

77th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AGENDA

LOCATION: Monash Law Chambers, Boardroom and via Video Conference

<u>https://monash.zoom.us/j/88480847252?pwd=OU1qbXJONXpBaFpSRFVINnJ4ZIBZUT09</u> Meeting ID: 884 8084 7252 and passcode: 288418 DATE AND TIME: 1:00pm - 2:00pm (AEST), Saturday 9 July 2022 Contact: ALAA Administrator <u>admin@alaa.asn.au</u>

- 1. Welcome
 - 1.1 Attendance and apologies
 - **1.2** Confirmation of minutes of previous meeting [Attachment A]

PART 1 - ITEMS FOR COMMUNICATION

- 2. 2021/2022 President's Report Professor Bryan Horrigan, Monash University, Faculty of Law
- 3. Chair's Report Natalie Skead
- 4. Treasurer's Report Jennifer McKay
- 5. New Zealand Chair Report John Hopkins
- 6. Editors' Reports
 - 6.1 Legal Education Review (LER) Kate Galloway
 - 6.2 Journal of ALAA (JALAA) Jonathan Barrett
- 7. Acknowledgement of Country and First Peoples
- 8. Endorsement of CALD Statement on Australian Law's Systemic Discrimination and Structural Bias Against First Nations Peoples

PART 2 - ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION/DECISION

9. Proposal to amend ALAA Constitution as follows:

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

- 1. Clause 5b amend to 'at least one other member'.
- 2. Clause 7d replace 'two' with 'five'.
- 3. Insert the following new clauses 4ba and 4bb

4ba A quorum for a meeting of the General Executive is 50% of the membership of the General Executive plus 1.

4bb No business shall be transacted by the General Executive unless a quorum is present and if a quorum is not present, matters remaining on the agenda may, at the discretion of the Chair, be referred to a later meeting of the General Executive.

4. Insert the following new clauses 5ba and 5bb

5ba A quorum for a meeting of the New Zealand Executive is 50% of the membership of the New Zealand Executive plus one.

5bb No business shall be transacted by the New Zealand Executive unless a quorum is present and if a quorum is not present, matters remaining on the agenda may, at the discretion of the Chair, be referred to a later meeting of the New Zealand Executive.

- 5. Designate clause 8 clause 8a.
- 6. Replace 'Twenty one' in clause 8a with 'Fourteen'
- 7. Insert new clauses 8b, 8c and 8d:

8b A quorum for an Annual General Meeting or a Special General Meeting is 50% of the membership of the General Executive plus two members of the Association who are not also members of the General Executive or New Zealand Executive.

8c No business shall be transacted at an Annual General Meeting or a Special General Meeting unless a quorum is present.

8d If a quorum is not present, matters remaining on the agenda may, at the discretion of the Chair, be referred to a later Special General Meeting convened for that purpose at the discretion of the Chair.

10. 2023 Conference

2023 Conference Committee

- 10.1. President
- **10.1 Conference Secretary**
- **10.1 Conference Treasurer**
- 11. Other business
- 12. Next Meeting



76th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING Notes

LOCATION: Video Conference DATE AND TIME: 12.45pm - 1.45pm, Tuesday 6 July 2021

Item	Notes	
1. Welcome 1.1 Attendance and apologies	Acknowledgement of country and First Nations Peoples Attendees: Natalie Skead - Chair of ALAA Nick James - Immediate Past Chair Jonathan Barrett - Editor, JALAA Stephen Bottomley - Executive Member (Au) Leylani Taylor - Executive Officer Jennifer Corrin - Executive Member (Au) John Hopkins - Chair (NZ) Alex Steel - Executive Member (Au) Kate Galloway - Deputy Chair/Editor, LER Jennifer McKay - Executive Member (Au) David Barker – Secretary	Alberto Costi - Executive Member (NZ) Bill MacNeil - Executive Member (Au) Alison Gerard - Treasurer Liam Elphick - Executive Member (Au) Robin Woellner Loganthan Krishnan Lyria Bennett Moses Simon Bronitt Michael Adams Kate Offer
	Executive Apologies - Jennifer Neilsen, Melissa Castan	

