

# MINUTES



Of the Annual General Meeting of The Cardiac Society of Australia and New Zealand held Arena 1B of the Gold Coast Convention and Exhibition Centre on Saturday, 13th August, 2022 commencing at 12.15pm AEST.

**Present:** Prof Clara Chow (President), Prof Stephen Nicholls (President-elect and Honorary Treasurer), Prof Stephen Duffy (Honorary Secretary), Ms Martha McCall (Executive Officer), 59 FCSANZ, 65 Members and 1 proxy.

## 1. APOLOGIES

A/Prof David Richards OAM (NSW), Professor Marion Eckert (SA), Ms Santina Caruso (VIC), Dr Tim Carruthers (QLD), Dr Mark Ryan (NSW), A/Prof Omar Farouque (VIC), Dr Julie Ch'Ng (QLD), Dr Peter Barr (NZ).

## 2. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting of The Society held online via Zoom on Saturday, 7 August, 2021 were accepted as a true and accurate record.

Moved: Prof Stephen Nicholls

Seconded: Prof Stephen Duffy

*Carried unanimously.*

## 3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There was no business arising from the minutes.

## 4. HONORARY SECRETARY'S REPORT – Prof Stephen Duffy

It gives me great pleasure to provide this report on some of the activities of the Cardiac Society of Australia & NZ. Without the efforts of our volunteer members many of the activities of the Cardiac Society would not eventuate. Their time, enthusiasm and expertise are greatly appreciated.

Pleasingly, our membership continues to grow and now stands at 2,401, of which 1,053 are Fellows and 1,345 are Members, with 3 Honorary Life Members.

After serving their time with distinction, several Directors are leaving the Cardiac Society Board at this AGM, including Professor Chris Semsarian who steps down as Chair of the Scientific Committee, a committee that does an enormous amount of work for the Society. Professor Sudhir Wahi will step down as Chair of the Cardiac Imaging Council. Associate Professor William Wang will step down as Chair of the Indigenous Health Council. Dr Aravinda Thiagalingam will step down as Chair of the Professional and Ethical Standards Committee. Aravinda has served in numerous roles, including as Honorary Secretary and Honorary Treasurer, so his corporate memory will be missed. We thank them all for their outstanding service to the Society.

Professor Sally Inglis will step down from her position as Chair of the Cardiovascular Nursing Council but will stay on the Board as the new Chair of the Professional and Ethical Standards Committee. Associate Professor Matthew Worthley is completing his term as the elected representative for South Australia but will stay on as the Chair of the Advanced Training Committee. Professor William Parsonage will be stepping down as Chair of the Quality Standards Committee to become the Honorary Treasurer.

We welcome to the Board several new members including Associate Professor Martin Stiles as Chair of the Scientific Committee, Associate Professor Dominica Zentner (already the elected representative for

Victoria) as Chair of the Quality Standards Committee, Professor Alex Brown and Dr Anna Rolleston as Co-Chairs of the Indigenous Health Council, Prof Greg Scalia as Chair of the Cardiac Imaging Council, Associate Professor Caleb Ferguson as Chair of the Cardiovascular Nursing Council, and Dr Alicia Chan as the elected Board Member for South Australia.

We welcome a number of new members to our various hard-working committees this year. They include Professor Peter Kistler, Dr Rebecca Kozor, Professor Julie Redfern, Professor Tony Stanton, and Professor Brendan McQuillan to the Scientific Committee, and Dr Lucas Eastaugh to the Quality Standards Committee.

The Cardiac Society, in partnership with the National Heart Foundation are undertaking a detailed update of the Acute Coronary Syndrome Guidelines, which should be published in 2023. Also, the Cardiovascular Risk Guidelines are well underway, and should be delivered in late 2022 or 2023.

The CSANZ ASM Scientific Programme Committee, led by Dr Mayanna Lund as Convenor and Associate Professor Martin Stiles, and the ANZET 2022 Committee, led by Dr Sidney Lo are to be congratulated for an outstanding programme. Registrations are on track to be the second most successful meeting ever for the Society. Congratulations and thanks to all.

