



71st ALTA Annual General Meeting Minutes

Australasian Law Teachers Association

Friday 8 July 2016 at 13.05 (NZST), Old Government Building, Common Room
Victoria University of Wellington Law School

In Attendance:

Professor Stephen Bottomley, Australian National University, (Chairperson)
Professor Roman Tomasic, University of South Australia, (Immediate Past Chairperson)
Professor Dale Pinto, Curtin University, (Deputy Chair, Editor-in-Chief, JALTA and Deputy Chairperson)
Emeritus Professor David Barker, University of Technology Sydney, (Honorary Secretary),
Professor Helen Anderson, University of Melbourne, (Honorary Treasurer)
Professor Nick James, Bond University, (Editor-in-Chief, LER)
Professor Michael Adams, Western Sydney University, (Editor ALTA Law Research Series)
Professor Jennifer Corrin, The University of Queensland,
Professor Rosalind Mason, Queensland University of Technology
Professor Mark Hickford, Victoria University of Wellington

NZ Executive

Mr Sascha Mueller, University of Canterbury (NZ Executive- Treasurer)
Dr John Hopkins, University of Canterbury, (NZ Executive – Secretary)

Apologies

Professor Michael Spisto, Victoria University
Associate Professor Alberto Costi, Victoria University of Wellington
Dr Matthew Berkahn, Massey University, (NZ Executive)
Ms Katherine Galloway, James Cook University
Associate Professor Alexandra Sims, University of Auckland, (NZ Executive - Chairperson)
Professor Michael Coper, Australian National University

Josephine Coffey, University of Sydney
Christine Lee,
Joan Shepherd, Notre Dame University
Narelle Bedford, Bond University
Brenda Marshall, Bond University
Kim Economides, Flinders University
Nathan Ross, Victoria University of Wellington
Monica Taylor, University of Queensland
Rick Sarre, University of South Australia
Cheryl Green, University of Waikato
Robin Woellner, UNSW
Petra Butler, Victoria University of Wellington
Thomas Gobbins
Sofia, USP

1. Attendance/Apologies

Professor Bottomley opened the meeting at 1.05pm and welcomed participants.

Apologies: Rosalind Mason, Dale Pinto, Michael Coper and Michael Adams

With regard to the apologies the Chairperson drew attention to the fact that Rosalind Mason was not re-nominating for the ALTA Executive Committee. He wished to put on record the outstanding service which Rosalind Mason had given to the Association both in her role as an ALTA Honorary Life Member and former ALTA Chairperson.

2. Minutes from 70th ALTA AGM HELD 18 July 2015 at La Trobe University, Melbourne

It pointed out that in the apologies for absence in last year's minutes Christie Lehe's name had been misspelt. Except for this this amendment the Chairperson

Resolved: Moved that the draft minutes be accepted as a true record of the meeting, seconded by Robin Woellner and approved by all members.

3. 2015-2016 President's Report – Pro-Vice Chancellor and Dean, Professor Mark Hickford, Victoria University of Wellington – assisted by Associate Professor Alberto Costi, Chair of the ALTA 2016 Conference Committee.

The President's report was presented by Professor Mark Hickford. He drew the attention of the meeting to the fact that the call for papers yielded more than 100 accepted papers, divided into 30 parallel panels (in total 93 papers), of which five were symposium panels. Four Interest Groups needed to constitute two panels in respect of their subject matters. Four plenary sessions as well as two keynote parallel sessions completed the programme.

He also confirmed that the Conference had 146 total participants, with the majority from Australia and New Zealand. He also supplied a detailed background of the participant delegates.

With regard to funding, he paid tribute to the generous support given by the New Zealand Law Foundation towards the travel and accommodation costs of keynote speakers, and the sponsorship of five legal publishers. He also made reference to the four free registrations granted to some of the USP delegates speaking at the conference.

He made the following general comments and/or recommendations:

- (a) The programme has brought together a strong group of emerging and experienced scholars as well as members from all three branches of government.
- (b) There remains a lot of interest among certain groups of ALTA to use the annual conference to meet and exchange ideas.
- (c) The limited commitment of the convenors of some of the ALTA interest groups should be

addressed.

