

# Annual General Meeting Minutes

**Melbourne University Debating Society Inc.**

***Annual General Meeting***

Date of meeting: ***Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> September 2017***

Advertised time: ***6:15pm***

Venue: ***Melbourne Law School, Room 102***

**Item 1          Attendance**

**(a)          Opening**

Meeting Opened by **Stuart Dixon** as chairperson at **6:20pm**

**That Ben O'Shea be appointed to take minutes**

Mover: **Stuart Dixon**    Seconder: **John Hajek**

Voted: **CARRIED (Abstention: Patrick Dawson)**

Minutes taken by **Ben O'Shea**

**(b)          Attendance**

Circulated, see attached sheet.

**(c)          Apologies**

***John Hajek carries the proxy of Victoria Spiliopoulos***

***Sarah Bostock carries the proxy of Alessandra Chinsen***

***Connor O'Brien carries the proxy of Michel Nehme***

***Max Dowell carries the proxy of Josh Abbey***

**Item 2          Adoption of Agenda**

**That the agenda be adopted.**

Mover: **Stuart Dixon**    Seconder: **Ben O'Shea**

Voted: **CARRIED WITHOUT DISSENT**

**Item 3          Chairperson's Welcome**

'Welcome'

**Item 4 Reports**

**(a) President's Report**

*The full report attached was read out.*

**(b) Treasurer's Report**

*The full report is attached and includes a breakdown of the sponsorship amounts of individuals. An oral report was given by the Vice-President, Ben O'Shea. Ben outlined that while the report suggests an \$8,000 loss, we are currently waiting on \$6,000 to come in from Schools Training, and that our largest expense continues to be externals. He also outlined that another reason why we have finished below last year is that Worlds payments for both last year and this year are included in this financial year.*

**That the reports as presented are accepted *en bloc***

Mover: **Stuart Dixon** Seconder: **Callum Simpson**

Voted: **CARRIED (Abstention: Ben O'Shea)**

**Item 5 Constitution**

**(a) Consideration of new Constitution**

**(i) Amendment 1**

*Ben O'Shea explains the motion, noting the need to comply with CAV guidelines. He also explains the rationale for the changes to the committee (reducing its size). Stuart Dixon explains proposed alterations to trials system. Ben demonstrates how the system would work using an example featuring pretend people (Albert, Ben, Charlie, Demi, Elise, Fred, Georgia, Harriet and Ig).*

*A straw poll was conducted on whether to include the committee member changes and alternations to the trials procedure: both were accepted unanimously.*

**That the Proposed Constitution of the Melbourne University Debating Society be adopted as circulated, incorporating the corrections screened (fixing typographical errors), the abolition of the member training officer, the merger of the sponsorship and public debates officers, and the alternative trials procedure.**

Mover: **Ben O'Shea** Seconder: **Stuart Dixon**

Voted: **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**



**(b)** Ratification of the Constitution

**That *The Constitution of the Melbourne University Debating Society* as amended at this meeting be ratified**

Mover: **Ben O'Shea**                      Seconder: **Stuart Dixon**

Voted: **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Item 6**                      **Elections**

**(a)** Confirmation of Returning Officer

*The Committee has previously voted to appoint Ben O'Shea the returning officer for these elections.*

**(b)** Outline of Election Procedure

*Ben O'Shea: We asked for nominations before the meeting. Additionally, I will open the meeting to nominations from the floor. Each person must be proposed and seconded by a member of the club (you can propose/second yourself) and the member will be asked to accept or reject the nomination. If only one person nominates (or two in the case of Internals and Schools Training) they will be declared elected. If there are multiple candidates, we will elect them by secret ballot using the preferential system used in elections for the Australian House of Representatives. If contested, each candidate for an Executive position will get two minutes to address the meeting and the opportunity to answer two questions (no more than 30 secs for each answer). Each candidate for a non-Executive position will be given one minute to speak. The equity officers will be elected from the already elected committee positions and have the same speaking opportunities as the non-Executive positions.*

