

## AWTRS Annual General Meeting

Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2022 5.10 pm AEDT

Australian Maritime Museum, Sydney

### In attendance:

Brooke Farrugia (BF), Allison Cowin (AC), Pritinder Kaur (PK), Lyn Wise (LW), Zlatko Kopecki (ZK), Andrew Stevenson (AS), Jiao-Jiao Li (JL), Rachael Moses (RM), Alireza Hassanshahi (AH), Hanif Haidari (HH), Zalitha Pieterse-Mulley (ZPM), Zahra Lotfollahi (ZL), Umut Rende (UR), Caitlin Berry-Kilgour (CBK), Alistair Sloane, Abbas Shafiee, Chris Turner, Ainslie Derrick-Roberts, Anna Guller, Long Nguyen, Hein Tran, and Helen Cao.

No apologies were received.

### President's Report

- BF explained that AWTRS travel and conference attendance awards were combined to support attendance of the AWTRS 2022 Scientific Meeting. These were awarded to Nutan Chaudhari (UWA), HH (UniSA), Linyang Liu (USydn), ZL (SAHMRI), ZPM (Curtin U), and UR (UNSW).
- AWTRS Young Investigator and EMCR Awards will be announced at Conference dinner.
- BF thanked the Organising, Scientific and EMCR committees and Clive and Andrea McFarland (Small Talk Events) for their help for the last two years.
- BF gave a summary of the 2022 AWTRS Conference which has 69 delegates including many new full and student members.
- BF also thanked the sponsors and exhibitors for the 2022 AWTRS Scientific Meeting were: Phoenix Eagle, Schulke, Cynata Therapeutics, Future Industries Institute, University of Melbourne (School of Chemical and Biomedical Engineering, Graeme Clarke Institute), The Company of Biologists, CapellaScience, Convatec, Lohmann & Rauscher, Urgo Medical, and Sentry Medical. BF also acknowledged AC and ZK and their team for their efforts in gaining sponsorship.
- BF also thanked the AWTRS Committee Office Bearers and General Members for the last two years.
- The report was unanimously accepted.

### Treasurer's Report

- The society is currently financially solvent
- The income generated was from memberships and the 2021 Symposium.
- Expenditures included: Small Talk Events, AWTRS website, grants and travel awards.
- AC noted that income was lower than in previous years due to minimal profit from conferences, and that a profit from the 2022 conference is unlikely as there is hesitancy to attend face-face meetings.
- The report was unanimously accepted.

### Secretary's Report

- LW summarised the membership logistics, fee structure and benefits.
- LW announced an increase from 47 to 61 financial members from 2021 to 2022.
- 48 memberships are due to expire on 31.12.2022.
- The report was unanimously accepted.

### ECR report

- BF presented report provided by Xanthe Strudwick.
- Report on promotion of AWTRS EMCRs through the AWTRS Newsletter: AWTRS 2021 Young Investigator of the year awarded to Hanif Haidari, AWTRS 2021 EMCR of the year awarded to Andrew Stephenson, conference reports provided by 2021 travel award recipients AH, JLL, Parinaz Ahangar, Louise Croizat-Viallet and Gretel Major.
- Summary of EMCR events during 2022 AWTRS meeting, including EMCR Networking event at Cargo Bar, EMCR Panel Discussion 'Tips on how to translate your research into the clinical setting' and EMCR and Student Presentation, Poster, and Rapid-fire Awards to be announced at the conclusion of the conference.
- Reminder for EMCRs to apply for AWTRS conference support (including for virtual conferences) and AWTRS Young Investigator (within 2 years of PhD) and EMCR (3-10 years post PhD) Awards.
- Opportunities to get involved include Twitter - @\_AWTRS and Newsletter profiles and conference reports.
- Thanks were given to EMCR Organising Committee and Stuart Mills (SM) for managing the Twitter account.
- This report was unanimously accepted.

### Questions/Comments

- PK congratulated AWTRS on looking after EMCR/student members.
- ZL congratulated AWTRS on the diversity of speakers at the current meeting.

### Nominations for positions

- PK asked for the nominations for President and BF was nominated in again as President.
- Nominations for Vice President were requested from the floor, ZK and JLL were nominated, ZK was voted in.
- AC and LW were voted in again as Treasurer and Secretary, respectively, with AS voted in as EMCR/Student representative.
- General members voted in were RM, JLL, SM, and Ting Ong, with nominations for 2 general members requested from the floor, ZL and CBK nominated then voted in.

Meeting closed at 6.55 pm.