

Australian  
| Academy of Health and  
Medical Sciences

# Annual report 2020-2021

ABN 55 167 124 067



## About the Academy

The Australian Academy of Health and Medical Sciences is the impartial, authoritative, cross-sector voice of health and medical science in Australia. We advance health and medical research and its translation into benefits for all by fostering leadership within our sector, providing expert advice to decision makers, and engaging patients and the public.

We are an independent, interdisciplinary body of Fellows – elected by their peers for their outstanding achievements and exceptional contributions to health and medical science in Australia. Collectively, they are a representative and independent voice, through which we engage with the community, industry and governments.

The Academy is uniquely positioned to convene cross-sector stakeholders from across Australia to address the most pressing health challenges facing society. We focus on the development of future generations of health and medical researchers, on providing independent advice to government and others on issues relating to evidence-based medical practice and medical researchers, and on providing a forum for discussion on progress in medical research with an emphasis on translation of research into practice.

In 2020, the Academy was formally recognised by the Federal Government as a national Learned Academy.

The Academy is registered with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC) and is endorsed as a deductible gift recipient.

[www.aahms.org](http://www.aahms.org)



## Acknowledgements

The Academy relies on funds from its Fellows and charitable donations to support its mentoring activities and project work on health-related research. We are grateful to all the organisations who have supported our work through grants and sponsorships during the past year, and through donations in previous years. We are grateful for donations made by the Frazer Family Foundation and the Gandevia Foundation.

The Academy is grateful for all gifts and donations for our educational and other charitable activities. All donations are spent on the charitable activities: none are used for administrative purposes.

We are grateful for the support of the University of Sydney and Queensland Government, who generously host the Academy's Sydney and Brisbane offices.

The Academy acknowledges the traditional custodians of the land on which our offices stand and on which we hold our meetings and events across the country. Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander peoples were the nation's first scientists, and they remain the spiritual and cultural custodians of their land. We pay our respects to elders past and present.

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# Academy strategy 2019-2022

## Our purpose

To advance health and medical research in Australia and its translation into benefits for all by fostering leadership within our sector, providing expert advice to decision makers, and engaging patients and the public.

## Our vision

A future in which health and medical science, with the Academy as its champion, drives sustained improvement in the health of the Australian and global community.

## Objectives

- Influence policy: Provide independent and research-based expert advice on challenges and opportunities in health, enabling decisions informed by the best available evidence.
- Nurture talented research leaders: Cultivate an environment in Australia in which future health and medical science leaders can thrive – where they can represent the community in which we work.
- Celebrate excellence: Promote excellence in all we do, underpinned by an active Fellowship of Australia's best and brightest researchers, which can reflect the full diversity of health and medical sciences.
- Support Indigenous health and wellbeing: Strengthen our contribution to improving Indigenous health and wellbeing and the representation of researchers of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander descent.



## President's report



I am delighted to report that, despite the ongoing challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, the past 12 months have been a time of

great growth for the Australian Academy of Health and Medical Sciences. Our 2020-21 annual report highlights some of the extraordinary efforts of our Fellows during these extraordinary times.

Fellows and Associate Members are contributing to the pandemic response across the nation – from modelling Australia's path out of the pandemic, to running clinical trials, advising about vaccination, and providing vital government advice to keep Australians safe. Throughout 2020, our COVID-19 Expert Committee, chaired by AAHMS Fellow Professor Tania Sorrell AM, offered their high level expertise to the [Rapid Research Information Forum \(RRIF\)](#). Chaired by Australia's Chief Scientist in 2020, Dr Alan Finkel AO FAA FTSE FAHMS, this forum provided rapid advice and analysis to government on urgent COVID-19 issues as they emerged. The Academy has also released several COVID-19-related statements and reports that outlined actions needed to see Australia through the pandemic – find them in our [COVID-19 information hub](#).

The Academy hit a major milestone in December 2020 when we were officially recognised as a Learned Academy under the Higher Education Support Act. This formal recognition, which requires passing of legislation through Parliament, ensures the Academy's future and confirms our critical role in advising and advocating on health and

medical issues. As a recognised Learned Academy, AAHMS became a full member of the [Australian Council of Learned Academies](#) in May 2021. I would like to thank the Fellows and Associate Members for all their hard work and efforts in helping the Academy to reach Learned Academy status, especially acknowledging the huge contribution of our Inaugural President Ian Frazer and the initial executive for their founding work.

We were able to celebrate this landmark through publication of an article in the [Medical Journal of Australia](#) published on 21 June 2021, entitled *"The Australian Academy of Health and Medical Sciences: an authoritative, independent voice in the Australian landscape."*

Our first major project as a Learned Academy began in late 2020, led by a working group of Fellows and external experts. The project, [Harnessing research for better health: A vision for integrating research into healthcare](#), explores the value of research in health services and hospitals, and the roles that key stakeholders – healthcare services, research organisations, patients, consumers and governments – can play to integrate research into the system. The project, chaired by Professor Christina Mitchell AO FAHMS, was publicly launched in August 2021 and the final report is expected in 2022.

***"Our 2020-21 annual report highlights some of the extraordinary efforts of our Fellows during these extraordinary times."***

I would particularly like to welcome our newest Fellows – both those who joined us in 2020 and those elected in 2021. We are delighted and fortunate to have you join our Academy. I consider it a great privilege to work with Australia's top minds in the health and medical sciences, and we are thankful for,

and look forward to, your contributions to our work. If you have any suggestions or ideas to grow or improve the Academy's work, please do not hesitate to contact me or Catherine Luckin, our CEO.

I extend my sincere thanks to Fellows who have served on Council and Executive, helping to steer the Academy from goal to goal as we navigate the COVID-19 pandemic. I would like to highlight our 2020 annual meeting steering committee, chaired by Professor Tony Cunningham AO FAHMS, for their work bringing together a rewarding online and local in-person event in October 2020, despite constantly changing restrictions.

***"The Academy's achievements are only possible through the outstanding work, expertise and commitment of our Fellows – thank you for your efforts to enhance Australia's health and medical sciences sector."***

The Academy's achievements are only possible through the outstanding work, expertise and commitment of our Fellows – thank you for your efforts to enhance Australia's health and medical sciences sector.

I acknowledge the ongoing important contribution of the Academy's standing committees; their work is detailed in the governance section of this report. We are very grateful to these Fellows who commit their time to helping guide the Academy and assist us towards meeting our strategic goals.

I also wish to thank the secretariat, who have been working remotely during our seemingly endless lockdowns, for their support and

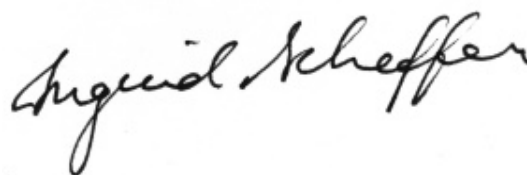
commitment to building our Academy during this turbulent year.