1.2 Confirmation of minutes of previous meeting [Attachment A]	No issues or changes arising from minutes of previous AGM dated July 2020. (Moved: David Barker, Seconded: Robin Woellner)				
PART 1 - ITEMS FOR COMMUNICATION					
2. 2020/21 President's Report Lesley Hitchens & Simon Bronitt	2019-2020 was a foundational year for ALAA, completing its transformation from ALTA to ALAA. By virtue of the decision of the Executive to accept the offer by University of Sydney and UTS to jointly host the 2020 conference, Professors Bronitt and Hitchens assumed the roles of President. For the purpose of the Association's record, Professor Bronitt was designated the President for 2019/2020, with Professor Hitchens assuming the role in 2020/2021.				
	During this period, in common with the wider tertiary sector, ALAA, confronted unprecedented challenges arising from COVID global pandemic. The closure of borders and the rapid pivot to online teaching consumed much of the available time, energy and resources of many of the ALAA senior leadership and membership. A critical challenge arising during this period was the reluctant decision to postpone the 2020 ALAA Conference, 'Boldly Academic: Defining, Supporting and Celebrating Legal Scholarship' from 2020 to 2021. The event will be held in July 2021 jointly hosted by the University of Sydney and UTS Law Schools. [As I write the decision to pivot online the whole event is under consideration due to the most recent COVID outbreak].				
	We are confident, in light of the outstanding collaboration between the two Schools, that the event, whether hybrid or entirely online, will be an outstanding success.				
3. Chair's Report	Thanked the Conference hosts, their teams, and all attendees.				
Natalie Skead	ALTA re-launched as ALAA at the start of 2020 by Nick James (previous Chair)				
	Association has gone from strength to strength since relaunch, and now has 18 fully paid institutional members along with a total of 702 individual members (up from 550 in 2020)				
	Membership fees pre-pandemic were \$2,000 p/a however it was recognised that Law Schools continue to face financial constraints in 2021 and likely into 2022 so the ALAA Executive Committee has resolved that the reduced rate of \$1,000 will remain in place for the 2021/2022 membership year.				
	Thank you to UTS and USyd for hosting the conference, particularly in difficult circumstances.				
	There have been some changes in the Executive Committee in the past year. In particular, during the year the Committee was concerned about how better to represent the interests of early career academics (ECA). The Association did not have ECA representation on the Executive Committee and so co-opted Liam Elphick from Monash Law School as an ECA representative.				
	Professor Alison Gerard is stepping down as Treasurer. The Chair extended the Association's thanks to Alison for her excellent work in the role over several years. Jennifer McKay has nominated to take this role going forward.				
	The Chair also thanked Jennifer Nielsen who will not be nominating for the Executive Committee again due to a heavy workload.				
	Finally, it was noted that ALAA administration has been disruptive during the past 12 months. The Executive Committee has now appointed Leylani Taylor as its Executive Officer on consultancy basis for a period of three years.				

