

ARITA 41st Annual General Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday 30 May 2023

Time: 5:00pm – 5:30pm

Location: ARITA National Office – Level 2, 66 Clarence Street, Sydney NSW 2000
or Online via Zoom video conference

Minute Agenda Items

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1 Attendance & apologies

	Name	Position	Attendance / Apology
1	Michael Brereton	President	Attended
2	Rachel Burdett	Deputy President	Attended
3	Scott Atkins	Immediate Past President	Attended
4	Leanne Chesser	Board member	Attended
5	Danielle Funston	Board member	Attended
6	Bruce Gleeson	Board member	Attended
7	Mathew Gollant	Board member	Attended
8	Mike Hayes	Board member	Attended
9	Jason Porter	Board member	Attended
10	Kathy Sozou	Board member	Attended
11	Kelly Trenfield	Board member	Attended
12	Robyn Erskine	Life Member	Attended
13	Alan Scott	Fellow	Attended
14	Amanda Carruthers	Fellow	Attended
15	Andrew Juzva	Professional member	Attended
16	Antony Disciscio	Professional member	Attended
17	Craig Hannam	Fellow	Attended
18	Daniel Moore	Professional member	Attended
19	David Blanchett	Professional member	Attended
20	David Bryant	Fellow	Attended
21	Elny Martin	Professional member	Attended
22	Geoff Davis	Professional member	Attended
23	Helen Newman	Fellow	Attended
24	Ian Dorey	Fellow	Attended
25	Jennifer Henwood	Professional member	Attended
26	Linda Smith	Professional member	Attended
27	Melissa Lau	Professional member	Attended
28	Michael Owen	Fellow	Attended
29	Michelle Shackles	Professional member	Attended
30	Narelle Ferrier	Fellow	Attended
31	Natasha Riach	Fellow	Attended
32	Nirupa Manoharan	Professional member	Attended
33	Richard Rowley	Professional member	Attended

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membership numbers remain effectively stable when new memberships are accounted for.

Our advocacy work is our most prominent achievement. ARITA's Board made the decision to invest heavily in advocacy in 2022 and the dividends of that are obvious. Our engagement with government has never been stronger or more open. As a result, the new Federal Government is taking a strong interest in insolvency law – both corporate and personal – with an eye towards significant positive reform. Indeed, across the Parliamentary Joint Inquiry into Corporate Insolvency which commenced in September 2022 and the more recent Attorney-General's roundtable on bankruptcy reform, acknowledgment of ARITA's long-made call for a "root and branch" review of insolvency law has never been heard more strongly nor taken up by as many.

The road to reform is likely to be a long one, but as we close out this AGM year, we've never been more positive about the chance for both short-term improvements and long-term holistic review.

ARITA is, first and foremost, an education provider. It's how we support the profession in the work that we all undertake and it's what creates and lifts professional standards. Arising from the COVID experience, ARITA has been taking major strides toward delivering the majority of our education as online and on-demand. The entirety of our Essential Skills offering is in the process of moving to this format and our professional standards education – which is free to members – is already in this format and free to members. This has also required significant investment but will also yield significant benefits both operationally for ARITA but also in terms of accessibility and suitability for our members and their staff.

We've also delivered a range of free online CPE forums to our members to ensure accessibility to members wherever they are and to value add to their membership. Nationally, we saw resurgent attendance at our major events – a positive sign as the profession starts to come together again after the pandemic period. Alongside that, our online Expert Series of conferences enjoyed strong support as well.

We've also been working to build solid strategies and practical ways of shifting the dial on diversity, equity and inclusion in the profession. It's simply essential for our sustainability as a profession that we move to reshape the profession so that we reflect the community that we serve. As an organisation, we will push more of our resourcing and efforts into delivering measurable outcomes in this area. Our Balance Taskforce continues to show strong thought leadership in this critical area.

In regard to our financial performance, on income of \$3.9 million, ARITA delivered a loss of \$112,817 for the year ending 31 December. This was roughly in line with our budgeted loss which was planned around development investments. We were able to achieve this result despite the temporary reduction in education revenue, arising from lower enrolments in the Advanced Certification course in 2022. We achieved this with 11 full time equivalent staff and the enormous support of our volunteer committees and other members.

MOVED: Michael Brereton

SECONDED: Mat Gollant

CARRIED: (unanimous)

Resolved: The 2022 President's report was received and adopted.

4 [Financial Statements and Report of Directors and Auditors for year ending 31 December 2022](#)

The Financial Statements, together with the Directors' and Auditors reports were contained within the Annual Report which was circulated via attachment to the Notice of Meeting.

MOVED: Michael Brereton

SECONDED: Bruce Gleeson

CARRIED: (unanimous)

Resolved: The Financial Statements and Report of the Directors and Auditors for the year ended 31 December 2022 were accepted and adopted.

5 [Announcement of the National Committee for 2023 – 2024](#)

The president handed over to the Company Secretary to announce the incoming 2023 – 2024 committee. The Company Secretary announced the committee as follows:

1. Rachel Burdett, President
2. Danielle Funston, Deputy President
3. Jason Porter, NSW/ACT representative
4. Kelly Trenfield, Qld representative
5. Mike Hayes, SA/NT representative
6. Leanne Chesser, Vic/Tas representative
7. Matthew Donnelly, WA representative

The Company Secretary noted that the Board has the right to appoint additional members under Section 20.3 of the Constitution and may choose to exercise that right at a future time.

Resolved: The Board noted the appointments.

6 [Other Business](#)

No other business was raised.

The President thanked everyone for their attendance at the 2023 AGM and for their continued support to ARITA.

The meeting was declared closed at 5.11pm

Signed as a correct record.

30 May 2023

Michael Brereton,
Chairman and President

Date