You can read more about the Academy's achievements in the past financial year throughout the report. Despite the pandemic, our [Life as a Clinician-Scientist symposia](#) have continued to be a wonderful highlight of the Academy that clearly inspire medical, science, nursing and allied health students, early career researchers and budding clinician-scientists in their pursuit of a career in health and medical research. Now in their 6<sup>th</sup> year, these symposia pivoted to hybrid events held both online and in-person during the COVID-19 pandemic, allowing us to extend our reach nationally. The program has continued to grow from strength to strength and we look forward to delivering an expanded series of symposia across Australia in the coming year.

The Academy's achievements are only possible through the outstanding work, expertise and commitment of our Fellows – thank you for your efforts to enhance Australia's health and medical sciences sector. I look forward to celebrating many more achievements with you all as the Academy grows.

With my warmest wishes,

Ingrid



**Ingrid Scheffer AO FRS FAA PresAHMS**  
President 2019 - present

# CEO's report

## CEO Catherine Luckin and Interim CEO Cath Latham



It is always a great pleasure to pen the annual CEO's report, but none more so than for 2020/21 which has been a landmark year for the Academy. Never has an Academy of Health and Medical Sciences been more important than during a global pandemic, so it was fitting that December saw AAHMS gain official recognition as a national [Learned Academy](#).

This step forward is a tribute to the amazing work of our Fellows and Associate Members, who have contributed in so many ways to make the Academy an invaluable national resource. Our heartfelt thanks go to our Executive and Council for all their support, as well as our standing and selection committees – and the Fellows who contribute to our policy projects, speak at our events and support all aspects of our activities.

Our Learned Academy status is accompanied by government funding, crucial to securing the Academy's future. It enables us to consolidate our activities and to expand them – ensuring that we serve our Fellows and the nation more fully. Our policy work has grown from strength to strength, not only in relation to the [COVID-19 pandemic](#), but in launching our [first flagship policy project](#), which will outline our vision for how Australia can maximise the value of research in the health system. We are excited to see this work develop, which is so far shaping up to deliver timely and strategic advice for government and the health sector during 2022.

Our [Mentorship Program](#) has grown substantially and our [Life as a Clinician-Scientist](#) events continue to inspire the next generation of clinician-scientists. We now honour exceptional researchers not only through election to the Fellowship, but through our two Honorific Awards, the [Jian Zhou Medal](#) and the Academy Medal for [Outstanding Female Researcher](#). These are just a few of the many highlights summarised throughout this report.

The new, ongoing Australian Government support enabled recruitment of additional secretariat staff with expertise in communications, policy and engagement, nearly doubling the size of the team (from 3.6 to 5.8 FTE). In 2021 we welcomed Policy Manager Dr Amanda Rush, Policy Officer Lanika Mylvaganam, Programs and Events Manager Thy Boskovic, and Communication and Media Manager Katie Rowney who joined our Fellowship and Administration Coordinator Dr Carla Muma, who has been with the Academy for several years. The new team have built on the excellent work of Policy and Projects Officer Katrin Forslund (until October 2020) Programs and Events Officer Ida Gambaro (until February 2021).

***“This step forward is a tribute to the amazing work of our Fellows and Associate Members, who have contributed in so many ways to make the Academy an invaluable national resource.”***

Greater capacity and expertise in these key areas has led to greater visibility of policy, mentorship and the Fellows via the website, social media and news media, and a boost in the Academy's external profile. This has built a strong foundation for promoting AAHMS Fellows and their work as well as an enhanced platform for engaging with external stakeholders in government, health and research sectors and the public.



We have also been able to expand our efforts in [supporting health and wellbeing of Australia's First Nations' people](#) both within the Academy and through ACOLA.

The Academy was founded with great ambition and this increased capacity will help us to match and exceed those high expectations.

Best wishes,



CEO

Catherine Luckin

Thank you to Ingrid, the AAHMS Executive and Council members for their support and guidance through the operational transitions in 2021.

As always, please do not hesitate to contact the secretariat to discuss our work; we are always delighted to hear from Fellows.



Interim CEO

Dr Cath Latham



# Celebrating excellence: our Fellowship

## New Fellows



Academy Fellows are elected by their peers based on their outstanding achievements and exceptional contributions to health and medical science in Australia. They are a representative and independent voice, through which we engage with the community, industry and governments.

We were delighted to welcome 28 Ordinary Fellows in October 2020:

- Distinguished Professor David Adams FAHMS
- Professor Lisa Askie FAHMS
- Professor Melanie Bahlo FAHMS
- Professor Julie Bernhardt AM FAHMS
- Professor Nicholas Buckley FAHMS
- Professor Peter Cistulli FAHMS
- Professor Susan Clark FAA FAHMS
- Professor Ian Constable AO FAHMS
- Professor Sarah-Jane Dawson FAHMS
- Professor Andrew Forbes FAHMS
- Professor Alistair Forrest FAHMS
- Professor Lin Fritschi FAHMS
- Professor Mary Galea AM FAHMS
- Professor Guy Marks FAHMS
- Professor Jennifer Martin FAHMS
- Professor Kirsten McCaffery FAHMS
- Professor Hylton Menz FAHMS
- Distinguished Professor Dianne Nicol FAHMS
- Professor Anton Peleg FAHMS
- Professor Roy Robins-Browne AO FAHMS
- Professor Andrew Steer FAHMS
- Professor Timothy Stinear FAHMS
- Professor Carolyn Sue AM FAHMS

- Professor Merlin Thomas FAHMS
- Professor Carola Vinuesa FAA FAHMS
- Professor Steve Vucic FAHMS
- Professor Andrew Wilks FTSE FAHMS
- Professor Naomi Wray FAA FAHMS

## Election process

In July 2020, Council recommended 28 Ordinary Fellows for election in October 2020. This brought the Fellowship to over 400 Fellows – 426 in total, including 382 Ordinary, 10 Overseas, three Corresponding, 14 Honorary and 17 Retired Fellows.

## Vale

Sadly, a Fellow passed in 2021: [Vale Professor Katharina \(Kat\) Gaus](#), a much-loved and respected Fellow, who will be missed by the entire community. Professor Gaus received many accolades, including the prestigious Gottschalk Medal of the Australian Academy of Science. She is remembered as generous mentor, who took great pride in supporting talented young researchers to achieve their goals.

## Diversity and inclusion

The Academy continues to work towards its goals of greater diversity and inclusion within our Fellowship. Our election process includes policies to ensure gender balance, and encourage nominations of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander candidates.

