



**78<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
**Notes**

**LOCATION:** 2023 ALAA Conference, University of Canterbury, C3 (Main Plenary)

**DATE AND TIME:** 12:30pm - 1:30pm (GMT+12), Saturday 8 July 2023

Contact: ALAA Administrator [admin@alaa.asn.au](mailto:admin@alaa.asn.au)

Item	Notes
<b>1. Welcome</b>	
<b>1.1 Acknowledgement of Country and First Peoples</b>	Meeting opened at 12:50pm
<b>1.2 Attendance and apologies</b>	Prue Vines, Helen Gibbon, Nicole Graham, Svetlana Tuiulkina, David Barker, Louise Parsons, Francina Cantatore, Natalie Skead, John Hopkins, Noeleen McNamara, Julie Falck, Julie Copeley, Nick James, Toni Collins, Matt Berkhan, Melissa Castan, Kate Galloway, Jonathan Barrett, Michael Adams, Malcolm Langford, Alison Gerard, Andrew Henderson, Terri Hutchinson, Jennifer McKay, Asmi Wood
<b>1.3 Confirmation of minutes of previous meeting</b> <i>[Agenda Attachment A]</i>	Moved: Melissa Castan Seconded: Kate Galloway
<b>PART 1 - ITEMS FOR COMMUNICATION</b>	
<b>2. 2022/2023 President's Report - Professor Karen Scott, Acting Executive Dean, University of Canterbury, Faculty of Law</b>	Report presented on slide due to absence Chair thanked Canterbury, and the president, for hosting

<b>3. Chair's Report - Professor Natalie Skead</b>	<p>Last year's conference in hybrid was a great success, however bringing everyone together F2F this year has been an enjoyable reunion and opportunity to collaborate with old and new friends.</p> <p>Executive resolved to issue a formal statement in support of the referendum on Voice to Parliament to noting an important time in Australian constitutional history. To be circulated in next few weeks.</p> <p>Natalie stepping down as Chair - thanked the Executive committee for ongoing support.</p>		
<b>4. Treasurer's Report - Professor Natalie Skead</b>	<p>Acting chair since Jennifer stepped down in 2022. Institutional fee was historically \$2,000 however has been reduced to \$1,000 since Covid and the membership has near doubled since then. Although we can be unsure of any direct correlation it is a safe assumption. Executive discussed ahead of the AGM to keep fees at the reduced rate as effects of the pandemic are still being felt, and as there have been no significant overhead costs to ALAA there is no immediate issue with continuing the reduction.</p> <p>A project to reconvene Interest Groups is proposed in 2023/24 with a view to provide a more niche support to members.</p> <p>Expenditure was higher this year due to conference panel support grants however still in a healthy position with a profit of \$6,558.29.</p>		
<b>5. New Zealand Chair Report - Professor John Hopkins &amp; Dr Toni Collins</b>	<p>Quiet year aside from Conference organization that has taken a lot of work and more funds than usual spend to put together.</p> <p>There are no Deans on the NZ Executive and little engagement in the committee. ALAA AU worked hard to ensure Deans on Executive and it has been a fruitful relationship and would like to see ANZ incorporate the same.</p> <p>It was noted there were no NZ focused awards presented at the Conference Dinner, which the executive are looking to rectify in the coming years with the ALAA ANZ conglomerate.</p> <p>NZ Finance Report taken as read.</p>		
<b>6. Early Career Academic Network Report - Liam Elphick</b> <i>[Agenda Attachment B]</i>	<p>Report taken as read, and due to absence of ECA convenor no further notes</p>		
<b>7. Editors' Reports</b>  <b>Legal Education Review (LER) - Associate Professor Kate Galloway</b> <i>[Agenda Attachment C]</i>  <b>Journal of ALAA (JALAA) - Associate Professor Jonathan Barrett</b> <i>[Agenda Attachment D]</i>	<p>Kate Galloway stepping down as editor of LER, however staying on as Immediate Past Editor in Chief. Incoming Editor in Chief is Helen Gibbons.</p> <p>Members and executive thanked Kate for her efforts during her time as Editor.</p> <p>JALAA - Website updated, call for papers has been uploaded to website.</p>		
<b>PART 2 - ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION/DECISION</b>			
<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Notes</b>	<b>Action Item</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>

