



## **MINUTES**

### **Annual General Meeting**

**6:00 pm (ACDT) Friday 27 October 2017**

**Adelaide Pavilion, South Terrace, Adelaide.**

- 1. Open: 18:06**
- 2. Welcome (Adrian Linacre)**
  - a. Meeting commenced at 18:06 pm
  - b. The President welcomed everyone and declared the meeting open.
- 3. Apologies and attendance**
  - a. No apologies
  - b. A total of 43 members were in attendance, including members of Council: Adrian Linacre (President), Kate Grimwood (Treasurer), Carolyn Bird (Secretary), Ali Sears (Vice-President), James Curran (Vice-President NZ), Claude Roux (Immediate Past-President), Natasha Mitchell (President, SA), Karen Cavanagh-Steer (President, NT), Chris May, (President, WA), Eric Davies (President, ACT), Roberta Julian (Vice-President, Tas), Jim Pearson (President, Vic), Rebecca Johnson (President, NSW), Carl Streeting (Vice-President, Qld). See **attached** attendance list for all members and non-members present.
- 4. Minutes of the previous annual general meeting (21 September 2016)**

Adrian Linacre noted that under item 10. General Business, the nomination and ratification of Bryan Found as a life member was missing. Pending the addition of this omission, a motion was made that the minutes of the previous annual general meeting, held on 21 September 2016, be accepted as a true and accurate record.

Proposed: Chris May (WA); seconded: James Curran (NZ).
- 5. Reports on transactions of the Society in the previous year**
  - a. President's report (Adrian Linacre)**

The president tabled his annual report (**attached**) and highlighted the following:

    - His first duty was ratifying new life members, Keith Bedford and Bryan Found, but his second, sad duty was attending the celebration of Bryan's life.
    - The PCAST report was published just before the last AGM. ANZFSS made a comment on this which was published on the ANZFSS website. There have subsequently been responses to the ANZFSS comment published in the AJFS. Soon a response to these, clarifying our position, will be submitted to AJFS for publication.
    - He attended a meeting of the International Criminal Court as a member of the Scientific Advisory Board and also sits on Standards Australia as ANZFSS representative.
    - Council has developed workshop guidelines to facilitate ANZFSS in supporting Branch workshops.
    - Vice-President (NZ) James Curran is the chair of the Awards subcommittee, while Vice-President Ali Sears is the lead for the Professionalisation subcommittee.



**b. Treasurer's report (Kate Grimwood)**

The Treasurer, in her annual report (**attached**), gave an overview of the financial position of the Society.

- She noted that the Society had a good income in the 2016-2017 financial year, driven primarily by membership fees & the return of seed funding from the Auckland Symposium. Expenditure was attributed to awards, scholarships, disbursements of online branch event payments, and membership payments to branches. Other expenses include PO box rental, administration, and website support.
- The online payment portal works well in Australia, but there are some small issues with transacting in NZ.
- The Society is not required to perform an audit based on our income tier, but did this year. It was finalised today (27 October) for signing by ANZFSS and sent back to the auditors to review. The audit report will be available for any member to view upon request via [treasurer@anzfss.org](mailto:treasurer@anzfss.org).

A motion was made that the Treasurer's report be adopted.

Proposed: James Curran (NZ); seconded: Natasha Mitchell (SA).

**c. Secretary's report (Carolyn Bird)**

- The Secretary reported that, since the last AGM, the new Executive had transitioned at a meeting on 18 October 2016, and met a further five times since then (22 Nov 2016, 16 Feb 2017, 19 April, 26 June and 15 Aug). Council had also met six times over the same period (1 Dec 2016, 28 Feb 2017, 2 May, 11 July, 6 Sept and 27 Oct).
- She noted that Society membership continues to grow, with members up approximately 10% from the numbers at the last AGM (currently 1,329 members).
- A summary of achievements over the past year was reported:
  - Revised membership application form to improve efficiency, saving our Secretariat (Deb Sandilands) time and the Society money.
  - Developed workshop guidelines and form, for branches to put forward proposals. The WA Branch was the first branch to use this form, and Executive funded scholarships for two members to attend their Expert Evidence workshop.
  - Clarified Allan Hodda Memorial Award and Ian Riebeling Memorial Medal criteria, making expectations and deliverables clearer from the outset.
  - Implemented a secure webpage for each branch to upload documents for committee member access.
  - Engaged more economical teleconferencing facilities for Council and Executive meetings.
  - Partnered with GCC Forensic Science Conference in Dubai (November 2017) as a media partner, allowing an ANZFSS member to attend the conference for free, to promote our Society.

