

AWTRS Annual General Meeting
Friday 27 October 2023 2.30 pm (AEDT)
Virtual

In attendance: Brooke Farrugia (BF), Allison Cowin (AC), Lyn Wise (LW), Andrew Stevenson (AS), Stuart Mills, Zlatko Kopecki, Zahra Lotfallahi, Jiao-Jiao Li, Hanif Haidari, Trinh Ho, Bronwyn Dearman, Toby Daff, Mark Richardson, Nutan Chaudhari, Van Vo Tuong, Ziyu Wang, Natalie Morellini, Rae Moses, Caitlin Berry-Kilgour.

Apologies: None

President's report (BF):

AWTRS Travel Award Round 1 announced previously:

- Recipient: Dr Nutan Chaudhari (University of Western Australia) to attend 25th World Congress of Dermatology, Singapore, 3-8 July 2024.

AWTRS Travel Award Round 2 announcement:

- Recipients: Ms Caitlin Berry-Kilgour (University of Otago) to attend 13th Asia Pacific Marine Biotechnology Conference, Adelaide, Australia, 2-6 October 2023, and Dr Hanif Haidari (University of South Australia) to attend 12th World Biomaterial Congress, Daegu, South Korea, 26-31 May 2024.
- Congratulations to our recipients who receive \$500 and \$1000 for national and international meetings, respectively.
- All recipients are asked to provide a conference report for publication in the newsletter.

AWTRS Young Investigator Award

- Recipient announced following the AGM (details below).

AWTRS 2023 Industry Symposium

- Thank you to the industry members and delegates attending today's virtual symposium.

AWTRS 2024 Meeting

- Stay tuned details to be announced soon.
- Change to original plan for conference to be affiliated with Wounds Australia meeting, primarily to save on costs to delegates.

AWTRS Executive Committee and General Committee members

- BF gave her thanks for member contributions this year.

Treasurer's report (AC):

Financial report for July 2022 to June 2023

- Closing balance was \$43,821.45, which was lower than 2021-2022 (\$48,421.92).

Breakdown of income:

- \$4469.02 with membership income slightly reduced and a \$1499.79 loss for the 2022 conference.

Breakdown of expenditure:

- \$8862.69 with consistent costs for the small talk membership portal and website hosting, but a substantial increase in Travel/EMCR awards.

Summary:

- Finances are in good shape, but income is down, increasing the need to raise more funds to maintain our current balance, to support expenditure on our critical awards and travel grants.

Member's secretary report (LW):

Membership logistics:

- Small Talk Events handles all membership fees.
- Ordinary and student membership: 1 year - \$80/\$30, 3 year - \$200/\$80.
- Memberships run from January 1 to December 31.

Membership benefits:

- Subscription to AWTRS Newsletter, advanced notification of the AWTRS meetings.
- Significant discounts on registration rates for AWTRS conferences and eligibility for Travel Awards, and Young Investigator and EMCR Awards

Current membership:

- Currently 43 financial members (9 new members in 2023, 26 failed to renew memberships from 2022).
- One third of members are students, two thirds of all memberships extend beyond 2023.

ECR report (AS):

Promotion of AWTRS EMCRs:

- Newsletter features from three EMCRs
- Young Investigator and EMCR of the Year
- Conference reports from eight EMCRs

Support for EMCRs:

- 2023 conference support/travel awards
- 2023 Young Investigator of the Year

Opportunities for EMCRs to get involved:

- X - @_AWTRS.
- Individual and group profiles in Newsletter.
- Involvement in international conferences
- Symposium report in Newsletter

Upcoming Photo & Publication Competition:

- Two new features in our December newsletter: a photo competition and a publication competition!
- Prizes will be awarded for Paper of the year.
- Prizes will be awarded for Image every 6 months, feature in newsletter and on website.
- Different categories for each (e.g. ECR, open), further details to come in upcoming newsletter.

Questions/Comments: BF encouraged EMCRs to join/renew AWTRS memberships early the year to ensure eligibility for travel/career awards.

2023 Recipient of the AWTRS Young Investigator Award (BF):

- Congratulations to Dr Ziyu Wang, University of Sydney.

Other Business: None

Meeting closed: 2.56 pm.