

LINCOLN UNIVERSITY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

# Annual General Meeting (AGM) 2014 MINUTES

Lincoln Event Centre, Meijer Drive, Lincoln  
Friday, 6 June 2014 – 11:30am

## PRESENT:

- Jo Spencer-Bower (President)
- James Nell (Vice- President)
- Executive members: Craig Williamson, Andrew O'Regan, Neil Gow, Andrew Lingard, Roy Evans
- Anisha Thomas (Secretary)
- 38 members of the Alumni Association

## 1. WELCOME BY PRESIDENT – JO SPENCER-BOWER

The President welcomed members to the Annual General Meeting and introduced Lincoln University's Chancellor, Tom Lambie, to open the meeting with an update on current and future developments at the University.

The Chancellor was speaking in the place of the Association's Patron, Vice-Chancellor Dr Andrew West, who would normally give and University update at the Annual General Meeting. Dr West had been called to Wellington on University business.

On behalf of the Association, the President congratulated the Chancellor on being made an Officer of the New Zealand Order of Merit (ONZM), in the 2014 New Year's Honours List.

## 2. UPDATE FROM THE CHANCELLOR

The Chancellor opened his address by noting that the Alumni Association was now 110 years old. It had its inception in 1904 and is the oldest university alumni organisation in New Zealand. He noted too that the current President, Jo Spencer-Bower, has a direct family link back to one of the Association's original founders, Basil Seth-Smith, who was a student at Lincoln in 1892.

Describing the University's current situation, the Chancellor referred to the rebranding exercise in 2007 and the earthquakes of 2010, 2011. While neighbouring Canterbury University experienced a 25 percent drop in student enrolments as a result of the earthquakes, Lincoln had managed to 'hold its roll'. If the University hadn't done that rebranding, then perhaps it might have been a different story, he said.

One of the good things the earthquakes had allowed the University to do was develop a 'better business case', he said, and the University was having 'whole of Government' conversations, talking about Lincoln's contribution to the country as a whole.

Of the recent qualification reforms at Lincoln, the Chancellor said these were to align the University more closely with the needs of the land-based sector of the country's economy, and to 'make sure we meet our objectives'.

"We are looking positively to the future," concluded the Chancellor. "There is change, but we are looking to change for the better".

There was one question from the floor (John Keoghan) requesting more details about the Lincoln Hub and its participating organisations.

The Chancellor answered that the University, AgResearch and the other Lincoln-based CRIs needed to undertake re-building projects and that 'everyone is keen to be part of the rebuild'. But the Hub is not just about buildings, he said, it is about bringing together teams of bright people. That's the sort of environment we want to create. The founding partners are Lincoln University, AgResearch, Plant and Food Research, Landcare Research and DairyNZ. Success will come when all parties are married up.

### **3. APOLOGIES**

In addition to Dr Andrew West, apologies were received from:

Dr Alistair Campbell, Barbara Kuriger, Bernard Davidson, Brian Robertson, Bruce Robinson, Dr Canagasaby Devendra, David Edwards, David Rendall, David Todd, Dr Dodi Supriadi, Rt Hon Sir Donald McKinnon, Elizabeth Barkla, Elizabeth Norton, Genevieve Grant, Graeme Thompson, Ian Donald, Ian McKillop, James Gardiner, James Loh, Jeremy Baker, Jeremy Rockliff, Jim Burns, John Clendon, Mark Inglis, Mark Paine, Dr Md Fardous Alom, Dr Michael Dunbier, Michael Smetham, Dr Patricia Campbell, Peter Falconer, Peter McBride, Peter Wardell, Ralph Ballinger, Rebecca Fox, Robin Pawsey, Rodney Tonkin, Roy Edwards, Dr Ruth Frampton, Dr Sangaalofa Clark, Professor Sheelagh Matear, Dr Stephen Goldson, Dr Timothy Mackle, Tom Liao, Tom O'Regan, Andy Macfarlane, Neil Taylor and Professor Derrick Moot.