The Cardiac Society wouldn't function without the outstanding work of our Executive Officer Ms. Martha McCall, who is the backbone of our Society. She leads an excellent team of Ms. Libby Stavrinou as Communications Manager, Ms. Margaret Sinclair as Membership and Administration Coordinator, Ms. Kate James as Project Officer, and Ms. Kate Ward in the New Zealand Executive Officer. Thank you all for all the work you do.

It is a great honour to serve the Society as Honorary Secretary. I would like to thank the Cardiac Society Board's Executive members, Professor Clara Chow, Professor Stephen Nicholls and Professor William Parsonage. I would particularly like to acknowledge the outstanding work done by Clara as President of the Society during the most challenging of times. She has been a great leader and has brought sharp focus on important strategic issues for the Society and the cardiology community in general. I congratulate our President Elect, Stephen, who I am sure will also do a great job.

My final duty today is to propose an amendment to the CSANZ Constitution regarding the Board composition. With the recent advertisement for a new Editor-in-Chief of Heart, Lung and Circulation an anomaly has become apparent that the appointment duration of the Editor-in-Chief (which is 5 years with an option for a further 5 years) is inconsistent with the CSANZ Constitution, in which the maximum duration of any particular role is 3 years with an option for a further 3 years. The Society Board members agree that the vitally important Editor-in-Chief role requires a minimum of 5 years (and preferably 10 years) to develop and deliver on the new Editor-in-Chief's vision for the journal. We therefore recommend to our membership that the constitution be amended to reflect this aim.

#### Amendment to the CSANZ Constitution Regarding Board Composition

The Editor-in-Chief of Heart, Lung and Circulation is an *ex officio* member of the CSANZ Board (Clause 13.2 (I) of the CSANZ Constitution) whose term of appointment as Editor-in-Chief is five years with the possibility of re-appointment for a further five years.

This is not aligned with the term of appointment for Board members as stated in Clause 13.5 (b) of the Constitution, "all elected and ex officio members of the Board must retire from office no later than the longer of:

- (i) the sixth annual general meeting; or
- (ii) six (6) consecutive years..."

A motion is put to the members of the CSANZ to remove Clause 13.2 (I) of the CSANZ Constitution.

In order to maintain the 5 plus 5-year term of the Editor-in-Chief and to meet the obligations of the CSANZ Constitution, it is proposed that the position cease to be an *ex officio* member of the CSANZ Board. The Editor-in-Chief would continue to provide regular written reports to the Board and communication of HLC strategic initiatives.

**MOTION: that Clause 13.2 (l) of the CSANZ Constitution be removed:**

**13.2 (l) The Editor-in-Chief of the Journal, Heart Lung and Circulation will be an *ex officio* member of the Board.**

Proposed: Dr Aravinda Thiagalingam

Seconded: Dr Harvey White

*The motion was carried.*

## **5. HONORARY TREASURER'S REPORT – Prof Stephen Nicholls**

The audited accounts for the 2021-2022 financial year have been circulated to Members via the CSANZ website. Overall, the 2021/2022 financial year ended with a net surplus of \$502,630, which is up \$280,522 from the prior year's result.

The Society's two main sources of income are the membership fees and the surplus from the ASM. The COVID-19 pandemic presented a number of challenges during the year including changing the 2021 CSANZ Annual Scientific Meeting and ANZET meeting in August from an in-person meeting in Adelaide to fully virtual, only four weeks out from the meetings. Despite the late change to the format, the virtual meetings were well-attended and the Society was able to achieve a small financial surplus. The surplus from the 2021 CSANZ ASM was \$372K which was up \$165K from the previous year.

Throughout the year, expenditure savings were able to be made including a reduction in the cost of the print subscription for *Heart Lung and Circulation* with the majority of Fellows opting for online-only from July, 2021. The main areas of expenditure were payroll and rent. The lease for office space in the Sydney CBD at 189 Kent Street was extended for 12 months and the Board will be considering future options for the secretariat office over the next six months.

The Board agreed to maintain 2022 membership fees for all members at the prior year rates and members should note that there has not been an increase in fees since 2019. Complimentary membership for one year for first year advanced trainees was again offered in 2022 as an incentive for new trainees to join the Society.

The Society received a contribution from the Education Trust of \$114K towards 2021 education activities, for which we are most grateful.

