



ENGINEERS
AUSTRALIA

2021 Annual General Meeting

MINUTES

The Annual General Meeting of Engineers Australia
Engineering House, 11 National Circuit, Barton ACT, and via videoconference
Thursday 9 December 2021 from 4.00pm to 5.30pm AEDT

1. OPENING

Welcome and Acknowledgement of Country

A quorum being reached, Dr Nick Fleming, the National President and Board Chair of Engineers Australia took the Chair. The Chair declared the meeting open and welcomed members.

The Chair acknowledged the traditional custodians of the country throughout Australia and recognised their continuing connection to land, waters and community. The Chair paid respects to them and their cultures, and to elders past, present and emerging.

Apologies

The Chair noted no apologies were received.

Confirmation of the Minutes of the 2020 AGM

The Chair advised that the following amendment to the Minutes of the 2020 Annual General Meeting held in Sydney on the 2nd December 2020 has been notified and, subject to the confirmation of the members present, will be read into the Minutes of the 2021 AGM and the 2020 AGM Minutes will also be amended accordingly:

- 1) At Item 3, the motion to approve the minutes was seconded by Lucia Cade.

There being no further comments, the Chair moved the Minutes with the noted amendment be approved as an accurate record of the 2020 Annual General Meeting.

Moved: Dr Nick Fleming

Seconded: Lucia Cade

Carried

2. PRESENTATION OF ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR 2020-21, INCLUDING AUDITOR'S REPORT

The Chair provided his reflections on the previous year, including the co-creation with volunteers of a new 'way of working' to unleash the full collective potential of Engineers Australia. This potential has been directed towards addressing major societal challenges, including climate change through Engineers Australia's new Position on Climate Change and the Climate Smart Engineering Conference which was successfully delivered in November 2021. Further, Engineers Australia is also working to unleash the potential of the next generation of engineers through the Force Forty Engineers program and the Young Engineers Case Competition.

The Chair commended the hard work and shared leadership displayed by the Chief Executive Officer, leadership team, senior office bearers, volunteers and employees.

The Chair invited the Chief Executive Officer, Dr Bronwyn Evans AM, to present the Annual Report of Engineers Australia 2020-21.

Annual Report

The Chief Executive Officer:

- Noted a membership increase of 4.5% as compared to the previous year;
- Noted the significant achievements of volunteers, including the co-development with the College Chairs of a position on climate change and the development of Australian Fire Engineering Guidelines;
- Advised of advocacy outcomes, including in respect of migrant engineers and ending gender bias in technology;
- Highlighted the strengthening of partnerships with major employers across Australia;
- Highlighted the expansion and extension of the reach of professional development programs, with a 61% year-on-year increase in event registrations and a 38% year-on-year increase in the hours of professional development delivered (through Engineers Education Australia); and
- Presented the current structure of the Executive team.

The Chief Executive Officer, in her capacity as Returning Officer, confirmed that Nick Fleming will continue as National President in 2022.

The Chief Executive Officer invited the Chair of the Board Audit and Risk Committee, Dr Marcus Thompson AM, to present Engineering Australia's financial statements for the 2020-21 financial year.

Group Financial Performance

The Audit & Risk Committee Chair presented the highlights of the Financial Report for 2020-21:

- The Engineers Australia Group delivered a surplus of \$9.3m;
- Key factors driving the Group's surplus include member loyalty, with an approximate 91% member retention rate; Engineering Education Australia's business remaining strong despite international border closures, delivering a surplus of \$5.5m; investments managed by Morgan Stanley producing a return of \$2.2m; the successful sale of the Brisbane office for \$3.1m; and \$1.3m in travel savings;

- The Group is in an enviably robust financial positions, with net assets of \$68m that are held in cash, term deposits, property, and investments that are managed by Morgan Stanley;
- An unqualified audit opinion was received from the auditor, PricewaterhouseCoopers;
- With the recent election of Liza Maimone to the Board of Engineers Australia, PricewaterhouseCoopers have advised they will resign as the auditor of Engineers Australia effective 31 December 2021 to avoid independence issues. A process has been implemented to ensure the appointment of a new auditor takes place to fill the vacancy within one month pursuant to by law 51.2;
- On behalf of Engineers Australia, the Audit & Risk Committee Chair thanked PricewaterhouseCoopers' David Morgan and his team for their work over the past six years;
- The financial year 2022 budget invests in Engineer's Australia's people, property, systems and processes;
- In 2022 Engineers Australia will:
 - Progress the work with the many parts of the organisation which collectively represent the Learned Society;
 - Continue to be a strong voice representing the profession;
 - Continue to represent the profession in respect of environmental sustainability;
 - Undertake a comprehensive measurement of its emissions to reduce and abate the impact on the environment;
 - Seek to relocate the Perth office to a new CBD location; and
 - Drive a renewed program for digital transformation to deliver a more personalised experience for members on new technology platforms that will simplify engagement processes.

