

The Australian Institute of Interpreters and Translators (AUSIT) Inc.

2020 Annual General Meeting of the Victoria/Tasmania Branch

Saturday 15 August 2020

2:00 pm to 3:00 pm on ZOOM

1. Opening and apologies: The meeting was opened at 2:03 pm with a welcome from the Chair, Jonathan Beagley.

Attendance: List appended

Apologies: None

2. Confirmation of previous minutes: These were available and moved as read. Moved, Dave Deck, seconded Marianne Bland. Accepted.

3. Branch Report

3.1. Chair's Report for 2019/2020

Jonathan Beagley spoke to the Report by Branch Chair (attached).

3.2. Financial Report: Véronique Bergeron gave a report of the finances for the branch (while finances are centrally controlled) for 2019-2020 (attached).

3.3. Membership Report: Véronique Bergeron gave a report of the finances for the branch (while finances are centrally controlled) for 2019-2020 (attached).

3.4. Branch Delegate Report: Bing Lee Teh spoke to the Branch Delegate's Report.

4. Election of Office Bearers and Committee:

Dorothy Prentice announced the nominees for the branch positions. The following were elected unopposed:

Jonathan Beagley (Branch Chair), Jacqueline Skewes (Treasurer), Véronique Bergeron (Secretary), Bing Lee Teh (Branch Delegate), Claudia Schneider (PD Coordinator), Sonia Sanchez Moreno (Membership Liaison Officer), and Jean Deklerk (Committee Member).

Dina Kerr expressed her willingness to join as Committee Member: Moved Dave Deck, Seconded Despina Amanatidou. Accepted

5. Other business: The Chair announced the AUSIT Student Excellence Awardees, students at AUSIT affiliate education institutions for their achievement in translation and interpreting studies: Wen Xin Lim (Monash), Zakia El Muarrifa (Monash), Madelane Higginson (RMIT), and Su Kyung Jung (RMIT).

6. Close: The meeting closed at 2:47 pm.

VIC AGM 15 August 2020 – List of Financial Registrants who Attended

Financial member registered for AGM	Minutes attended (from ZOOM Participant report)
Jonathan Beagley	53
Marianne Bland	52
Tilak Jinadasa	52
Stella Alves da Motta	52
Dorothy Prentice	52
Jean Deklerk	53
Adolfo Gentile	49
Liliana Evans	50
Saeid Zarandaz Bagheri	49
Elvira Quintana Rivas	47
Dave Deck	47
Natalia Chernishova	48
Dina Kerr	47
Nai-Fen TSAI	47
Rachel Preston	46
Sonia Sanchez Moreno	46
Kaori Min (Kaori)	46
Jaromir Dalecky	46
MyTien Lam	44
Bing Lee Teh	42
Lulu Lin	41
Lingling Yu	35
Hoa Nguyen	35
Hans Hatton	16
Maria Skarpetis	44
Andrew Kozlowski	9
Ibrahim Ali	52
Viwat Rerksirathai	52
Marikeo Sayakoummane	53
Despina Amanatidou	52
sarir homayuni	52
Cécile Mayor Brooker	51
Anna (Di Perna)	51
Thomas Harding	51
claudia schneider	51
Marita Quaglio	50

Jacqueline Skewes	49
Xudong Wang	50
Monika Cruz	48
Paul Thomas	44
Veronique Bergeron	47
Eliana Toledo	48 (2)
Sarath Abayawardana	46
Prof Charles Qin OAM	46
Serena Ho	45
Eyal Chipkiewicz	43
Xu Zhang (John)	43 (6)
Monica Quijano	38
Mara Reifman	24

Other Attendees

AUSIT Excellence Award recipients
Wen Xin Lim (Monash), Zakia El Muarrifa (Monash), Madelane Higginson (RMIT), and Su Kyung Jung (RMIT).

Annual Report 2020 – AUSIT VIC Branch

Committee for 2019–2020

Chair:	Jonathan Beagley
Secretary:	Jean Deklerk
Treasurer:	Véronique Bergeron
Branch delegate:	Bing Lee Teh
PD coordinator:	Serena Ho, Claudia Schneider
Membership liaison officer:	Véronique Bergeron
Committee members:	Louie Josef, Sonia Sanchez Moreno, Ranja Zayed, BiYi Fang

- Branch Committee membership has changed somewhat throughout the year, with former PD Coordinator, Serena Ho, resigning for personal and professional reasons. We thank her for her service and dedication to the Branch and wish her all the best.
- Elline Khoo was a Committee Member up until a few months ago when the Branch Committee moved to remove her from the Branch Committee due to non-attendance and lack of communication of said absences to the Branch Committee in advance, in application of the same standards defined by the AUSIT Constitution for the National Council.
- Up until earlier this year, our past Branch Committees also included members from Tasmania, but they are now an independent branch and their Sub-Branch Delegate, Martin Blackwell, no longer forms a part of the VIC Branch Committee.