- The proportion of women in the Fellowship is slowly rising – in June 2021, 29 per cent of Fellows were women (up from 28 per cent the year prior), including 30 per cent among Ordinary Fellows. Forty-six per cent of new Ordinary Fellows in 2020 were women.
- Our efforts to diversify age groups have been successful. The average age of new Fellows dropped from 58 years in 2018 to 56.6 in 2019 and 55.2 in 2020. Our Fellows range in age from 42 to 88 years old.
- The Academy's representation of women within the Academy's leadership has decreased slightly. In June 2021, women made up 40.3 per cent of committee and working group members, down from 46 per cent the year prior. However, four of seven Chairs are women. Council has 45 per cent women, and the Executive (which forms part of Council) has 57 per cent women.
- The Academy had 34 Mentees during the past financial year – of these, 21 were women (61.7 per cent).
- We continue to strive for diversity at our events. The Life as a Clinician-Scientist series consistently features more female than male speakers, while our annual meeting has balanced representation also. To encourage diversity of audience, the Academy has been offering complimentary tickets to organisations that represent Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students.
- We have been working to update the Academy's website and social media with features such as alternative text, for accessibility, and ensuring the diversity of our Fellows is represented through appropriate imagery and text in all publications. Diversity is also considered when selecting media spokespeople. This has been a priority for the Academy. Now there is greater capacity in communication and engagement, the secretariat has been able to pursue projects that improve accessibility and diversity in our publications and on our website.

# Nuturing future research leaders

## Life as a Clinician-Scientist

Despite COVID-19, the Academy committed to continuing to deliver events to bring current and budding clinician-scientists together to hear the highs and lows of pursuing a career with both research and healthcare delivery. Two online webinars were held in August 2020. One focused on responding to the pandemic as a clinician-scientist and the second covered driving research in a pandemic. The events were very well received, and with registration complimentary, each webinar attracted more than 170 attendees.

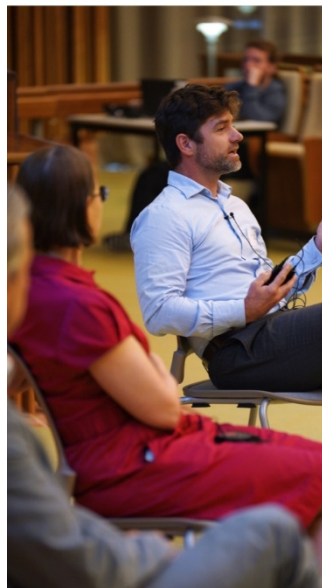
***“Such an engaging event, even as an online attendee!”***

LACS event attendee, 2021

***“Thank you for offering these events online! With a busy family and workload, I was pleased to be able to join in remotely and listen to these engaging talks!”*** LACS event attendee, 2021

***“Very well run and was very engaging and informative.”*** LACS event attendee, 2021

In 2021 hybrid LACS events were held in Queensland and Victoria, with speakers presenting both live and streamed online to a wide audience. The difficulties of holding an in-person event during a pandemic were ever present, with plans to pivot to a completely online format on stand-by, if required. Despite these challenges, both events were delivered in a hybrid format and attracted more than 150 attendees in-person and online. We received fantastic feedback from attendees who found the events relevant and inspiring.





## Mentorship program

The Academy's Mentorship Program aims to support the next generation of leaders in health and medical research. Rising research stars self-nominate for selection, and successful candidates become Associate Members of the Academy for the three-year program. They receive ongoing support from a paired mentor, who offers a second perspective and experienced advice for the duration. Mentees are admitted in two selection rounds annually.

*"Thank you! It has been an incredible year as a mentee and I am really grateful for the investment in me, the camaraderie, the learning and my mentor, as well as the support structures that AAHMS put around this."* Current mentee

The Academy had 34 mentees participating in the program as of 30 June, 2021 – 17 of these mentees were selected during 2020-21 financial year. They are:

- **Professor Phil Batterham**, *Professor, Centre for Mental Health Research, Australian National University, ACT.*
- **Professor Rebecca Bentley**, *Professorial Fellow, The University of Melbourne, VIC.*
- **Associate Professor Alison Calear**, *Associate Professor, Australian National University, ACT.*
- **Associate Professor Leonie Heilbronn**, *Senior Research Fellow, The University of Adelaide, SA.*
- **Associate Professor Kim Hemsley**, *Head, Childhood Dementia Research Group, Flinders Health and Medical Research Institute, Flinders University, SA.*
- **Professor Jeroen Hendriks**, *Professor of Cardiovascular Nursing, Flinders University and the Royal Adelaide Hospital, SA.*
- **Professor Ainsley Newson**, *Professor of Bioethics, The University of Sydney, NSW.*
- **Associate Professor Donna Urquhart**, *MRFF/NHMRC Career Development Fellow (Level 2), Monash University, VIC.*
- **Associate Professor Frank van Haren**, *Associate Professor (honorary), Australian National University, ANU*
- **Associate Professor Wendy Lipworth**, *Associate Professor/ NHMRC Career Development Fellow, The University of Sydney, NSW.*
- **Professor Michael Samuel**, *Head, Tumour Microenvironment Laboratory, SA Pathology and the University of South Australia, SA.*
- **Professor Shomik Sengupta**, *Professor of Surgery, Monash University, VIC.*
- **Associate Professor Tasha Stanton**, *Associate Research Professor of Clinical Pain Neuroscience, University of South Australia, SA.*
- **Associate Professor Kamala Thriemer**, *Principal Research Fellow, Menzies School of Health Research, NT.*
- **Associate Professor Andrew Vakulin**, *Associate Professor - Medical Sciences, Flinders University, SA.*
- **Associate Professor James Wells**, *Associate Professor - Cancer Immunotherapy, The University of Queensland, QLD.*
- **Professor Di Yu**, *Professor of Immunology, Group Leader, The University of Queensland Diamantina Institute, QLD.*

The geographical distribution of Mentees has become more diverse. The Academy is pleased to welcome participants from South Australia, and more broadly across Western Australia and Northern Territory.



## Honorific awards

The Academy has two awards specifically designed to nurture and celebrate talented individuals who are making significant contributions to furthering biomedical and health research, primarily working in Australia.



In 2020, the [Jian Zhou Medal](#) was awarded for the first time. The medal recognises a rising star of Australian health and medical science: an individual within 15 years of achieving their PhD (or equivalent first research higher degree) who is making a significant impact in translational medical science. The Jian Zhou Medal has been made possible by a generous donation from the Frazer Family Foundation, for which the Academy is most grateful. In 2020 [it was awarded](#) to Professor Sarah-Jane Dawson FAHMS and Professor Andrew Steer FAHMS.



The Academy's [Medal for Outstanding Female Researcher](#) was established in 2020 to recognise researchers who identify as female, and have made one or more seminal discoveries in the health and medical sciences. Consideration is given to individuals whose career has been interrupted, delayed or otherwise constrained through reasons including, but not limited to, illness, child bearing, child caring or other caring responsibilities. The Academy appreciates the support of The Gandevia Foundation, whose generous donation made this award possible. The medal will be awarded for the first time in September 2021.

## Influencing policy

In 2020-21, the Academy has focused on three major policy priorities: harnessing research for better health, the health impacts of climate change and tackling the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic. Additionally, the Academy has engaged in issues of national importance through responses to government consultations and inquiries including the health impacts of bushfires, legislative reform for mitochondrial donation in healthcare and research, and proposed changes to open access publishing. Details about the Academy's work on these policy priorities and submissions are available on the AAHMS [policy webpage](#).

