



Notice of 2010 Annual General Meeting (Revised)

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the provisions of the Constitution of Association, the next Annual General Meeting of Speech Pathology Australia is to be held at **5:45pm, Tuesday 18 May 2010**, at Crown Promenade Conference Centre, Southbank, Melbourne. All members are invited to attend. Members unable to attend may use the proxy form (see last page).

Order of Business:

1. Opening of the meeting
2. Welcome of Members and introduction of Councillors
3. Apologies and proxies received
4. Confirmation of the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held in Adelaide, South Australia on 19 May 2009
5. Presentation of the President's Report (including Portfolio reports)
6. Presentation of the Annual Audit and Financial Statement for the year ending 31 December 2009
7. Special Business
- 7.1 Awards
Announcement of 2010 Award Recipients
8. General Business
- 8.1 Subscription Fees
Council have confirmed that there will be an increase to the current membership fees of approximately 3% in line with CPI.

Resolution 1: That membership subscription fees for 2011 be set at:

	Excl. GST	Incl. GST
Practising	\$425.00	\$467.50
Non Practising	\$295.00	\$324.50
Associate	\$295.00	\$324.50
Re-entry	\$295.00	\$324.50
Full-time Postgraduate Student	\$220.00	\$242.00
Graduating Student tier 1	\$210.00	\$231.00
Graduating Student tier 2	\$105.00	\$115.50
Student	\$ 88.00	\$ 96.80
Alumnus	\$100.00	\$110.00



8.2 Changes to the Constitution

A number of amendments to the Constitution are proposed as shown in the following track changes.

Resolution 2: That the Constitution of the Company be amended by:

(i) Replacing the existing rule 9.1 with:

9. Definitions of Membership Category

9.1 The categories and titles of Members of the Company are as follows:

- (1) Life Member: - Life Member, SPA
- (2) Ordinary Member: Fellow -FSPA;
- (3) Ordinary Member: Practising - MSPA;
- (4) Ordinary Member: Non Practising - MSPA;
- (5) Ordinary Member: Fulltime Post-Graduate Student - MSPA;
- (6) Re-entry Member;
- (7) Student Member;
- (8) Associate;
- (9) Associate Student Member;
- (10) Alumnus Member.

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Reason: Changes relate to removal of overseas membership categories and alteration of post nominals.

(ii) Replacing the existing rule 10.12 with:

10.12 An Alumnus Member is a person who has practised, but has ceased practising, in speech pathology providing that:

- they are not employed in a capacity that involves the management or education of speech pathologists, or of those in allied health professions (as determined from time to time by the Council);
- they have held Ordinary Membership (Practising or Non-practising) to the company in the past for at least 10 years; and
- they are not registered with a Registration Board, pertaining to the practice of speech pathology, required in the state in which they practice.

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Reason: Change allows for members to become alumnus members who are no longer working in speech pathology or general allied health management/education but are now practising in another profession, registered or otherwise.

(iii) Replacing the existing rules 16.1 and 16.4 with:

16. Register of Members

[compare sections 168 and 169]

16.1 A register and/or electronic database of Members of the Company must be kept in accordance with the Law.

16.2 The following must be entered in the register of Members in respect of each Member:

- (1) the full name of the Member;
- (2) the residential address and other relevant contact information;
- (3) the category of membership;
- (4) the date of admission to and cessation of membership;
- (5) the date of last payment of the Member's annual membership fee; and
- (6) such other information as the Council requires.

16.3 Each Member must notify the Company in writing of any change in that person's name within 1 month after the change.

16.4 Each Member must notify the Company or amend the Membership database of that member's change of contact details within 1 month after the change.

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Reason: Makes allowance for electronic database records and members' ability to update their contact details on their Member profile.





(iv) Replacing the existing rule 18.3 with:

18.3 If a person is admitted to membership of the Company during the months of ~~September~~ to December inclusive the Council may reduce the annual membership fee payable by the applicant in any manner it sees fit.

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Reason: Reduction in membership fee commences as of September (not July as currently stated).

(v) Replacing the existing rules 23.1 and 23.2 and adding 23.4 and 23.5:

23. Disciplining Members

23.1 The Council may establish an Ethics Board as an advisory and investigative committee of the Council with the power to:

- (1) ~~investigate~~ complaints about a Member;
- (2) ~~make~~ recommendations to the Council in relation to disciplinary findings about a Member; and
- (3) ~~make~~ recommendations to the Council in relation to an appropriate penalty;
- (4) ~~perform any other function concerning a complaint against or in relation to the disciplining of members;~~

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in accordance with the Ethics Board Procedures published by the Company to Members from time to time.

23.2 The Council may:

- (1) ~~make~~ findings about a Member in relation to a disciplinary matter;
- (2) ~~impose~~ penalties in relation to a disciplinary matter, including the expulsion of a Member; and
- (3) ~~publish~~ the results of a disciplinary finding with any applicable penalty.