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4. Treasurer's Report Alison Gerard	P/L statement provided, shows a profit \$7,000 this financial year. There is an increase due to there being no issue of JALAA, and no administration costs for first half of the year.			
	The Association has healthy reserves of \$192k.			
	On the budget for 2021/2022, there is a small deficit due to reduced membership fees (from \$2,000 to \$1,000), however, it is not anticipated that will cause any concerns given the reserves.			
	(Approved 2020/2021 financial statements and 2021/2022 budget - Moved: Natalie Skead, Seconded: Robin Woellner)			
5. New Zealand Chair Report	ALAA-ANZ is the rebranded ALTA-NZ to align with ALAA.			
John Hopkins	A new ALAA-ANZ website has been created, <u>https://www.alaa-anz.org/</u>			
	A new part-time administrator has been appointed, Sophie Gossens.			
	There are 2 new institutional memberships, University of Canterbury University and University of Otago, and both appear keen to renew their membership			
	Hosting first national ALAA-ANZ event on 9 July at University of Canterbury and have 60 members registered to attend.			
	South Pacific (Jennifer Corrin): University of South Pacific, UPNG, and Fiji University have all expressed interest in joining ALAA as institutional members. Conversations are still underway with New Caledonia.			
6. Editors' Reports				
6.1 Legal Education Review (LER) Kate Galloway	Considering the impacts of Covid-19 on work in 2020, LER had a steady intake of articles. The call was left open until 30 April which is later than usual. A healthy number of submissions have already been received in 2021.			
	Hard copy publications have proven to no longer be feasible which will save on costs going forward.			
	One long serving member retired from the Editorial Committee, Kristoffer Greaves. As a consequence of this, the makeup of the Editorial Committee has been reassessed and new members are being identified to fill expertise gaps.			
6.2 Journal of ALAA (JALAA)	There was no 2020 edition of JALAA due to the impact of Covid-19 on academic work.			
Jonathan Barrett	The cutoff for 2021 submissions is 20 August. There is a 5,000 word limit, and the journal is targeted at emerging researchers.			
	The Ethics policy has been posted on the JALAA website.			
	PART 2 - ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION/DECISION			
Agenda Item	Notes	Action Item	Responsibility	
7. Proposal to amend the ALAA	Moved: David Barker			
Constitution as follows: 7.1 Add 'an Early Career Academic' into clause 4.b.	Second: Michael Adams			

 7.2 Insert a new clause 4.e. 'All members of the General Executive will be appointed for a term of 2 years'. 7.3 Insert a new clause 4.f. 'The Chair may serve for a maximum of 2 terms'. 			
 8.1.5 General Treasurer 8.1.6 Editor in Chief of LER (Designate) 8.1.7 Editor in Chief of JALAA (Designate) 	Single nominations for all specified Executive roles as follows: Chair - Natalie Skead Immediate Past Chair (Designate) - Nick James Deputy Chair - Kate Galloway General Secretary - David Barker General Treasurer - Jennifer McKay Editor in Chief (LER) - Kate Galloway Editor in Chief (JALAA) - Jonathan Barrett Early Career Academic - Liam Elphick There were 7 nominations for general Executive Members. The constitution provides for 5, plus two co-opted, proposed as follows: Executive Members: Melissa Castan Jennifer Corrin Alex Steel Stephen Bottomley Alison Gerard Co-opted Executive Members: Loganathan Krishnan Asmi Wood NZ Executive also received single nominations for specified Executive roles as follows: Chair - John Hopkins Secretary - Matthew Berkhan Treasurer - Toni Collins	Update constitution to allow for 2 NZ General Executive	Chair, Natalie Skead

	Two nominations were received for the 1 additional executive member, it was proposed that 1 be filled and the other co-opted as follows: Executive Member - Alberto Costi Co-opted Executive Member - Dawn Duncan Given the growth of New Zealand and South Pacific it was agreed that the constitution will be updated to reflect 2 General Executive Members going forward.		
 Institutional ALAA membership fee for 2021/2022 financial year 	Discussion surrounding the reduced institutional membership fee of \$1,000. It was agreed that the follow-on effects of Covid-19 are still rife within the sector and that the reduced fee should remain for the 2021/2022 period.		
 10. 2022 Conference 10.1. 2022 Conference Committee 10.1.1 President 10.1.2 Conference Secretary 10.1.3 Conference Treasurer 	There is still discussion surrounding this amongst Law Deans. An update will be circulated to all members once host is agreed.		
11. Other business	The issue of the required Quorum was queried. It was noted there is no provision for a Quorum in the Constitution. The previous constitution had a 20pax Quorum, discussion resolved that a Quorum should be set the number of Executive Committee members +1	Update Constitution	Executive
12. Next Meeting	Will be held at the 2022 Conference		
13. Meeting Close	1:35pm (AWST)		