

**Minutes of CHASS AGM #5
Monday 13 October 2008 at 4.30 pm
Sydney Conservatorium of Music
Macquarie Street, Sydney**

1. Confirmation of members participating and proxies given

Organisation	Name
Ausdance	Jeff Meiners
Australasian Council of Deans of Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities (DASSH)	Sue Willis Deborah Crossing (non-voting)
Australian Academy for the Humanities	John Byron
Australian and New Zealand Association of Theological Schools	Stuart Hamilton*
Australian and New Zealand Communication Association	Jolyon Sykes
Australian Association for Research in Education	Alison Lee
Australian Catholic University	Lachlan Warner
Australian Council of Deans of Education	Sue Willis
Australian Major Performing Arts Group	Helen O'Neil
Australian National University	John Byron
Australian Network for Art and Technology	Stuart Hamilton*
Australian Society for Classical Studies	Frances Muecke
Centre for Cultural Research (CCR) University of Western Sydney	David Rowe
Craft Australia	Catrina Vignando
Cultural Studies Association of Australia	Stuart Cunningham*
Currency House	Katharine Brisbane
Deakin University	Ann McCulloch
Design Centre Tasmania	Catrina Vignando*
Design Institute of Australia	Stuart Hamilton*
Design Research Institution, RMIT	Sue Anne Ware
Drama Australia	Mark Bailey
Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, UNSW	Catharine Lumby
Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Education, Central Queensland University	Stuart Hamilton*
Faculty of Education, Monash University	Sue Willis*
Griffith University	Ross Homel Paul Draper (non-voting)
Institute for Social Research, Swinburne University of Technology	Stuart Hamilton*
Manning Clark House	John Byron
National Tertiary Education Union	John Byron
Portfolio of Design and Social Context, RMIT University	Sue Anne Ware*
Queensland University of Technology	Stuart Cunningham
Research School of Humanities ANU	John Byron
School of Social Sciences, University of Western Sydney	Stephen Tomsen
University of Canberra	John Howard
University of New South Wales Press	Robin Derricourt

Victoria University	Linda Rosenman
West Australian Academy of Performing Arts (WAAPA)	Stuart Hamilton*

*Proxy

Moved: THAT the delegations and proxies submitted to the meeting be recognised.
(John Byron/Linda Rosenman)

Motion carried.

2. Apologies

Apologies were received from:

Raelene Frances

Greg Craven

Sharon Bell

Moved: THAT apologies be accepted (Linda Rosenman/Katharine Brisbane)

Motion carried.

3. Minutes of the previous meetings

The minutes of the 2007/08 Annual General Meeting (University House, University of Melbourne) were considered.

Moved: THAT the Minutes of the 2007 AGM be accepted as a true and accurate record.
(Helen O'Neil/John Byron)

Motion carried.

4. President's Report for 2007-08

Professor Cunningham reported that an important theme had been 'innovation'. In the lead-up to the release of the Review of the National Innovation System (NIS) by Terry Cutler, CHASS contributed actively to efforts to link the humanities, arts and social sciences to the innovation agenda. This included op-ed pieces, occasional papers, events for members, lobbying, and media announcements focusing on the innovation theme. A number of proposals by CHASS, such as the recommendation to establish an Innovation Council, were taken up in *venturousaustralia*, the report on the Review.

Some recommendations made by CHASS over the past year were not successful, including the CHASS proposal for reform of the Chief Scientist's role.

Member events focused on diverse issues.

- The 4th HASS on the Hill event in late June 2007, at which then Minister for Education, Science and Training Julie Bishop and then shadow Minister for Science and Research Kim Carr were present, was seen as valuable by members.
- CHASS President Stuart Cunningham spoke at a Group of Eight forum on the Research Quality Framework (RQF) scheme.
- *Delivering Outcomes*, a symposium for directors of university-based centres in September 2007, was applauded by participants as an opportunity to share experiences.
- *The Arts and the Innovation Agenda* meeting helped member organisations prepare for their submission and response to the NIS Review.

- A campaign around the PhD culminating in the workshop *The PhD in the Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences* was CHASS focus in late 2007 and early 2008.

Both the Arts and the PhD events resulted in good media coverage of the issues, and CHASS worked closely with other organisations including the Council of Australian Postgraduate Associations (CAPA) and the Australasian Council of Deans of Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities (DASSH) to keep the momentum going.

CHASS prepared a detailed submission directly to the National Innovation System Review, and included in it two relevant occasional papers authored by Dr John H. Howard – *Rigour and relevance: Extending the role of the social sciences and humanities in public policy research*, and *Between a hard rock and a soft space: design, creative practice and innovation*.

CHASS commissioned Dorothy Illing to conduct an independent review of the organisation, looking at the role and function of CHASS in the past and in the future. This report flowed through to the member event *HASS in the Capital*, an all-day member feedback workshop.

CHASS itself underwent significant changes during 2008. Two key staff members were farewelled – Executive Director Toss Gascoigne and General Manager Mel Lamprecht. Both are recognised widely for their work in bringing CHASS through its first stage of development.