**6. Special business**

**a. 2018 Symposium update (Chris May)**

- CM reported that the ANZFSS 2018 website had recently been updated. Abstract submissions (for workshops and presentations) are open, with closing dates listed on the website.



- The organising committee has been encouraging promotion of the symposium at conferences, via inclusion of promotional slides in presentations given.
- b. IAFS 2020 (Claude Roux)**
- CR noted that the only previous IAFS meeting held in Australia was held in Adelaide (in 1990). The strength of ANZFSS and our symposium was used to promote the IAFS Sydney bid.
  - The 2020 meeting will be a joint IAFS-ANZFSS meeting, with a single registration process. CR expects it will attract around 1500 delegates, with more from the medical field due to IAFS' focus.
  - CR expressed his excitement about 2020 and hopes to see everyone there.
- c. Nomination/ratification of new Life Members**
- In 2014, the ACT Branch nominated Eric Davies for life membership, however, ratification at an AGM has been outstanding since then. Adrian Linacre outlined some details from Eric's nomination, including his work history and involvement in and contribution to improvement to the ACT Branch.

Ratification occurred by show of hands, with the majority in favour of ratification.

- The WA Branch nominated Peter Thomas for life membership. Chris May (WA Branch President) spoke to Peter's nomination, including his significant, solid contribution to the Branch, especially in the early days of developing their website.

Ratification occurred by show of hands, with the majority in favour of ratification.

**7. Any other business**

Nil

**8. Next meeting**

Wednesday 12 September 2018, Perth Convention Centre, Perth, WA

**9. Close: 18:36 pm**

Dr Carlyne Bird  
ANZFSS Secretary  
27 October 2017

PO Box 221, WELLAND, SA 5007  
[executive@anzfss.org](mailto:executive@anzfss.org)

**Attachments**

1. Attendance list
2. Minutes of previous annual general meeting held on 21 September 2016 (excluding attendance list and Rules of Association)
3. President's report
4. Treasurer's report/Finance summary



**2017 AGM ATTENDEES**

Adrian	Linacre	<i>A</i>
Alison	Sears	<i>Alison Sears</i>
Andrew	Bosley	<i>Andrew Bosley</i>
Andrew	Murphy	<i>Andrew Murphy</i>
Belinda	Martin	<i>Belinda Martin</i>
Carl	Streeting	<i>Carl Streeting</i>
Carolynne	Bird	<i>Carolynne Bird</i>
Cheryl	Brown	<i>Cheryl Brown</i>
Chris	May	<i>Chris May</i>
Chris	Pearman	<i>Chris Pearman</i>
Claude	Roux	<i>Claude Roux</i>
Danielle	Butzbach	<i>Danielle Butzbach</i>
Darren	Bails	<i>Darren Bails</i>
David	Eitzen	<i>David Eitzen</i>
Denice	Higgins	<i>Denice Higgins</i>
Des	Phillips	<i>Des Phillips</i>
Eliza	Moule	<i>Eliza Moule</i>
Felicia	Bardan	
Ioana	Corfield	<i>Ioana + Tom Corfield (non-member)</i>
James	Curran	<i>James Curran</i>
Janet	Mezak	<i>Janet Mezak</i>
Jared	Castle	<i>Jared Castle</i>
Jarrad	Rennie	<i>Jarrad Rennie</i>



**2017 AGM ATTENDEES**

Jennifer	Young	<i>J. Young</i>	
Jim	Pearson	<i>[Signature]</i>	
John	Nairn	<i>[Signature]</i>	
John	Berketa	<i>John Berketa</i>	
Jolanta	Jeziorski	<i>Jeziorski</i>	(non member)
Karen	Cavanagh	<i>[Signature]</i>	
Kate	Grimwood	<i>[Signature]</i>	
<del>Kelsey</del>	<del>Seyfang</del>		
Kerryn	Mason	<i>Kerryn Mason</i>	
Lenara	Scandrett	<i>[Signature]</i>	
Maria	Hassan	<i>[Signature]</i>	
Matthew	Bennett	<i>[Signature]</i>	
Natasha	Mitchell	<i>Natasha Mitchell</i>	
Nick	Lucas	<i>[Signature]</i>	
Noel	Sims	<i>[Signature]</i>	
Pam	Fietz	<i>PBFietz</i>	
Piyamas	Kanokwongnuwut	<i>Piyamas Kanokwongnuwut.</i>	
Rebecca	Johnson	<i>[Signature]</i>	
Roberta	Julian	<i>[Signature]</i>	
Stanislaw	Jeziorski	<i>[Signature]</i>	
Stewart	Walker	<i>[Signature]</i>	

