

**AGTA AGM 2020**  
**Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> September, 12:00-12:45 PM (AEST)**  
**Zoom online**



**1. Welcome and Apologies**

Declare conflict of interest.

**2. Minutes from 2019 AGM**

**3. President's Report**

**4. Treasurer's Report**

**5. Membership Report**

**6. Annual Conferences Report**

**7. Executive Committee re-nomination/makeup**

**8. Goals for 2020-1**

**9. Other Business**

**10. Next AGM**

**AGTA AGM 2019**  
**Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> October, 12:45-2:00 PM**  
**Pullman Hotel, Albert Park Lake, Melbourne**



**Minutes prepared by Ruby Lin**

**1. Welcome and Apologies**

- Present from AGTA executives; Vikki Marshall, Mark van der Hoek, Helen Speirs, Kirby Siemering, Rob Day, Andreas Sreiber, Liam Williams, Ruby Lin
- Apologies from AGTA executives; Jac Charlesworth, Marcel Dinger, Nic Waddell, Joseph Powell

N=23. We have quorum.

**2. Minutes from 2018 AGM**

- VM and AS accepted and seconded 2018 AGTA AGM (6<sup>th</sup> Nov 2018, Adelaide) minutes by RL.

**3. President's Report (VM)**

- AGTA in review by VM
  - Very successful F2F Strategic Planning Day held Aug. 26, 2019 @ the Park Royal, Tullamarine
  - Planning for major review of the association – including succession planning, website, potentially our annual conference model, constitution, finances/spending, bringing ‘fresh blood’ to the Association
  - New ideas such as proposed “AGTA scholar” PhD scholarship
  - Agreement to align with the International Genetics Congress 2023 (IGC-2023)
  - Eight (8) Exec. Teleconferences since Sept. 2018 with ~70% attendance
  - Planning for AGTA’s 20th anniversary conference in 2020
  - Provision of support for successful events/SGS
  - Improved reporting of SGS outcomes and benefits/exposure of AGTA
  - Further leveraging our membership of STA
  - Keeping up with a rapidly changing landscape (industry engagement)
  - Introduced Boardable meeting management system
  - New initiatives for conference org. committee (student reps.)
  - Continued engagement with industry and increasing sponsorship at AGTA annual conference
  - Familiarisation tours of potential future annual conference venues (by invitation) – NZ, Darwin
- International Congress for Genetics 2023 Melbourne.
  - The proposal from Phil Batterham is to combine AGTA 2023 with ICG 2023
  - AGTA executive committee agreed to pursue this collaboration with ICG 2023
  - AGTA working group formed (Vikki Marshall, Ruby Lin, Sam Buckberry) to put together proposal for the ICG 2023 committee
  - The working group is expected to expand with new Exec. Committee members and also drawing on volunteers from the wider membership
- AGTA’s membership of STA (RL reported)
  - Our rep is A/P Branwen Morgan, voted in 2017
  - Opportunities/Member Benefits
    - : lobby government in Canberra to improve STEM infrastructure
    - : funding, build network within our cluster
    - : utilise expertise within the network to achieve research outcome (individual and collective)

- : mobilise scientists to change policy in STEM at federal and state level
- : meet politicians in person
- Log in to members portal: Username: AustGenomic
- Password: AGTA@sta2019
- Immediate action:
- Science meets Parliament 2019 has moved to 26-27 November 2019
- Nominations for exec positions: Vice-President (2-year appointment), Treasurer (2-year appointment), Early Career Representative(2-year appointment), Ordinary Member (1-year term).  
DUE 15 OCT
- Save the Date: STA's AGM is to take place on 25 November in Canberra. If you are not able to attend please consider nominating your Science meets Parliament delegate(s) to attend on your behalf. (Marcel Dinger and Jac Charlesworth volunteered).

