

AACB New Zealand Branch

Minutes of Annual General Meeting 2023

AACB New Zealand Branch AGM was held virtually on Thursday 23 March 2023 at 1010 hrs.

Present: Roger Barton, Christian, Leo Luk, David Peart, Chris Florkowski, Philippa Holdaway, Joanne Webb, Berit Jensen and Catherine.

Apologies: None.

Minutes of last AGM: Confirmed by Roger Barton and seconded by Christian.

Education representative's report (Leo Luk):

It has been a productive year so far.

NZ Branch hosted the well-attended AACB webinar on 15th December: Prof Fred Apple, *Are high sensitivity point of care troponins assays ready for clinical use?*

We have made the required contributions to CBN, namely Branch News, Journal Club and 2 Omniscience cases

Initial planning is underway for 2022 AACB SES combined with NZIMLS Biochemistry SIG Seminar, to be held in early October in Auckland. The proposed date, 7 October, is dependent on approval to hold the SES so close to the ASM. However, as minimal numbers of NZ Branch members are expected to travel to Perth, the branch committee hope the Education committee will approve. The SES date is also dependent on the availability of the Roman Lecturer who we hope will speak at the SES

In previous years, the Roman lecture has been held in two NZ locations, one in each island. If two locations are approved for 2022, we will plan to hold the second Roman lecture in either Christchurch or Dunedin

2023 AACB RCPA Chemical Pathology Course is to be held in Christchurch. The format is yet to be decided.

Wellington region's report (David Peart): None

Canterbury region's report (Chris Florkowski):

AACB RCPA CPC 2023 was a success with excellent attendees and presentations. Christchurch will host RCPAQAP/AACB Porphyrins Symposium in May 12th 2023. Alison Connolly has resigned from CHL and a representative for Canterbury is to be elected.

Waikato region's report (Jo Bouwhuis): None

Auckland region's report (Shonal S Khrisna): None

Otago region's report and chairperson's report (Roger Barton):

Congratulations to the NZ Branch recipients of the AACB Outstanding Service Medallion which was awarded at the ASC in Perth in October 2022: Max Reed, Chris Florkowski and Gerald Woollard

The AACB Council meeting was held on Sunday 16 October 2022. The minutes are available on the AACB website, but items of note:

- The new AACB website has been launched
- Education Committee launched the Virtual Study Group, designed for those studying for AACB exams, but great revision for all members
- Goce Dimeski (Brisbane) is new editor of the CBN
- Harmonised branch committee positions are to be developed
- Standard student prize certificates are to be developed
- A reminder that AACB is registered as a non-profit organisation, so discounted venue hire etc may be available when planning events
- The AACB CPD programme continues to be approved by the NZMSC for registration of medical laboratory science practitioners

NZ Branch has 65 members and has contributed branch news and Journal club to the March CBN. Two Omniscience cases are scheduled to be submitted for the June CBN

Motion for consideration:

Alison Connolly is to be made a co-opted committee member. The motion was seconded by Chris Florkowski and carried by all present.

Election of officers:

Roger Barton's tenure as a chairperson has expired but no nomination is received. He was nominated as a casual chairperson for another year. The nomination is seconded by Chris Florkowski and carried by all present.

Chairperson (Casual):	Roger Barton
Secretary:	Christian (carried by all present)
Education representative:	Ping Tat (Leo) Luk (carried by all present)
Auckland representative:	Shonal S Krishna
Wellington representative:	David Peart (carried by all present)
Canterbury representative:	Vacant
Otago/Southland representative:	Roger Barton (carried by all present)
Co-opted committee member:	Alison Connolly

Scholarship: No scholarship application received or given this year. Roger Barton to discuss with AACB office regarding the NZ Branch Scholarship programme's continuity.

Prizes: The receiver for AACB 4th Year Outstanding Achievement in Biochemistry 2022 was Leigh Lauv who now is working in SCL Wellington.

Roman Lecture 2023: Prof. Sverre Sandkerg (CV and abstract are attached). The schedule for Roman Lecture is to be held in Dunedin on Saturday, October 28th 2023 as part of SES 2023 and in Auckland (labPlus) on Monday, October 30th 2023. For 2024, AACB New Zealand branch has nominated Rita Horvath as the Roman Lecturer.

SES 2023: To be held in Dunedin on Saturday, October 28th 2023, as a combined event with the Roman Lecture and NZIMLS BSIG 2023.

The AGM is formally closed at 1050 hrs.