

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2023**

**Minutes of the 156<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of The Royal Society of New South Wales held in the Gallery Room, State Library of NSW, Shakespeare Place, Sydney on Wednesday 5 April 2023 at 6.00pm.**

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There were 40 Fellows and Members in attendance.

**1 WELCOME**

The President Dr Susan Pond welcomed those present.

Apologies were received from the following members:

Ms Pamela Griffith  
Dr Kalinda Griffith  
Mr John Hardie  
Mr Bruce Ramage  
Mr Bhavin Raval  
Professor Peter Shergold

Dr Pond gave an acknowledgement of country and referred to the Society's diversity and inclusion policy.

In an opening statement the President highlighted the Society's activities and achievements during the previous year. They include

- completing the bicentennial celebrations
- continuing to diversify membership by electing younger members and members from more diverse backgrounds
- electing Australia's Chief Scientist, Dr Cathy Foley as the newest Distinguished Fellow
- ensuring that all Lectures by 2020 and 2021 Award winners, delayed by the pandemic, were delivered
- presenting the 2022 Award winners at the Annual Dinner on 10 March 2023 at the Art Gallery of New South Wales
- holding two Ideas@thehouse at Government House
- holding the Annual RSNSW and Learned Academies Forum at Government House on the topic "Reshaping Australia: Communities in Action",
- completing the re-branding of the Society's printed material and beginning the complex work of upgrading of our website
- expanding the Society's national and international footprint through its bicentennial celebrations, digital and online offerings, including the Society's Bulletin, Journal and Proceedings, YouTube and social media Channels, and the lecture by the President of the American Philosophical Society to the Society in partnership with the Law Society of New South Wales
- attracting sponsorship from government, academia and members.

**2 ANNOUNCEMENTS OF PROCEDURAL MOTIONS CONDUCTED BY ELECTRONIC BALLOT**

Dr Pond announced the results of the procedural motions that had been conducted by electronic ballot between 13 March and 3 April 2023, noting that 222 ballots had been submitted from 664 eligible voters, representing an overall return of 33%.

## **2.1 Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting**

The motion that the minutes of the 155<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting held on 6 April 2022 be confirmed was carried. There were 177 votes in favour, 0 against and 45 abstentions.

## **2.2 Annual Report of Council and the Financial Statements for 2022**

The motion that the Annual Report of Council and the Financial Statements for 2022 be received was carried. There were 199 votes in favour, 0 against and 23 abstentions.

## **2.3 Confirmation of auditors**

The motion that Tinworth & Co., Chartered Accountants and Business Advisors, be confirmed as the auditors of the Royal Society of New South Wales for 2023 was carried. There were 205 votes in favour, 1 against and 16 abstentions.

## **3 ELECTION RESULTS**

### **3.1 Permission to nominate for Council election in 2023**

The motion that Mr John Hardie, who has served on Council for an aggregate of more than fifteen (15) years, be permitted to nominate for Council under Rule 18(g) (iii) of the Royal Society of New South Wales was not carried. There were 79 votes in favour and 30 against resulting in 72.48% of the members who voted being in favour which is less than the 75% required for a Special Resolution.

### **3.2 Election for the position of Secretary**

Dr Pond announced the results of the Council election for the position of Secretary conducted by electronic ballot.

There were 222 ballots received as follows:

Dr Donald Hector (112 votes)  
Mr Bruce Ramage (110 votes)

Dr Hector was elected for a two-year term.

The President invited those present to congratulate all 2023 Council members and congratulate and thank all retiring Council and Committee members.

## **4 QUESTIONS**

Dr Pond stated that the comments received during the voting process would be carefully considered by Council.

The meeting closed at 6.12pm and was followed immediately by the 1312<sup>nd</sup> Ordinary General Meeting.

Signed as a true record



**Susan Pond AM FRSN  
President**

**14 April 2023**