

**MINUTES OF THE SIXTY-SIXTH (66<sup>TH</sup>) ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF  
AUSTRALIAN ALUMNI SINGAPORE  
HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 24<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2021 AT 7.00PM  
Via [Zoom Call](#)**

Attendance: 35 pax

**Management Committee Members**

1	Mr Joseph Kwok	- President
2	Mr Rajaneesh Kurup Geoff Howie	- Vice President
3	Mr Paul Ho	- Hon Secretary
4	Mr Clarence Lee	- Hon Treasurer
5	Ms Dipanti Das	- Committee Member
6	Mr Rennie Sng	- Committee Member
7	Mr Kevin Dam	- Committee Member
8	Mr Geoff Howie	- Committee Member

**Ordinary Life**

1	Chris Cheah
2	Clarence Lee
3	Daniel Quek
4	Daveed Tiong He Tan
5	Ernest Chen
6	Geoff Howie
7	Jonathan Yeo
8	Joseph Kwok
9	Julius Kuah
10	Michael Aw
11	Michael Yap
12	Paul Tham
13	Paul Ho
14	Richard Ngo
15	Sean Lim
16	Sylvia Oo
17	Tony Alizzi
18	Zillur Rahman Siddiqui

**Ordinary Member**

1	Dipanti Das
2	Ruby Lydia Chan
3	Andrew Chew
4	Kevin Dam
5	Nurhidayah Ekbal
6	Philip Forrest
7	Rajaneesh Kurup
8	Shaun Mcewan
9	Teck Shin Phuah
10	Pinky Sibal
11	Rennie Sng

**Institutional Member**

1	James Cook University (Chris Rudd)
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**Invited Guests**

1	His Excellency, The Hon Will Hodgman	- High Commissioner of Australia to Singapore
2	Ms Dharini Velummylum	- Observer from Australian High Commission
3	Mr Andrew Han	- AAS Hon Auditor
4	Mr Erwin Kho	- Swinburne Alumni President

**In Attendance:**

1	Ms Yen Mei Ling	- AAS Secretariat
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His Excellency, The Hon Mr. Will Hodgman, High Commissioner of Australia to Singapore, delivered his Welcome Address as the Guest-of-Honour. In his Speech, Will shared that he is delighted and honoured to be invited to be AAS Patron. He shared that he has received a very warm welcome since arriving in Singapore two months ago with part of his family. He looks forward to meeting everyone over the next three years and hope to be able to strengthen the relationship between Australia and Singapore, which is an important partner to broaden Australia's reach in the region.

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## **FORMAL PROCEEDING**

Mr Shaun Mcewan, the Presiding Officer for this AGM called the meeting to order at 7.16 pm with a quorum of 30 voting members.

### **1.0 To receive the Annual Report**

- 1.1 The President- Joseph Kwok, shared the Annual Report which summarised some of the significant developments and expressed his gratitude for the opportunity to be of service to AAS and announced that he will be stepping down as AAS President but will continue to contribute to AAS in other ways.
- a. Net revenue of \$38.5 K in 2020 vs \$55K in 2019, mainly from Sponsorship and Partner University fees.
  - b. Net Deficit of \$29K in 2020 vs a Net Deficit of \$10K in 2019.
  - c. He conveyed sincere thanks to the following who contributed to AAS' success:
    - i. Term Sponsors: Platinum – James Cook University ; Gold – Lendlease and Silver – Trust Capital
    - ii. University Partners : Platinum – James Cook University and Silver – The University of Queensland
    - iii. Wine Sponsor – Wolf Blass by Treasury Wine Estates
    - iv. The Australian High Commission, HE Bruce Gosper, his team and Ms Lauren Hernandez
    - v. Members of the Council of Advisors for their valuable time and effort to execute AAS initiatives
    - vi. AAS MC & Secretariat
    - vii. AAS MC who is stepping down, Mr Paul Ho, for his past dedication and contribution
  - d. Major achievements in 2020 included the following:
    - 1 AGM, 2 Physical Events, 2 Charity Drives and 6 Webinars
    - AAS also embarked on a few CSR initiatives by raising S\$16,864 to help with the Australia Bush Fire in Jan 2020. This was followed by a Kopi for Front Line Worker Campaign in Feb 2020 to provide coffee to healthcare workings in NUS Hospital and Singapore General Hospital.

Chris Cheah, Chairman of AAS Council of Advisors thanked Joseph for having done a great job as AAS President for the past 3 years and will continue to support the upcoming AAS President moving forward.

### **2.0 To receive AAS' 65<sup>th</sup> AGM Minutes**

The Presiding Officer presented the 65<sup>th</sup> AGM Minutes which was circulated prior to the meeting and thereafter, tabled the following motion:

“That the Minutes for the 65<sup>th</sup> AGM be accepted and received.”

Proposer: Rajaneesh Kurup | Seconder: Dipanti Das

The Motion was carried unopposed.

### **3.0 To receive the Statement of Accounts for 1<sup>st</sup> January – 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020**

The Treasurer- Clarence Lee, presented the following highlights of the audited profit and loss statement and balance sheet which was circulated prior to the meeting:

- a. Overall 2020 Net Revenue down 32.5% to S\$42.3k - Due to weak sponsorship environment and Partner University Scheme
- b. Events have maintained profitability in 2020
- c. Total Current assets fell 23% to \$130,206 - More impetus needed for the coming years in driving Sponsorships

The Presiding Officer then tabled the following motion:

“That the Audited Accounts for the financial year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2020 be and are hereby approved and adopted.”

Proposer: Rajaneesh Kurup | Seconder: Clarence Lee

The Motion was carried unopposed.

Before proceeding onto the next agenda, the Presiding Officer requested for the following Management Committees to provide an update on their portfolio:

Chair of Events – Dipanti Das : Total 9 Events successfully organised in 2020.

Chair of Membership – Raj Kurup: The total membership number grew by 1.35%, from 811 to 822

**4.0 To elect 3 Management Committee Members**

Ms Nurhidayah Ekbal, Mr Richard Ngo and Mr Sean Lim were the only candidates nominated for election to join the Management Committee and was invited by the Presiding Officer to introduce themselves. It was a walk-over hence no voting was conducted.

**5.0 To elect an Auditor**

Andrew Han has been AAS Hon Auditor since 2016 and he has expressed that this will be his final year volunteering in this role. On behalf of AAS, the Presiding Officer thanked Andrew for his dedication and contributions. As Andrew was the sole candidate nominated for election to the office of the Auditor, it was considered a walk-over and no voting was conducted.

**6.0 To consider any other business for which prior written notice has been received two weeks before AGM in accordance with Article VII(2)**

As none was received, we moved on to the next Agenda.

**7.0 To discuss general business**

Michael Aw had a question for High Commissioner Hodgman about Travel Restriction Upliftment but he has gone offline.

There being no other matters, the meeting was declared closed at 8.06 pm with a vote of thanks to all in attendance.

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Prepared by: Yen Mei Ling

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Signed by President: Joseph Kwok

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Signed by Hon Secretary: Paul Ho