23.3 If any Member ceases to be a Member under rule 23.2, the Council may reinstate the Member and restore the name of that Member to the register of Members upon and subject to any terms and conditions it sees fit.

23.4 A Member must comply with any penalty imposed by the Council

23.5 The Council may impose such further or alternative penalty, including the expulsion of a Member, as it considers appropriate, in circumstances where a Member has failed to comply with any penalty imposed by Council.

Reason: To clarify and strengthen the Ethics Board's powers in regard to findings and sanctions against those in breach of the Code of Ethics, consistent with legal advice obtained.

(vi) Replacing the existing rule 28.1 with:

28. How Notice is Given

[compare section 249J(3)]

28.1 The Company may give the notice of meeting to a Member:

- (1) personally; or
- (2) by sending it by post to the address for the Member in the register of Members or the alternative address (if any) nominated by the Member; or
- (3) ~~by circulation in Member publications; or~~
- (4) ~~by electronic means to the email address, provided by the member, for all electronic member communication.~~

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Reason: To allow for electronic notification of meetings of members through an email to members.

(vii) Replacing the existing rule 53.1 with:

53.1 The business of an annual general meeting may include any of the following, even it not referred to in the notice of meeting:

- (1) the consideration of the annual financial report, directors' report and auditor's report;
- (2) the announcement of election of Councillors;
- (3) the appointment of the auditor;
- (4) the fixing of the auditor's remuneration;
- (5) the fixing of the annual membership fee; and
- (6) the ~~noting~~ of the quantum of the Councillors' honorarium.

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Reason: That the honorarium of the President is accepted and should not require member approval but will continue to be reported to members.





(viii) Replacing the existing rule 95.1 with:

95. Calling Council Meetings

[compare replaceable rule 248C]

95.1 ~~Two or more Councillors or the Chair~~ may at any time, and the secretary must on the requisition of ~~the two or more Councillors or the Chair~~, call a meeting of the Council.

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Reason: Meetings of Council to not be called by one Council member only, but require the request of two or more Councillors or the Chair.

8.3 Appointment of auditor

Resolution 3: That Duncan McGregor, of McGregor West, be appointed as auditor for the 2010 Financial Accounts.

8.4 Honarium

Resolution 4: That the honorarium payable to the President for the Council year 2010-2011 be equivalent to 20% of the incumbent's full time equivalent salary for the period she is in office.

8.5 Election to the Ethics Board

Three members (who are not members of Council) are to be elected to the Ethics Board. Nominations of nominees have been received from six members, therefore an election will be held.

Names appear in alphabetical order: Linda Francis, Diane Jacobs, Belinda Kenny, Nerina Scarinci, Helen Smith and Michelle Smith-Tamaray Please see pages 5 - 6 for further information about the nominees.

9. Declaration of Poll – election of Councillors

10. Confirmation of Councillors as from the close of the meeting

11. Announcement of the next Annual General Meeting to be held at 5:45pm on Tuesday 28 June 2011 at Darwin Convention Centre, Darwin, Northern Territory.

12. Close of meeting.

To be followed by the launch of the new Code of Ethics.





Election to the Speech Pathology Australia Ethics Board 2010

Information concerning the Election and Nominees

Three members of the Association are to be elected by the membership at the AGM to a two year term on the Ethics Board. Nominations have been received from six members whose names appear below in alphabetical order. Each nominee has provided a statement of background and interest in appointment to the Ethics Board, as follows:

Linda Francis

A sound knowledge of and compliance with ethical principles and values should be woven into the very thread of speech pathology practice and drive professional conduct in our daily working lives.

I have studied philosophy and ethics at an undergraduate level. As a clinical speech pathologist I made it my duty to uphold ethical behaviour in all my professional work. I took a particular interest in ethical issues and coordinated workshops for colleagues and students on ethical decision-making in acute speech pathology practice. As speech pathologists, it is our duty to stay abreast with evidence based practice (EBP). Integrating EBP in speech pathology practice forms an integral aspect of our ethical conduct. My experience in clinical research and subsequently my role as external examiner through Latrobe University has also deepened my knowledge and appreciation of ethical principles in research design and methodology. The contribution of sound ethical research to the current knowledge base is imperative in developing our professional ethical behaviour.

Diane Jacobs

My nomination for membership of the Speech Pathology Australia Ethics Board stems from my strong interest in, and enjoyment of research. I have experienced ethics from two perspectives: that of student (whilst completing postgraduate studies) and via the Charles Sturt University School of Community Health Ethics Board which I sat on for the past year.