### Harnessing research for better health

This year, the Academy began work on our first major policy project - [Harnessing research for better health: A vision for integrating research into healthcare](#). This project addresses a matter at the core of the Academy's values - improving healthcare for Australians by better enabling research within the health system. Chaired by Professor Christina Mitchell (right), the project working group (details below) formed in late 2020 to define the scope and shape the approach to this work.



The project will explore the value of research in health services and hospitals, and the roles that key stakeholders – healthcare services, research organisations, patients, consumers and governments – can play to make research happen. It will build on the significant work of the [2013 McKeon Strategic Review of Health and Medical Research](#) by looking at how far we have come and what new challenges we face now and on the horizon. As we head into 2021-22, the working group will be engaging widely with leaders in the health services, research organisations, industry, funding bodies and the public to build a better understanding of how to map the path forward for research within healthcare.

#### *Harnessing research for better health working group*

- Chair: Professor Christina Mitchell AO FAHMS
- Dr Teresa Anderson AM
- Professor Jeffrey Braithwaite FAHMS
- Professor Michael Berk FAHMS
- Professor Jonathan Carapetis AM FAHMS
- Professor Sandra Eades FASSA FAHMS
- Professor Ian Frazer AC FRS FAA FTSE FAHMS
- Professor Jane Gunn FAHMS
- Professor Caroline Homer AO FAHMS
- Associate Professor Sebastian King
- Professor Don Nutbeam FAHMS
- Scientia Professor Vlado Perkovic FAHMS
- Professor Claire Rickard FAHMS
- Professor Sir John Savill FRS FRSE FMedSci
- Professor Paul Scuffham FAHMS

## Health impacts of climate change

The Academy began work on [health and climate change](#) following the devastating summer of 2019-2020, where bushfires raged through Australia. The steering committee (detailed below) has continued to guide the Academy's work into what health impacts may lie ahead as a result of Australia's changing climate. In August 2020, Professor Stephen Duckett FASSA FAHMS [provided evidence](#) on behalf of AAHMS at a public hearing of the [Senate's Finance and Public Administration Committee inquiry](#) into the "Lessons to be learned in relation to the Australian bushfire season 2019-20". In 2021, the Academy has continued this work on health and climate change, bringing together leaders in the area across disciplines and to learn from First Nations knowledges to map potential solutions.



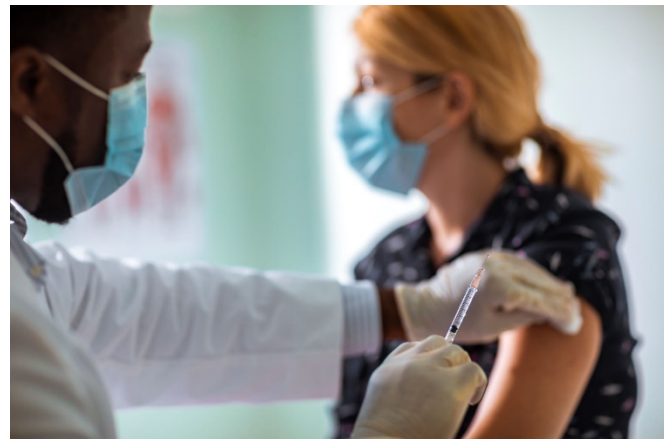
### *Climate Change and Health Steering Committee*

- Co-chair: Professor Warwick Anderson FAHA FASSA FAHMS (on leave August - October 2021)
- Acting Co-chair Professor Fran Baum AO FASSA FAHMS – (August - October 2021)
- Co-Chair Professor Tony Capon
- Professor James McCarthy FAHMS
- Professor Tania Sorrell AM FAHMS
- Professor Ian Anderson AO FAHMS
- Professor Stephen Duckett FASSA FAHMS
- Professor Jane Fisher AO
- Associate Professor Coral Gartner
- Professor Billie Giles Corti
- Adjunct Professor Tarun Weeramanthri
- Professor Ingrid Scheffer (ex officio) AO FRS FAA PresAHMS

## COVID-19 pandemic

The COVID-19 expert committee (detailed below), chaired by Professor Tania Sorrell AM FAHMS, guides the Academy's work to support the nation's response to the pandemic. Our Fellows have regularly convened to share expert advice, engage with the public, and guide conversations about COVID-19. In the past financial year, AAHMS has produced a range of statements and reports to assist government and the public through evidence-based advice:

- April 2021 – [Vaccines only part of the pandemic puzzle](#)
- February 2021 – [COVID-19 vaccines will protect individuals, families and communities](#)
- December 2020 – [AAHMS Report: Vaccines alone won't keep Australia COVID-safe](#)
- June – November 2020 – Contributions to over 20 reports for the Chief Scientist [as part of the Rapid Research Information Forum](#)



### COVID-19 Expert Committee

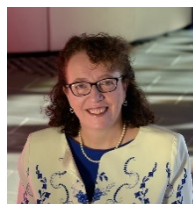
- Chair - Professor Tania Sorrell AM FAHMS
- Professor Ian Hickie AM FASSA FAHMS
- Professor Adrian Bauman FAHMS
- Professor John Kaldor FAHMS
- Professor Alex Brown FAHMS
- Professor Julian Savulescu FAHMS
- Professor Andrew Cuthbertson AO FAA FTSE FAHMS
- Professor Katherine Kedzierska FAHMS
- Professor Anne Chang AM FAHMS
- Professor Kirsten McCaffery FAHMS
- Professor Brendan Crabb AC FAHMS
- Professor Marc Pellegrini FAHMS
- Professor Christine McDonald AM FAHMS
- Professor Mark Harris AO FAHMS
- Professor Claire Rickard FAHMS
- Professor Paul Young FAHMS
- Professor David Currow FAHMS
- Professor Sharon Lewin AO FAHMS
- Professor David Durrheim FAHMS
- Professor Steve Webb FAHMS
- Professor Fran Baum AO FASSA FAHMS
- Professor Ian Frazer AC FRS FAA FTSE FAHMS
- Professor Ingrid Scheffer (ex officio) AO FRS FAA PresAHMS



# Governance

## Academy Executive and Council (2020/21)

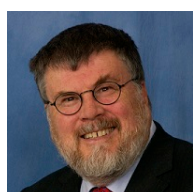
### *The Executive (Board)*



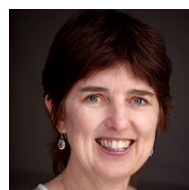
**Professor Ingrid Scheffer** AO  
FRS FAA PresAHMS  
President (2019 – ), Director  
(2014 – )



