

2025 BioProcessing Network Annual General Meeting



Date: 17 September 2025.

Committee members present: Geoff Dumsday (GD), Helene Lebhar (HL), Tizita Horning (HT), Andy Herbert (AH), Munish Puri (MP), Anton Maraldo (AM), Annie Qu (AQ), David Bocanegra (DB) Tara Buse (TB) Andreas Kocourek (AK), Luis Toronjo Urquiza (LTU), Helena Tellier (HT), Jagan Billakanti (JB)

Meeting was held at the end of the 2025 Annual Conference with more than 120 members in attendance.

Apologies: Louis Fabri (LF)

Agenda

1. Welcome
2. Minutes from the previous meeting (please see attached)
3. President's update
4. Summary of BPN finances
5. Election of the BPN Executive
6. All Executive positions are declared vacant

Note 1: The new model rules no longer require advance notice of a nomination and accordingly, nominations may come "from the floor". Members can self-nominate or be nominated by another member (with the nominee's consent).

Note 2: If there is more than one nomination for any position, a ballot will be held at the AGM (voting is voluntary).

Note 3: Each member elected to the BPN Executive will be required to sign a declaration for responsible people that confirms that they are not disqualified from serving on a committee/board.

Note 4: Due to perceived or actual conflicts of interest, nominations for executive positions from members working for scientific supply companies will not be accepted.

7. Executive positions available:
 - a. President
 - b. Vice President
 - c. Secretary
 - d. Treasurer
 - e. Assistant Treasurer
8. AGM close

Welcome

The BPN President (GD) welcomed all in attendance to the meeting.

President's Summary

The BPN has continued to grow with very strong interest in the events held by the organisation. The 2025 conference was the biggest ever with more than 320 delegates and the largest trade exhibition thus far (42 exhibition booths). This conference dinner was also the largest with around 240 attendees. Again, this year the BPN held four separate networking events in four different states with around 100 attendees in event held in Victoria, New South Wales and Queensland and around 50 at the event held in South Australia. We believe this highlights the importance of BPN to our local bioprocessing community and reflects sustained growth and interest in the sector more broadly. We will continue to hold events throughout the country and welcome suggestions from the membership on locations for these events

BPN Membership

The BPN membership has continued to grow with more than 1800 members which is fantastic. The growth trajectory has been sustained for some time which is great for the BPN and the networking opportunities for our members.

Financial Summary

The BPN remains in a strong financial position and as of 17 September 2025 has a cash reserve of \$453,780 with the Annual Conference remaining the single source of revenue for the organisation. Having a strong bank balance is important as we underwrite the conference each year – a cost that is ever growing due to the increased costs associated with holding events and the increased size of the annual conference. The BPN has no debt and outstanding invoices totalling \$10,500 and with a small number of payments (totalling around \$20,000) relating to this year's conference to be paid. The BPN therefore holds a net position of approximately \$433,780 at the time of this meeting.

Other initiatives

A review of BPN governance is underway. The BPN has commissioned Murray Baird who was the inaugural Assistant Commissioner General Counsel at the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission from its inception in 2012 until 2019. An initial review has shown we are quite good shape with some minor actions required. The review will be completed in the coming weeks, and we will share any updates or changes as required.

Questions

The floor was then opened for questions.

There were no questions from the floor.

Election of the BPN Committee Executive

As required by the BPN Rules, all Committee Executive positions were declared open. The open positions were:

- President
- Vice President
- Secretary
- Treasurer

There were single nominations for each role, and the membership unanimously supported the nominations:

- President – Helene Lebhar
- Vice President – Geoff Dumsday
- Secretary – Tara Buse
- Treasurer – Annie Qu
- Assistant Treasurer – Tizita Horning

Other committee members will remain in their roles including the state and New Zealand representatives and others may be co-opted on to the committee in supporting roles as required.

Approvals

Minutes Recorded by: Tara Buse

Approved by: Geoff Dumsday