



Australasian Society for Breast Disease

Dedicated to promoting knowledge in the areas of prevention, diagnosis and management of breast disease.

ACN 078 271 324

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Australasian Society for Breast Disease held on Saturday, 22 September 2001 at 7.40am at the Surfers Paradise Marriott Resort, Gold Coast

- 1. Present:** Mary Rickard (Chair), Jack Jellins (Treasurer) and members as per attached list
Apologies: Nil
Proxies: Michael James to Michael Bilous; John E Branson to Michael Bilous;
Peter Charles Meyer to Mary Rickard; Petar Vujovic to Neil Wetzig

2. Minutes from previous meeting

Minutes from the 2000 Annual General Meeting were tabled. The acceptance of the minutes as a true record of that meeting was moved by Margaret Pooley and seconded by William McLeay. The motion was carried.

3. Business arising from minutes of previous meeting

Relationship with the Senologic International Society

Jack Jellins explained that the Senologic International Society (SIS) was a body which brought together the various breast disease societies around the world and originally provided the concept for the formation of the Australasian Society for Breast Disease (ASBD). He said that at the 2000 Annual General Meeting it was agreed that ASBD should look into developing an affiliation rather than committing to a financial membership with SIS. Consequently, he communicated this decision to SIS. The Board of SIS recently rejected the proposal and requested for ASBD to become a full member. Jack Jellins said that he did not recommend for ASBD to join as a member at present but, rather, defer the decision until the next Annual General Meeting.

Website

Jack Jellins reported that the Society had established a simple website, containing information on directors and membership and that the 2001 Meeting abstracts had been forwarded to the graphic designer who was currently reformatting the site. He said the updated version would soon be operational and invited members to provide feedback.

4. Reports

President's report

Mary Rickard commented on the Executive Committee meetings held during the year and thanked the members for their participation. She thanked Jack Jellins for his work as the Secretary/Treasurer and Margaret Pooley for her efforts as the Scientific Program Convenor of the 2001 Meeting. She also thanked Solei Gibbs for her contribution as the Executive Officer.

Mary Rickard reported that the Society currently has 211 financial members and that membership numbers had been somewhat affected by the increased fee due to the decision to subscribe to *The Breast*. She also said that only around one third of the 2001 Meeting delegates are members.

Mary Rickard spoke of the decisions that would need to be made at this Annual General Meeting, including changing the Society's financial year and the approach to future Scientific Meetings.

Treasurer's report

Jack Jellins presented the Treasurer's report (see attached). He said that the current balance was encouraging and pointed out that the Society's main income was derived from the Scientific Meetings as *The Breast* journal subscription absorbed most of the income from membership fees. As the current exchange rate leaves a minimal buffer for administrative expenses, Jack Jellins proposed for the membership fee to be raised by \$10 to \$205 for the next financial year. He said that a further increase needed to be considered at next year's Annual General Meeting. He said the Meeting was expected to break even and thanked Solei Gibbs for the enormous effort she put into its success.

The Treasurer's report's acceptance was moved by Mary Rickard and seconded by Geoffrey Beadle. The motion was carried.

Auditor's report and appointment

Jack Jellins said that the members were provided selected pages of the Auditor's report (as attached) and that a copy of the full report could be obtained from Solei Gibbs.

The Auditor's report acceptance was moved by Geoffrey Beadle and seconded by Jack Jellins.

William McLeay moved and Warwick Lee seconded the re-appointment of Campbell Griffin & Co as the Society's Auditors.

5. Items of business

Membership fee

Francis Bonar queried whether ASBD should maintain subscription to *The Breast* as mandatory. Mary Rickard explained that the original agreement made with Harcourt Publishing entailed that all of the Society's members were to subscribe to the journal. It was agreed that Solei Gibbs would send out a survey to members regarding *The Breast* subscription component of membership.

The membership fee was put to a vote with all members being in favour of increasing the fee to \$205 for the next financial year.

Future Scientific Meetings

Mary Rickard referred to Owen Ung's proposal for the Society to not hold a Scientific Meeting in 2002 as well as to the arguments for and against made by Executive Committee members, distributed with the agenda. She said the Executive had discussed this further and were now in favour of not holding a Meeting in 2002 due to the facts that COSA will have a strong breast focus in its 2002 Meeting and the RANZCR Breast Interest Group will hold its Meeting in September 2002. She further added that more time than 12 months was needed to prepare for a Scientific Meeting and a great deal of input was needed from the Executive Committee, especially the convenors. Mary Rickard said that although the members had decided in 2000 to hold Meetings annually except for when the Leura Meeting was on, it was now proposed that, at least for the next four years, the Society would hold its Meetings every second year. She invited Owen Ung to speak about his proposal.