**Professor Bronwyn Kingwell**  
FAHMS  
Director (2017 – )



**Professor Simon Foote** FAA  
FTSE FAHMS  
Hon. Treasurer and Public  
Officer (2017 – ), Director  
(2014 – )



**Professor Robyn Ward** AM  
FAHMS  
Director (2014)



**Professor Ian Frazer** AC FRS  
FAA FTSE FAHMS  
Immediate Past President  
(2019  
– ), Director (2014 – )



**Professor Kathryn North**  
AC FAHMS  
Director (2020 – )



**Professor Steven Wesselingh**  
FAHMS  
Vice President (2020 - ), Director (2014 – )

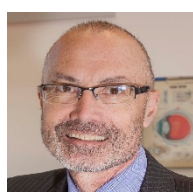
### *State Branch Chairs (and Council Members)*



**Professor Anthony Cunningham** AO FAHMS  
Chair, NSW & ACT State  
Branch (2019 – )



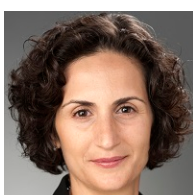
**Professor David Whiteman**  
AM  
FAHMS  
Chair, QLD State Branch  
(2019 – )



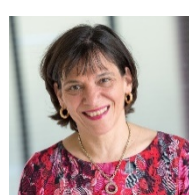
**Professor David Mackey** AO  
FAHMS  
Chair, WA State Branch  
(2018 – )



**Professor Terry O'Brien**  
FAHMS  
Chair, VIC & TAS (2019 –  
2021)



**Professor Maria Makrides**  
FAA FAHMS  
Chair, SA & NT State Branch  
(2019 – )

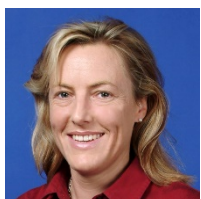


**Professor Flavia Cicuttii**  
FAHMS  
Chair, VIC & TAS (2021 – )

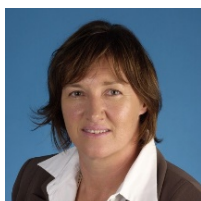
### ***Ordinary Council Members***



**Professor Louise Baur AM**  
FAHMS  
Council Member (2014 – 2020)



**Professor Gabrielle Belz**  
FAHMS  
Council Member (2020 – )



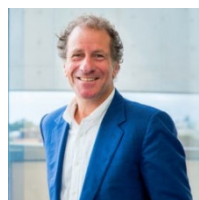
**Distinguished Professor Elizabeth Elliott**  
FAHMS  
Council Member (2020 – )



**Professor Simon Gandevia**  
FAA  
FAHMS  
Council Member (2017 – )



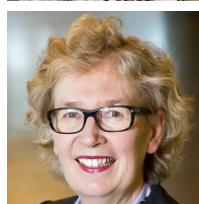
**Professor Frank Gannon**  
FAHMS  
Council Member (2016 – )



**Professor John Kaldor**  
FAHMS  
Council Member (2020 – )



**Professor Fabienne Mackay**  
FAHMS  
Council Member (2020 – )



**Professor Christina Mitchell**  
AO FAHMS  
Council Member (2014 – 2020)

## Standing Committees (2020/21)

### ***Finance, Audit and Risk Committee***

Chair, honorary treasurer: Professor Simon Foote

Professor Louise Baur

Professor Ian Frazer

Professor Stephen Nicholls

Professor Kathryn Refshauge

Professor Andrew Scott

Professor Ingrid Scheffer (Ex-Officio)

---

### ***Mentorship Committee***

Chair: Professor Louise Baur

Professor Tim Hughes

Professor Christina Mitchell

Professor Claire Rickard

Professor Maree Teesson

Professor Ingrid Scheffer (*ex officio*)

---

### ***Reports Committee***

Professor Frank Gannon (chair)

Professor Simon Gandevia (acting chair, 2020)

Professor John Carlin

Associate Professor Coral Gartner

Professor Louisa Jorm

Professor Maria Makrides

Professor Paul Scuffham

Professor Melanie Bahlo (2021 - )

Professor Ken Ho (2020)

Professor Peter Soyer (2020)

Dr Ken Pang (2020)

Professor Ingrid Scheffer (*ex officio*)