DDAVIES, ERIC (ACT BRANCH) 0414501578



**Annual General Meeting**

**Attendance Register**

Adelaide Pavilion, South Terrace, Adelaide  
6.00 pm, Friday 27<sup>th</sup> October 2017

Full name	Membership category	Financial member?	Signature
<del>Rikki FURDIE</del>	-	no	<del>Rikki Furdie</del>
<del>John FURDIE</del>	-	no	<del>John Furdie</del>
Gregg ARDRE	GENERAL	✓	Gregg Ardre
Merlinda ATKINSON	-	no	
Steve ATKINSON	-	no	
Lindy BERKETA	-	no	
Dale BRAGG	-	no	
Nicholas CASITILLO	-	no	
Phill CASSEY	-	no	
Ann CHRISTIE	-	no	
Catherine EITZEN	-	no	
Evan HIGGINS	-	no	
Samuel KENDALL	-	no	
Benjamin MARTIN	-	no	
Charlie MELAK	-	no	
Joan RICHARDS	-	no	
Sherralynn SIMS	-	no	
Sara TUCKFIELD	-	no	
Adele WALKER	-	no	



# THE AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND FORENSIC SCIENCE SOCIETY INC.

## MINUTES

### Annual General Meeting

4.00 pm (New Zealand time), Wednesday 21 September, 2016

SkyCity Auckland Convention Centre, New Zealand

**Present:** Members of Council or representatives: Claude Roux (President), Chris Lennard (Treasurer), James Wallman (Secretary), Alison Sears (Professionalization Officer), Dr Jurian Hoogewerff (ACT), Prof. Shari Forbes (Vice-President, NSW), Dr Karen Cavanagh-Steer (President, NT), Professor James Curran (President, NZ), Mrs Lyza-Jane Menz (President, Qld), Prof. Adrian Linacre (SA), Prof. Roberta Julian (President, Tas), Mr Jim Pearson (President, Vic) and Mr Chris May (President, WA).

Ordinary members: see attached list.

#### 1. Welcome (Claude Roux)

- The meeting commenced at 4.16 pm.
- The President welcomed everyone and declared the AGM open.

#### 2. Apologies

- Apologies were received from Eric Davies (ACT President), Natasha Mitchell (SA President), Rebecca Johnson (NSW President), Charles Connor (Tas), Paul Westwood (NSW), John Walker (NZ) and Runa Daniel (Vic).

#### 3. Minutes of the Previous AGM (27 November 2015)

- Karen Cavanagh (NT) proposed that the Minutes be accepted as a true and accurate record; seconded by Matt Gittos (NZ).

#### 4. Matters Arising from the Previous Minutes

- There were no matters arising.

#### 5. President's Report (Claude Roux)

- The President welcomed the above-listed representatives of each ANZFSS jurisdiction.
- The President tabled his Annual Report (attached) and highlighted the following achievements since the last Symposium AGM in 2014:
  - Standardised membership across the whole Society
  - New ANZFSS Code of Conduct
  - Central online facility to renew and apply for membership

- Online video hosting facility was created via the ANZFSS website whereby branches can upload videos/talks
  - Facility for members to register and pay events through the website
  - Harmonised branch rules and in final stages of ratification by all branches
  - Proposal of a new Professional Membership category
  - A vibrant Society, with a 26% increase in membership
  - Healthy finances
  - Reputation for high-class conferences
- The following awards had been made since 2014:
    - Adelaide Medal (IAFS) to Dr Tony Raymond (NSW)
    - Allan Hodda Memorial Award to Caroline Gibb (Vic) and Natasha Mitchell (SA)
    - Ian Riebeling Memorial Medal to Danielle Butzbach (SA)
    - 60 Symposium travel awards: 20% more than 2014
- The President concluded his report by thanking the following:
    - Anna Davey (Vice-President Australia and Newsletter Editor)
    - Matt Gittos and Prof. James Curran (Vice-Presidents New Zealand)
    - Assoc. Prof. James Wallman (Secretary)
    - Prof. Chris Lennard (Treasurer)
    - Bill Crick (Immediate Past President)
    - Alison Sears (Professionalization Project Officer)
    - ANZFSS Council
    - Sarah Scott, Dr Jo-Anne Bright, Matt Gittos, the Organising Committee and Conference Innovators
    - Every single ANZFSS member

