



# The Royal Society of New South Wales

*"for the encouragement of studies and investigations in Science Art Literature and Philosophy"*

## 1280<sup>th</sup> ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING

WEDNESDAY 12 FEBRUARY 2020 AT 6.30PM

Gallery Room at The State Library of New South Wales  
(entrance from Shakespeare Place)

### AGENDA

1. **WELCOME** – Vice-President, Ms Judith Wheeldon AM FRSN

1.1 **Acknowledgement of country**

1.2 **Diversity and Inclusion statement**

1.3 **Minutes of the 1279<sup>th</sup> Ordinary General Meeting held on 4 December 2019**

2. **PRESENTATION OF FELLOWSHIP AND MEMBERSHIP CERTIFICATES**

Ms Wheeldon will present the Certificates.

3. **ANNOUNCEMENT OF NAMES OF CANDIDATES FOR FELLOWSHIP AND MEMBERSHIP**

If no valid objection is lodged within two weeks of this Ordinary General Meeting, that is, by 6.30pm on 26 February 2020, the election of new Members and Fellows will take effect from the date of the meeting.

3.1 **Fellows**

Emeritus Prof Thomas John Boulton FRACP  
Professor Clare Elizabeth Collins FDAA  
Distinguished Professor Karu Priyathama Esselle FIEEE  
Emeritus Professor Brian James Fraser FAS  
Professor Jeanette Susanne Lechner-Scott  
Professor Belinda Elizabeth Medlyn  
Professor Shinichi Nakagawa  
Professor Catherine Joanna Stevens  
Professor Ngamta Thamwattana

The Fellows Assessment Committee will have met on Tuesday 11 February. Any recommendations emanating from the meeting will be considered at the March OGM.

3.2 **Members and Associate Members**

#### **Members**

Dr John Flachs  
Dr Sonja Van Wichelen  
Mr Andrew Freeman

## **4 THE LIBRARY**

- 4.1** Over the past 12 months a band of volunteers has been beavering away in the State Library of NSW where they have been sorting and cataloguing the Society's book and journal collection. It is a slow, daunting and painstaking task and we sincerely thank the following for their efforts which will continue well into 2020.

### **Core Group who have assisted since the beginning**

Ian Bryce MRSN, Eva Burns and Julie Cameron MRSN

### **Assistants**

Tony Burrell MRSN - assisted up to the end of the initial sorting phase

Robert Marks FRSN - assisted in completion of the sorting of RSNSW journals

Robert Young FRSN - joined team from late 2019.

## **5 REPORT FROM COUNCIL AND COMMITTEES OF COUNCIL**

The Council met on 22 January 2020. Ms Wheeldon wishes to draw members' attention to the following matters.

### **5.1 Appointment of Executive Officer**

Ms Wendy Enevoldsen has taken up the position of part-time Executive Officer from 22 January.

### **5.2 New editor of the *Bulletin***

Mr Timothy Humphrey has been appointed as Editor of the *Bulletin*. He is the founder and editor of *Property Daily*.

### **5.3 The Red Cross Disaster Relief and Recovery Fund**

We are very grateful to all the Fellows and Members who made a donation to the Fund through the Society.

### **5.4 Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) status**

The Australian Taxation Office has rejected the Society's application for DGR status for its non-library and non-scholarship funds.

### **5.5 Diversity and Inclusion Policy**

The Council has developed a Diversity and Inclusion Policy which is being implemented across all the Society's activities.

### **5.6 Events for 2020**

The reconstituted Events Committee met on 31 January. They are finalising an exciting OGM program and other events for the year.

Following a meeting with the Governor in November, the Society has been asked to create a program for two "Ideas @The House" over a 12 month period with three dates already set at 23 April 2020, 21 July 2020 and 25 February 2021, all to be held at Government House, Sydney.

## 5.7 Finances

The Society made a small surplus for the 2019 year greater than had been budgeted. The audited accounts will be presented at the AGM on 1 April 2020.

## 5.8 Hunter Branch

The Hunter Branch, established last year, has got off to a flying start in 2020. Their first meeting was held on 31 January with Professor Ryan Loxton from Curtin University of Technology speaking about *Mathematics in Industry: Optimisation in Action – unlocking value in the mining, energy and agriculture industries*. Another five meetings are planned for the year.

## 5.9 Royal Societies of Australia

Council noted recent developments with the Royal Societies of Australia (RSA), of which RSNSW is a member. The RSA has signed an agreement with the Australian Academy of Science for the sharing of a position and the provision of space at the Academy's premises in Canberra. The RSA, whose role is to support and promote the work of Australia's Royal Societies, now has a part-time coordinator whose current focus is on organising a symposium for later this year on 'Stewardship of Country', developing a new website and maintaining a Facebook presence.

## 6 THIS EVENING'S PRESENTATIONS

This evening's presentations will be given by the four winners of the 2019 Royal Society of NSW Scholarships.

### **Emma Austin, University of Newcastle**

*Drought and wellbeing in Australian rural communities: implications for improving adaptive capacity and resilience to drought*

Ms Austin's research investigates the relationship between drought and wellbeing in rural communities in NSW, taking into account the links between wellbeing and adaptive capacity, and the need for the successful adaptation to drought together with increased resilience which is essential for the survival of rural communities.

### **Shyam Balaji, University of Sydney**

*Searches for Extended Higgs Sectors, Flavour Physics Anomalies and Dark Matter at the Large Hadron Collider (LHC)*

Mr Balaji's research is in the field of particle physics which explores the fundamental building blocks of the Universe and the interactions between them. The focus of his work, as a member of the ATLAS Collaboration at CERN's LHC, is in testing exotic Higgs boson models and extensions to the Standard Model of Particle Physics.

### **Michael Papanicolao, University of Technology Sydney and the Garvan Institute of Medical Research**

*Charting the Extracellular Matrix Through Breast Tumour Progression*

Mr Papanicolao's research involves investigations into the role of the extracellular matrix (ECM) in breast tumour progression. The focus of his work is on charting how the ECM

evolves with tumour progression, using protein mass spectrometry and advanced imaging to identify targetable proteins that are important in breast cancer metastasis.

**Thomas Pettit, University of Technology Sydney**

*Botanical biofilters for the phytofiltration of urban air pollutants*

Mr Pettit's research is in the field of biofilter technology, in which he has been developing and assessing the use of active green walls to clean the air of active pollutants to provide functional reductions of air pollution in zones where they are most needed.

## **7 VOTE OF THANKS AND CLOSE**

The OGM will be *followed by* dinner<sup>1</sup> for those who have registered by Monday 10 February.

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<sup>1</sup> Dinner (incl. drinks): \$95 for Non-Members, \$85 for Members and Associate Members. Reservations must be made at least 2 days before at <https://nsw-royalsoc.currinda.com/register/event/62>