



## BOARD MEETING AGENDA

**Meeting – Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2018 (Meeting #1)  
Commencing 11:00 AEDST**

[NSW, VIC, ACT, TAS - 11:00; SA – 10:30; QLD – 10:00; NT – 9:30; WA – 8:00]

**GoToMeeting:** <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/628265141>

**Meeting ID: 628-265-141**

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

**GoogleDrive Documents:** <https://drive.google.com/open?id=15c893fmfWvVTMvaWPw5cD9bhqZnPkJvA>

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 11:58), Dieter Hochuli (VP – Student Affairs), Bek Christensen (VP – Public Liaison & Policy), Chloe Sato (Secretary), Nigel Andrew (Austral Ecology – Chair), Nigel Andrew (Austral Ecology – Chair; arrived 11:21am, left 12:18), Pep Turner (EMR – Chair, Editorial Board; left 11.45am), Noel Preece (Ordinary Director). Gail Spina (Executive Officer), Jacky Tierney (Finance & Membership Officer).

Apologies: Kate, Jeremy, Gerry

1.3 Minutes of 2017 Planning Day Meeting (November 2017) – for ratification\*

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

Moved: Don Driscoll

Seconded: Pep Turner

All in favour: motion passed.

1.4 Minutes of 2017 Annual General Meeting (November 2017) – for ratification\*

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

Moved: Don Driscoll

Seconded: Noel Preece

All in favour: motion passed.

### 2.0 ACTION ITEMS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

2.1 Matters Arising from Previous Board & Executive Meetings\*

Action List attached.

**Draft comprehensive list of potential sponsors, sectors and categories for sponsorship for circulation to Board.**

Completed. Trish and Gail drafted list by sector and category, adding known sponsors. Would like this draft list to prompt Board and LOC to add additional known/potential sponsors (either financial or advertising sponsors). Gail looking to circulate drafted list to Board and WG Chairs early next week.

**Policy WG to collate facts about land clearing for each state for Letters on behalf of ESA.**

Action on backburner while Strategy for Nature submission underway. Gail proposing to ask minister to open conference in Brisbane to open avenue to discussions.

**Board to discuss strategies to obtain information from current and future members (e.g. location, other memberships).**

Refer to membership WG for Kate to progress in next couple of weeks. Bek to send through fields from old surveys for long-term monitoring network.

AGENDA ITEM #	ACTION ARISING	PERSON	DUE BY
Board_Feb_18_2.1.1	Send through survey fields from long-term monitoring network surveys to Membership WG.	Bek	April Board

**Follow up on contact details for Kylie Walker and Ulrike (cluster representative) at STA.**

Gail sent through PD for STA position. ESA should consider nominating someone for cluster representative. Bek suggests nominating someone who can get the most from STA.

Set up nominations process through e-news and be specific about what Board is looking for in the role. Email Kylie and Emma to ask what is happening in terms of timing of nominations (April vs late 2018).

AGENDA ITEM #	ACTION ARISING	PERSON	DUE BY
Board_Feb_18_2.1.2	Email Kylie and Emma to query timing of STA cluster representative nominations.	Don/Bek	March Board

**Provide fields from membership database to Board for distribution to WG Chairs.**

Jacky working with Interlated to get membership fields from database.

**Rename AGM Annual Report to 'ESA Year in Review' and provide hyperlinks in document to improve accessibility.**

To be completed.

**Distribute link to online filing system to Board and include at top of agenda link to relevant Google Drive folder.**

Done. Everyone has access. Chloe to follow up on why link in work document not working.

**Provide feedback to Victorian Biodiversity Conference Committee on sponsorship process with ESA.**

Not sure if ESA funded the conference this year. Amy to follow up next meeting.

In terms of sponsorship guidelines, FGWG to discuss and make available on ESA website.

For granting sponsorship money, submissions should be coordinated through Research Chapters, with FGWG having carriage of process. Once Research Chapters and FGWG have decided on sponsorship, Board gives final decision about allocating funds.

AGENDA ITEM #	ACTION ARISING	PERSON	DUE BY
Board_Feb_18_2.1.3	Follow up sponsorship of Victorian Biodiversity Conference.	Amy	April Board

AGENDA ITEM #	ACTION ARISING	PERSON	DUE BY
Board_Feb_18_2.1.4	Discuss and update ESA sponsorship guidelines (and process), and upload to ESA website.	FGWG	May Board

**Circulate update schedule of 2018 meetings.**

Completed.