## 6. Treasurer's Report (Chris Lennard)

- The Treasurer, in his Annual Report, gave an overview of the financial position of the Society. He referred to the document that had been circulated prior to the meeting (**attached**) that summarised the transactions of the Society over the 2015/16 financial year and the balances of the Society's accounts as at 30 June 2016.
- He noted that the closing balance of the Society's accounts for the financial year was \$217,700.24, after starting with \$355,702.94 (operating deficit of \$138,002.70). Income had come mostly from membership fees, event bookings, NZ Branch capitation fees, bank interest and GST refunds. Expenditure was mostly associated with awards, sponsorship and tributes, disbursement of Symposium revenue to branches, seed funding for the 2018 Symposium, membership payments to the branches, event booking payment to branches, travel/meeting costs for Council members, administrative support, PO Box and legal fees, liability insurance, website and membership database fees, and GST payment to the ATO.
- The Treasurer noted the following:
  - There was a higher than expected revenue from the 2014 Symposium.
    - Increase in scholarships to attend 2016 symposium (~\$60K)
    - Disbursement of additional funds to branches (~\$57K)
  - The Society is in a comfortable financial position
    - Viability remains dependent on symposium revenue to supplement income from membership fees
  - Central payment portal (for membership fees and event bookings) now stable
    - Issues for NZ Branch still to be resolved.
- He finally thanked everyone for their support during his tenure.

- Ian Calhaem wished it noted that \$90K had been needed as seed funding for the Auckland Symposium although only \$32K had been forthcoming from the Council.
- Hadyn Green (WA) moved that the Treasurer's Report be adopted; seconded by Chris May (WA).

## 7. Secretary's Report (James Wallman)

- The Secretary reported that, since the last AGM, the Executive had met five times (29 January, 1 April, 31 May, 26 July and 8 September), while the Council had also met five times (2 February, 7 April, 7 June, 2 August and 18 September).
- He also noted that membership of the Society continued to grow, with 1,044 members in Australia and 159 in New Zealand (1,203 in total).
- Since 2010 the retiring Executive have met 33 times and managed 32 meetings of Council
- The Secretary then catalogued the achievements since 2010:
  - New website went live in June 2012
  - Online membership database went live in October 2013
  - Society maintains membership records online via secure server
    - Members can update their own details
    - Branch email addresses standardized in 2013
  - Membership categories standardized in September 2014
    - General, Life, Associate and Student
  - ANZFSS Secretariat introduced in April 2015
    - The Secretary thanked Deb Sandilands!
  - Online membership applications/renewals introduced in April 2015
    - New members apply and pay online with vetting by branches
    - Current members renew and pay online
  - Online video hosting introduced in 2015
    - Branches upload talks and all members benefit
  - Online events registration system introduced in 2015
    - Members register and pay for events online
- He thanked everyone for their support and positive feedback over his term in office.

## 8. 2016 Symposium Report / Updates

- **ANZFSS 2016 report (Sarah Scott)**
  - SS mentioned what a success the meeting had been so far.
- **ANZFSS 2018 update (Hadyn Green)**
  - HG looked forward to 2020. The Perth Convention Centre had been booked. Chris May has been overseeing the social side of the event. The theme 'forensic science without borders'. The OC looked forward to a successful meeting.
- The President referred to the possibility of a combined meeting of IAFS and the ANZFSS in 2020.

9. Changes to the Rules of Association to 1) introduce a Professional Member category, 2) revise the process for Life Membership, and 3) update the Society's financial obligations.

**Resolution:** "That the changes to the Rules of Association of the Australian and New Zealand Forensic Science Society, as contained in the document labelled 'Rules to be put to the 2016 AGM', be adopted".