Helen O'Neil, former CHASS Board member, had accepted the role of Executive Director. On behalf of the current Board, the President welcomed Helen to her new role. The President also mentioned the very important role played by Virginia Walsh, who acted as Interim Executive Director from July until early October, and thanked her for her contribution.

The President also thanked Gemma Black, Membership Liaison Officer, who had been a vital part of the CHASS office in the past months, taking on higher duties in addition to membership services.

Fenja Theden-Ringl, who recently joined CHASS as Research & Policy Officer, was introduced to members.

The President reported two further occasional papers would be published in coming weeks – a demographic outlook for Australian universities' academic staff by Graeme Hugo and a paper linking arts policy with innovation policy by Brad Haseman.

CHASS currently has approximately 100 members, a healthy number slightly higher than membership at the same time last year.

Finally, the President warmly thanked the Board of 2007-08 for their work during the past year. Board members during the year were: Sharon Bell, John Byron, Greg Craven, Stuart Cunningham, Stuart Hamilton, Ross Homel, Helen O'Neil, Catrina Vignando, Kim Walker and Sue Willis.

Moved: THAT the President's Report be accepted. (David Rowe/Mark Bailey)

Motion carried.

5. Statement of accounts, auditor's report

The Treasurer, Catrina Vignando, explained that while a draft audit report had been prepared by the auditor, a signed copy was not available because some paperwork was yet to be received by the Auditor. The Treasurer noted that the delay was procedural and due to the late audit date. It did not reflect concern by the Auditor regarding CHASS's financial health or management. She noted the Board had considered the draft report in a meeting earlier during the day, and believed it to be a true and accurate record of CHASS's financial activities. that the Treasurer said CHASS was in a healthy financial position; that the principal activities of CHASS remained the same as in previous years; and that there was an increase in profit from operations compared to the previous year.

Because reports required for presentation at the AGM were not available, an alternative process was proposed by the Secretary. He explained the AGM must consider an audited financial report. He proposed that following consideration of other business the AGM be adjourned to a date in November 2008, possibly coinciding with the AGM of either the Academy of the Humanities on 14 November in Sydney or the Academy of the Social Sciences on 17 November in Canberra.

The Constitution requires representatives of a quorum (currently 20) of member organisations to attend the meeting in person, although it was noted the same person could represent more than one organisation, as was the case on this occasion. The constitution would appear to preclude the possibility of reconvening the AGM by email or teleconference. The reconvened AGM will not require the same participants as at the present meeting, but those who attend both meetings will not require a new delegate authorisation form from their organisation.

When available, the signed auditor's report and the accounts will be placed on the CHASS web site to be viewed by all members. Members will be notified when this occurs.

Moved: THAT at the conclusion of this session, the meeting will be adjourned to reconvene at a date to be advised before the end of the year, to reconsider item 5. Statement of accounts and auditor's report. (Catharine Lumby/John Byron)

Amended motion carried by vote.

6. Election of CHASS President

The Agenda was amended to include the results of the President prior to Item 7 to cope with the possibility of a double nomination in the case of one candidate nominating in both elections. Gemma Black and Julie Dyson were appointed Returning Officers for the Board and President elections.

6.1 Election of CHASS President – Result

Linda Rosenman was successfully elected as the next President of CHASS.

Moved: THAT the successful candidate for President be so appointed.

Motion carried by acclamation.

7. Election of the 2008-09 Board

See item 11

8. Appointment of Public Officer

Julie Dyson was nominated (Stuart Cunningham/Stuart Hamilton). There being no other nominations, Julie Dyson was declared elected.

9. Appointment of auditors for FT 2007/08

There was discussion whether this item should be deferred until the audit report was available. It was noted that the auditors have acted professionally and according to their guidelines.

Moved: THAT Walter Turnbull be appointed auditors for the financial year 2007-08.
(Linda Rosenman/Catharine Lumby).

Motion carried by vote.

10. Constitutional amendments

There were no constitutional amendments to consider this year.

11. Result of Board elections

Dr John Byron, Executive Director, the Australian Academy of the Humanities

Professor Stuart Cunningham, Director, ARC Centre of Excellence for Creative Industries and Innovation, QUT

Professor Meredith Edwards AM FASSA, Emeritus Professor, University of Canberra

Professor Raelene Frances, Dean of Arts, Monash University

Mr Stuart Hamilton AO, Chief Executive, Open Universities Australia

Professor Ross Homel AO, Foundation Professor of Criminology and Criminal Justice, Griffith University

Professor Catharine Lumby, Director, Journalism and Media Research Centre, University of New South Wales

Professor Margaret Seares AO, Senior Deputy Vice Chancellor, The University of Western Australia

Dr Astrid Wootton, Director, Design Centre Tasmania

Moved: THAT the successful candidates for Board membership be so appointed.

Motion carried by acclamation.

Linda Rosenman thanked all Board candidates for their interest in nominating for the Board.

10. Any other business

There was no other business to consider

11. Date of next general meeting

It was agreed that the next CHASS AGM would be held in the latter half of 2009, in accordance with the Constitution, at a date and place to be decided.

At 6.00 pm, the President declared the meeting adjourned until a later time and place in November 2008 to be advised.