



ENGINEERS
AUSTRALIA

2022 Annual General Meeting

MINUTES

The Annual General Meeting of Engineers Australia
Engineering House, 11 National Circuit, Barton ACT, and via videoconference
Thursday 8 December 2022 from 5.00pm to 6.00pm AEDT

1. OPENING

Welcome and Acknowledgement of Country

A quorum being reached, Dr Nicholas Fleming, the National President and Board Chair of Engineers Australia took the Chair. The Chair declared the meeting open and welcomed members.

The Chair acknowledged the traditional custodians of the country throughout Australia and recognised their continuing connection to land, waters and community. The Chair paid respects to the traditional custodians and their cultures, and to elders past, present and emerging.

Apologies

The Chair noted no apologies for absence had been received.

Confirmation of the Minutes of the 2021 AGM

There being no corrections or objections, the Chair moved the Minutes be approved as an accurate record of the 2021 Annual General Meeting.

Moved: Dr Nicholas Fleming

Seconded: Lucia Cade

Carried.

2. PRESENTATION OF ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR 2021-22, INCLUDING AUDITOR'S REPORT

The Chair invited the Chief Executive Officer, Romilly Madew AO, to present the Annual Report of Engineers Australia 2021-22.

Annual Report

The Chief Executive Officer:

- Noted a membership increase of 10.3% as compared to the previous year, including a 15% increase in Student membership and a 12% increase in Graduate membership.
- Noted a 7.3% growth in Chartered membership.
- Reflected on the success of the 2021 Climate Smart Engineering Conference, which featured former US Vice President Al Gore as the keynote speaker.
- Highlighted Engineers Australia's *Women in engineering* and *Barriers to employment for migrant engineers* research, and the development of initiatives to encourage more female students into STEM subjects and a pathways to employment program for migrant engineers.
- Advised of the development and launch of Engineers Australia's Strategy on a Page.
- Highlighted the delivery of Engineers Australia's new website and its first national brand campaign, the theme of which is *Engineering: making life happen*.

The Chief Executive Officer invited the Chair of the Board Audit and Risk Committee, Dr Marcus Thompson AM, to present Engineering Australia's financial statements for the 2021-22 financial year.

Group Financial Performance

The Audit and Risk Committee Chair presented the highlights of the Financial Report for 2021-22:

- The Engineers Australia Group (Group) delivered a surplus of \$0.25m, despite a challenging economic and operating environment.
- The major factors driving the Group's result included:
 - The loyalty of the membership, with 91.5% of members renewing their membership. (Membership fees were maintained at 2019 levels, in light of the impact of COVID-19, natural disasters and cost of living pressures)
 - Engineering Education Australia delivery of a \$1.5m surplus (before the \$5m donation to Engineers Australia) despite the reduction in professional year program enrolments as a result of border closures and visa processing delays
 - The engineering workforce credentialling assessment service revenues
 - The Morgan Stanley-managed investments producing a loss as a result of volatility in global markets
 - Investment across the Group largely through employee and project costs to support year 1 of the transformation program, various projects and the brand campaign
 - An increase in the Group's net asset position.
- The Group's revenue continued to come from diversified sources, including membership fees (42%), assessment income (29%) and education services (21%). Engineering workforce credentialling is an emerging source of further revenue diversification.
- The Group continued to operate with positive cashflows, boosted by the quicker pace of membership renewals in June 2022.
- The Group has emerged from the global pandemic with a robust financial position with net assets of \$70m held in cash, term deposits, property and investments that are managed by Morgan Stanley.
- An unqualified audit opinion was received from the auditor, Ernst & Young.

- Engineers Australia’s strategic plan requires significant continuing investment into the organisation’s multi-year transformation. Excess cash reserves will be invested into transformation and members can expect to see operating deficits over the next few years.
- In the years ahead, a portion of the surpluses from previous years will be used to fund investment into:
 - The culture, capacity and capabilities required to deliver on strategy
 - Enhancing services and facilities for members
 - Enhanced collaboration and support of volunteers
 - Modern data and digital capabilities
 - Lifting the profile of the engineering profession and the Engineers Australia brand
 - Uplifting professional standards of engineering
 - More impactful advocacy on behalf of the profession.