**Proposed by the President, Prof. Claude Roux; seconded by Vice-President (Australia), Anna Davey.**

- The President referred to the changes to the Rules as indicated in the document circulated prior to the meeting (**attached**).
- A question was received from the floor as to whether the previous Honorary membership category in New Zealand had been combined with the new Life Member category. It was confirmed that it had.
- Ian Calhaem requested that the wording of 46 (1) (e) be modified. The President pointed out that the updated wording had already been ratified by Council.
- All present voted in favour of the resolution, with two abstaining. The following proxies were cited: NSW: 27 in favour; SA: 38 in favour, 1 against; Vic: 4 in favour; WA: 24 in favour; Anna Davey: 2 in favour.

**10. General Business**

- Nomination / ratification of new Life Members
  - Keith Bedford was nominated by the NZ Branch. James Curran spoke to this nomination and referred to Keith as a very deserving recipient. ESR is the better for his steady hand.
  - Bryan Found was nominated by the Vic Branch. *on 16.11.17*

**11. Election of Executive for 2016-2018:**

- **President**
  - A nomination had been received from Adrian Linacre. He was elected unopposed.
- **Vice-President (Australia)**
  - Nominations had been received from Anna Davey and Alison Sears. After a vote of the membership present, Alison Sears was declared the winner and elected.
- **Secretary**
  - A nomination had been received from Carolyne Bird. She was elected unopposed.
- **Treasurer**
  - A nomination had been received from Kate Grimwood. She was elected unopposed.

**12. Close**

- The meeting concluded at 5.30 pm.



ADRIAN LINACRE  
PRESIDENT  
ANZFSS

16/11/2017



JAMES WALLMAN  
Immediate Past Secretary  
ANZFSS



THE AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND  
FORENSIC SCIENCE SOCIETY INC.

**ANZFSS Annual General Meeting  
Sydney, 21 September 2016**

**President's Report**

Dear ANZFSS Member,

This report covers the full term of the current Executive, i.e. 2014-2016. During this period, I am pleased to report that the ANZFSS continued to move towards a more professionally run Society as illustrated below:

- The membership categories were standardised across the whole Society as General, Life, Associate and Student.
- A new ANZFSS Code of Professional Practice was endorsed by the members.
- A central online facility to renew and apply for membership
- An online video hosting facility was created via the ANZFSS website whereby branches can upload videos/talks
- A facility for members to register and pay events through the website
- Harmonised branch rules and in final stages of ratification by all branches

These are great improvements and I take the opportunity to thank everyone who contributed to these efforts. As a Society, we have come a long way to make the ANZFSS a more professional Society.

Six years ago, the current Executive was elected with a clear mandate of 'professionalization'. This mandate was confirmed twice and, together, the Executive and Council have continued to work in this direction. The reasons for the Society to step up and be seen as a professional association, a go-to organisation and an independent voice for forensic science have been presented and discussed previously and will not be repeated here. After a long consultative process, including a well-attended online feedback survey, I am pleased to report that the Society is now in a position to propose to the members a newly created professional membership category, to be voted on today. Along with the ANZFSS Executive and Council, I am convinced that the proposed direction is a necessary evolution to drive the Society into the future, enhancing the professional identity of the Society as a whole and putting us on a par with our sister societies in the UK and USA. This is even more critical given that the changing landscape of forensic science in Australia and New Zealand effectively means that the ANZFSS is now the only significant independent forensic science organisation in these two countries.

I sincerely thank the whole Executive, including Alison Sears, Professionalization Project Officer and Council for their commitment and thoughtful discussions.

We are undoubtedly a vibrant and healthy Society that increased its membership by 26% over the last two years, reaching a current total of 1,203 financial members (1,044 in

Australia and 159 in New Zealand). Combined with very healthy finances (see Treasurer's Report), we can look into the future with confidence.

As indicated in my welcome speech, our biennial International Symposium has gone from strength to strength over the last 14 years. We have not reached the end of this year's Symposium yet, but we can say without a doubt that the 2016 vintage will be a great success. I warmly thank Sarah Scott, Dr Jo-Anne Bright, Matt Gittos, the Organising Committee and Conference Innovators who have worked with enthusiasm and commitment to deliver yet again another world-class event this year. This growth seems guaranteed, with the 2018 conference to be held in Perth, followed by our bid for joint meeting with the International Association of Forensic Sciences in Sydney in 2020, 30 years after the IAFS meeting in Adelaide.