## Secretariat (2020/21)

**Interim Chief Executive Officer (from March 2021)**

Dr Cath Latham

**Chief Executive Officer (on parental leave from March 2021)**

Catherine Luckin

**Policy Manager (from January 2021)**

Dr Amanda Rush

**Policy Officer (from April 2021)**

Lanika Mylvaganam

**Policy and Projects Officer (until October 2020)**

Katrin Forslund

**Programs and Events Manager (from March 2021)**

Thy Boskovic

**Programs and Events Officer (until February 2021)**

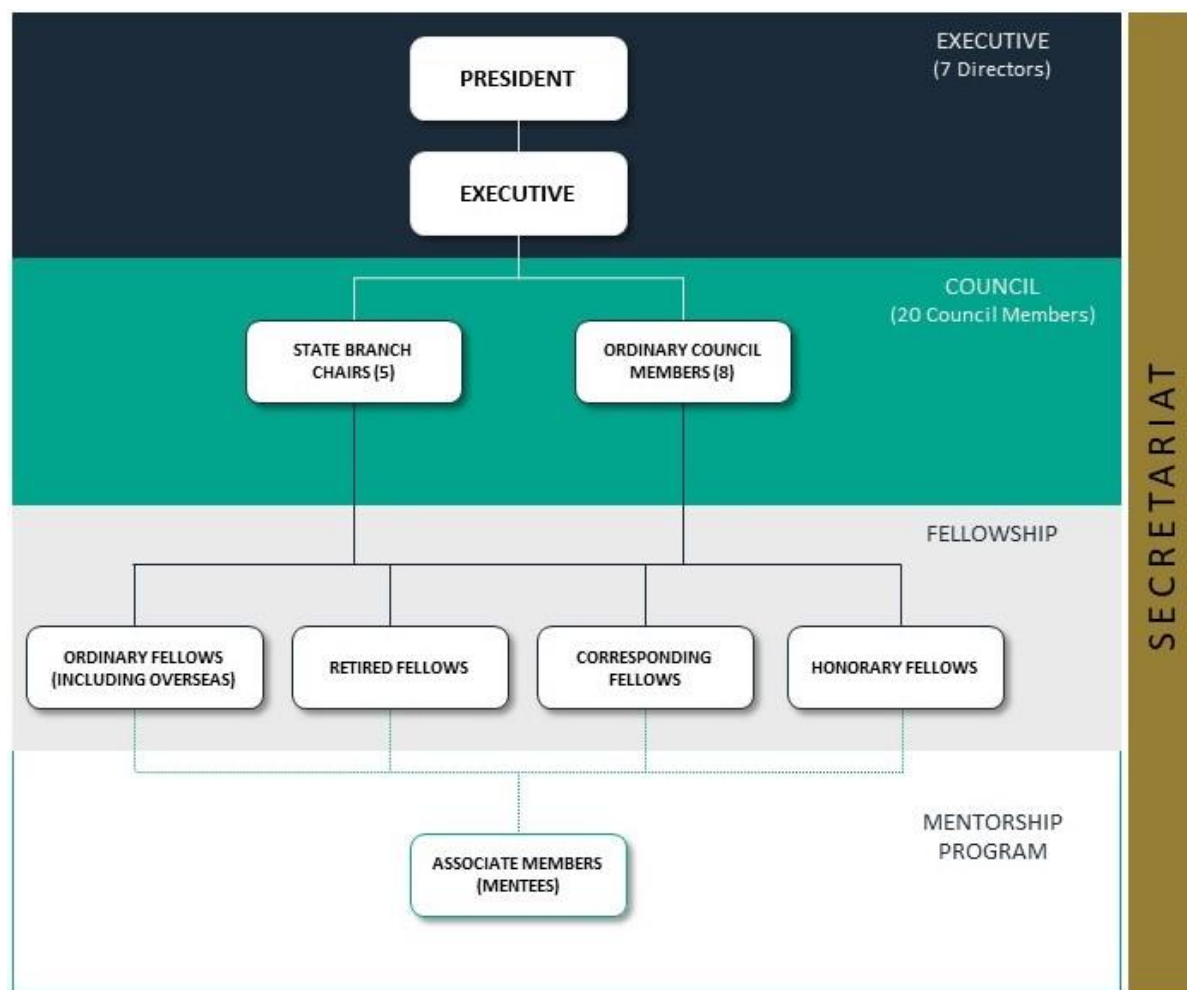
Ida Gambaro

**Communication and Media Manager (from March 2021)**

Katie Rowney

**Fellowship and Administration Coordinator**  
Dr Carla Muma

## Organisational chart (2020/21)





# Financials

## Treasurer's report

The Academy has reported a surplus of \$111,395 (2019 surplus was \$3,656) for the financial year ending 30 June 2021 and is solvent.

As in previous years, Fellows' subscriptions were a key source of income in 2020/21. We also received the first grant in aid in recognition of AAHMS status as one of Australia's five Learned Academies. This ongoing financial support is provided by the Australian Government through the Department of Education, Skills and Employment's Higher Education Research Promotion (HERP) scheme. Combined with the support from Fellows' subscriptions, this grant has ensured that the Academy could continue to assist with Australia's national response to emergencies, such as bushfires and the pandemic, and to build policy efforts addressing strategic priorities – climate change health impacts and evidence-based care. On behalf of the Executive, I would like to thank Fellows for their support and input to deliver on our mission and purpose over the past 12 months. Prior to receiving the HERP grant, the Academy continued to feel the financial impacts of the pandemic, and gratefully received \$118,550 in COVID-19 financial support from the Australian Government in late 2020 and early 2021.

Considering the ongoing impact of the pandemic on the research sector, the Executive, taking advice from the Finance, Audit and Risk Committee, has agreed that membership fees should not increase in the next financial year. Standard membership fees for 2021/22 will therefore remain at \$1,313 (including GST), with other fees adjusted accordingly.

Although investment income continues to be relatively modest, the Board has resolved to maintain a low-risk and short-term investment strategy for the coming financial year and will reassess this strategy regularly, in liaison with the Finance, Audit and Risk Committee.

I am pleased to report that with the increased level of ongoing support, the Academy has been able to expand the executive staff to 5.8 FTE enabling some increase in activities that we are able to deliver towards the strategic objectives of the organisation.

Balances as at 30 June 2021:

Total Equity	= A\$ 1,038,561
Income from Memberships	= A\$ 376,975
Total Operating Costs for YTD ending 30 June	= A\$ 673,718

For a more detailed breakdown of income and expenditure please refer to the AAHMS 2021 General Purpose Financial Report below.

I am grateful for the support provided by members of the Finance, Risk and Audit Committee. I look forward to another strong and productive year.



**Professor Simon Foote** FAA FTSE FAHMS

Hon Treasurer 2018 –

## Financial Statements

For the year ended 30 June 2021

# **Australian Academy of Health and Medical Sciences Limited**

Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2021

# Australian Academy of Health and Medical Sciences Limited

## Contents

For the Year Ended 30 June 2021

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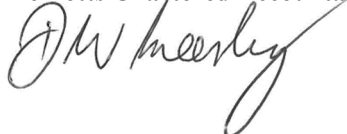
**AUSTRALIAN ACADEMY OF HEALTH AND MEDICAL SCIENCES  
LIMITED ABN 55 167 124 067**

**INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION UNDER SECTION 60-40 OF THE  
AUSTRALIAN CHARITIES AND NOT FOR PROFITS COMMISSION  
ACT 2012**

I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, during the year ended 30 June 2021 there have been:

- (i) no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements of the Australian Charities and Not for Profits Commission Act in relation to the audit, and
- (ii) no contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

**Merrotts Chartered Accountants**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. W. Sneesby', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

**David Sneesby**  
Partner

Brisbane

17 September 2021

**Accounting**

**Audit & Assurance**

- Statutory
- Internal
- Government

**Business**

- Services
- Audit
- Restructuring

**Corporate Services**

**Estate Planning**

**Forensic Accounting**

**Litigation Support**

**Recruitment**

- Executive
- Accounting

**Superannuation**

- Administration
- Planning

**Taxation**

**Australian Academy of Health and Medical Sciences Limited**

**Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income**

**For the Year Ended 30 June 2021**

		<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>
	<b>Note</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
Revenue	4	<b>376,975</b>	354,273
Finance income		<b>1,306</b>	4,816
Other income	4	<b>412,331</b>	219,464
Employee benefits expense		<b>(511,126)</b>	(429,475)
Depreciation and amortisation expense		<b>(53)</b>	(3,171)
Other expenses		<b>(168,038)</b>	(142,251)
<b>Profit before income tax</b>		<b>111,395</b>	3,656
Income tax expense			
<b>Profit from continuing operations</b>		<b>111,395</b>	3,656
<b>Profit for the year</b>		<b>111,395</b>	3,656
<b>Total comprehensive income for the year</b>		<b>111,395</b>	3,656

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

**Australian Academy of Health and Medical Sciences Limited**

**Statement of Financial Position**

**As At 30 June 2021**

		<b>2021</b>	<b>2020</b>
	<b>Note</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
<b>ASSETS</b>			
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents	6	<b>1,309,305</b>	977,724
Trade and other receivables	7	<b>23,836</b>	22,868
Other assets		<b>31,000</b>	43,135
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		<b><u>1,364,141</u></b>	<b><u>1,043,727</u></b>
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Property, plant and equipment	8		53
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS			<b><u>53</u></b>
TOTAL ASSETS		<b><u>1,364,141</u></b>	<b><u>1,043,780</u></b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Trade and other payables	9	<b>36,919</b>	46,557
Employee benefits	11	<b>28,004</b>	
Other financial liabilities	10	<b>260,657</b>	7,250
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES		<b><u>325,580</u></b>	<b><u>53,807</u></b>
TOTAL LIABILITIES		<b><u>325,580</u></b>	<b><u>53,807</u></b>
NET ASSETS		<b><u>1,038,561</u></b>	<b><u>989,973</u></b>
<b>EQUITY</b>			
Retained earnings		<b><u>1,038,561</u></b>	<b><u>942,825</u></b>
TOTAL EQUITY		<b><u>1,038,561</u></b>	<b><u>942,825</u></b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

