

ATS 19th Annual General Meeting
of the Australasian Trauma Society
on Saturday 3rd October 2015
Sheraton Mirage, 71 Seaworld Drive, Main Beach, Queensland

MINUTES

1. Meeting opened

The meeting was opened at 13:00pm.

- 2. Present:** Debra Wood, Peter Clark, Rhondda Paice, Rebekah Ogilvie, Melissa Webb, Kate Martin, Sol Zalstein, Sarah Adams, Belinda Gabbe, Warwick Teague, Andrea Herring, Alicia Jackson, Ella Scott, Michael Parr, Trish McDougall, Anthony Joseph, Maxine Burrell, Ian Civil, Mark Wallschleger, Andrew Holland, Frank Ross, Sudhakar Rao, Kate Curtis, Rooney Judson, Melinda Tmendale, Mark Fitzgerald, Steve Wright, Tona Gillan, Mark Elliott, Delia O'Brien, Michael Reade, Tanya Douglas, Cameron Palmer, Kerry Gunn, Mark Shirran, Catherine Bell, Jeremy Hsu

- 3. Apologies:** Cino Bendinello, Scott Damours

4. Minutes of the meeting on 3 October 2014

Ian Civil MOVED that the minutes be accepted, seconded by Andrea Herring. Motion carried.

5. To receive the reports of the Association Executive for the 2014/15 Financial Year

President: The last 12 months have been relatively busy for the ATS executive in organizing the ATS Annual Scientific Committee Meeting - Trauma 2015 "At the Cutting Edge" at the Sheraton Mirage Resort on the Gold Coast from 2-4 October.

This meeting has been organized in conjunction with the Queensland Trauma Symposium and we are grateful for their input into the program. Registrations are looking reasonably healthy and the meeting will be financially viable for the ATS.

The Society membership is stable at 185 financial members (including 26 new members) as of end August 2015. It would be good to achieve 200 members or more over the next financial year and I encourage all members to try to recruit at least 1 new member over the next 12 months.

The National Trauma Registry (NTR) has new leadership under Professor Mark Fitzgerald who is currently looking for ongoing funding sources. There are a number of potential funders under discussion currently. There may be some options available especially with the current National Road Safety Strategy (NRSS) which has the aim of decreasing deaths and serious injury from road trauma in Australia by 30% from 2011-2020. The Australian Automobile Association has stated that Australian hospitals have been unable to provide accurate information regarding the numbers of seriously injured admitted to Australian hospitals and seem to be unaware that this information is available through the Australian National Trauma Registry. So the ATS may have a role in informing relevant jurisdictions about the wealth of information available in the NTR and thus encouraging ongoing funding.

Other current issues for the Society include organizing the next joint meeting with the Trauma Association of Canada in Melbourne in 2017 and the possibility of hosting the

4th World Trauma Congress in Brisbane in 2020. There will be more detail about these meetings in the report from the Program Committee.

So, as this will be my last President's report, it would seem reasonable to reflect at the end of 2015 how the Society is travelling with regard to the aims of the ATS Constitution.

1. *Foster and promote scientific research into all aspects of Trauma Care.*
Individual ATS members continue to publish in both local and international Trauma and other related journals, but we are yet to produce another ATS sponsored research project. The Research Committee has been revising the Terms of Reference for the Research Committee and I am confident that this will provide the impetus for an ATS research project in the not too distant future.
2. *Improve the standard and delivery of Trauma services to the community.*
The National Trauma Registry should be able to provide an answer to these questions as it does provide detailed information regarding the numbers of injured patients admitted to the Australian Major Trauma Services and their outcomes. The first NTR report covered 2010-12 and further reports will provide relevant information as to on-going injury trends and outcomes. There is also the intent to extend the NTR data collection to include New Zealand trauma data.
3. *Provide opportunities for all those involved in Trauma Care in Australasia to further their scientific knowledge and exchange information in this field.*
The Annual Scientific Meetings are a good forum for all those involved in trauma care to gather and exchange new information about current trauma care. The Society is now well established enough to run these as "stand alone" meetings which demonstrates the on-going support for the ATS as the only multi-disciplinary trauma association in Australasia. The ATS is also a member of the World Trauma Coalition which supports the bi-annual World Trauma Congress meetings.
4. *Promote and develop the highest standards of patient care, education and organization in the field of trauma in order to develop higher standards of community care.*
The ATS should continue to support the Australian Trauma Quality Improvement (AusTQIP) Program and the Australian National Trauma Registry. The ATS has representatives on both Steering Committees and these are excellent vehicles for the dissemination of information regarding injury prevention and management issues. Community representation on the ATS Executive Committee has been mentioned previously and should be further considered by the Executive Committee.
5. *To promote communications and relations with international organisations involved in Trauma Care.*
The current links with the Injury Journal, the Trauma Association of Canada and the World Trauma Coalition provide a voice for the ATS in the wider international trauma community. These links should continue to grow and strengthen.