#### 4. Treasurer's Report (MvdH)

- AGTA incorporated association < \$250,000 Income p.a.
- No Audit Required
- Financial statements prepared independently
- Registered as a NFP with ACNC (Education)
- Income from 3 sources; Memberships, TD Interest, Conference Surplus\*
- Main Expenses; Conference Seeding & Awards, Planning Day & Reimbursements, Small Grants, Teleconferencing & Insurance
- Cash position at 2018 is \$586,181 and at 2019; \$561,125.
- Small Grant awarded: \$1,000 AGRF "**Linked Reads Symposium**"
- \$3,500 Ruby Lin "**Molecular Microbiology Meeting**" (RL sent report incl PR for AGTA, analytics on how that money was spent).
- \$3,500 David Goode "**Victorian Bioinformatics Symposium**"

#### 5. Membership Report (AS)

- 2019 snapshot: 134 members, 52% M and 48% F
- 3y members=72, 1y members=44, Students=15, Others =3. Total 134.
- VIC = 47, NSW = 25, ACT = 2, TAS = 5, WA = 6, NZ = 12, QLD = 16, SA = 16.
- Senior academics = 19, Professional = 11, Junior academic = 58, Other = 46.
- Membership numbers dropped from 174 in 2017 to 152 in 2018 to 134 in 2019. VM/MvdH pointed out issues in Stripe and time required to chase up membership payments.
- Discussed briefly strategies to improve members ie PhD scholarship, local meetings, boost members from less represented states.

#### 6. Annual Conferences Report (Richard Tohill, co-convenor Alicia Oshlack)

- **2019:** RT. Date set for 7-9 Oct 2019 at Pullman, Melbourne Albert Park. Return to grass root style meeting. Continuing negotiation with Leishman to cut prices down, i.e., 1. Student registration set at ~\$200-250. 2. \$600 for early bird full member, 3. No workshops on Sunday and 4. No opening oration on Sunday. Meeting is from Monday to Wednesday. Student ambassador (competitive applications, n=6) organised.
- **See post-conference report.**
- AGTA2020 Co-convenor named: Ruby Lin, Helen Speirs and Vikki Marshall. Organising committee; Rob Day, Mark Waltham, Jessica Mar, James Ferguson, Tamsin Rob, Sandra Fitzgerald and others (to be named).

## **7. Executive Committee re-nomination/makeup (VM/RL)**

VM outlined contribution and farewell exec members Richard Tohill, Andreas Schreiber, Mark Waltham and Alicia Oshlack. Presents were presented (VM/RL).

Richard Tohill

- AGTA-2019 co-convenor (Melb)
- Vice President 2018 - 2019
- AGTA-2014 co-convenor (Melb)
- Public Officer and Meeting Secretary (2011 – 2013)
- Small Grants Scheme Working Group

Andreas Schreiber

- AGTA-2018 co-convenor (ADEL)
- Vice Treasurer (2015 – 2019)
- Membership secretary (2015– 2019)
- Succession planning working group

Mark Waltham

- President (2016 – 2017)
- Convenor AMATA 2001 (Melb), with John Barlow
- Small Grants Scheme Working Group
- Inaugurated AGTA's membership of the STA

Alicia Oshlack

- AGTA-2019 co-convenor (Melb)
- AGTA-2014 co-convenor (Melb)
- Student education working group
- AGTA's social media expert (Twitter)

RL thanked student help during AGTA2019.

- Marcel Dinger, Mark Cowley, Nic Waddell, Katherine Pillman, Liz Christie and Luciano Martelotto all nominated and voted to be on the AGTA executive committee.

## **8. Goals for 2019-2020**

- Increase membership base (feedback/ideas)
- Monitor issues with membership payments
- More educational workshops
- Continue to have student ambassador on "local" committee for annual meeting

## **9. Other Business**

- none

## **10. Next AGM**

- Next AGM set in Novotel Twin Waters, Sunshine Coast, 8<sup>th</sup> of September, 2020