***Motion:*** That the above apologies be accepted.

*Moved:* Jo Spencer-Bower

*Seconded:* Andrew Lingard

**CARRIED**

### **4. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE 2013 AGM**

***Motion:*** That the minutes of the AGM held on 31 May 2013 be accepted as a true and accurate record.

*Moved:* Jo Spencer-Bower

*Seconded:* Craig Williamson

**CARRIED**

## 5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

*No matters arose from the minutes of 31 May, 2013.*

## 6. PRESENTATION OF THE 2013 ANNUAL REPORT – JO SPENCER-BOWER

The formally printed LUAA Annual Report distributed to members at the AGM is the first of its kind for the Association in the modern era. It was produced in response to desire by the Executive for the Association to become more professional and business-like in its approach to its affairs. The Report also meets the wish for a formal record of each year's activities.

The President introduced the Report as follows:

*'2013 was a landmark year in the modern history of the Alumni Association. A new Memorandum of Understanding was negotiated with the University, and a new set of Association Rules adopted. In addition, a huge leap forward was made in the evolution of the electronic platform for enabling members to keep in touch with one another and for the Association and University to communicate with alumni. I hope that you are all making full use of the technology that is now available to support our Association in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.*

*Technology has also made available to everyone a whole host of historical material - photographs, documents, publications, printed records etc - in what is known as the **Community Archive**. Access to the Archive is available to everyone and I would encourage you to make use of it.*

*The main achievements of 2013 are recorded in the Annual Report, and as I have said, it was a landmark year. In addition to the MOU, the new Rules, and the expansion of digital technology, the year saw good foundations laid for progress in 2014 in areas such as fundraising; the involvement of the University's Telford alumni with the Association; and the relationship between the Association and the University's Alumni and Development Office'*

## 7. FINANCIAL REPORT – JAMES NELL

James Nell, Alumni Association Vice-President and Treasurer, summarised the financial position of the Alumni Association. The Association is a non-profit incorporated society and has Registered Charity status.

The financial report was more of a cash flow report - where funds have come from and where they are spent - he said. This information was provided in the 2013 LUAA Annual Report.

The Association helps to fund one degree scholarship and one diploma scholarship, a total of NZD \$12,500 yearly.

At auditing date 2013, the Association had total assets valued at \$277,038, up from \$249,376 at the same time in 2012.

The Association received a donation of NZD \$500.00 in 2013 and NZD \$10,000 was withdrawn from the investment portfolio. A degree scholarship worth NZD \$7,500 was awarded in 2013 but no award of a diploma scholarship was made.

A net profit of NZD \$2,699 for the year was recorded compared with a deficit in 2012 of NZD \$15,024. The net operating profit in 2013 was \$27,662.63 compared a deficit of NZD \$24,156 in 2012. An increase in total assets from NZD \$249,376 in 2012 to NZD \$277,038 was recorded.

## 8. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Since all elected members came under the new rules adopted in 2013 and have a two-year term in office, there was technically no need for an election in 2013. However, to avoid the possibility of all members standing down at the same time in 2015, three members of the Executive voluntarily stood down at this AGM.

Two of these plus the co-opted member stood for election this year in order to start a staggered cycle of terms.

**Hamish Ramsden** stood down and *did not* stand for re-election. The President thanked Hamish for the excellent job he has done for the Executive and for alumni over the years. A gift of appreciation was presented to Hamish on behalf of the Association and the University's Alumni and Development Team.

There were three nominations for the three vacancies on the Executive; Derrick Moot (re-election), Roy Evans (re-election) and Andrew O'Regan (completed term as co-opted member). No nominations were received from the floor. All members of the Association are eligible to vote and an 'ayes' and 'noes' vote was taken among those present.

***Nominee: Derrick Moot***

Nominated by Jo Spencer-Bower

Seconded by James Nell

All present were in favour

**CARRIED**

***Nominee: Roy Evans***

Nominated by Jo Spencer-Bower

Seconded by James Nell

All present were in favour

**CARRIED**

***Nominee: Andrew O'Regan***

Nominated by Jo Spencer-Bower

Seconded by James Nell

All present were in favour

**CARRIED**

The President confirmed the 2014/15 Executive to be:

- Jo Spencer-Bower – President
- James Nell – Vice-President
- Craig Williamson – Immediate Past President
- Derrick Moot
- Roy Evans
- Andrew Lingard
- Andrew O'Regan
- Neil Gow

**9. GENERAL BUSINESS**

The President called for items of general business. There were no items of General Business.

**The AGM closed at 12.10pm.**

Confirmed as a true and accurate record.

President:..... Date:.....