**(c)** Nomination and Election of each Constitutional committee position

**PRESIDENT**

**Nominee: Allen Gu**

**Nominator: Gabriel Steger**

**Seconder: Connor O'Brien**

**Nomination accepted**

**Nominee: Stuart Dixon**

**Nominator: Patrick Dawson**

**Nomination declined**

**Nominee: Sarah Bostock**

**Nominator: Patrick Dawson**

**Nomination declined**

***Allen Gu was elected as President unopposed***

**VICE-PRESIDENT**

**Nominee: Deborah Zhang**

**Nominator: Gabriel Steger**

**Nomination declined**

**Nominee: Edmond Stewart**

**Nominator: Stuart Dixon**

**Secunder: Katy Morrison**

**Nomination accepted**

**Edmond Stewart was elected as Vice-President unopposed**

**SECRETARY**

**Nominee: Michel Nehme**

**Nominator: Connor O'Brien (via email before the meeting)**

**Secunder: John Hajek**

**Nomination accepted (by Connor O'Brien as proxy for Michel)**

**Nominee: Connor O'Brien**

**Nominator: Benji Batten**

**Nomination declined**

**Nominee: Patrick Dawson**

**Nominator: Patrick Dawson**

**Nomination withdrawn**

**Michel Nehme was elected as Secretary unopposed**

**TREASURER**

**Nominee: Connor O'Brien**

**Nominator: Connor O'Brien (via email before the meeting)**

**Secunder: John Hajek**

**Nomination accepted**

**Nominee: Benji Batten**

**Nominator: Benji Batten**

**Secunder: Gabriel Steger**

**Nomination accepted**

**Connor O'Brien was elected as Treasurer by secret ballot**

**MEDIA OFFICER**

**Nominee: Gabriel Steger**

***Nominator: Deborah Zhang***

***Secunder: Allen Gu***

***Nomination accepted***

***Nominee: Reece Moir***

***Nominator: Rebecca Waldron***

***Secunder: Bianca Fata***

***Nomination accepted***

***Gabriel Steger was elected as the Media Officer by secret ballot***

***PUBLIC DEBATES AND SPONSORSHIP OFFICER***

***Nominee: Patrick Dawson***

***Nominator: Callum Simpson***

***Nomination declined***

***Nominee: Benji Batten***

***Nominator: Stuart Dixon***

***Secunder: Connor O'Brien***

***Nomination accepted***

***Nominee: Michelle Guo***

***Nominator: Patrick Dawson***

***Nomination declined***

***Nominee: Natasha Bay***

***Nominator: Patrick Dawson***

***Nomination declined***

***Benji Batten was elected as the Public Debates and Sponsorship Officer unopposed***

***INTERNAL COMPETITIONS OFFICER (x2)***

***Nominee: Bianca Fata***

***Nominator: Stuart Dixon***

***Secunder: Reece Moir***

***Nomination accepted***

***Nominee: Rebecca Waldron***

***Nominator: Stuart Dixon***

***Secunder: Callum Simpson***

***Nomination accepted***

***Bianca Fata and Rebecca Waldron were elected as Internal Competitions Officers unopposed***

***SCHOOLS TRAINING OFFICER (x2)***



**Nominee: Natasha Bay**

**Nominator: Angela Le**

**Secunder: Connor O'Brien**

**Nomination accepted**

**Nominee: Michelle Guo**

**Nominator: Connor O'Brien**

**Nomination declined**

**Nominee: Angel Le**

**Nominator: Natasha Bay**

**Secunder: Patrick Dawson**

**Nomination accepted**

**Natasha Bay and Angela Le were elected as the Schools Training Officers unopposed**

**SOCIAL OFFICER**

**Nominee: Katy Morrison**

**Nominator: Edmond Stewart**

**Secunder: Connor O'Brien**

**Nomination accepted**

**Katy Morrison was elected as the Social Officer unopposed**

**WOMEN'S OFFICER**

**Nominee: Michelle Guo**

**Nominator: Natasha Bay**

**Secunder: Callum Simpson**

**Nomination accepted**

**Michelle Guo was elected as the Women's Officer unopposed**

**MALE EQUITY OFFICER**

**Nominee: Gabriel Steger**

**Nominator: Benji Batten**

**Nomination declined**

**Nominee: Edmond Stewart**

**Nominator: Sarah Bostock**

**Secunder: John Hajek**

**Nomination accepted**

**Nominee: Connor O'Brien**

**Nominator: Patrick Dawson**

**Nomination declined**

***Edmond Stewart was elected as the Male Equity Officer unopposed***

***FEMALE EQUITY OFFICER***

***Nominee: Natasha Bay***

***Nominator: Sarah Bostock***

***Secunder: Angela Le***

***Nomination accepted***

***Nominee: Katy Morrison***

***Nominator: Connor O'Brien***

***Secunder: Edmond Stewart***

***Nomination accepted***

***Nominee: Angela Le***

***Nominator: Patrick Dawson***

***Secunder: Michelle Guo***

***Nomination accepted***

***Nominee: Michelle Guo***

***Nominator: Callum Simpson***

***Secunder: Natasha Bay***

***Nomination accepted***

***Angela Le withdraws her nomination***

***Katy Morrison was elected as the Female Equity Officer by secret ballot***

**Item 7 Appointment of bank account signatories**

**That Allen Gu (President), Edmond Stewart (Vice-President), Michele Nehme (Secretary) and Connor O'Brien (Treasurer) be appointed as the Bank Account signatories to Bank Account 51-757-4963, BSB 083-457 at the National Australia Bank Limited.**

**Mover: Stuart Dixon Secunder: Ben O'Shea**

**Voted: CARRIED (Abstentions: Allen Gu, Edmond Stewart, Connor O'Brien)**

**Item 8 Business without notice**

**Benji Batten:** I would like to acknowledge the work done by Stuart and Ben. Applause.

**Stuart:** Thanks guys. Wish you all the best.

**Item 9 Close**



Melbourne University  
Debating Society

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The meeting is closed by **Stuart Dixon**

Meeting closed at **8:09pm**