<p><b>8. Role of the President of ALAA</b> <i>[Agenda Attachment F]</i></p>	<p>Constitution states that the President is responsible for organising the Annual Conference (clause 9), is a member of the General Executive (clause 4.b) and is able to call Special General Meetings (clause 8.a) and, possibly, the AGM (the drafting is ambiguous in this regard).</p> <p>The role is only one year in term per conference years. In corporate governance terms the current arrangement doesn't make sense in respect that there is no special role for the President within ALAA that has been engaged with in recent past years (for both lack of need, and/or time).</p> <p>Executive took the opportunity to propose amendments to the constitution as outlined in the Agenda.</p> <p>Moved by Julie Falck with amendments: Clause 2 'host law school' amend to 'host institution'</p> <p>Seconded: Melissa Castan</p>		
<p><b>9. Natalie Skead - Honorary Life Member - David Barker</b> <i>[Agenda Attachment E]</i></p>	<p>Honorary Life Memberships are not handed out lightly and David thanks Natalie for her long and distinguished service to ALAA. She carried forward the firm foundations created by Nick.</p> <p>Recommends Honorary Life Member: David Barker</p> <p>Seconded: Julie Falck (and acclamation)</p>		
<p><b>10. Election of Office Bearers and Executive Members 2023-2025</b></p>	<p>Addition of adding Asmi Wood as co-optee</p> <p>Moved: Julie Falck moved</p> <p>Seconded: Natalie Skead</p>		
<p><b>11. 2024 Conference</b></p>	<p>Flinders University, thanks to Tanya Lehmann</p> <p>Dates not yet confirmed - ICONS (is in Madrid 2024) &amp; ANZIL to be considered</p>		
<p><b>12. Other business</b></p>	<p>Thank Jennifer Corrin who is stepping down from general executive after many years of invaluable service to the association</p>		
<p><b>13. Next Meeting</b></p>	<p>To be held at the 2024 Conference</p>		
<p><b>14. Meeting Close</b></p>	<p>1:21pm</p>		

# Australasian Law Academics Association

2023 Annual General Meeting



# ALAA

**Kia ora, Wominjeka, Welcome**



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# AGENDA

1. Welcome
  - Attendance and apologies
  - Minutes of previous meeting
2. 2022/23 President's Report
3. Chair's Report
3. Treasurer's Report
4. New Zealand Chair's Report
5. LER and JALAA Editors' Reports
6. Natalie Skead - Honorary Life Member
7. Role of the ALAA President - proposal to amend ALAA Constitution
8. Election of Office Bearers 2023-2025
9. 2024 Conference
10. Other business



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Attendance and apologies  
Minutes of previous meeting



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# President's Report - Professor Karen Scott

By virtue of the decision of the Executive to accept the offer by Canterbury University to host the 2022 conference, Professor John Page assumed the role of President of ALAA for 2022. At the beginning of 2023, he stepped down and this position was taken on by Professor Karen Scott.

I provide this report in my role as President of ALAA for 2023. It has been another successful year for the Australasian Law Academics Association and other reports presented at the AGM will provide the details of the wide range of activities undertaken by ALAA during the year.

These are challenging times for the legal academy with ever increasing demands placed on academics. As Universities respond to the post-COVID environment, and the push towards online interaction, it is wonderful to host a fully face-to-face event here at Te Whare Wānanga o Waitaha | The University of Canterbury.

The theme of “legal pluralism in 2033” is particularly apt as Aotearoa New Zealand embarks upon the uncharted waters of indigenising its LLB. The panels and plenary papers have presented a number of fascinating insights into where this journey may take the legal system(s) of Aotearoa New Zealand and beyond over the next decade. In addition, with over 85 speakers and nearly 100 attendees from across the region the conference has also presented a glimpse of what the future offers for legal pluralism and beyond. In addition the 30 participants at the ECR day also show that whatever the future holds, it is in good hands. As ALAA remains the only general legal academic conference in the region, discussion of such topics, of relevance across the jurisdictions of the region, seems particularly appropriate.