(d) The very high percentage of participants from the academic sector and limited number of practitioners and government official registered for the conference raise questions regarding the brand and future direction of ALTA.

4. Chairperson's Report – Professor Stephen Bottomley

The ALTA Chairperson endorsed the comments of the ALTA President as to the success of the Conference. He also mentioned the work undertaken by the Executive at their Committee meeting on the 6 July to plan for the future of the Association. He also expressed his thanks to Lisa O'Farrell for her support as a member of the ANU ALTA Secretariat. He stressed the need for the Association to attract individual members from those law schools who were not institutional members and intended to introduce a survey of members in the near future to ascertain what they expected from the Association.

5. Treasurer's Report- Professor Helen Anderson

5.1 ALTA Treasurer's report was tabled by Professor Helen Anderson showing a deficit of \$14,596.19 for the financial year but stressed much of this could be attributed to the manner as when certain payments and receipts were received during the financial year. Despite the deficit the Association was well funded by its balances as at 30 June 2016 which totalled \$146,907.91. It was hoped that proposals by the Executive to encourage individual memberships from those law schools who did not pay institutional membership would assist in achieving a surplus on the current account during the next financial year.

Resolved: The report and resolution was proposed by Helen Anderson and seconded by Roman Tomasic and passed by the members

6. Report from the Chair of the Council of Australian Law Deans

There was no report submitted by the Chair of CALD.

7. Election of Office Bearers on 2016-17 General Executive & New Zealand Executive

7.1 The election of ALTA Office Bearers for Australia and New Zealand are as follow:

2016-17 General Executive

Chairperson: Professor Stephen Bottomley

Immediate Past Chairperson (Designate): Professor Roman Tomasic

Deputy Chairperson (Designate): Professor Dale Pinto

Honorary Secretary: Emeritus Professor David Barker AM

Honorary Treasurer: Associate Professor Helen Anderson

Editor in Chief of LER (Designate): Professor Nick James

Editor in Chief of JALTA (Designate): Professor Dale Pinto

Editor in Chief of ALRS (Designate): Professor Michael Adams

Executive Member (6):

Professor Jennifer Corrin

Professor Paul Fairall

Professor Michael Coper (Co-opted)

Associate Professor Alberto Costi

Dr Michael Spisto

Ms Kathrine Galloway

New Zealand Executive 2016-2017

Chairperson: Associate Professor Alex Sims

Secretary: Dr John Hopkins

Treasurer: Mr Sascha Mueller

Executive Member: Dr Matthew Berkahn

2017 Conference Committee

2017 President: to be nominated

Conference Secretary: to be nominated

Conference Treasurer: to be nominated

Proposed as a block by Stephen Bottomley and seconded by Roman Tomasic and approved by members

8. Report by NZ Executive – Associate Professor Alexandra Sims

8.1 Associate Professor Sims stated it was intended to institute a symposium for New Zealand ALTA members during the period 2016/17 which should reflect the heightened interest in legal education by New Zealand members. She also paid tribute to the contribution made to the Association's activities by the New Zealand Executive.

9. Honorary Life Membership Nominations

9.1 Honorary Life Members of ALTA for 2016 include Associate Professor Alexandra Simms and Associate Professor John Hopkins both members of the New Zealand ALTA Executive.

Resolved: both Honorary Life Memberships were proposed by David Barker and seconded by Stephen Bottomley

10. Report on ALTA Publications

10.1 Reports on ALTA publications were noted.

11. ALTA Interest Groups

11.1 ALTA Interest Groups' reports were noted. Also the proposals for reform to be in the future by the Executive.

12. ALTA School Representatives

12.1 ALTA School Representatives to continue the current arrangements subject to any changes recommended by the Executive.

13. Venue for future Annual Conference

13. There was a possibility that the 2017 Conference would take place at the University of South Australia – this was yet to be confirmed.

14. Other Business

The AGM closed at 13.45 (NZST)