



Report of the Victorian Chapter of the ASPG – Chair's Report 2017-2018

I am pleased to submit my first report as Chair of the Victorian Chapter of the ASPG.

The Victorian Chapter continues to be one of the most active chapters in the ASPG with a membership of 54, comprising current and former Members of Parliament and Parliamentary staff, academics, and interested others.

The Victorian Executive comprises the following members:

- Chair: Ms Carolyn Macvean, Manager, Library & Information, Department of Parliamentary Services
- Deputy Chair: Adj. Prof Colleen Lewis, Monash University
- Secretary: Ms Anique Owen, Chamber Procedure Officer, Legislative Council
- Treasurer: Dr Vaughn Koops, Serjeant-at-Arms, Legislative Assembly
- Further Executive Members: Mr Wayne Tunnecliffe, Dr Ken Coghill, Ms Maree Edwards MP, Mr Don Nardella MP, and Ms Sue Pennicuik, MLC

Membership and participation at seminars has declined slightly over the past 12 months. A subcommittee of the Executive considered a range of options, of which the Executive agreed to trial a different day and time for the remainder of the calendar year. The shift was from a Tuesday evening to a Monday afternoon saw a significant increase in the number of attendees on the first evening.

At the March 2018 Executive meeting, the Executive agreed to a revised seminar structure, to commence in the 2019 calendar year. It will comprise two Monday sessions at 4pm (as trialled), and one cocktail party or dinner per year with a special guest speaker at the event.

Members of the Executive also agreed to try different approaches to increase membership. This includes, but not limited to, approaching political science departments of the Victorian Universities, reaching out to the YMCA Youth Parliament committee, approaching the Victorian Parliamentary Library's Internship Alumni and Fellows, and contacts through social media.

The Victorian Chapter also approved in principle the constitutional provisions for electing the Executive Committee. In particular thought was given to allowing the election to take place by postal or email ballot, rather than the existing rules of limiting voting to those who

were present at Annual General Meeting. This proposal will be discussed at the Chapter's next Annual General Meeting to be held in September 2018.

Three seminars were held to date and two are scheduled for the remainder of this year.

I thank all our presenters and special guests who have shared their valuable knowledge, insights, time and effort.

I also sincerely thank the members of the Chapter, in particular the Executive who have assisted and guided me through my first 12 months as Chair.

Carolyn Macvean
Chair
ASPG, Victorian Chapter