# ANZTS Annual General Meeting 2024

Minutes

Minutes of the Australian and New Zealand Trauma Society Annual General Meeting, held on 25 October 2024, between 12.430m and 1.06pm AEST, at the Brisbane Convention Centre.

## 1. Welcome

The Chairperson, Dinesh Varma (ANZTS President), welcomed attendees to the Annual General Meeting and acknowledged the traditional owners of country throughout Australia, and acknowledged the Māori as Tangata Whenua and Treaty of Waitangi partners in Aotearoa New Zealand.

## 2. Proxies and Apologies

The Secretary, Ben Gardiner, confirmed the following apologies:

- David Camilleri
- Samantha Fuss

ANZTS received the following proxies:

- Lincoln Tracy – appoints Belinda Gabbe as proxy
- Michael Parr – appoints Chair as proxy
- Andrea Herring – appoints Patricia McDougall as proxy
- Ian Civil – appoints Kat Quick as proxy
- Jessica Ankravs – appoints Lara Kimmel as proxy

## 3. Minutes of the Previous Annual General Meeting

Motion: That the minutes of the AGM, held on 13 October 2023 were unanimously accepted by the members as a true and accurate record and no amendments were required.
Proposed: Helen Jowett
Seconded: Belinda Gabbe
Motion carried.

## 4. President's Report

Dinesh Varma presented the following President's Report:

- 2024 was a productive year, commencing with an in-person meeting in Sydney to discuss and develop the ANZTS Strategic Plan. This then supported development of the work plan. It was noted that all Directors travelled at their own expense
- The ANZTS progressed the formalisation of the Committees, appointed Chairs, and ratified Terms of Reference. The membership will be invited to

engage and volunteer to join the Committees, which were essential to the running of the Society

- There was representation at the World Trauma Congress in Las Vegas and Board members were nominated to sit on the ANZTQUIP Steering Committee
- The inaugural TOPIC course was delivered; Helen Jowett was acknowledged for her work in developing the course
- The work of the Conference Committee was commended
- ANZTS continued to issue Trauma Talk quarterly, which included communication from the Board on Society activities
- Future board activities include the convening of the Board to appoint Executive positions and the development of the 2025 work plan
- There will be review of the bylaws and constitution. During the nomination and election process, there was collective oversight of wording and the interpretation of meaning within the bylaws. After this was raised by a member, ANZTS sought independent advice from Francis Child, The Association Specialists, to understand the correct course of action. This served as a reminder to the Board to stand by the rules of the Society and remain accountable to the members. A working group will be formed to review the bylaws and constitution to ensure they continue to serve the operational needs of ANZTS. This may include seeking further independent advice, a Board review and member consultation
- The membership numbers remained steady with a small increase. The goal was to increase membership
- The following Directors finished their terms in 2024 and were acknowledged and thanked for their contributions:
    - Ben Gardiner
    - Don Campbell
    - Sarah Adams
    - Michael Noonan

Motion: That the Meeting table and accept the President's Report
Proposed: Michael Handy
Seconded: Savitha Bhagran
Motion carried.

**5. Treasurer's Report**

The Treasurer, Melissa Webb, presented the following Treasurer's Report:

- The main source of revenue for the Society was membership and conference
- There was a significant increase in revenue due to conference profit which resulted in ANZTS exceeding the threshold required by ASIC for an independent review of the accounts. ANZTS undertook a financial review with Tinworth Chartered Accountants, which was approved by the Board on 7 October 2024

- The main expenses were the Secretariat (TAS) and the website. ANZTS made a substantial investment into the website to drive member engagement with the use of a membership platform. One of the largest expenses was the Injury journal
- Overall, there was an increase in profit in 2024 profit compared to FY2023
- There was an increase in total equity of $30,000 compared to last year

There was question that related to the $50,000 conference profit, and it was clarified that the conference revenue was offset by expenses, as visible on the profit and loss statement as of 30 June 2024.

Motion: That the Treasurer's Report and Audited Financial Review be accepted as a true and accurate record.
Proposed: Kate Martin
Seconded: Michael Handy
Motion carried.

## 6. Election of Directors

The Secretary confirmed that there were eight positions vacant, and eight nominations received, four Directors were re-standing and four new nominations. As per bylaw clause 3.3, if the number of nominations equals the number of vacancies, then the candidates are taken to be elected. Therefore, the Directors elected for the 2024-27 term were:

- Melissa Webb
- Zsolt Balogh
- Michael Handy
- Belinda Gabbe
- Tim Andrews
- Michael Steenson
- Jenny Santosh
- Clare Collins

The new Board for 2024-25 was confirmed, and it was noted that representation across region and craft group met the requirements of the bylaws.

**Motion 1:** That the members present agree to vote on all Director appointments as one resolution and that the members approve the elected Board of Directors for 2024-2027
Proposed: Annelise Gluer
Seconded: Grant Christey
Motion carried.

## 7. Other Business

A member from the floor queried the review of the bylaws and constitution, and noted they were updated three years ago and whether an external consultant was necessary with the corporate and governance knowledge already existing within the

Society. There was discussion across the floor. It was noted a number of ambiguities were identified in the bylaws. An external review allowed for rigorous and objective examination. This could be done by someone with experience in not-for-profit medical constitutions. It was noted that the bylaws and constitution should be reviewed every three to five years as the nature of the Society changes, and to ensure it reflected the needs of a binational and multidisciplinary organisation. It was also noted that the intention was to have someone with AICD qualification to lead governance training and upskilling of the Board and ensure the Directors are fully aware of their roles and responsibilities.

**8. Close**

The Chairperson declared the 2024 Annual General Meeting Australian and New Zealand Trauma Society closed at 1.06pm AEST.

**Appendix: Meeting Attendees**

1. Dinesh Varma
2. Savitha Bhagran
3. Tim Andrews
4. Michael Sizonson
5. Trish McDougall
6. Kate King
7. Simone Meakes
8. Michael Noonan
9. Jessica Lockett
10. Michael Handy
11. Kate Martin
12. Clare Collins
13. Grant Christy
14. Sara Calthorpe
15. Kat Quick
16. Don Campbell
17. Ashe Kirk
18. Belinda Gabbe
19. Katie Scott
20. Jenny Santosh
21. Ari Woodward
22. Stuart Tan
23. Melissa Webb
24. Ben Gardiner
25. Annelise Gluer
26. Lola Sikura
27. Lara Kimmel
28. Jenni Hanlin
29. Kate Dill
30. Cameron Palmer
31. Therese Marion