Relatively recently I shifted into the university sector (January 2009) where I teach typical (first year) and atypical (second year) language development. Prior to this, I worked with preschoolers (e.g. 0-5 year olds in a country hospital metropolitan kindergartens, private practice) and primary and secondary school-aged children (Department of Education and Early Childhood, private employment in northern and western metropolitan regions). I also spent five years working in child and adolescent mental health as both a speech pathologist and a mental health clinician. I have qualifications in speech pathology and psychology.

Belinda Kenny

I have developed a keen interest in ethical issues through my professional, teaching and research career. I have observed many professional issues affecting speech pathologists during more than 15 years employment in hospital and community settings. My ten years experience as a student until supervisor (clinical educator) facilitated my understanding of the need to prepare speech pathology students for ethical practice. For the past 8 years I have been teaching professional development and ethics at the University of Sydney. My continued interest in ethics led to research into the ethical issues experienced by speech pathologists. In 2010 I completed my PhD on the topic of ethics. I have shared findings from my ethics research at national conferences and through professional publications. I believe that ethics is an integral component of professional practice and I would welcome the opportunity to contribute my knowledge and experience to the Ethics Board.





Nerina Scarinci

I am a current member of the Speech Pathology Australia Ethics Board, having originally been elected to the Board in May 2008.

I am a lecturer in the Division of Speech Pathology at the University of Queensland and previously worked in private practice and hospital settings. I completed my PhD in 2009 and am involved in a number of research projects that require ongoing ethical consideration. I am the Course Coordinator for the final year course in ethics. Within this course students are taught to analyse and problem-solve ethical dilemmas using models of ethical decision-making, and consolidate their knowledge of key speech pathology documents such as CBOS, the Code of Ethics, Scope of Practice in Speech Pathology, relevant legislation for speech pathologists, and Speech Pathology Australia position papers. I therefore have an in-depth knowledge of ethical principles and publications relevant to ethical decision making. If re-elected I would bring to the Board recent experience in managing ethical issues, relevant clinical experience, and a strong interest and enthusiasm for the topic.

Helen Smith

I have a long standing interest in ethics both professionally and personally.

I have been an active member of the Speech Pathology Australia Ethics Board since 2008. In addition I have been a member of both community and hospital ethics committees since 1999. I am currently sitting on The Queen Elizabeth Hospital Clinical Ethics Committee in Adelaide. My Masters research explored how student speech pathologists learn the knowledge, skills and attitudes of professional ethical practice. I have published papers and presented nationally and internationally in this area. I have been involved in teaching ethics to both undergraduate and post graduate speech pathology students at Flinders University, Adelaide since 2000. As a previous coordinator of clinical placements in South Australia and a current practising clinician, clinical educator and hospital manager, I believe I have extensive knowledge of the breadth of speech pathology practice and both the everyday and big-issue ethical challenges of the profession.

Michelle Smith-Tamaray

I have a strong interest in ethical aspects of non-metropolitan healthcare delivery, having lived, practised and undertaken research and teaching in regional areas. I have been involved in clinical governance through membership on health organisation boards and on ethics committees. These positions have required consideration of ethics in decision making and the impact of choices on the community in which we live.

My PhD research focused on the provision of dysphagia services in non-metropolitan areas, and discussed some of the ethical issues faced in service delivery. I believe that this is an important area which is often overlooked in the daily grind of clinical practice, despite the significant impact our work decisions can have on those we work with and ourselves. I believe my experience with ethics in health service management and clinical care in regional areas, as well as institutional ethics boards, will be an asset to the Speech Pathology Australia Ethics Board.





Proxy of The Speech Pathology Association of Australia Limited

ABN 17 008 393 440

I, _____ of _____ being a member of The Speech Pathology Association of Australia Limited, hereby appoint (insert name of current member) _____ or failing him/her the Chairperson to vote on my behalf at the Annual General Meeting of The Speech Pathology Association of Australia Limited to be held on **18 May 2010** and at any adjournment thereof.

Signed this _____ day of _____ in the year 2010.

(Signature of member)

This is to be used: FOR or AGAINST (please cross x preferred position) the stated resolutions:

8.1 Resolution 1 For Against

8.2 Resolution 2 For Against

8.3 Resolution 3 For Against

8.4 Resolution 4 For Against

8.5 This is to be used to vote for 3 Member Elected positions to the Ethics Board. Please indicate your selection of **3** (three) candidates only.

Linda Francis Diane Jacobs Belinda Kenny

Nerina Scarinci Helen Smith Michelle Smith-Tamaray

(Refer to details concerning each candidate)

NOTE: In the event of a Member desiring to vote for or against any resolution, the Member shall instruct his or her proxy accordingly, and unless otherwise instructed the proxy may vote as they think fit. In the absence of a nominated proxy, the chair of the meeting is appointed the proxy.

IMPORTANT: To be valid, proxy forms must reach National Office before **5.45 pm on Sunday 16 May 2010**.

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