Owen Ung welcomed the opportunity to address the ASBD membership and assured he was a very strong supporter of the Society. He said that COSA is still Australia's main cancer organisation and breast input must continue. The COSA Executive has agreed to focus on breast cancer every four years and to fund two international speakers for the 2002 Meeting. Owen Ung argued that benefits would exist for all relevant organisations from the coordination of multidisciplinary Meetings and that each can take advantage of the synergies that can result (eg financial incentives). He suggested for ASBD to have input to a half day session at the 2002 COSA Meeting. Mary Rickard invited members to comment.



Susan Fraser suggested for the next ASBD Meeting to include a component on benign breast disease. Mary Rickard reported that Warwick Lee, Nehmat Houssami and Michael Izard had agreed to co-convene the next Meeting and were already aware of the need to include this area in the program.

Michael Moreny said that he agreed with Owen Ung's proposition about the 2002 Meeting but that the discussion had been diluted by the Executive Committee making recommendations prior to the Annual General Meeting discussions. While a reason existed for ASBD not to want to clash with COSA he understood there was also a separate proposal made to align the two societies. Owen Ung said that this only meant that COSA would encourage its members to attend ASBD Meetings and would hope for ASBD to do the same. Mary Rickard explained that no affiliation between the two societies was intended. The Executive had merely discussed other timing options for Meetings but decided against this.

Michael Bilous said that he had been concerned about the impact a cancellation of the 2002 Meeting would have on ASBD's identity and impetus but was persuaded to change his mind after looking at the number of other meetings, including COSA, that will be held towards the end of 2002. He said that ASBD need not, however, decide beyond 2005.

Peter Graham queried whether ASBD 2002 Annual General Meeting was scheduled for COSA. Mary Rickard said this was a possibility but that the decision would be made within the next six months.

Geoffrey Beadle said that the ASBD Executive Committee members had discussed the Society in relation to other groups and organisations. Neil Wetzig said that it is essential for the Society to continue as it provides the major multidisciplinary breast Meeting. He considered that COSA is currently not a force in breast cancer. He also said that for ASBD to have its Annual General Meeting at COSA would show nationally that there was a strong group working in breast disease and that ASBD would become even stronger with representations in right places.

William McLeay reported that Peter Malycha, President of General Surgeons Australia, feels very strongly about a four-year cycle for the multidisciplinary Meetings. He said that if ASBD establishes itself as part of the cycle it could expect stronger support from surgeons for its Meetings.

Michael Moreny asked why ASBD should support an ailing group (COSA). Mary Rickard said there was no need for ASBD to commit to an affiliation at this point but that the Executive Committee could discuss with COSA the possibility of holding its Annual General Meeting and possibly a session at its Meeting.

Lynne Mann said that the successful ASBD Meetings in 1999 and 2001 have already proved that second yearly Meetings can work. Margaret Pooley said that a long term approach with Meetings every two years will allow sponsors to also plan ahead.

Wendy Raymond stated that it was vital for ASBD to remain separate from COSA as the latter does not meet the needs of pathologists.

Mary Rickard said no vote was needed to decide that the next ASBD Scientific Meeting is to be held in 2003.

Change of financial year

Mary Rickard proposed and all were in favour for the Society's financial year to be changed from January-December to July-June.

6. Election of Executive membership

Mary Rickard tabled the new composition of the Executive Committee (see attached). She explained that Colin Furnival had been co-opted since 1999 and was now stepping down permanently and that Michael Bilous, an original member, was also stepping down and Jennet Harvey was the new pathologist on the Executive. Mary Rickard thanked Michael Bilous for his efforts over the years. She said that John Boyages, Michael Green and



William McLeay were stepping down from their positions but had agreed to stay on as co-opted members while new members settle in. Mary Rickard commented on how the Executive Committee was keen to have new members willing to take on active roles. Michael Green said it was hoped that members would submit curriculum vitae and ideas to the Executive Committee and it was their role to make suggestions.

The new Executive Committee was approved.

7. Other Business

No other business was raised.

8. Next Annual General Meeting date

Mary Rickard said that members will be advised in due course of the details for the 2002 Annual General Meeting, to be held in the second half of the year.

9. Close of meeting

The meeting closed at 8.34am.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Mary Rickard". The signature is written in dark ink on a white background.

**Attendance record for the Australasian Society for Breast Disease
Annual General Meeting held on 22 September 2001**

Mary Rickard (President)
Jack Jellins (Secretary/Treasurer)
Geoffrey Beadle
Michael Bilous
John Boyages
Michael Green
Nehmat Houssami
Michael Izard
Warwick Lee
William McLeay
Margaret Pooley
Francis Bonar
Robert Claxton
Christine Crane
Roslyn Drummond
Susan Fraser
Barry Fryar
Rae Garrett
Pat Godbolt
Peter Graham
Helen Joshua
Lynne Mann
Michael Moreny
Robert North
Wendy Raymond
Hildegard Reul-Hirche
Evelyn Tanquiamco-Icao
Owen Ung
Neil Wetzig
Sophia Zadelis
Solei Gibbs