



Australasian Society for Breast Disease

Dedicated to promoting knowledge in the areas of prevention, diagnosis and management of breast disease.

ACN 078 271 324

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Australasian Society for Breast Disease held on Thursday 28 November 2002 at 5.35pm at the Sydney Convention and Exhibition Centre

1. **Present:** Margaret Pooley (Chair), Geoffrey Beadle (Treasurer) and members as per attached list
Apologies: Peter Drum, Rae Garrett, John Garvey, Robyn Godding, Jennet Harvey, Cathy Heathwood, Lynn Mann, Hildegard Reul-Hirche, Petar Vujovic, Peter Graham
Proxies: Petar Vujovic to Owen Ung; Rae Garrett to Susan Fraser; Neil Orr to Mary Rickard; Cathy Heathwood to Chairman; Robyn Godding to Margaret Pooley

2. Minutes from previous meeting

Minutes from the 2001 Annual General Meeting were tabled. The acceptance of the minutes as a true record of that meeting was moved by Geoffrey Beadle and seconded by Nehmat Houssami. The motion was carried.

3. Business arising from minutes of previous meeting

Relationship with the Senologic International Society

Jack Jellins explained that the Senologic International Society (SIS) was a body that brings together some 30 breast disease societies from around the world, including from Africa, Canada, South America, Europe and Asia. He reiterated the discussion from the 2001 Annual General Meeting when members decided to defer the Society's membership of this organisation for a further year. Jack reminded the members that SIS originally provided the concept for the formation of the Australasian Society for Breast Disease. He also said that the SIS membership fee would be around \$10 per member. Geoffrey Beadle queried the potential membership benefits to the Society. Jack discussed the opportunity for ASBD members to impart their expertise in high quality management of breast disease to members from other countries. Michael Iazard queried the ways in which ASBD could provide for needs and the associated costs. Jack suggested that the SIS would welcome educational workshops conducted under the umbrella of its international meetings and would cover part of the cost of a representative's meeting attendance. Following further discussion, it was decided that two or three Executive Committee members need to investigate the potential role the Society could play with the SIS and provide a summary on this at the next Annual General Meeting.

Website

Jack Jellins reported that the Society's website had been updated during the year and was now easier to access and contained more information, including the 2001 Meeting abstracts. He said that the site does not provide a great deal for members and suggested that new members should become involved with its further development. Warwick Lee commented on the good links the site provides as well as its usefulness as an information source about the Society for people overseas, for example. Jack said that apart from getting a 'hit counter' the Society should also look at spending effort on building on the current content of the website. It was agreed that the Executive Committee would work on expanding the site's content.

***The Breast* journal**

Margaret Pooley discussed the survey conducted with members in December 2001, to determine whether *The Breast* journal should remain as a mandatory part of the ASBD membership subscription. The response rate of 48.1% had been significant as had been the fact that 81.1% of the respondents voted for *The Breast* to remain as part of membership subscription. She reminded members that the cost of the journal subscription as an ASBD member is only 30% of the normal subscription rate. Helen Zorbas suggested for ASBD to survey people who are not members in order to gauge whether the journal's inclusion is a deterrent to membership. Margaret said that such a survey would only be possible with Scientific Meeting delegates. Michael Izard recommended for members to accept the survey results and not continue arguing about the issue. James Kollias commented that the Society could potentially also have a lot more members if more people knew about this benefit. Margaret also reported on her meeting with Tina Cherrington, a representative of Elsevier, publishers of *The Breast*. Tina had said that ASBD is the biggest membership group for *The Breast* and, consequently, the Society's input to the journal would be welcomed.

COSA 2002 / ASBD Scientific Meeting

Margaret Pooley discussed briefly the decision made at the last Annual General Meeting to not hold a Scientific Meeting in 2002 due to COSA's strong breast cancer component.

4. Reports

President's report

Margaret Pooley said that six Executive Committee meetings were held during the year via teleconference and thanked the members for their hard work. She congratulated the three co-convenors, Nehmat Houssami, Michael Izard and Warwick Lee, for their work on building a strong program for the next Scientific Meeting, to be held 18-21 September 2003.