I would like to thank the ATS Committee members and the Secretariat for their support over the last 12 months and I wish the incoming Executive Committee members well over the next 12 months in their efforts to achieve further progress for the Society and its aims

Treasurer: noted that the conference revenue has been recorded in the audited accounts and is more noticeable than that of previous years. The 2014/15 Operational Profit was \$31k, with \$13.5k coming from the 2014 Conference and the remainder coming from the membership fees. It was noted that with the membership fees only just covering the operating expenses of the Society, a lot of reliance lays on the Conference each year. It was agreed that a comparison needs to be completed on the

membership fees and member benefits and work towards marketing this stronger for the upcoming year. Overall, satisfied that ATS can continue on the operating income and expenses.

Secretary: Membership for 2014/15 has been tracking favorably. More work needs to be done to encourage more people within the Trauma fields to join. In 2015/16 38 new people have joined as well as a higher rate of membership with the Conference offer.

6. To receive the Committee reports on the activities of the Association during the preceding financial year

Programme/Scientific Committee: For 2016 there will be an AGM only in conjunction with the INJURY 2016 conference, which will be held on 4th August 2016. Due to the timing it will see an early audit required. In 2017 a joint Conference between ATS and our Canadian counterparts will be held at the Grand Hyatt in Melbourne with dates to be confirmed.

Publications Committee: Injury Journal is going well, with a lot of authors and reviewers contributing for the year. In 2015 there has been up to 1200 submissions, which is double that of 2014. Information for submissions for the Injury Journal will be updated on the website. Trauma Talk is largely opinion based, nonetheless seems to be going well. Members were requested to forward any articles and reviews that may be of interest for inclusion into the newsletter. Financial members get the latest version, and the immediate past newsletter is uploaded for public view on the website.

Research/ Registry Committee: Terms of Reference have been passed and published for the Research Committee. These will also be uploaded to the website for members to review. Trauma registry is the first point of reference for everyone across New Zealand and Australia, as it is the largest bi-national registry. Lots of work has been put into developing and maintaining the registry however future funding is of concern. Funding for this project has been secured for the next 2 year (2016-2017) through RMIT and The Alfred, however \$250k per year is required to maintain adhoc entries and administration of the registry. This is a project that ATS will continue to work on and will keep members as informed as possible.

7. To receive and consider the audited financial report for the year ending 30 June 2015

Andrea Herring moved that the report be accepted, Kate Martin seconded. Motion carried.

8. Motion to accept Timworth & Co. be reappointed as auditors for the financial year ending 30 June 2016.

Moved by Kate Martin, Seconded by Deborah Wood. Motion carried.

It was agreed that investigations would be made by the Secretariat to identify different auditors to be presented at the 2016 AGM, as the Society have been with Tinworth & Co for a significant number of years.

9. To elect the members of the Committee

It was noted that 13 nominations had been received by the following nominees:

- Kate Martin
- Ian Civil
- Helen Jowett
- Melissa Webb
- Belinda Gabbe
- Trish McDougall
- Rebekah Ogilvie
- Michael Reade
- Sarah Adams
- Anthony Joseph
- Michael Parr

- Alicia Jackson
- Andrea Herring

All nominations were moved in a group motion.

Moved by Cameron Palmer, Seconded by Andrew Holland. Motion carried.

10. General Business

Travel Scholarships: It was noted that a number of discussions have been held around this matter by the Board over the past year. From a financial aspect the Society has not awarded the Scholarship for a number of years, due to concerns around the financial viability and stability of ATS. In a review it was suggested that if the Society continues to hold concern about the Scholarships financially then it should be removed. Suggestions have been made that different methods of awarding the Scholarships needs to be investigated, which would allow for Scholarships to be awarded at varying rates.

It was suggested that the Society should not look at awarding any Scholarships until there is a steady \$100k in the bank. It was agreed that this would be removed as membership benefit and reviewed following the final income from the 2015 Conference. It was further agreed that if the Society's financial position in August 2016 was looking healthy then it would review the Scholarships that would be offered.

Trauma 2015 – Accommodation Concerns: It was noted by the members that there were a number of issues related to last minute accommodation changes, which have a potential to cause a large financial burden. It was noted that the changes to Accommodation would be covered in full by The Association Specialists and not ATS.

11. Next meeting

The next ATS AGM will be scheduled during the INJURY 2016 Conference being held in New Zealand on Thursday 4th August 2016. Further details on the location and time will be provided to members.

12. Meeting closed

The meeting was closed at 13:45pm.