Members noted the Annual Report and the Financial Statements and questions were taken from the members through the online chat function. (A summary of the questions and answers is at Attachment 2.)

3. BUSINESS RAISED UNDER BY-LAW 20.2

The Chair advised the meeting that there was no notification of any further business raised under By-Law 20.2 of the 2015 Royal Charter & By-Laws.

4. 2023 NATIONAL CONGRESS DELEGATES AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Chair advised the members of National Congress for 2023, who are responsible for providing advice to the Board and electing Directors, are:

- Sydney Division: Donald Moloney
- South Australia Division: Katharine Ward
- Canberra Division: George Tomlins
- Newcastle Division: Pierre Gouhier
- *Tasmania Division: Max Moller*
- Victoria Division: Astrid Kauffman
- Northern Territory Division: Simon Flowers
- Queensland Division: Suzanne Burow
- Western Australia Division: Jillian Formentin
- *College of Mechanical Engineers: Colin Sheldon*
- College of Biomedical Engineers: Kelly Coverdale
- *College of Chemical Engineers: Keith Sharp*
- College of Civil Engineers: Tammy Chu
- *College of Environmental Engineers: Lucy Baker*
- *College of Electrical Engineers: Nee Nee Ong*
- *College of Leadership and Management: Anne Hellstedt*
- College of ITEE: **TBD**
- College of Structural Engineers: Sebastian Torralba
- Overseas Chapter Delegate: Alex Cheung

- YEA: Nicole Brown
- WIE: Cynthia Lie
- Tech Societies: Benjamin Hanley
- Tech Societies: Nolan Bear
- SIG NCEAT: George Scott
- *College National Committees: Raj Das.*

[New members are listed in italics.]

The Chair advised the Board of Engineers Australia as at 1 January 2023 will comprise:

- Dr Nicholas Fleming (serving as an Appointed Director and continuing as National President and Chair of the Board)
- Lucia Cade
- Dr Raj Aseervatham
- Dr Kourosh Kayvani
- Lisa Vitaris
- Liza Maimone
- Thomas Goerke
- Dr Lachlan Blackhall.

On behalf of the Board, the Chair expressed gratitude to the retiring Director, Dr Marcus Thompson AM, for his exemplary service as a member of the Board and the Chair of the Audit and Risk Committee. The Chair noted Director Thompson has made significant contributions as a champion of cyber engineering and the related community of practice, and through oversight of Engineers Australia's own cyber security arrangements.

5. NATIONAL PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

The Chair and National President presented his address to members. The National President reflected on 2022, including the significant achievements across engineering disciplines, as well as the extreme weather and geopolitical events and the impact of COVID-19 experienced over the past year.

The National President noted Engineers Australia's commitment to pursuing its strategy, the five pillars of which are: raising professional standards, supporting career pathways, harnessing the volunteer network, increasing the recognition of the value of engineering, and, finally, providing leadership on behalf of the profession. In line with this, Engineers Australia has maintained its focus on practical solutions to the threat of climate change, is working to tap more effectively into the considerable energy, expertise and experience of its members, and is committed to resolving the challenges associated with professional registration and the skills shortage. The National President highlighted it is the delivery of tangible benefits and impact which motivates and underpins the transformation Engineers Australia is leading.

The National President thanked the organisation's volunteers and employees and paid tribute to Dr Bronwyn Evans AM, who retired as CEO in May 2022. The National President also commended the work of the new CEO, Romilly Madew AO.

6. MEETING CLOSE

There being no further business, the National President closed the meeting at 5:45pm AEDT.

Attachments:

1: Engineers Australia AGM 2022 Presentation Slides

2: Engineers Australia AGM 2022 Q&A