Margaret discussed the fact that during the year, Elspeth Humphries was co-opted to the Executive Committee as a consumer representative. James Kollias was also co-opted, with the view of him becoming a full member at this Annual General Meeting.

Margaret reported that the Society currently has 207 financial members. The Society's membership has remained truly multidisciplinary but the largest group is surgeons (86) followed by pathologists and radiologists. She said that her hope was to see more medical oncologists, breast physicians, breast nurses and consumers join as members. Margaret also reported that the Breast Cancer Network Australia had joined as a member, being represented by its President, Lyn Swinburne.

Treasurer's report

Geoffrey Beadle presented the Treasurer's report. He said that the Society's account on 31 December 2001 showed a positive balance of \$113,610. Income during the 2001 year was received from membership fees and the Scientific Meeting. However, *The Breast* subscription was not invoiced until 2002 so the actual operating profit for the year 2001 was \$25,913.

Geoffrey referred to the decision made at the 2001 Annual General Meeting to change the Society's financial year from 1 January - 31 December to 1 July - 30 June as from 2002. However, the Society's subsequent application to change the financial year was rejected by the Australian Securities & Investments Commission. As the Annual General Meeting is always held in the second half of each calendar year, this change would have allowed for a more meaningful reporting of the Society's financial status.

Geoffrey Beadle said that, next year, a small rise may occur in the subscription rate to *The Breast* journal and the Executive Committee may need to review the membership subscription fee for 2003-2004 accordingly. He also said that as no Scientific Meeting will be held in 2002, an operating loss is expected for the year.



The Treasurer's report's acceptance was moved by Anthony Green and seconded by Jack Jellins. The motion was carried.

Auditor's report and appointment

The Auditor's report acceptance was moved by Anthony Green and seconded by Jack Jellins. Michael Izard moved and Nehmat Houssami seconded the re-appointment of Campbell Griffin & Co as the Society's Auditors.

5. Items of business

2003 Scientific Meeting

Margaret Pooley discussed the unfortunate events - September 11 and the collapse of Ansett, the preferred carrier - that marked the Society's 2001 Scientific Meeting. As it had still turned out to be such a successful Meeting a lot more can be expected from next year's Meeting.

Michael Izard reported that the registration brochure will be distributed in February. He commented on how the co-convenors had recognised the need to include information on benign disease. Margaret mentioned that the program will also include a component for consumers.

Future Scientific Meetings

Margaret Pooley discussed the decision made at the 2001 Annual General Meeting to hold the ASBD Scientific Meetings every second year, alternating with both Leura and COSA every fourth year. She invited further discussion from membership. Michael Izard questioned whether it was sufficient to hold the Meetings every second year as the Society relies on income from the Meetings for its survival.

Owen Ung said that the COSA Breast Group heavily promoted this year's activity as a joint meeting and that this is a positive factor for ASBD's profile. Geoffrey Beadle asked John Boyages whether the Leura Conference would allow for an affiliation with ASBD like COSA did this year. John said it was likely that ASBD's involvement would be in presence only. Geoffrey discussed how these affiliations help to build ASBD's identity but also make ASBD to lose some of its identity. He also said that considering the circumstances, the fact that more than 200 delegates came to the 2001 Scientific Meeting needs to be recognised as an indication of strong support for the Society. John Boyages invited members to forward comments in relation to the form an affiliation with the Leura Conference could take (eg. a discounted registration fee or a joint session) and promised that a venue would be made available for the Society's Annual General Meeting. Owen Ung mentioned that the only cost for ASBD for this year's joint meeting was postage for program distribution. He said that he was keen to repeat the exercise in four years' time. It was agreed that the Australasian Society for Breast Disease Meetings would be held every second year for the time being.

