



As advised last year, on our auditor's suggestion, small assets purchased will be put straight to costs and will not increase the fixed assets pool which will continue to be revalued annually until exhausted.

In 2019 the committee revalued these to more correctly represent their likely value in the event of a fire sale. This reduced their value by \$1,986.00.

Usage fees for courses held at TBC again fell well short of the cost of maintaining the centre but the shortfall was covered by other income.

Question (Ian Robertson) re movable partition in clubhouse– what will this cost?

- Approx: \$15,500 will need to be updated given change in beam height (Carole Thomas).
- There has been a pushback from some people
- Who has deemed this necessary?

**Motion:** That the issue of the movable be moved to general business

**Seconded:** Carolyn Smith

**Seconded:** Sandra Coates

**Carried**

Question (Ian Robertson) why is there an audit, it costs money and is not required?

Chris is uncomfortable handling the sum of money we have had in our accounts, without having an audit, he believes that it gives members peace of mind and provides transparency.

**Motion:** That the Annual Financial Report and audited balance sheet are accepted

**Moved:** Ian Robertson

**Seconded:** Berniece Madden

5. Appointment of an auditor for the following year

**Motion:** Auditor for next year Tanner & Sault

**Moved:** Carole Thomas

**Seconded:** Chris Bembrick

**Carried**

6. **Proposed change to the Constitution:**

**Special Resolution:** That subsection (3) of Section 17 [Composition and membership of the Committee] be deleted

**Garry Clear:** Acknowledged the incredible work done by Fleur in last 12 months. Fleur has undertaken enormous responsibilities and has put in an incredible number of hours.

**Special Resolution** (argument for – the reasons for the proposed change been included in paperwork sent out to members).

– current Management Team have now been in office for 2.5 years; Treasurer for 4 years.

- We are lucky to have a Treasurer of the calibre of Chris and we are lucky that he has put his hand up to for a 5<sup>th</sup> year
- The committee deliberated at some length about what the best approach to dealing with the implications that arose in regard to the fixed terms of tenure on current committee members and the challenges and difficulties of finding sufficient volunteers to fill existing committee positions,
- Ultimately the decision was made to delete the requirement of subsection (3) of Section 17 in the current constitution. This would enable “retiring” members to be eligible for re election and also enable members who have been elected mid term to complete their terms in office
- The committee discussed the ‘cons’ in regard to members becoming entrenched in their positions and considered the current option of a Special Motion to remove them. On balance the 3 year rule served no purpose.

**Ian Robertson** (spoke against special resolution)

*General discussion re motion:*

Margaret Nicholl: nominated for a position and gave no consideration to a time frame

- Confident that she could do position and wanted to do that position – this isn't always the case

Kaye Separovic: in terms of renewal – how do you find people

- We have pleaded with the U3A community time and time again for assistance in some teams

Fleur Dwyer: had no urge to remain long term as president but found that no one else would do it

**Motion:** That subsection (3) of Section 17 [Composition and membership of the Committee] be deleted

**Moved:** Garry Clear

**Seconded:** Fleur Dwyer

Silent voting requested (Jenny Johnston)

*Motion did not meet the requisite 75% and was not passed*

- This results in the nomination by current Treasurer being disallowed
- Fleur Dwyer withdraws nomination for President

Two casual positions now vacant.

Calls from the floor to fill these positions – Treasurer & President (no nominations)

Nominations withdrawn by: Margaret Nicoll (Team Leader) – Office & Administration  
 Nan Kennedy (Team Leader – New Initiatives)  
 Carole Thomas (Team Leader – Publicity & Marketing)  
 Pam Summerell (Team Leader – Special Events)

7. Election of Officers and members for the U3A SC Management Committee for 2020 (Returning Officer: Paul Daynes)

Vice President: Garry Clear

Secretary & Public Officer: Carolyn Smith

Program Team Leader: Kaye Separovic

No further nominations from the floor.

Vice President, Secretary and Program Team Leader, elected unopposed

8. Thoughts on failure of resolution and withdrawal of nominations:

- No idea about what was being voted on (this disputed by another member)
- Ask committee to stay and have special meeting
- If you can fill a casual vacancy and restart the tenure period after a day off there is no difference between taking the 3 year period out of the constitution – bureaucratic nonsense
- Nominations made in good faith – can these be re considered
- Casual vacancy will allow for finding new people to fill positions
- Can't blackmail people by withdrawing
- Appoint Chris to casual vacancy (he may re consider)
- We have had good leadership
- If the committee has no quorum – there may be a clause covering this if the constitution is silent
- Situation now: This is a vote of no confidence in this meeting: present members should keep positions and reconvene to do the whole thing again
- The number of people who voted against this were a minority in the meeting and a very small number in regard to the whole organisation
- Margaret Brown: expressed sadness about the current situation
- Carolyn Smith & Garry Clear:
  - Will be reconsidering options re staying on committee
  - Loyal to Fleur as president and committed to her work on restructuring the hierarchical structure that was U3A SC.

## 9. Other Business:

- a. Dividing wall in Tura Centre: What was the thought process? (Ian Robertson)
  - The room at Tura now has as much usable space as the current room we are in
  - 16 out of 24 Management Team meetings dedicated to this space between 2015 & 2019
  - There are some very small groups (ie 5 and less) which use the whole area and who are determined that they will not change day or time of meeting. The divider would allow two small groups to use the area (it would not be allocated to a noisy group and a quiet group). We currently are subsidizing the use of groups in the centre.
  - The divider is like that in the library and will be sound-proof
  
- b. Corona Virus (Chris Bannerman)
  - We are already moving on this
  - We understand the nature of our U3A community and we do have vulnerable members, who have depressed immune systems and we understand that older people are more at risk
  - We have approached council for advice
  - Email to all members (post to those not on email)
  - Course leaders may choose to suspend classes

**Meeting closed: 3:32pm**

## President's Report – AGM 2020

Since the Special Meeting held in July 2017, the Management Team has worked for the sustainability and regeneration of the best of U3ASC. They have done this tirelessly, cooperatively and generously.