# Australian Academy of Health and Medical Sciences Limited

## Statement of Changes in Equity

For the Year Ended 30 June 2021

2021

	Note	Retained Earnings \$	Total \$
<b>Balance at 1 July 2020</b>		<b>942,825</b>	<b>942,825</b>
Restatement due to adoption of AASB 119		(15,659)	(15,659)
<b>Balance at 1 July 2020 restated</b>		<b>927,166</b>	<b>927,166</b>
Profit attributable to members of the entity		111,395	111,395
<b>Balance at 30 June 2021</b>		<b>1,038,561</b>	<b>1,038,561</b>

2020

	Note	Retained Earnings \$	Total \$
<b>Balance at 1 July 2019</b>		939,169	939,169
Profit attributable to members of the entity		3,656	3,656
<b>Balance at 30 June 2020</b>		<b>942,825</b>	<b>942,825</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

**Australian Academy of Health and Medical Sciences Limited**

**Statement of Cash Flows**

**For the Year Ended 30 June 2021**

	<b>Note</b>	<b>2021</b> \$	<b>2020</b> \$
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES :</b>			
Receipts from customers		<b>1,038,746</b>	623,276
Payments to suppliers and employees		<b>(661,323)</b>	(632,497)
Interest received		<b>1,306</b>	4,816
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	17	<b>378,729</b>	(4,405)
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES :</b>			
Purchase of property, plant and equipment			(1,270)
Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities			(1,270)
<b>Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents held</b>		<b>378,729</b>	(5,675)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year		<b>930,576</b>	936,251
Cash and cash equivalents at end of financial year	6	<b>1,309,305</b>	930,576

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.



# Australian Academy of Health and Medical Sciences Limited

## Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2021

The financial report covers Australian Academy of Health and Medical Sciences Limited as an individual entity. Australian Academy of Health and Medical Sciences Limited is a not-for-profit Company limited by guarantee, incorporated and domiciled in Australia.

The functional and presentation currency of Australian Academy of Health and Medical Sciences Limited is Australian dollars.

The financial report was authorised for issue by the Directors on 15 September 2021.

Comparatives are consistent with prior years , unless otherwise stated.

### 1 Basis of Preparation

The financial statements are general purpose financial statements that have been prepared in accordance with the Australian Accounting Standards and the *Australian Charity and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* .

### 2 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

#### (a) Revenue and other income

##### Grant revenue

Government grants are recognised at fair value where there is reasonable assurance that the grant will be received and all grant conditions will be met. Grants relating to expense items are recognised as the expenditure is incurred. Grants relating to assets are credited to deferred income at fair value and are credited to income over the expected useful life of the asset on a straight-line basis.

##### Other income

Other income is recognised on an accruals basis when the Company is entitled to it.

#### (b) Income Tax

The company is exempt from income tax under Division 50 of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997.

#### (c) Goods and services tax (GST)

Revenue, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of goods and services tax (GST), except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO).

Receivables and payable are stated inclusive of GST.

Cash flows in the statement of cash flows are included on a gross basis and the GST component of cash flows arising from investing and financing activities which is recoverable from, or payable to, the taxation authority is classified as operating cash flows.

#### (d) Property, plant and equipment

Each class of property, plant and equipment is carried at cost or fair value less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation and impairment.

## **Notes to the Financial Statements**

**For the Year Ended 30 June 2021**

### **2 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies**

#### **(d) Property, plant and equipment**

##### **Plant and equipment**

Plant and equipment are measured using the cost model.

##### **Depreciation**

Property, plant and equipment, excluding freehold land, is depreciated on a reducing balance basis over the assets useful life to the Company, commencing when the asset is ready for use.

At the end of each annual reporting period, the depreciation method, useful life and residual value of each asset is reviewed. Any revisions are accounted for prospectively as a change in estimate.

#### **(e) Financial instruments**

Financial instruments are recognised initially on the date that the Company becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

On initial recognition, all financial instruments are measured at fair value plus transaction costs (except for instruments measured at fair value through profit or loss where transaction costs are expensed as incurred).

##### **Financial assets**

All recognised financial assets are subsequently measured in their entirety at either amortised cost or fair value, depending on the classification of the financial assets.

The Company's financial assets measured at amortised cost comprise trade and other receivables and cash and cash equivalents in the statement of financial position.

Subsequent to initial recognition, these assets are carried at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method less provision for impairment.

##### *Trade receivables and contract assets*

Impairment of trade receivables and contract assets have been determined using the simplified approach in AASB 9 which uses an estimation of lifetime expected credit losses. The Company has determined the probability of non-payment of the receivable and contract asset and multiplied this by the amount of the expected loss arising from default.

The amount of the impairment is recorded in a separate allowance account with the loss being recognised in finance expense. Once the receivable is determined to be uncollectable then the gross carrying amount is written off against the associated allowance.

Where the Company renegotiates the terms of trade receivables due from certain customers, the new expected cash flows are discounted at the original effective interest rate and any resulting difference to the carrying value is recognised in profit or loss.

## **Notes to the Financial Statements**

**For the Year Ended 30 June 2021**

### **2 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies**

#### **(e) Financial instruments**

##### **Financial liabilities**

The Company measures all financial liabilities initially at fair value less transaction costs, subsequently financial liabilities are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method.

The financial liabilities of the Company comprise trade payables, bank and other loans and lease liabilities.

#### **(f) Impairment of non-financial assets**

At the end of each reporting period the Company determines whether there is an evidence of an impairment indicator for non-financial assets.

Where the recoverable amount is less than the carrying amount, an impairment loss is recognised in profit or loss.

#### **(g) Cash and cash equivalents**

Cash and cash equivalents comprises cash on hand, demand deposits and short-term investments which are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and which are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

#### **(h) Employee benefits**

Provision is made for the Company's liability for employee benefits arising from services rendered by employees to the end of the reporting period. Employee benefits that are expected to be wholly settled within one year have been measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liability is settled, plus related on-costs.

### **3 Critical Accounting Estimates and Judgments**

The directors make estimates and judgements during the preparation of these financial statements regarding assumptions about current and future events affecting transactions and balances.

These estimates and judgements are based on the best information available at the time of preparing the financial statements, however as additional information is known then the actual results may differ from the estimates.

The significant estimates and judgements made have been described below.

#### **Key estimates - receivables**

The receivables at reporting date have been reviewed to determine whether there is any objective evidence that any of the receivables are impaired. An impairment provision is included for any receivable where the entire balance is not considered collectible. The impairment provision is based on the best information at the reporting date.

## Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2021

### 4 Revenue and Other Income

#### Revenue from continuing operations

	2021	2020
	\$	\$
Revenue from other sources		
- member subscriptions	376,975	354,273
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>376,975</b>	<b>354,273</b>

	2021	2020
	\$	\$
Other Income		
- Government assistance (COVID 19)	118,550	98,500
- events and other	3,802	22,622
- sponsorship	38,636	51,333
- donations	12,000	47,009
- Grants	239,343	
	<b>412,331</b>	<b>219,464</b>

### 5 Result for the Year

The result for the year includes the following specific expenses:

Other expenses:

Employee benefits expense	511,126	429,475
Depreciation expense	53	3,171

### 6 Cash and Cash Equivalents

	2021	2020
	\$	\$
Bank balances	1,309,305	977,724
	<b>1,309,305</b>	<b>977,724</b>

## Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2021

### 7 Trade and Other Receivables

	2021 \$	2020 \$
CURRENT		
Trade receivables	29,335	25,368
Provision for impairment	(5,499)	(2,500)
<b>Total current trade and other receivables</b>	<b>23,836</b>	<b>22,868</b>

The carrying value of trade receivables is considered a reasonable approximation of fair value due to the short-term nature of the balances.

### 8 Property, plant and equipment

#### PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

Office equipment		
At cost	13,799	13,799
Accumulated depreciation	(13,799)	(13,746)
Total office equipment	-	53
Computer equipment		
At cost	17,850	17,850
Accumulated depreciation	(17,850)	(17,850)
Total computer equipment	-	-
<b>Total property, plant and equipment</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>53</b>

### 9 Trade and Other Payables

CURRENT		
GST payable	10,386	15,179
Sundry payables and accrued expenses	26,533	31,378
	<b>36,919</b>	<b>46,557</b>

### 10 Other financial liabilities

Income in advance	260,657	7,250
<b>Total</b>	<b>260,657</b>	<b>7,250</b>



# Australian Academy of Health and Medical Sciences Limited

## Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2021

### 11 Employee Benefits

	2021	2020
	\$	\$
Current liabilities		
Provision for employee benefits	28,004	
	<b>28,004</b>	

### 12 Members' Guarantee

The Company is incorporated under the *Corporations Act 2001* and is a Company limited by guarantee. If the Company is wound up, the constitution states that each member is required to contribute a maximum of \$ 10 each towards meeting any outstandings and obligations of the Company. At 30 June 2021 the number of members was 418 (2020: 376).

### 13 Key Management Personnel Remuneration

The totals of remuneration paid to the key management personnel ( the CEO) of Australian Academy of Health and Medical Sciences Limited during the year are as follows:

	2021	2020
	\$	\$
Short-term employee benefits	208,808	201,960
Post-employment benefits	19,822	19,186
	<b>228,630</b>	<b>221,146</b>

### 14 Auditors' Remuneration

	2021	2020
	\$	\$
Merrotts Chartered Accountants		
- auditing or reviewing the financial statements	10,000	3,010
- other services	3,500	990
<b>Total</b>	<b>13,500</b>	<b>4,000</b>

### 15 Contingencies

In the opinion of the Directors, the Company did not have any contingencies at 30 June 2021 (30 June 2020:None).

### 16 Right-of-use lease assets

The company has entered two leases of office space to assist in meeting its charitable objectives. The lease commitments are substantially below market rates. The lease at University of Sydney expires on 31 December 2022 and payments are \$1 per year. The lease in Brisbane expires on 30 November 2021 and payments are \$1 per year. As a not-for-profit charity, the company accounts for the Right-of-use lease assets at cost.

## Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2021

### 17 Cash Flow Information

#### (a) Reconciliation of result for the year to cashflows from operating activities

Reconciliation of profit to net cash provided by operating activities:

	2021	2020
	\$	\$
Profit for the year	111,394	3,656
Non-cash flows in profit:		
- depreciation	53	3,171
- impairment of receivables	2,999	
Changes in assets and liabilities:		
- (increase)/decrease in trade and other receivables	(3,967)	1,728
- (increase)/decrease in other assets	12,135	(40,135)
- increase/(decrease) in trade and other payables	(9,638)	19,925
- (increase)/decrease in other liabilities	253,406	7,250
- increase/(decrease) in employee benefits	12,347	
Cashflows from operations	<u>378,729</u>	<u>(4,405)</u>

### 18 Statutory Information

The registered office and principal place of business of the company is:

Gabba Towers  
411 Vulture St  
Woollangabba 4102

## Australian Academy of Health and Medical Sciences Limited

### Directors' Declaration

The responsible persons declare that in the responsible persons' opinion:

1. There are reasonable grounds to believe that the company is able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.
2. The financial statements and notes satisfy the requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profit Commission Act 2012*.

Signed on behalf of all Responsible Persons by resolution of the Board in accordance with subsection 60.15(2) of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013*.



Director .....



Director .....

Dated 15 September 2021

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#### Accounting

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#### Litigation Support

#### Recruitment

- Executive
- Accounting

#### Superannuation

- Administration
- Planning

#### Taxation

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF AUSTRALIAN ACADEMY OF HEALTH AND MEDICAL SCIENCES LIMITED

### Report on the Audit of the Financial Report

#### Opinion

We have audited the financial report of Australian Academy Of Health and Medical Sciences Limited (the Company) , which comprises the consolidated statement of financial position as at 30 June 2021, the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, the statement of changes in equity and the statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies, and the directors' declaration.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report of the company is in accordance with Division 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*, including:

- (a) giving a true and fair view of the company's financial position as at 30 June 2021 and of its financial performance and cashflows for the year then ended; and
- (b) complying with Australian Accounting Standards and Division 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013*.

#### Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report* section of our report. We are independent of the company in accordance with the auditor independence requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* and the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES [110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants \(including independence standards\)](#) (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We have given to the directors of the Company a written Auditors Independence Declaration required by the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*, a copy of which is attached to the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

#### Responsibilities of the Directors for the Financial Report

The directors of the Company are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the directors are responsible for assessing the ability of the company to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the directors either intend to liquidate the company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF AUSTRALIAN ACADEMY OF  
HEALTH AND MEDICAL SCIENCES LIMITED**

**Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report**

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial report is located at the Auditing and Assurance Standards Board website at:  
[http://www.auasb.gov.au/auditors\\_files/ar1.pdf](http://www.auasb.gov.au/auditors_files/ar1.pdf) This description forms part of our Auditor's Report.

**Merrotts Chartered Accountants**

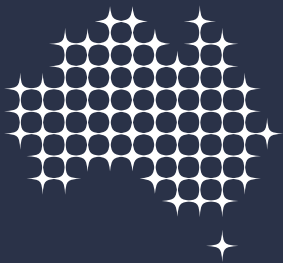
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D W Sneesby', written in a cursive style.

**David Sneesby**

**Partner**

**Brisbane, 17th September 2021**





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Australian  
Academy *of* Health and  
Medical Sciences

**ABN 55 167 124 067**

**Gabba Towers, 411 Vulture Street, Woolloongabba, QLD 4102**  
**PO Box 6114, Woolloongabba, QLD 4102**  
**tel.: +61 (0) 7 3102 7220 email: [CEO@aahms.org](mailto:CEO@aahms.org)**  
**[aahms.org](http://aahms.org)**