6. Election of Executive membership

Margaret Pooley explained that it was now time for the three 'oldest' members - Mary Rickard, Jack Jellins and Margaret herself - to step down from the Executive Committee but that two would be eligible for re-election, providing for a position for a new member (ie. James Kollias). She reported that Jack had opted to step down. Margaret said that as no nominations were received from members, the Executive Committee had decided its composition as follows:

Margaret Pooley, President
Geoffrey Beadle, Secretary/Treasurer
Jennet Harvey
Nehmat Houssami
Michael Izard
James Kollias



Warwick Lee
Mary Rickard.

The new Executive Committee was approved.

Margaret Pooley also said that Jack Jellins had agreed to remain a co-opted member. The other co-opted members are Marie-Frances Burke, Michael Green, Elspeth Humphries and William McLeay. Margaret welcomed Marie-Frances as the newest recruit.

7. Other Business

Margaret Pooley discussed Michael Bilous' long term position on the Editorial Board of *The Breast*. She said that as Michael was no longer on the Society's Executive Committee, it was time to consider nominating a direct representative to the Board. Michael commented that the new Editorial Board had very little control over the journal's direction but, rather, a position involved only occasional editing. He said that he would be happy to continue representing the Society on the Board. Margaret said that some of the Executive Committee members were keen to also have Nehmat Houssami on the Board, if possible. John Boyages agreed that a member of the Executive Committee should represent the Society on the Board. Margaret Pooley's nomination of Nehmat Houssami as the ASBD representative on the Editorial Board of *The Breast* was seconded by Susan Fraser. Nehmat agreed to accept the nomination providing it did not impact on positions held by Michael Bilous and Alan Rodgers.

8. Next Annual General Meeting date

The next Annual General Meeting is to be held on Saturday 20 September 2003 at the Surfers Paradise Marriott Resort, during the Society's Scientific Meeting.

9. Close of meeting

The meeting closed at 6.25pm.



**Attendance record for the Australasian Society for Breast Disease
Annual General Meeting held on 28 November 2002**

Geoffrey Beadle

Michael Bilous

Janice Bishop

John Boyages

Marie-Frances Burke

Susan Fraser

David Gillett

Laurence Gluch

Anthony Green

Nehmat Houssami

Michael Iazard

Jack Jellins

Bronwyn Kennedy

James Kollias

Warwick Lee

Michael Moreny

David Oliver

Margaret Pooley

Mary Rickard

Owen Ung

Wendy Vincent

Heidi Wong

Sophia Zadelis

Helen Zorbas

Solei Gibbs

MP



Australasian Society for Breast Disease

Dedicated to promoting knowledge in the areas of prevention, diagnosis and management of breast disease.

Australasian Society for Breast Disease Ltd
ACN 078 271 324

Treasurer's Report

I am pleased to report that the Society's account on 31 December 2002 showed a positive balance of \$134,430. Taking outstanding accounts into consideration, the Society had \$105,834 in accumulated funds.

Income during the 2002 year was received from membership fees and bank interest on term deposit. *The Breast* subscription was not invoiced until early 2003 so the actual operating profit for the year 2002 was \$20,979. This profit was the result of sponsorship prepayments for the 2003 Scientific Meeting. In real terms, the Society incurred an operating loss due to no Scientific Meeting being held in 2002.

The membership fee was set at \$215 for the July 2003 to June 2004 period, and includes a \$150 component for the subscription to the journal, *The Breast*, and a Society component of \$65 (of which \$5.90 is GST).

The Society's financial year runs from 1 January to 31 December and selected pages of the Auditor's Report have been provided. As the Annual General Meeting is held in the second half of the calendar year, an interim profit and loss statement / balance sheet to 10 September 2003 is presented with this Treasurer's report.

On 10 September, the Society's net assets stood at \$240,142, including an operating profit of \$134,308 for the year to date. It is important to note that most of this profit represents income from Meeting registration fees, sponsorship and the trade exhibition whilst much of Meeting expenditure has not yet occurred. However, the Meeting is expected to produce a profit of roughly \$10,000. Another point to note is the fact that the majority of members have paid their membership fees for the year 2003-2004 but the Society will not be invoiced for *The Breast* subscription until later this year.

Geoffrey Beadle
Treasurer
15 September 2003