The ALAA conference dinner, held at the Isaac Theatre Royal, also incorporated the annual awards ceremony for the Australian Legal Research Awards and the Australian Legal Education Awards. I would like to acknowledge and thank the Council of Australian Law Deans (CALD) for their generous sponsorship of the dinner and for the invitation to attend their meeting which coincided with the ALAA conference. My thanks also go to the Conference Committee at Kaupeka Ture | Faculty of Law, chaired by Dr. Sascha Mueller and Dr. Toni Collins, for making the event such a success.



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Chair's Report  
Professor Natalie Skead



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# Treasurer's Report

## 2022/2023 Profit & Loss

	Total
<b>Income</b>	
Fee income	32,000.00
Copyright Income	325.21
Royalty Income LER	1,081.29
ATO	264.69
Total Income	33,671.19
<b>Gross Profit</b>	<b>33,671.19</b>
<b>Expense</b>	
Accounting fees	1,925.00
MYOB Charges	892.66
Bank fees	6.00
Audit Fees	2,200.00
LER - Legal Education Review Fee	10,000.00
Website	848.19
Sub contractors	7,409.52
MYOB Fees recoup from customer	-126.00
Conference Expenses	5,000.00
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>28,155.37</b>
<b>Operating Profit</b>	<b>5,515.82</b>
<b>Other Income</b>	
Interest income	1,042.47
<b>Total Other Income</b>	<b>1,042.47</b>
<b>Net Profit</b>	<b>6,558.29</b>

## 2023/2024 Budget

Item	Income	Expenditure
Membership Fees	\$30,000	
Conference	\$0.00	
Journals (Royalties)	\$1,000	
Copyright Agency Fees	\$300	
Interest	\$1,000	
Administrator		\$6,000
Project Funds		\$10,000
Audit Fees		\$2,200
JALAA		\$3,750
LER		\$10,000
Account keeping fees		\$600
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$32,300</b>	<b>\$32,550</b>
<b>TOTAL PROFIT</b>	<b>\$450</b>	

## Balances as at 07 July 2023

Business Transaction Account	\$70,346.12
Business Online Saver	\$32,848.88
Term Deposit	\$115,410.29



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# New Zealand Report – Dr John Hopkins

The New Zealand Executive of ALAA (ALAA-ANZ) has had a relatively quiet year in 2023 due to the hosting of the ALAA conference at Te Whare Wānanga o Waitaha | The University of Canterbury.

The ALAA-ANZ Executive consists of John Hopkins (Chair, University of Canterbury), Toni Collins, (Treasurer, University of Canterbury), Matthew Berkham (Secretary, Massey University), Jonathan Barrett (Victoria University) and Dawn Duncan (University of Otago). Two members of the ALAA-NZ Executive (John Hopkins and Toni Collins) were on the ALAA 2023 Conference Committee. In addition, Ibnu Sitompul, the ALAA-ANZ administrator also acted as the conference administrator. For this reason the ALAA-ANZ Executive decided not to hold its one-day symposium this year. It was also felt that the ALAA conference itself would provide the best venue for bringing together NZ academics in 2023.

This move has proved a wise one as the attendance from Aotearoa NZ attendees appears high (in contrast to some previous NZ ALAA events).

The ALAA-ANZ newsletter has progressed and the website remains in place by as the ALAA-ANZ Executive was busy with other matters, initiatives including development the website as a portal for advertising opportunities across Law Schools, Departments, legal academics, associated professionals and post-graduate students and the newsletter now operating, need further development. We hope to address this in the latter half of 2023.



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# NZ Treasurer's Report – Dr Toni Collins



In a healthy financial position at present. As at June 2023 the current account holds \$8,395.54 with a term deposit of \$65,608.04. This shortfall in the current account will be remedied in 2024 year when the term deposit matures. A more flexible arrangement is planned for after this date.



The primary costs for 2023 has been financial support for the ALAA conference itself and the APLTA conference both being held at the University of Canterbury.