Professional Development Activities

- **2019 National Conference, 18-19 October 2019**
 - The 2019 National Conference, which took place in Hobart, TAS, was a roaring success with nearly 200 attendees from across Australia. There were a variety of presentations over 6 streams.
- **Refining Interpreting Skills Workshop, 8 February 2020**
 - This workshop, presented by Margot Seligmann, covered a variety of topic areas, such as healthcare, social welfare, education, the environment and business. The workshop included hands-on practice of interpreting speaker presentations, dialogues and last-minute documents. The training also included note-taking skills and aspects of delivery that contribute to the quality of rendition, such as voice modulation, diction, stress and intonation. The event attracted just over 20 attendees.
- **Ethics Workshop, 29 February 2020**
 - This workshop took place in Hobart, TAS and was presented by the Victorian Branch Chair, Jonathan Beagley, had approximately 30 attendees and covered an overview of the AUSIT Code of Ethics and invited participants to contemplate and discuss a variety of ethical scenarios inspired by real-life events encountered by practising translators and interpreters. After an overview of the Code of Ethics, attendees were shown a variety of scenarios and asked to discuss the relevant ethical principles at play and potential courses of action.

Social Activities

- **End of Year Lunch, 21 December 2019**

- The End of Year Lunch was held at BeerDeluxe in Federation Square. We had approximately 25 attendees. It gave translators and interpreters from the Victorian Branch a chance to socialise with colleagues and meet new members of the committee.

- **Meet and Greet, 30 July 2020**

- This event, which took place virtually on the Zoom videoconferencing platform, had nearly 50 attendees. It was an opportunity to meet new members and talk to existing colleagues as well as meet the Branch Chair and PD Coordinator. Using the “breakout rooms” feature of Zoom, we were able to give people a chance to discuss in small groups that changed every 15-20 minutes, giving attendees a chance to talk to many different people.

Thanks & additional comments

- Tasmania now has an independent branch instead of being a sub-branch, so our former Tasmanian Sub-Branch Delegate, Martin Blackwell, is no longer part of the Victorian Branch Committee. We thank Martin and the rest of the Tasmanian Branch Committee for their hard work in organising the 2019 National Conference in Hobart and ensuring that it was a great success.
- We want to thank our membership during this difficult time for their support and understanding. While we had many grand ideas for PD and social events this year, many of them were sadly unable to come to fruition due to circumstances beyond our control, such as the previous scheduled Ethics Workshop in Melbourne. We are endeavouring to deliver as many PD and social events as possible in the coming year now that we have had a bit more time to figure out how to operate in the “new normal”. We will be running more PD and social events virtually via Zoom, including our previously scheduled Ethics Workshop, and we hope you will join us there.

Jonathan Beagley

Branch Chair

2020 AUSIT Victorian Branch AGM – Financial Statement

It was decided last year that official data for branches would be released by National Council at the AUSIT National AGM, therefore from this year only indicative figures will be presented at our Victorian annual AGM. For full details, please refer to the official financial report which will be made available in time for the AUSIT National AGM in November and will disclose all the data pertaining to the past financial year.

It is worth noting and will come as no surprise that this last financial year has been very unusual. Our Branch's main income stems from Professional Development and the past months have seen few of them for 2 reasons:

- in the last part of 2019, our Committee was busy assisting our Tasmanians colleagues in organising the first National Conference to take place in Hobart. As a result, we reduced the number of PD events in Melbourne due to lack of time and resources.
- the first half of the year only saw one event in February, as already mentioned in the Professional Development report. This event brought us a profit of around \$2000.

As we are only planning on-line events in the near future, this probably means that our income will be steady and without many expenditures, as no venue hire and/or catering is required.

My brief experience as Branch Treasurer is also about to end and it is my pleasure to welcome the new Treasurer on board.

Véronique Bergeron
Treasurer
Victorian Committee

2020 AUSIT Victorian Branch AGM – Membership statement

It was decided last year that official data for branches would be released by National Council at the AUSIT National AGM, therefore from this year only indicative figures will be presented at our Victorian annual AGM.

Here are the membership figures from a report generated on August 5th, with a breakdown in categories:

Associate Members	16
Honorary Members	2
Life Members	1
Ordinary Members	321

Retired Members	3
Senior Practitioners	5
Student Members	44
Total membership number	392

Last year's membership at 30 June 2019 was 386 and this included Tasmanian numbers so it's an encouraging increase. We have also noticed a sharp increase in new memberships over the past 2–3 months.

I will also take the opportunity to thank the AUSIT Membership Officer, Nicola Thayil, who has now been in the role for nearly two years for her efficient and timely support with the membership processing and reporting.

Please ensure that you consult the final membership figures for the year which will be made available in time for the AUSIT National AGM in November.

Véronique Bergeron

Membership Liaison Officer

Victorian Committee