

Minutes of the EIANZ NSW Division 35th Annual General Meeting

11 August 2025

The meeting opened at 6.00 pm.

1. Welcome and Apologies

The meeting was attended by the following NSW Division members:

In person: Christopher Wilson, Christopher Liu, David Johnson, Edouard Loisanse, Ema Hagihara, Fiona Gainsford, Fiorella Sierra Sotelo, Greg Marshall, James Cannon, Jamie McMahon, Kevin Roberts, Kim McClymont, Liwei Pan, Michael Chilcott, Mitchell Gertos, Sarah Loder, Suzy Carden-Noad, Tatiana Sitolini, Thomas Holmes, Travis Ng, Zoe McLaughlin, Wilson Lau (Minutes).

Online: Brendyn Williams, Caitlin Bennett, Daisy Barlass, Erica van den Honert, Erran Woodward, Lizzie Leiding, Mohammad Salari, Natalie Richards, Rebecca Goodwin, Sharmila Lakshmana, Yishan Tan, Zoe Wood

Apologies were received from: Rhidian Harrington, Andrew Morison, Avanish Panikkar, David Gainsford, Miching Yu, Chansovy Ngorn, Chris Redford, Louise MacDonald, Laura Soininen

Kevin Roberts, the NSW Division President, welcomed everyone to the meeting. Kevin confirmed that a quorum was present.

Welcome from our host: Greg Marshall, GHD Principal Consultant

Acknowledgement of Country: Fiona Gainsford, FEIANZ CEnvP

2. Adoption of 2024 AGM Minutes

Motion: That the minutes of the previous AGM held on 12 August 2024 were adopted.

Proposed: Kim McClymont
Motion carried

Seconded: Zoe McLaughlin

3. President's Report 2024-25

The President, Kevin Roberts, presented the 2024-25 President's Report with updates on all major events and inputs by the Division, and highlighted the achievements over the past year (further details can be found in the 2024-25 EIANZ NSW Division Annual Report).

- Membership has continued to grow consistently each month, reflecting the Division's commitment to continually offering events across NSW. The Division now runs events in six different regions across the state: Sydney,

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Illawarra, Newcastle, South Coast, Western Sydney, and recently expanded to include Armidale.

- The seasonal Enviro Drinks program has continued to grow in success, demonstrating the value of regular networking opportunities for members.
- In November 2024, Sydney successfully hosted the EIANZ Annual Conference, where a number of NSW members were recognised as fellows in acknowledgement of their service to both the environment profession and the Institute. Two members received Merit Awards: Andrew Morison received the Mary Lou Morris Award for outstanding service to the Institute at division, chapter, SIS and committee levels, whilst Travis Ng received the Tor Hundloe Award, recognising his outstanding contributions to the environment profession as a young professional EIANZ member and his leadership of the successful Mentoring Program.
- The Division's advocacy work continues to be a priority, with NSW committee members participating in the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure's Peak Bodies Forum, including Zoe McLaughlin, Jamie McMahon and Zoe Wood. Members have also established a Biodiversity Offsets Community of Practice, providing advice on scheme implementation to NSW DCCEE whilst communicating changes to members.
- The annual Open Committee Meeting successfully captured member inputs. The President highlighted two notable events in the year: an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage field-based workshop in the Blue Mountains organised by Michael Chilcott in collaboration with NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service, and the Environmental Experts Course supported by partner Clayton Utz. Both events demonstrate the value of collaborative partnerships in running a successful event.
- The Annual Report has more details about all the events that were run, and hopefully reflects an increase in variety of events, topics and locations.
- The NSW divisional committee developed a Strategic Plan that guides the division's work throughout the year. This plan is reviewed and updated annually, and is available to members to access.
- The Division maintains a sound budget position and is supported by EIANZ's Central Office, particularly through increased webinar offerings that allow divisions to develop more experiential events and activities. The President acknowledged the contribution of Wilson Lau, NSW Division Secretariat, whose energy and commitment are integral to the Division's success.
- The President extended sincere thanks to all divisional committee members for their volunteer contributions, event sponsors and hosts, and both longstanding and new members. Special recognition was given to

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the Student and Early Careers Subcommittee, including Travis Ng, Ema Hagihara and others, for their excellent work in building university connections and supporting emerging environmental professionals.

- The Division is well positioned for continued success in 2025-26.

4. Treasurer's Report

Lisa Mitchell, the NSW Division Treasurer, presented the Treasurer's Report (for further details, please see the EIANZ NSW Division Annual Report).

- The Division is in a very sound financial position, with a particularly positive 2024-25 year showing a surplus of 50% compared to the previous year.
- This strong financial performance resulted from a range of successful events, including the highly popular Environmental Experts Course which provided good income as well as the Renewable Energy in the Illawarra event, among many others. These events contributed to the bulk of the Division's surplus.
- Membership income remained stable despite an increase in membership numbers across the year.
- Event sponsorship revenue more than doubled compared to the previous year, reflecting the excellent work of event organisers and strong industry support.

Motion: That the President's Report and Treasurer's Report be received and accepted.

Proposed: David Johnson

Seconded: Michael Chilcott

Motion carried

5. Nominations and Elections

Greg Marshall presented the nominations of the 2025-26 NSW Division Committee members and office bearers. The following nominations were accepted uncontested:

President: Kevin Roberts

Proposed: Jamie McMahon

Seconded: Travis Ng

Vice-President: Zoe McLaughlin

Proposed: Fiona Gainsford

Seconded: Kim McClymont

Secretary: Greg Marshall

Proposed: Michael Chilcott

Seconded: Lisa Mitchell

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Treasurer: Lisa Mitchell

Proposed: Ema Hagihara

Seconded: David Johnson

Motion: That the Office bearers be formally accepted:

Proposed: Jamie McMahon
Motion Carried.

Seconded: Travis Ng

Committee Members: Andrew Morison, Alex Iljin, Jamie McMahon, Avanish Panikkar, Zoe Wood, Travis Ng, Rebecca Goodwin, Erran Woodward, Ema Hagihara, Brendan Williams, Natalia Gomez, Edouard Loisanse

Motion: That the General Committee Members be formally accepted:

Proposed: Fiona Gainsford
Motion Carried.

Seconded: Zoe McLaughlin

It is noted that other members who are currently travelling have not yet submitted their nominations, including Rhidian Harrington. A motion may be moved at a subsequent NSW Divisional Committee meeting to accept any late nominations received.

6. 2025-26 President's Acceptance

Kevin thanked everyone for putting their faith in him to lead the Divisional Committee.

He expressed his commitment to delivering a strong events program for the coming year.

The President acknowledged Jason Chan, who has been a longstanding member of the NSW Division Committee and is not standing for re-election. Jason had shared a thoughtful message several days prior expressing his appreciation for his involvement with the Committee. The President recognised Jason as a forerunner in establishing the Student and Early Careers Subcommittee, and noted Jason's acknowledgement of the support provided by Zoe McLaughlin throughout his tenure.

The President concluded by thanking all members and expressing his enthusiasm for the year ahead.

7. Other Business

Kim McClymont may develop a cultural awareness course in the new year.

It was noted that the Institute's Indigenous Engagement Working Group currently lacks NSW representation, an issue to be considered by the

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Committee in the coming year.

The Divisional Committee agreed to sponsor a student or early career professional's attendance at the EIANZ Annual Conference in Perth through a travel grant, with details to be worked out.

The AGM closed at 6:39 pm.