Lately, we have completed some work, which has been pending for many years, in relation to our quest for accommodation. This has now come to fruition in the refurbished U3ASC Tura Beach Centre. In so doing, we have attended to some aspects of our learning centre, including increasing the educational space, making the bathroom area safe, upgrading the kitchen, improving the lighting and providing a space for our administrative office to reside.

Our website has been renewed, branding modernised and the learning & presentation technology improved, particularly internet accessibility for multiple users.

During this time the curriculum has been expanded in particular areas, specifically the performing Arts. And, in response to the the Futures' Planning report, the newly formed Team Social has grown Social Activities across the organisation. The monthly Newsletter provides regular information and communication with all members.

In previous years, to support these activities the Management Team increased the number of positions to include a Technology team, a Resources' team , a Publicity team and a Health & WellBeing Team. Also, a Team Office was established to take care of various administrative tasks, including new member registrations, providing support to members wanting to enrol in courses and purchase tickets for events. There is more to Team Office than meets the ear or eye. The Office has become a place for members to come any time they have an issue with using the database, want to enrol in a course or just need to have a chat. In this regard the Office team have really become the face of U3ASC, as well as a pivotal hub for members of our community to congregate and chew the fat. Thank you to all Members of the Team who have shaped up this role.

Typically, dynamic open systems like U3ASC respond to varied environmental inputs, including the changing characteristics, interests & needs of our member profile. In turn, the organisation is influenced by and adapts to these. As we look to move forward, we need to ensure the roles of the Management Team reflect and support the new directions indicative of our growth.

What I am about to say is very much contingent on whether the change to the constitution is agreed to. If this goes ahead then I would recommend the following change to the structure of the Management Team.

The outcome of these changes, mentioned previously, is that **Technology** will no longer occupy a position in the Management Team. I want to acknowledge the huge amount of work, leadership and foresight which Terry Prowse has brought to U3ASC through her role in Technology. Fortunately, Terry has agreed to continue to maintain the website and upgrade it as required and for this we are immensely grateful. The new role created by the loss of Technology will be for **Special Events**.

With the renovation drawing to completion the **Resources'** portfolio is less imperative and will not continue. We were very fortunate that Carole Thomas took over the role to manage the refurbishment skilfully & energetically. Now she can return more fully to her other role of Publicity. In 2019, our membership grew to 585. It is likely this will continue to increase and the

administrative role of the Office may be more significant. Therefore, a position on the Management Team will be designated for the **Office Leader**.

The final recommendation is that Health & WellBeing which Nan Kennedy has led so ably for several years, be redirected away from focussing on individual members and expanded to benefit the wider community of U3ASC. This will then be known as New Initiatives and could include themed 'One-Off' presentations and other activities of interest to our members. For example, lately we have had particular interests in creating an environmental care group.

In summary, the proposed new roles are:

1. Technology will be replaced by **Special Events**, including special Social Activities and other activities which the incumbent recommends for U3ASC.
2. Resources will cease for the new role of **Office & Administration**
3. Health and Wellbeing will expand to become **New Initiatives**

The Programs' Team continues to develop its curriculum and encourage members to share their knowledge and skills. We are delighted that Kaye Seporavic is seeking to be re-elected for 2020. Carole Thomas who worked so very hard to ensure the refurbishment was done to specifications and on time, will wander our various courses and events, with camera in hand, to fulfil her role of Publicity and Newsletter.

Fortunately, Carolyn Smith will continue to be our secretary & public officer. We were so lucky to have Carolyn bring to U3ASC an understanding and capability to perform & guide us in this mandatory organisational role.

Chris Bembrick has fulfilled the role of Treasurer for 4 years. In so doing he has kept our books impeccably, ensuring in the last 2 years that audits have been conducted. Even the auditors acknowledged Chris' capability!

Garry Clear has ably led various initiatives for U3ASC throughout the last 2.5yrs, including Future's Planning, expanding U3ASC for members in Eden & Bega & the Grants group to name a few.

I have agreed to continue as the President for this year, only. I trust that in 2020 a new president is identified whom I can mentor and who will be ready to run in 2021.

The positions for the Management Team for 2020 are:

**Office and Administration**

Publicity & Marketing

Programs'

**New Initiatives**

**Special Events**

Secretary

Treasurer

Vice President

President

Until now, with around \$60 000 in the bank, we have, largely, not been in a position to seek grant funding. With the expenditure of \$38 000 on the refurbishment we are better placed to raise monies for resources

to complete the refurbishment and other projects. And we are lining up to apply for a number of grants which close at the end of March.

In the previous two years, I have tried to influence and spoken about the need to reform U3ASC governance to ensure the organisations' regeneration and sustainability. In 2018, I spoke of Pro Social characteristics of all humans. That is, the urge we have to help and support one another. In 2019, I covered the topic of 'New Power' which is about sharing the responsibility for the conduct of an organisation. I've tried to ensure we have many people involved in the activities of our organisation. This is more than volunteering to do a job, it is, instead about flattening the hierarchy and taking up the responsibility to strengthen, develop and to maintain our U3ASC community and its members.

And it relies heavily on capitalising on pro social behaviours of our members. As I conclude, may I share this short, 3.07minute, video course which you've not had the chance to enrol in. It's about the science of wellbeing for our members and for our organisation. Perhaps you'll share the contents with other members as you interact with them?

## President's Report 2019-2020

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[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gOy\\_FRMprfo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gOy_FRMprfo)