**Debrief with Scientell about communications outcomes for ESA.**

Completed. Addressed at Item 5.5.

**Discuss STA Policy Committee requirements with STA president.**

Terms of reference or role description has not been sent through yet. Bek will continue to follow up and handle within Policy WG, unless open nominations come up.

**3.0 REPORTS**

**3.1 Treasurer’s Report – Jacky Tierney\***

Financial statements circulated.

P&L: Currently at a loss of \$151 000, but still need to resolve conference and Wiley. Will have a clearer picture at end of March.

Monthly finance report: Hard to predict some financial aspects as reconciliation of conference etc. is incomplete. Anomalies in terms of the way this have usually been done has made reconciliation a little more challenging.

Table of pressures: Pressures and offsets provided and noted.

Budget: A review of budgets needs to be undertaken, so we can work out whether we will spend against budgets for practitioners/student awards etc.

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

Correspondence Report circulated. Noted without comment.

**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 22 February 18
President	JOURNALS	Don Driscoll	Have not met yet. Discussion with Wiley about developing new contract. Keen to get

Oversight	Working Group	Chair	Update as at 22 February 18
			contract merged together, making things more streamlined. Wiley want to give lump sum to Austral rather than piecemeal amounts. Wait to make any announcements to ESA until contracts are drawn up. EMR special issue later than scheduled.
	OA NOMINATIONS	Vacant	Come back to at 5.3
	EQUITY	Vacant	Come back to at 5.3
	INDIGENOUS ENGAGEMENT	Gerry Turpin	No update provided.
	ACADEMIC FREEDOM	Don Driscoll	On agenda for next month to progress Academic Freedom survey.
VP Student Affairs	STUDENT ACTIVITIES & AWARDS	Dieter Hochuli	Writing feedback for students who did not get awards. Send out by Friday. Excellent group of applications from across the board.  List of conference winners from 2015 onwards, looking to update website soon.
	SCHOOL ENGAGEMENT	Vacant	Interest in this WG at the conference - four people want to join the group. Still looking for chair. Report back at March board meeting.
VP Research	EARLY CAREER ECOLOGISTS	Amy-Marie Gilpin	Holding meeting in March.
	ECOLOGICAL TRAINING	Amy Hahs	
	RESEARCH CHAPTERS	Sacha Jellinek	Looking to appoint chair and additional members.
VP Member Communications	CONFERENCES	Jodi Price	Jodi Price new chair. Looking to hold meeting in next couple of weeks.
	PRACTITIONER ENGAGEMENT	Vacant	Discuss at 5.3
	BULLETIN	Dustin Welbourne	Dustin looking for articles. Edition soon to be completed.
	MEMBERSHIP	Vacant	Discuss at 5.3
VP Public Outreach & Policy	MEDIA	Euan Ritchie	Met last week. Tracking along well.
	POLICY	Bek Christensen	Focused on response to Strategy for Nature. Science meets Parliament – will write article for Bulletin.
Treasurer	FINANCIAL GOVERNANCE	Jeremy Huntley	Will meet by end of April to look at position next year.

Oversight	Working Group	Chair	Update as at 22 February 18
	FUNDRAISING & SPONSORSHIP	Vacant	No update provided.

### 3.4 Web Officer Report – Gail Spina\*

Web report circulated and noted. Quiet period over January.

### 3.5 Membership Report – Jacky Tierney

Verbal update. First year of rolling membership doing well, sitting at around 1200. Just started automatic membership reminders and reminders for new journal issues.

### 3.6 Conference Report – Gail Spina

Verbal update. First few meetings for Brisbane conference (Ecology in the Anthropocene) have been convened and progress is good. Currently looking for sponsorship. A more comprehensive report will be given at March Board meeting.

## 4.0 SUBMISSIONS

No submissions tabled.

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

### 5.1 Submission for Australia's Strategy for Nature Conservation – Bek Christensen\*

Initial feedback is sought for ESA's draft submission on Australia's Strategy for Nature Conservation. Draft submission circulated for consideration.

17-page document. Policy WG and interested parties met to discuss. Circulated document is a first pass at pulling key points together. New strategy is so poor that it is hard to know how to articulate criticism in a way that might influence change. Feedback needed – please send comments to Bek via email in the next couple of days.

Noel raised issue of threat abatement plans not being species specific in the next revision of the draft submission. Apart from this minor amendment, the submission looking good.

