

Australian Science Communicators Special General Meeting 2020 Agenda

Date: Tuesday 18 February 2020

Start time: 1.15pm (AEDT)

Venue: Learning and Teaching Building, Monash Clayton Campus, Melbourne OR via teleconference (using Zoom)

Items for Discussion

1. Confirmation of members attending, apologies
2. Notification of proxies
3. Change to By Laws/Constitution :We are proposing to reduce the definition of a quorum to 10% of financial members or 20 members, whichever is the less. The purpose of this amendment is to be consistent with a workable approach for state branches.

Current:

28 Committee meetings and quorum

(2) One quarter of the total number of members entitled under these rules to vote at a general meeting, or twenty members including proxies (whichever is the lesser) constitute a quorum for the transaction of the business of a general meeting.

Proposed change:

28 Committee meetings and quorum

(2) Ten percent of the total number of members entitled under these rules to vote at a general meeting, or twenty members including proxies (whichever is the lesser) constitute a quorum for the transaction of the business of a general meeting.

4. Trial of new National Council attendance arrangements. Notification to trial allowing observer or proxy attendance to National Council meetings to facilitate greater involvement of members.

5. Capitation review

Current By law 7:

Each year, the Committee will return part of the membership fees to all viable branches. The amount to be returned is ten per cent of the annual membership fees paid by members living in the region covered by the branch. A further ten per cent will be pooled, and all branches will be invited to submit proposals seeking funding to stage activities in their region. A viable branch is defined as one with at least ten financial members.

Review of capitation model by ASC treasurer following discussion at the 2019 AGM. The Executive recommends we retain the current Model 1 and add the option of Model 4 for dormant branches.

Model 1 – retain as current (10% + 10% available in grants)

Model 2 – 20% member fees straight to branches

Model 3 – 20% + 20% available in grants

Model 4 – up to \$500 made available to members on application to catalyse activity if branch not active.

See supplied modelling here for financial model of various options.

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1L8S_gbhb4L9gSJpqQDPFLA6mOpbkV20F/view?usp=sharing

6. Notification of Banking model review – this will be reviewed with state branches separately but are proposing the following options to provide ease of banking (and continuity between branch committee changeovers)

Option A – State branches run their own association bank account. Any income generated by the branch goes to their branch account. Capitation is paid to that account.

Option B – State branches have a 'cost centre' within the national account. Capitation can be transferred to this cost centre within the national account. Income generated by the branch would be attributed to their state cost centre.

7. Any Other Business

National Secretary position recruitment (Phil Dooley interim in position)

Victorian Branch committee call out.