Overall, the Society is in a solid financial position with net assets of \$2.4 M, which is an increase of \$531K from the end of the previous financial year.

### **Motions:**

**To accept the audited financial report for the year ending 30 April, 2022.**

Proposed: Prof Stephen Nicholls

Seconded: Prof William Parsonage

*The motion was carried.*

**To appoint UHY Haines Norton as the auditor for the 2022/2023 financial year.**

Moved: Dr Aravinda Thiagalingam

Seconded: Prof Tony Keech

*The motion was carried.*

I now invite questions from the members present.

*There were no questions from the members present.*

## **6. PRESIDENT'S REPORT – Prof Clara Chow**

It is with great pleasure that I discharge my final duties as President of the Society in-person at the 2022 AGM. 2022 has been a special year for CSANZ. Celebrating our 70<sup>th</sup> year as the Cardiac Society of Australia and New Zealand gives us reason to look both back as well as forwards.

CSANZ official beginnings was at the Royal Adelaide Hospital in 1952, a main instigator was J. Kempson Maddox, now recognized through the Kempson Maddox lecture for his contribution to CSANZ. CSANZ initial members totalled 47, representing all states and including 8 surgeons and 1 woman – Kate MacKay. Today our membership stands at 2401 members up from 2268 last year and 2129 the year prior, 38% of our members are female and 35% of our membership comprises Nursing, Allied health, and Researcher members.

Our Board has strived to be a representative from its beginnings – representing all Australian States and New Zealand. The representativeness of our Board and leadership however has needed to evolve, I am proud to have added to this through being its first female President and also to report we are closer on gender diversity, with 7 of the current 24 Board members women. It's great to see the number and diversity of applicants we have had for Board Committees and Working groups. We encourage members to keep applying, your input is very much valued and taking turns to share the work needed.

Striving for diversity and representativeness is strongly and enthusiastically supported by the current Board. Some activities have been the creation of a Working group on Diversity which has worked to draft a Diversity guiding principles document which will be disseminated now for consultation. "Diversity" will now be a standing item for the Board, and Councils, Committees and working Groups of the Society will be asked to consider it also as a standing item.

The Society's Advanced Training Committee in Cardiology is also a committee of the RACP and responsible for Advanced Training in Cardiology and has the additional responsibility of accrediting sites for AT positions. This is Chaired by Matthew Worthley. The cardiology Advanced Training curriculum is currently undergoing a review driven by RACP, chaired by CSANZ member James Shaw and we encourage members to engage in the process through contacting the ATC.

The ATC has noted increased requests for accreditation of positions - there has been the concern that service provision is driving such applications, and concerns that adequate senior staff positions are not being created. Adequate resourcing is important to support all aspects of advanced training. It has also been noted that there are increasing unaccredited cardiology positions and tensions with respect to retrospective accreditation by trainees for unaccredited training. As always CSANZ and the ATC has a strong commitment to Trainees as well as ensuring high-quality training to pave the way for their careers as physician cardiologists.

We have introduced free first year CSANZ membership for trainees but have found that this is not completely taken up. We encourage members to encourage ATs to take up CSANZ free membership in their first year to access CSANZ education and support as well as be part of the greater CSANZ community. The ATC has introduced a standing item on their agenda with respect to diversity and specifically gender diversity.

The Education Committee, chaired by Paul Bridgman has been working on creating several new offerings utilizing our new IT platforms – app and website. This has included case series, ECG of the week, podcasts and other educational material. The use of these educational materials is being monitored, and it is pleasing to see a high rate of click throughs to educational material, now the most accessed section on our Website and App. Education is core business of CSANZ.

Working with Government has been a significant undertaking over the last few years and required many hours of CSANZ leadership and many co-opted members. The synonymous occurrence of both implementation of the MSAC review and the close working relationship of health with Govt during COVID19 pandemic in Australia – has enabled us to be more influential as a Society with respect to CV health. It is this relationship and working with key stakeholders within and external to our community that have enabled things like an emergent MRI item for vaccine related myocarditis this year.

