

All in favour: motion passed.

6.2 Childcare conference travel grants – Gail Spina *

A draft paper is attached for consideration by the Board regarding childcare conference travel grants. This grant is a trial based on models from other sources. Hoping to get feedback on the model during this trial.

Board suggested that grant should be less prescriptive about what funding is for (e.g. not just travel). Add in "If you need another form of support, please contact ESA."

6.3 Media mentoring program – Gail Spina *

Two papers are attached for consideration by the Board. One paper outlines the proposal for ESA to introduce early career media communication awards and the second paper provides draft content about the proposed media mentoring program. This program is a preliminary model which ESA will look to develop in future years.

6.4 Photo competition open – Gail Spina *

The ESA photo competition is now open. The flyer advertising the competition is attached for consideration and circulation by the Board.

7.0 LATE ITEMS

7.1 Holsworth Endowment funding of Web Officer – Jacky Tierney

MOTION: In addition to the administration and finance functions for the Holsworth Wildlife Research Endowment undertaken by Gail Spina and Jacky Tierney, the additional function of the web officer undertaken Toni Stevens is to be funded by the Holsworth Endowment but is capped at 2.5hours/week (maximum).

Moved: Jeremy Huntley

Seconded: Bek Christensen

All in favour: motion passed.

8.0 NEXT MEETING

September Board – 27 September 2018.

Meeting closed: 12:37