On behalf of the Society, I warmly congratulate the following members who received an ANZFSS or ANZFSS-related award in the last two years:

- Adelaide Medal (IAFS): Dr Tony Raymond (NSW);
- Allan Hodda Memorial Award: Caroline Gibb (VIC) and Natasha Mitchell (SA); and
- Ian Riebeling Memorial Medal: Danielle Butzbach (SA)

I wish to thank my colleagues of the Executive (and Office Bearers) who provided much-needed support and guidance over the last 24 months:

- Anna Davey (Vice-President Australia and Newsletter Editor)
- Matt Gittos and Prof. James Curran (Vice-Presidents New Zealand)
- Assoc. Prof. James Wallman (Secretary)
- Prof. Chris Lennard (Treasurer)
- Bill Crick (Immediate Past President)
- Alison Sears (Professionalization Project Officer)

As you know, I am standing down today, along with James and Chris, who have been two fantastic teammates. It has been a great honour to serve our Society at the Executive level for six years, 12 years in a leadership position (Branch President, Symposium Chair and President). The ride has always been interesting, although challenging at times. It has given me a great appreciation of the complexity and value of the forensic science community in our part of the world. However, it is important and very healthy for any such Society to experience executive changes every few years. I humbly believe the next Executive will inherit a Society that has been renewed and is in great shape. This is to the credit of all our colleagues in the Executive and Council over the years.

I wish all the best to the incoming Executive. I have no intention to interfere with the next leadership group, but I will not disappear off the face of the Earth and will always be here for assistance if required.

Ultimately, I thank all the members of the Society. Without you, there would be no Society, and you can rest assured that you have been central to any discussion that we have had since 2010, be it at the Executive or Council level.

Yours forensically,



Prof. Claude Roux  
President Australian & New Zealand Forensic Science Society



THE AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND  
FORENSIC SCIENCE SOCIETY INC.

PO BOX U188 WOLLONGONG NSW 2500; ABN: 3160 9150 895

**Finance Summary  
for the 2015–2016 Financial Year**

**Bank Balance**

- We started the financial year (FY) with a balance of ..... **\$355,702.94**
- The closing balance for the FY was ..... **\$217,700.24**
- This represents an *operating deficit* of ..... **\$138,002.70**

**Income**

Total income of **\$65,073.79** was made up of the following:

- Membership fees (online payment portal) ..... **\$55,845.00**
- Event bookings (online payment portal) ..... **\$2,515.00**
- NZ Branch capitation fees ..... **\$2,410.00**
- Bank interest ..... **\$4,068.79**
- GST refunds from ATO ..... **\$235.00**

**Expenditure**

Total expenditure of **\$203,076.49** was made up of the following:

- Awards, sponsorship and tributes ..... **\$73,975.83**
- Disbursement of symposium revenue to branches ..... **\$56,677.09**
- Seed funding for the 2018 Symposium ..... **\$20,000.00**
- Membership fee payments to branches ..... **\$20,967.59**
- Event booking payments to branches ..... **\$2,040.90**
- Travel/meeting costs for Council members ..... **\$13,179.89**
- Administrative support ..... **\$4,698.06**
- Post Office box, legal, bank and audit fees ..... **\$3,331.63**
- Association liability insurance ..... **\$2,800.00**
- Website and membership database fees ..... **\$2,612.50**
- GST payments to ATO ..... **\$2,793.00**

Chris LENNARD  
Executive Treasurer  
ANZFSS Inc.

24 July 2016

## **President's Report ANZFSS AGM, October 2017**

It has been over 1 year since the new Executive took over and certainly seems to have been a very quick 13 months. A number of matters to report.

I took over at Auckland and one of my first tasks was to congratulate new Life Members, one of which was Bryan Found. Alas one of my next tasks was to represent the ANZFSS at a celebration of Bryan's amazingly life through in Melbourne after his dreadful passing. The tremendous attendance at this event only went to highlight just what respect we all had for Bryan and what a dreadful lost his passing is to our society.

Also around Auckland was the publication of the US President's for the Council of Advisors on Science and Technology (PCAST) report. For anyone who took time to read the 174 page document, there was a call for further research in many areas of the forensic sciences and validation of much of our testing. There was alas some criticism of forensic practice that was not representative of the situation in Australia or New Zealand. Quite rightly our society made a response. A similar response was produced by many other societies worldwide so we were not alone in this. But, our commentary that was placed on our website led to the lead author of the PCAST report writing a letter to the Australian Journal of Forensic Sciences commenting that we had missed much information and that we should have been more supportive. There then followed a full length article from authors here in Australia commenting that our synopsis missed the need to validate basic sciences. We have now provided a simple reply and will ask that this is published as a Letter to the Editor at AJFS. I also think that the way that the letters and article were handled by the AJFS draws further into question whether this journal should be the official journal of our society.