The nurturing of a productive relationship with Government and Stakeholders has not been without considerable effort from Society membership, with several members and Board members ‘stepping up’ to work rapidly to tight timelines to provide their expertise, respond to questions, participate in meetings, write documents and reports. CSANZ office bearers have also prioritized these to ensure both quality and integrity of advice and appropriate involvement of stakeholders.

We do see that this is both a growing area of work and potential influence the Society can have on delivery of cardiac services, access to technologies and patient outcomes.

Our responsiveness has helped with the Society being increasingly consulted on a range of issues relating to new services, technologies, supply chain issues, and other issues relating to Cardiovascular health and services. I am able to report that the Dept of Health representatives have come to meet us in-person at this ASM, also that CSANZ letters signed from the President to the Federal Health Minister have been responded to. I would encourage members to participate in the discussion. Advising CSANZ via the executive of issues enables us to better service our communities’ needs.

I would like to congratulate our New Zealand Organising team this year – Convenor Mayanna Lund from Middlemore hospital and Scientific Program Chair Martin Stiles from Waikato Hospital for putting on a successful 2022 ASM. Interacting with many people over this meeting I think reminds many of us how enjoyable personal interaction are, and how important they can be to solve problems and create new ideas. It certainly also accentuates the challenges that the last three ASM Committees (2020,21,22) have had to maintain a high-quality engaging meeting - and a special shout out to these previous ASM committees who have carried us through a very difficult time - David Brieger and James Chong in 2021 – who converted an in-person meeting to a virtual one in 4 weeks, and Peter Psaltis who worked with me to implement our first virtual meeting.

Planning for 2023 is already in motion, and will be held in Adelaide, with Convenor Derek Chew and Scientific Co-chairs – Christina Bursill and Anand Ganesan.

I would also like to announce the leadership and hosts of the 2024 meeting, as Perth, with Convenor David Playford and Scientific Program Chair Girish Dwivedi.

Finally, I would like to acknowledge all CSANZ members and Board Members in their support of me during my Presidency. I have very much enjoyed my tenure as President. I particularly acknowledge the help of the Executive Team – Steve, Stephen and Will – who have shared the President duties and responsibilities and our enthusiastic and knowledgeable Board who have helped through the exciting and ever-changing times we have experienced together over these last 2 years.

I had hoped my Presidency would stand for Engagement – and am proud that over my tenure we have implemented the first CSANZ App, a new website and digital information management platform, the first CSANZ virtual meeting and importantly Diversity has been firmly put on the agenda. I think for the future it is extremely important we enhance and grow our engagement and involvement of community cardiologists and support the dynamic and changing needs to enable our Trainees to be trained well.

It is with deep regret that I note the passing of the following Members in the past year:

Prof Brian Buxton FCSANZ (VIC)

Dr Zelman Freeman FCSANZ (NSW)

Dr Eugene (Gus) Galea FCSANZ & Life (QLD)

On a more celebratory note, several members have been recognised in both the Australia Day and Queen's Birthday honours.

#### 2022 Queen's Birthday Honours

Dr James Cameron AM (FCSANZ and Life - QLD) (Posthumous) received the award of Member (AM) For significant service to cardiology, and to professional societies.

#### 2022 Australia Day Honours

A/Prof Leeanne Grigg (FCSANZ – VIC) received the award of Member (AM) of the Order of Australia, for service to cardiology, and to professional societies.

Prof William Heddle (FCSANZ – SA) received the award of Member (AM) of the Order of Australia, for service to cardiology, tertiary education, and to professional associations.  
Congratulations to these outstanding colleagues.

*Prof Chow invited questions from the members present.*

Prof Jonathan Skinner had submitted a question in advance of the AGM regarding the carbon footprint of CSANZ. Every large professional society, particularly involved in health care, needs to have a policy, and I don't know if we have one? What are we investing in, how can we minimise the footprint of the meetings, how we can put our voice behind countrywide and international initiatives, how can we work with industry etc.

Prof Chow advised that the Board is supportive and is keen to acknowledge the issue publicly and to gain a greater understanding with a view to establishing policies and working groups in the future.

*Prof Chow invited discussion.*

Prof Harvey White felt that it was long overdue and asked if consideration had been given to expanding to planetary health. Prof Chow responded that this would be included in the Board's consideration of the matter.

