



# Australian Institute of International Affairs Victoria

## Minutes of Annual General Meeting – Thursday 27 November, 2014

The President, Mr Laurence Wade, declared the 2014 AGM open at 5.05pm and welcomed all members. A quorum was confirmed.

The following apologies and proxies were noted:

<b>Apologies:</b>	Mr Andrew Farran	Mr Michael Henry
	Adj Prof Ian Howie	Mr Gary Neat
	Mr Dennis O'Neill	Mr John Richardson
	Mr Alistair Urquhart	Ms Annette Webb

**Proxies:** Mr Baard Solnordal (Ms Zara Kimpton OAM) Mr Gary Neat (Ms Zara Kimpton OAM)

### **1. To Approve the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 13 November 2013**

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The AGM Minutes of Meeting 2013 were received.

No comments were submitted.

**Motion: that the AGM Minutes of Meeting for 2013 be adopted.**

**MOVED: Peter McMullin / Trish Ritman**

**CARRIED**

### **2. Business arising from the Minutes**

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None.

### **3. To receive and consider the Annual Report of the Council.**

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The 2013/14 Annual Report was received. The President made some additional comments on the report.

It was pleasing to see a small profit was made. Thanks were extended to Executive Officer Peta McDermott for keeping the finances in good order.

The programme provided some first class events and thanks were given to all those involved.

Membership-based organisations face many challenges today, in particular with the free availability of information. . The advantage of the Institute is in providing a forum for networking and discussion. It is remarkable to achieve what we do without many resources, with thanks to Peta. Although membership has increased slightly, the concept of public meetings may be losing its attractiveness.

Laurence announced that he won't be renominating as president, and having completed six years of service, will be retiring. He expressed his great joy in working with the Executive and Council. Much work has been undertaken and he thanked all concerned for the considerable work that has been contributed.

No matters were raised.

**Motion: that the Annual Report be adopted.**

**MOVED: Peter McMullin / Greg Wills**

**CARRIED**

**4. To receive and consider the Annual Balance Sheet, the accounts of the Treasurer and the Auditors report for the financial year ended 30 June 2014.**

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The Treasurer, Peter McMullin, reported that ratios haven't changed materially, and that membership numbers were reasonable. The establishment of the Endowment Fund will provide a future capital base for the Institute. Thanks were passed on to Peta for maintaining the accounts in good order.

**Motion: That the Annual Balance Sheet and Profit & Loss statements be adopted.**

**MOVED: Michael Helman / Patrick Moore**

**CARRIED**

**5. To confirm auditors for 2015**

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**Motion: that the existing auditors Noel May and Associates be confirmed for the 2014/2015 review audit.**

**MOVED: Hon David Harper AM / Peter McMullin**

**CARRIED**

**6. To elect Ordinary Members of the Council for the 2014-2015 year**

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The President read out the following list of nominations:

**Council Members**

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|----------------------|--|
| 1. Mr Matthew Di Leo | <b>Moved: Patrick Moore / Sean Jesudason</b> |
| 2. Ms Sinead Ferris  | <b>Moved: Laurence Wade / Sean Jesudason</b> |
| 3. Ms Eileen McInnes | <b>Moved: Laurence Wade / Cate Pickett</b>   |
| 4. Mr Greg Wills     | <b>Moved: Laurence Wade / Sean Jesudason</b> |

**Motion: to accept the above nominations for Council membership. CARRIED**

**7. To elect the Officers of the Council for the 2014-2015 year**

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**Office Holders**

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|--------------------------------|--|
| President: Patrick Moore       | <b>Moved: Hon Jim Short / James Kimpton AM</b>   |
| Vice President: Breck Hilton   | <b>Moved: Patrick Moore / Gary Neat</b>          |
| Vice President: Sean Jesudason | <b>Moved: Patrick Moore / Dr Deborah Seifert</b> |
| Treasurer: Richard Green       | <b>Moved: Patrick Moore / Peter McMullin</b>     |

**Motion: to accept the above nominations for the Officeholders**

**CARRIED**

**8. To deal with any other matter which is brought before the meeting by any member present and which the meeting by a four-fifths majority decides to deal with.**

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Christopher Lamb made special note of the very generous scholarship established by member Euan Crone. The scholarship provided funding for young people to develop their awareness of Asia in situ. A national committee selected candidates for the scholarship amount of up to \$5000. Christopher encouraged others to consider assisting young people in international affairs through sponsorship of various sorts, as demonstrated by Euan, and by Zara Kimpton's donations for a young person's participation on study tours.

**It was agreed** to record the appreciation of Euan Crone's establishment of the Euan Crone Asia Awareness Scholarship fund and his subsequent enhanced support of the candidates.

Cate Pickett, Chair of the Programme Committee, expressed her high regard for Laurence's facilitation and presence at our events, which was at least 95% of the presentations.

Laurence was most appreciative of the support for his time as president, and handed the chairing of the meeting to new president Patrick Moore.

Patrick thanked all in attendance and in particular the benefactors for their generous contributions. A welcome was extended to the new Council members and Office Holders. The coming year would see a greater emphasis on Council rather than the Executive making decisions. Council would meet six times per year. A follow on from the Strategic Plan as prepared by Laurence Wade and Cate Pickett would be the start of activities for the next 12 months.

Special appreciation was extended to outgoing Executive members Laurence Wade, Gary Neat, Peter McMullin and Cate Pickett; to early-retiring Council members Dennis O'Neill and Dr Deborah Seifert; and to those Council members who resigned during the year, Zoe Dauth and Daniel Steedman. There has been a fantastic amount of effort and willingness to move the AIIAV forward and Patrick hoped that he would leave the Institute in as good a position. Thanks was also given to Peta for all her work over the year.

There being no further questions or comments, the President declared the Annual General Meeting for 2014 closed at 5.35pm.