As president of the ANZFSS I attended the International Criminal Court last July. This was in The Hague and I was there as a member of the Scientific Advisory Board. Two areas were discussed in this two-day meeting – use of medical records and collection of data from remote sensing equipment. This is a yearly event and I look forward to attending next year.

I am now also a member of Standards Australia as a committee member for CH041. There have been a number of meetings to-date with one on Monday October 30<sup>th</sup>. This committee has assisted in up-dating standards relating to the collection, packaging and labelling of scientific evidential material. While perhaps not everyone's idea of enjoyment, reading and commenting on these standards are crucial to ensure that these documents are suitable for current best-practice. It is excellent that the society is represented at these meetings and I aim to continue in this role for the tenure of my presidency.

We heard back in August that the Claude will be the next president of the IAFS. This is a tremendous honour. The next IAFS meeting will be in Sydney in 2020 and as you are now are aware this will be a joint meeting with the ANZFSS. I have known Claude for very many years and also Claude was the previous National President of the ANZFSS. Claude has asked if I will be the Vice President of the IAFS, which I have accepted and therefore very much look forward to working with Claude. Plans have started to appoint a PCO. It will be a joint meeting as underscored by bringing the current President of the NSW Branch (currently Dr Rebecca Johnson) into the organising committee and no doubt more members of the NSW Branch will be co-opted to help. But, I stress that the immediate focus is on making Perth the success it no doubt be. I have been promoting this meeting at every opportunity and ask that we all do the same.

I have delegate the role of awards to the NZ President, James Curran. He put together a small group to assess Allan Hodda award applicants and has noted a few aspects of the

assessment that needed attention; this has been done. I hope that James will lead assessments of applicants for this coming year.

As we move to professionalization, Vice President Alison Seers has been developing some models. She has also put together a small team to help; these are drawn from practitioners, managers, and academics. As there is no specific VP report I can report on her behalf that we are moving towards models that can be put forward to all the members. Ultimately a final aim is to present this at the AGM in Perth.

Part of professionalization will be short courses and workshops. We have collectively drawn up a simple process if a branch wishes to put on a short course or workshop and use the ANZFSS branding. We have also provided support for two members of the ANZFSS to attend an up-coming workshop in Perth in November – the support is to pay the registration and I like the use of funds to support more in the future.

Finally, I wish to minute the tremendous support I get from the other members of the Executive. Carlyne and Kate do a huge amount of work and make my role easier than it might otherwise be – so thank you. Thank you also to the SA Branch for hosting us this time.

Adrian Linacre  
October, 2017



## **Finance Summary for the 2016–2017 Financial Year**

### **Bank Balance**

- We started the financial year (FY) with a balance of ..... **\$217,700.00**
- The closing balance for the FY was ..... **\$230,209.00**
- This represents an *operating surplus* of ..... **\$12,508.00**

### **Income**

Total income of **\$66,771.00** was made up of the following:

- Online Portal Payments (Membership and Event Fees) ..... **\$58,996.00**
- NZ Branch capitation fees ..... **\$2,928.00**
- Bank interest ..... **\$3,347.00**
- Donation ..... **\$1,500.00**

### **Expenditure**

Total expenditure of **\$203,076.49** was made up of the following:

- Awards, sponsorship and tributes ..... **\$8,411.00**
- Seed funding for the 2018 Symposium ..... **\$20,000.00**
- Membership fee payments to branches ..... **\$32,481.00**
- Event booking payments to branches ..... **\$7,001.00**
- Travel/meeting costs for Council members ..... **\$9,193.00**
- Administrative support (secretarial) ..... **\$3,203.00**
- Post Office box, legal, bank and audit fees ..... **\$2,947.00**
- Insurance ..... **\$2,545.00**
- Website and membership database fees ..... **\$493.00**
- GST payments to ATO ..... **\$5,075.00**

Kate GRIMWOOD  
Executive Treasurer  
ANZFSS Inc.

25 October 2017