*Prof Chow continued.*

It gives me great pleasure to announce the following prize winners for 2022:

#### **Heart Lung and Circulation Prizes**

##### 2022 Best Review Prize

Dr Lucy Geraghty

First author of the review: "Cardiovascular Disease in Women: From Pathophysiology to Novel and Emerging Risk Factors" Heart Lung Circ 2021;30:9-17

##### 2022 High Impact Award

"Gender Difference in Secondary Prevention of Cardiovascular Disease and Outcomes Following the Survival of Acute Coronary Syndrome"

Karice Hyun, Ashlee Negrone, Julie Redfern, Emily Atkins, Clara Chow, Jen Kilian, Rohan Rajaratnam, and David Brieger Heart Lung Circ 2021;30:121-7.

## **New Investigator Poster Prizes**

### Medical Student

Winner: Angus Fung, UNSW (NSW)

Title: Prognostic association supports indexing size measures in echocardiography by body surface area.

Judges: Peter Psaltis and Dominica Zentner

### Basic Physician Trainee or Advanced Trainee

Winner: Gavin Huangfu, Fiona Stanley Hospital (WA)

CT evaluation of hepatic fat: A novel marker for high-risk coronary atherosclerosis in Familial Hypercholesterolaemia.

Judges: Matthew Worthley, Liza Thomas

### PhD Candidate

Winner: Himawan Fernando, Alfred Health (VIC)

Title: Lidocaine Versus Opioids In Myocardial infarction: The AVOID-2 randomised controlled trial.

Judges: Clara Chow, William Parsonage

### Cardiovascular Nursing

Nathan Herbert, Barwon Health (VIC)

Title: Impact of COVID-19 pandemic lockdown on a Victorian regional ST-elevation myocardial infarction service.

Judges: Caleb Ferguson, Rochelle Wynne

### Allied Health Science and Technology

Clara Zwack, University of Sydney (NSW)

Title: Stress and its relationship to cardiovascular risk in young adults with intellectual disability

Judges: Lee Nedkoff, Stacey Nielson

## **ASM Oral Prizes**

### Allied Health Science and Technology Prize

Adam Livori, Ballarat Health Services (VIC)

Title: Assessment of Telehealth Cardiology Pharmacist Clinic in Improving Therapy Adherence following Acute Coronary Syndrome and PCI

Judges: Judith Katzenellenbogen, Andrew Maiorana, Katrina Poppe

### Cardiac Imaging Prize

Aaisha Ferkh, Westmead Hospital (NSW)

Echocardiographic deep phenotyping of hypertrophic cardiomyopathies: amyloid, Anderson-Fabry and Hypertensive heart disease.

Judges: Selwyn Wong, Raj Puranik, Rebecca Kozor

### Cardiovascular Nursing Prize

Kristel Janssens, Baker Heart and Diabetes Institute (VIC)

Modest association between peak exercise blood pressure and ambulatory hypertension in endurance athletes

Judges: Patricia Davidson, Kimberley Bardsley, Christopher Lee

### Heart Failure Prize

David Chieng, Baker Heart and Diabetes Institute (VIC)

Catheter ablation in atrial fibrillation and heart failure with preserved ejection fraction improves peak pulmonary capillary wedge pressure, exercise capacity and quality of life. A Prospective Randomised Controlled Trial (RCT-STALL HFpEF)

Judges: Andrew Sindone, Rob Doughty, Theresa McDonagh

### Heart Rhythm Prize

Ahmed Al-Kaisey, Royal Melbourne Hospital (VIC)

Polygenic risk scores identify atrial electrophysiological substrate abnormalities and predict atrial fibrillation recurrence following catheter ablation

*Judges: Andrew Martin, Livia Hool, Karen Phillips*

### Indigenous Health Prize

Keriana Kingi-Nepe, Gisborne Hospital (NZ)

The impact of Sacubitril-Valsartan on Te Tairāwhiti (Gisborne and East Coast) region

*Judges: Alex Brown, Karen Brewer*

### Paediatric and Congenital Cardiology Prize

Elizabeth Paratz, Baker Heart and Diabetes Institute (VIC)

Prevalence of coronary artery anomalies in young sudden cardiac death: insights from a prospective state-wide registry

