



THE SIR RICHARD WILLIAMS FOUNDATION

Annual General Meeting Tuesday 31 October 2017 Minutes

Alastair Swayn Theatre, Brindabella Conference Centre, ACT

There being a quorum, the Chair, Air Marshal Geoff Brown AO (Retd) declared the meeting open at 1730 hrs

Item 1 Chair Opening, Apologies and Proxies Air Marshal Geoff Brown AO (Retd)

Present:

Air Marshal Geoff Brown AO (Retd) (Board Member)
Air Marshal Errol McCormack AO (Retd) (Board Member)
Group Captain Anne Borzycki (Retd) (Board Member)
Mr Ian Irving (Board Member)
Air Vice Marshal Brian Weston AM (Retd) (Board Member)
Mr Ken Moore (Board Member)
Mr John Conway (Board Member)
Group Captain David Millar (new Board Member)
Ms Catherine Scott (Business Manager) - minutes

Group Captain David Banham
Air Vice Marshal John Blackburn AO (Retd)
Rear Admiral (Retd) Mark Campbell AM, CSC, RAN
Mr Jacob de Wilt
Mr Travis Ellemans
Air Commodore Mark Green
Wing Commander Travis Hallen
Ms Alex McCubbin
Mr Ian McDonald AM
Mr Ian McKenzie
Mr Peter Nicholson AO
WGCDR David Riddel CSC
Mr Peter Robinson
AVM (Retd) Mark Skidmore AM
Dr Alan Stephens OAM
Mr Michael Walkington AM
Captain Andrew Quinn, RAN
Air Commodore Ian Pearson (Retd)
Group Captain Noel Wainwright (Retd)

Apologies:

Mrs Amanda Holt (Board Member)
Ms Nicole Quinn (Board Member)
Ms Katherine Ziesing (Board Member)

Air Commodore Jake Campbell AM
Mr Brian Cather
Mr Rob Dunn
Air Commodore Anthony Forestier AM
Mr Vern Gallagher
Rear Admiral (Rtd) Raydon Gates AO, CSM
Group Captain Darren Goldie AM, CSC
Mr Steve Goltz
Mr Richard Grimes
Air Marshal John Harvey AM
Group Captain Nicholas Hogan
Mr Steven Holloway
Air Commodore Richard Keir AM, CSC
Squadron Leader Phillip Laverty
Wing Commander Chris McInnes
Air Vice Marshal Roxley McLennan AO (Retd)
Mr Brendan O'Loghlin AO
Mr Doug Park
Mr Andrew Rankin
Mr Oliver Robert
Squadron Leader Leith Roberts
Mr Michael Sinclair
Captain Paul Scott RAN
Mr Darren Smith
Mr Simon Whitehead RFD
Mr Geoff Zuber

Opening Remarks: Chair, Air Marshal Geoff Brown AO (Retd)

The Chair outlined the Foundation's achievements of the previous 12 months, highlighting the shift from fifth Generation Air Power themes to fully exploring broader integration issues.

Highlights

- Foundation Fellow, AVM John Blackburn AO (Retd) conducted an Integrated Air and Missile Defence (IAMD) study between Sep 16 and Feb 17. The subsequent report was published and launched at the April Integrated Force Design Seminar. The report successfully created discussion and debate and has been cited by many Defence analysts.
- In April, the Williams Foundation ran the Integrated Force Design Seminar. The seminar was very successful and the topic has created similar discussions by other think tanks since.
- The August Seminar on A New Approach To and Attitude to Electronic Warfare was led by Director John Conway, successfully doing some way in its intention to demystify EW in the context of an integrated joint force.
- The next seminar will be held in March next year after the RAAF Airpower Conference and will be on the challenges of Hi-Intensity Warfare.

All our seminars have been supported by Dr Robbin Laird, Second Line of Defense. Dr Laird has produces the reports after each seminar and continues to support the Foundation. The Chair formally acknowledged the professionalism and enthusiasm of Dr Laird.

The Chair formally thanked

- Event coordinators Nicole Quinn and Catherine Scott for the quality and professionalism of the seminar coordination.
- The editors of the Central Blue (Blog) for their contribution to the Williams Foundation noting a continued spirited engagement on a wide range of topics.
- Brian Weston for his contributions to Australian Aviation on a variety of topics and will continue the program next year.
- Outgoing members of the Foundation, GPCAPT Anne Borzycki (Retd), MAJGEN Jim Molan AO, DSC (Retd) and RADM Mark Campbell RAN (Rtd).
The Chair made a special acknowledgement to Executive Officer GPCAPT Anne Borzycki (Retd) for long and sustained contribution to the Foundation, which has been pivotal to the success of the Foundation.

The Chair concluded by thanking the Air Force and industry partners, for their continued and fulsome support of the Foundation's work.