Dieter highlighted that the language of the submission is tempered, so are there concerns with being more forthright? Bek noted that as this is a formal submission, ESA wants to complement the more opinionated conservation groups by adding objectivity and a strong evidence-based position to the submission.

Policy WG putting together an alternative strategy, which Bek will talk about at another board meeting.

### 5.2 Updating Strategic Plan – Don Driscoll\*

The strategic plan sets out the specific aims that the ESA would like to meet over a five-year timeframe. The working groups are the mechanism for implementing ESA aims. At our strategic planning meeting in 2017, the ESA Board aligned working groups with the aims in the strategic plan. This identified areas where multiple working groups contributed to the same aim and aims that had inadequate working group attention.

Board members noted items raised by President. All present Board members unanimously agreed to and accepted without further discussion all items. Amy emailed through some adjustments to items.

***Motion: That the strategic plan be updated as described or as amended for all items, including adding the cross-tabulation of aims and working groups to the plan.***

Moved: Don Driscoll

Seconded: Noel Preece

All in favour: motion passed.

**5.3 Prioritise Inactive WG for Action – Don Driscoll**

Item carried over from Planning Day 2017. Board to discuss prioritisation of inactive WG for action, in light of updates to the Strategic Plan in Item 5.2.

Carry over discussions to April Board meeting.

**5.4 Proposed change to web officer role – Gail Spina\***

Board to discuss proposed changes to the web officer role in light of Brigette’s resignation, the changed nature of the web officer role, and the current advertisement for a social media officer. Proposed changes to web officer role circulated for consideration. General support was offered from the Board to proceed with proposed changes.

**5.5 Scientell – Gail Spina/Don Driscoll**

Discussions carried over from Planning Day 2017. Board to discuss expectations, deliverables and succession planning for ESA Communications.

Gail, Don and Euan met with Scientell during ESA conference to discuss ESA Board expectations for more press releases and news coverage. After discussions, Gail, Don and Euan think we should employ Scientell a little longer (i.e. for a further 6 months). They did well at the conference and it would be useful to see how they perform out of conference time, and whether they take issues raised by ESA on board.

**5.6 Calendar Report – Gail Spina\***

The ESA 2018 photographic calendar was produced under the auspices of the Media Working Group by the Calendar sub-committee and offered for sale at the annual conference and via the ESA shop from November 2017. Board discussed the sales of the 2018 Calendars and whether to proceed with a 2019 edition. Recommendations circulated to Board were noted, and the Board agreed to proceed with the calendar at a reduced run this year.

**5.7 Giving Circle Feedback – Gail Spina\***

Item carried over from Planning Day 2017. ESA Giving Circle Proposal re-circulated for consideration. Board agreed that it is worth developing the Giving Circle idea.

FGWG will discuss timing and proposed process for the Giving Circle, and report options back to Board.

AGENDA ITEM #	ACTION ARISING	PERSON	DUE BY
Board_Feb_18_5.7.1	Discuss options for Giving Circle process for consideration by Board.	FGWG	May Board

**5.8 Endorsement for Invertebrate Conservation Council – Kate Umbers**

Invertebrate Conservation Council seeking letter of endorsement from ESA. ESA Board want to see substance before endorsing. This can be done out of session or at the March Board meeting.

Bek highlighted that it would be useful for ESA Board to consider developing a framework for endorsement of other societies etc.

AGENDA ITEM #	ACTION ARISING	PERSON	DUE BY
Board_Feb_18_5.8.1	Circulate further information about Invertebrate Conservation Council (objectives, charter etc.) to Board to support endorsement request.	Kate	April Board

**6.0 ANY OTHER BUSINESS (For Noting or Information Only)**

**6.1 Perpetual Grant: Ideas for development in 2018 – Chloe Sato**

An action item for the next board meeting is the identification of Perpetual Grant ideas for development in 2018. Please have a think about projects that have been proposed in previous meetings (or a new proposal you may have) and consider whether there is one (or two) that can be developed in 2018.

AGENDA ITEM #	ACTION ARISING	PERSON	DUE BY
Board_Feb_18_6.1.1	Circulate previously proposed Perpetual Grant ideas to Board.	Chloe	April Board

**7.0 LATE ITEMS**

**8.0 NEXT MEETING**

**March Board** – 29 March 2018.  
(skeleton agenda for next meeting)

Meeting close: 12:45pm

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