

Professor Steven James Langford

Laudation - Steven Langford has made a significant contribution to the field of chemistry through his work in organic chemistry.

Professor Ainsley Newson

Laudation - Ainsley Newson is internationally recognised in the field of bioethics through her work on genomics and reproduction.

Professor Christopher F Sharpley

Laudation - Christopher Shapely has made a substantial contribution to teaching and research in biomedicine.

Steven James Miller

Laudation - Steven Miller is a professional archivist and writer who has made a major contribution to the archiving of Australian visual art.

Professor Vicki F Bitsika

Laudation - Vicki Bitsika has made a major contribution to the welfare of autistic children and translates her clinical practice into university teaching and research.

Elaine Sadler

Laudation - Elaine Sadler has an international reputation in the fields of astrophysics and galaxy evolution.

Rosalind Croucher

Laudation - Through her public service, Rosalind Croucher has made a significant contribution to the fields of human rights, law reform and higher education.

Catherine Greenhill

Laudation - Catherine Greenhill is a leading Australian research mathematician, with special expertise in random graphs, combinatorics and discrete mathematics.

Alaina Ammit

Laudation - Alaina Ammit is internationally recognised in the field of medical research through her work on inflammation and chronic lung conditions.

Kim Lovegrove

Laudation - Kim Lovegrove has made a significant contribution to regulatory reform through his service to the law and the building sector.

MEMBERSHIP

Brian William Bell

Micheal Daniel Lynch

Selena Griffith

Robert Anton Fabian

Ed Matzenik

Tracy Victoria Ryan

Susan Bazzana

Dr Zamira Gibb

Dr Rachel Clare Fitzhardinge

Michael Hedger

Christopher Fellows

Dyone Bettega

ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP

Lorraine Pountney

Luke Hall

Rebel Bailey

Benjamin Chidiac

4. CONFIRMATION OF FELLOWSHIP AND MEMBERSHIP AND PRESENTATION OF CERTIFICATES

Neither the Fellows and Members Assessment Committee nor the Council met between the OGM held on 7 June and 02 August OGM, so there were no Fellow or Member confirmations at this meeting. Certificates will be presented to new members who attend the in-person 04 October 2023 OGM.

5 ELECTION OF A DISTINGUISHED FELLOW OF THE SOCIETY

The President announced that Prof Ian H Sloan AO Dist FRSN FAA has been appointed a Distinguished Fellow of the Society.

Starting his scientific career in nuclear physics, Professor Sloan is now known as a world-leading applied mathematician in many fields, but particularly in contemporary computational mathematics of multivariate integration and approximation, quasi-Monte Carlo and Monte Carlo methods. The Bencze-Redish-Sloan equation and the Sloan iteration for integral equations are named after him. Further key contributions are the introduction of weighted spaces and the study of tractability, and inventing the component-by-component construction of lattice rules, multilevel methods, finite element methods, uncertainty quantification, spherical designs and integration on the sphere, approximation and interpolation of multivariate functions, and oscillatory integrals and in general in information-based complexity and tractability – as well as in a range of other topics – are part of more than 280 articles, book chapters and refereed conference proceedings.

Ian was Vice-President and then President of the Royal Society of NSW from 2018 to 2021. He is a Fellow of the Australian Academy of Science, the Australian Institute of Physics, the Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics (SIAM), and the Australian and American Mathematical Societies. He was appointed an Officer of the Order of Australia in 2008.

5 REPORTS FROM COUNCIL AND COMMITTEES OF COUNCIL

The President reported on the following matters.

The Council is undertaking a substantial consultation and master planning process to determine the future of the Society over the next decade. The initial survey to canvass membership views has been circulated and completed. With the support of eight NSW and ACT universities, the Council has appointed a strategic consultant to facilitate the planning process.

The President encouraged nominations for the Society's awards program. Nominations will close on 30 September.

The RSNSW and Five Academies Forum will be hosted by the Governor and Vice-Regal Patron of the Society at Government House, Sydney, on Thursday, 2 November 2023, 9:00 am to 5.30 pm and will be live-streamed. The topic will be "Our 21st-century brain".

5 QUESTIONS

There were no questions from the floor.

6 OPEN LECTURE

"Challenges for Open Enquiry and Scholarship in a Divided Age"

Professor Alan Davison

**Professor and Dean
Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences
University of Technology Sydney**

Are the current settings within the "ecosystem" of academia – career incentives, and the pressures of social media and public discourse – optimal for generating the best research? In this talk, Alan Davison discussed some of the key drivers in our current academic environment and public discourse that are inimical to genuine research innovation and deep inquiry, how

some disciplines are seeking to redress this (such as in the US with the Society for Open Inquiry in the Behavioural Sciences - SOIBS), and what might be done here in Australia.

About the Speaker

Professor Alan Davison is Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, University of Technology Sydney. His research interests cover music and visual culture, art and aesthetics, celebrity studies, and 19th-century European cultural history. More recently he has actively promoted viewpoint diversity within our academic communities (as the lead for Heterodox Academy in Australia) and published both scholarly and popular articles on trends in social sciences and humanities research. In late 2021, Alan partnered with well-known media figure Josh Szeps to launch the “Permission to Think” speaker series, which invites prominent scholars to look at the role of intellectuals and institutions during this age of outrage in public debate of complex issues, especially in the Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences (HASS) disciplines. To date, guests in the series have included the likes of Jon Haidt and Alice Dreger.

7 VOTE OF THANKS

The vote of thanks was given by Professor Lewis Bizo.

8 CLOSE

The President closed the meeting at 7.55pm.

The minutes were recorded by the Secretary, Dr Donald Hector AM FRSN.

Signed as a true record
Dr Susan Pond AM FRSN
President