Item 2 Minutes of Last Meeting: AIRMSHL Geoff Brown AO (Retd)

The Chair proposed that the Minutes of the AGM held on 25 October 2016 be accepted.

Moved: AIRMSHL Geoff Brown AO (Retd)

Seconded Mr John Conway

Carried

Item 3 Business Arising AIRMSHL Geoff Brown AO (Retd)

Discussion around importance of implementing a Conflict of Interests especially in light of the recent problems with the RSL.

Moved: AIRMSHL Geoff Brown AO (Retd)

Seconded: CAPT Andrew Quinn RAN

Carried

Item 4 Income Statement and Balance Sheet Executive Officer, GPCAPT Anne Borzycki (Retd)

The Executive Officer, GPCAPT Anne Borzycki (Retd) spoke to the Financial Report highlighting and explaining specific line items.

The financial year returned a profit of \$61,000 and a concluding bank balance of around \$450,000.

GPCAPT Borzycki outlined recent board decisions around monies required in reserve to keep the Foundation operational for 12 months without sponsorship and without risk of insolvency. An amount of \$250,000 is required. The Board is exploring flexible, low risk investment options for the balance of these funds.

The Executive Officer outlined the Board intentions to continue member benefits such as free access to events and other activities. The Board wishes also to have the flexibility to explore new and interesting topics that may not be attractive to traditional sponsors.

Income is slightly down on the previous year, due to only one sponsored members lunch in the period and the timing of receiving some sponsorship income in the previous year.

For the same reasons, expenses were up on the previous year. Also members lunches are becoming more popular and therefore at higher expense.

The Scholars program is incurring costs over the year.

Website management costs are up due to the development, implementation and ongoing costs of the Central Blue blog.

The Executive Officer personally and formally thanked the Chair for his support of her role, the Deputy Chair also for his support of the roles, and for his tireless commitment to the Foundation, and fellow Board members. The Executive Officer also formally thanked Nicole Quinn and Cath Scott for their event coordination and professionalism.

The Executive Officer proposed that the Auditor's Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2017 be accepted.

Moved: GPCAPT Anne Borzycki (Retd)

Seconded: AVM John Blackburn AO (Retd)

Carried

Item 5 Special Resolutions Executive Officer, GPCAPT Anne Borzycki (Retd)

Proposed Amendment Section 12 FUNDS

It was proposed that the approval process for payment of expenses and invoices greater than \$5000 be expanded to include the Deputy Chair and Treasurer as part of the process. Accordingly, any two of the officer holders listed below must be consulted and authorise payments in excess of \$5000.

Para 12.6

'Either the Chair, Deputy Chair, Treasurer or Secretary are authorised to pay accounts on behalf of the Foundation for expenses and invoices incurred by the Foundation in meeting its aims, up to a \$5000 limit. Over \$5000, any two of the Chair, Deputy Chair, Treasurer or Secretary must authorise the payment.'

Moved: GPCAPT Anne Borzycki (Retd)

Seconded: GPCAPT Mark Green

Carried

Item 6 Election of Board Members AIRMSHL Geoff Brown AO (Retd)

Nominations for positions to be filled

Deputy Chair AIRMSHL Errol McCormack (Retd)

Secretary: GPCAPT David Millar (Retd)

Treasurer: Mr Ken Moore

Director: Ms Amanda Holt

Director: Mr Ian Irving

Director: Ms Katherine Ziesing

Item 7 Appointment of Auditor AIRMSHL Geoff Brown AO (Retd)

Moved: AIRMSHL Geoff Brown AO (Retd)

Seconded: GPCAPT Anne Borzycki (Retd)

Carried

Item 8 Appointment of Public Officer AIRMSHL Geoff Brown AO (Retd)

Moved: AIRMSHL Geoff Brown AO (Retd)

Seconded: GPCAPT Anne Borzycki (Retd)

Carried

Item 9 General Business AIRMSHL Geoff Brown AO (Retd)

Central Blue Update

Wing Commander Travis Hallen updated members on the implementation and progress of the Central Blue Blog.

Key figures for the first year: 74 posts, 35 different contributors, Approximately 23 000 page views, and 8500 different visitors to the blog.

The Blog is meeting all the goals set:

- To Increase discussion and debate on Australian air power
- To encourage and support Air Force members writing about air power
- To Develop a network of scholars and operators across defence and internationally

Wing Commander Hallen also outlined strategies for the following year to:

- Improve post variety
- Improve the website
- Closer engagement with Williams activity

Item 10 Next Annual General Meeting AIRMSHL Geoff Brown AO (Retd)

The next AGM will be held in October 2018. Date to be confirmed.

The Chair declared the meeting closed at 1805

Geoff Brown

Air Marshal (Retd)

Chair

Sir Richard Williams Foundation

7 November 2017