The members noted the Annual Report and the Financial Statements and questions were taken from the members participating online. (A summary of the questions and answers is at Attachment 2)

3. BUSINESS RAISED UNDER BY-LAW 20.2

The National President and Chair advised the meeting that there was no notification of any business raised under By-Law 20.2 of the 2015 By-Laws.

The Chair invited the General Manager of Governance and Group Company Secretary, Peter McGrath, to advise of any matters.

Peter McGrath advised a matter had been received from the November 2021 meeting of National Congress as follows:

I'd like to recognise the great leadership of Dr Nick Fleming as National President in leading co-creation of the Climate Change Position Statement with the Chair of the College of Environmental Engineers, Lara Harland, and former Chair of the Sustainable Engineering Society, Steve Posselt. The organic development of the policy with the support of all College Chairs and representatives of Young Engineers and Technical Societies was amazing to watch and be part of; like a baby learning to use its lungs for the first time, the baby taking its first deep breath, each tiny lung sac filling to then, in concert belt out the loudest sound you've ever heard. Just amazing! Elegant, with simplicity, ready to take on the world.

Received from: Peter Sokolowski on behalf of the College Chairs.

4. NATIONAL CONGRESS DELEGATES AND BOARD FOR 2022

The Chair advised the members of National Congress for 2022 are:

- *Sydney Division: Donald Moloney*
- South Australia Division: Katharine Ward
- Canberra Division: George Tomlins
- *Newcastle Division: Pierre Gouhier*
- Tasmania Division: David Finnigan
- Victoria Division: Astrid Kauffman
- *Northern Territory Division: Simon Flowers*
- *Queensland Division: Suzanne Burow*
- *Western Australia Division: Jillian Formentin*
- College of Mechanical Engineers: Roderick McDonald
- College of Biomedical Engineers: Kelly Coverdale
- College of Chemical Engineers: Grant Scott
- College of Civil Engineers: Tammy Chu
- College of Environmental Engineers: Patrick Coffey
- College of Electrical Engineers: Peter Sokolowski
- College of Leadership and Management: James Hood
- College of ITEE: Walter Green
- College of Structural Engineers: Sebastian Torralba
- *Overseas Chapter Delegate: Alex Cheung*
- *YEA: Nicole Brown*
- WIE: Cynthia Lie
- *Tech Societies: Benjamin Hanley*
- Tech Societies: Nolan Bear
- *SIG NCEAT: George Scott*
- *College National Committees: Jodey Brockhurst*

[New members are listed in italics]

The Chair advised the Directors of Engineers Australia for 2022 are:

- Dr Nicholas Fleming
- Lucia Cade
- Dr Raj Aseervatham
- Dr Marcus Thompson AM
- Dr Kourosh Kayvani
- Lisa Vitaris
- Liza Maimone

On behalf of the Board, the Chair expressed gratitude to the departing Director, Hon. Trish White AM, for her more than 27 years of service to Engineers Australia, including as a Director of the Board from 2016, as a Chair of Engineers Education Australia, and as National President and Chair in 2018 and 2019.

5. NATIONAL PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

The National President and Board Chair, Dr Nick Fleming, presented his address, the theme of which was service. The Chair noted that virtually all the major challenges facing society require engineering as an input to the solution, whether this be achieving a circular economy, enhancing digital infrastructure or developing advanced healthcare solutions. Engineers today must routinely ask, "What is the most useful and responsible solution to offer?"

The National President noted the critical role of Engineer's Australia to the health and wealth of the nation. By pursuing the five inter-locking pillars of its strategy – raising professional standards, facilitating career pathways, enabling our volunteer network, increasing the recognition of engineering value to the community, and providing leadership – Engineers Australia is helping to shape a sustainable future for Australia.

6. MEETING CLOSE

There being no further business the National President closed the meeting at 5:03pm AEDT.

Attachments:

- 1: Engineers Australia AGM 2021 Presentation Slides
- 2: Engineers Australia AGM 2021 Q&A



EA AGM 2021
Presentation Slides.



AGM Member
Questions 2021 Fina