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# LER Editor's Report - Dr Kate Galloway



13 submissions for Vol. 33



Welcome 2 new Editorial Committee members

- Sascha Mueller, Canterbury University
- Helen Gibbon, UNSW



Incoming Editor-in-Chief Anne Hewitt



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# JALAA Editor's Report - Dr Jonathan Barrett



7 articles in 2022



Barbara Graham, JALAA editor since 2019, has stood down.  
Two potential replacements have been identified.



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# Role of the President of ALAA

## RECOMMENDED AMNEDMENTS TO THE ALAA CONSTITUTION

The ALAA General Executive proposes the following amendments to the ALAA Constitution:

1. Delete '*a President*,' '*a Conference Secretary*' and '*a Conference Treasurer*' in clause 4b.
2. Insert new clause 4bc:

*The Law School hosting the ALAA Conference shall nominate one person to be seconded to the ALAA General Executive for a period of 18 months commencing 12 months prior to the Conference and terminating 6 months after the Conference.'*

3. Insert new clause 4bd:

*The participation of the ALAA Conference secondee to the ALAA General Executive nominated under clause 4bd member is limited to reporting and seeking advice on the ALAA Conference and does not extend to voting rights or input on other matters before the ALA General Executive.*

4. Delete '*President*' in line 2 of clause 8a and replace with '*Chair*'.
5. Delete '*the President, the Conference Secretary, and the Conference Treasurer*' in clause 9 and replace with '*the host Law School*'.



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# Honorary Life Member - Natalie Skead

Professor Natalie Skead is the current Dean and Head of School of the University of Western Australia Law School where she is a highly regarded teacher and researcher.

Natalie has given long and distinguished service to ALTA and ALAA, making a major contribution since becoming its Deputy Chairperson in 2018. During this time Natalie worked extremely hard in nurturing the early career academics and encouraging them to contribute to the activities of the Annual ALAA Conferences.

On becoming the ALAA Chairperson in 2020 she faced up to the challenges which faced the Association when Universities were affected by the Covid pandemic. This curbed many of the activities of ALAA, particularly the holding of its Annual Conference in 2020. This meant the cancellation of the 2020 Conference and the 2021 Conference being held virtually.

However since that time the Association was able to hold its Conference at Monash in 2022 in person and virtually and in Christchurch in person in 2023.

Natalie has ensured that both the Association and its Committee have worked extremely hard in the interests of the membership, in particular she has ensured ALAA has improved its contact with the Council of Australia Law Deans. She has also increased the focus of the Association on the interests of First Nations academic law staff.

Professor Natalie Skead should be congratulated on her achievements at ALAA during her time as both a member and Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson of the Association's Executive Committee.

It is recommended that due to the exemplary service which she has rendered to the Association that Professor Natalie Skead be nominated at the 2023 ALAA AGM as an Honorary Life Member of ALAA.



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# Election of Office Bearers and Executive Members 2023-2025:

Chairperson	Kate Galloway	General Executive (AU)	Nick James
Deputy Chairperson	Alison Gerard	General Executive (AU)	Stephen Bottomley
Immediate Past Chairperson	Natalie Skead	General Executive (AU)	Francina Cantatore
General Secretary	David Barker	General Executive (AU)	Christopher Pearce
General Treasurer	Natalie Skead	General Executive (AU)	Melissa Castan
Editor in Chief – LER (ex officio)	Anne Hewitt	General Executive (NZ)	Unaisi Narawa
Editor in Chief – JALAA (ex officio)	Jonathan Barrett	General Executive (NZ)	
Early Career Academic ( <i>elected 2022</i> )	Liam Elphick	Co-optee	Mark Nolan
NZ Chairperson	John Hopkins	Co-optee	Anita Stuhmcke
NZ Secretary	Matthew Berkin		
NZ Treasurer	Toni Collins		



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# 2024 Conference

Flinders University, Adelaide, South Australia have kindly agreed to host the 2024 ALAA Conference



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# Other Business



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Ngā mihi, Yanga, Thankyou



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