*Judges: Clare O'Donnell, Mugur Nicolae*

### Prevention Prize

Louise Segan, Baker Heart and Diabetes Institute

Development and validation of the HARMS2-AF lifestyle risk score to predict incident AF

*Judges: David Colquhoun, Julie Redfern, Robyn Gallagher*

### Ralph Reader Prize - Basic and Translational Science

Dinesh Selvakumar, Westmead Institute for Medical Research (NSW)

Cellular Heterogeneity in Human Pluripotent Stem Cell Derived Cardiomyocyte Grafts are Responsible for Arrhythmias and are Treatable with Pharmacotherapy and Catheter Ablation

*Judges: Jonathan Kalman, Louise Burrell, Rebecca Ritchie, Len Kritharides*

### Ralph Reader Prize - Clinical Science

Julia Isbister, Centenary Institute (NSW)

Cellular Heterogeneity in Human Pluripotent Stem Cell Derived Cardiomyocyte Grafts are Responsible for Arrhythmias and are Treatable with Pharmacotherapy and Catheter Ablation

*Judges: Ralph Stewart, Derek Chew, Gemma Figtree, Julie Redfern*

Congratulations to all the prize finalists and winners and thank you to the judges.

### **2022 R T Hall Prize**

The RT Hall Prize is the most prestigious research award of CSANZ and recognises the achievements of senior and established investigators. The 2022 R T Hall Prize is awarded to Professor Gerald Watts.

Professor Watts is the Winthrop Professor of Cardiometabolic and Internal Medicine at the University of Western Australia and Senior Consultant Physician at the Royal Perth Hospital. Over the course of the last 25 years he has established a globally recognised translational research program in Perth, which has extended his fundamental interest in dyslipidaemia and diabetes to developing world class models in health service delivery. He published the seminal paper outlining the importance of lipid lowering in the regression of angiographic disease in an era prior to the use of more advanced arterial wall imaging. His work has enabled a fundamental understanding of the clinical and pharmacological factors that influence lipoprotein metabolism and he has played a pivotal role in the early development of a number of novel therapies that target cardiometabolic risk. In recent years, he has led national efforts to develop effective, multidisciplinary clinical models of care for familial hypercholesterolaemia and associated research and training initiatives.



### **2021 President's Medal**

The President's Medal is awarded to a person who has made a major, specific and substantial service to the Cardiac Society of Australia and New Zealand. At last year's AGM held online, I announced that the President's Medal was awarded to Prof Michael Feneley in recognition of his service as Clinical Practice Advisor and most recently through the current MBS review and its implementation. Prof Feneley has been the knowledgeable advocate for clinicians and patients with the Government and worked on behalf of the society to ensure the best outcomes for over 20 years as Clinical Practice Advisor. His vast experience and commitment to advise on these matters while the MBS changes are being implemented is of immeasurable importance to the Society and its Members.

I am delighted that Michael is here today so that he may be presented with the President's Medal in person.

### **Life Membership CSANZ**

It is my pleasure to award Life Membership of the Cardiac Society of Australia and New Zealand to Professor Len Kritharides. Len has provided distinguished service to the Society over many years and has held a number of positions including Chair of the Scientific Committee, Chair of the Advanced Training Committee and President of the Society from 2018-2020. In addition, Len was the Convenor of the inaugural Indigenous Cardiovascular Health Conference in 2009 and was instrumental in establishing new working groups such as the Fellows in Training Committee, the Women in Cardiology Working Group and the Joint Working Group with the Clinical Oncology Society of Australasia (COSA).

## **7. CLOSE OF MEETING**

The incoming President of the Cardiac Society of Australia and New Zealand, Professor Stephen Nicholls, was invited to close the meeting. He thanked Professor Chow for her leadership and collaboration over the past two years as President, during a very challenging period for the Cardiac Society.

*Prof Nicholls presented Prof Chow with a memento of her term as President.*

The meeting responded by acclamation.

Professor Nicholls thanked the members for their attendance and closed the 2022 Annual General Meeting at 1.48 pm AEST.

Clara Chow  
**President**

Stephen Duffy  
**Honorary Secretary**

13th August, 2022