

REPORT TO NZAP AGM, JUNE 2023

From the Honorary Secretary

We were starkly reminded of life's vicissitudes at last AGM when, soon after her appointment as President, Gabriela Mercado needed to step down temporarily as her partner Simon was undergoing a health crisis. We were grateful to Seán Manning, who was willing to step into the role and chair Council until Gabriela was able to return. Seán brought with him a thorough knowledge of NZAP's constitution and a keen passion for upholding democratic processes.

We are delighted that Gabriela is now able to return, partly because it means Simon is well on the way to recovery, and also for what she brings in her energy and warmth.

Other ways life's ebbs and flows have been evident in our Association this year are the numbers of members retiring, or moving towards retirement. We are grateful for their years of dedication to the profession and the Association.

It is heartening to see new student members joining the Association as they take up their psychotherapy training.

We have mourned the deaths of several significant Association members and friends this past year:

Hinewirangi Kohu Morgan, kuia of Waka Oranga,
Margie Pearl, member of the Psychosynthesis community,
And Russell Waetford, former Waka Oranga rūnanga member.

We are also aware of members who themselves have suffered significant loss this past year – the deaths of partners, children, and other family members. As an Association we take time to remember each other and to support one another to step back from work and to re-engage when the time is right.

Turning to our upcoming AGM, as well as to Seán who is stepping down as Gabriela takes over as President, we bid farewell to Lynne Holdem, who has truly gone above and beyond what would be the usual responsibilities of a President and Past-President. She extended her time as President when the AGM moved from March to June to accommodate accounting practices. She also chaired meetings and was a source of support for Seán. Thank you, Lynne. We also thank Paul Wilson who is stepping down as Chair of Ethics and Professional Standards. Paul has guided the committee through the transition from running a complaints process, to more of an educative function. He brought a passion for social justice and an ease of communication we will miss.

Other positions besides Chair of Ethics and Professional Standards becoming vacant this AGM are President Elect, Honorary Secretary, Honorary Treasurer, Chair of ACP and two ordinary members. There are a number of Council members willing to stand again for some roles, but other nominations are welcome.

This AGM sees several important items of business. As well as the appointment of officers and other Council members, there are several remits which are currently 'on the table' from our last AGM.

The first is related to student members, and asks that the requirement for student members to be in their second year of training before joining NZAP be changed.

The second is to do with categories of retired membership, proposing a two-stage approach.

The third is to approve the addition of the Chair of Te Tiriti and Bicultural Advisory Committee as a permanent seat on Council.

Please read these remits carefully, in preparation for the AGM.

Council and the Association continues to be well supported by Luisa Maloni, our Administrator. She is a warm and welcoming first port of call for members and other enquirers, and is a pleasure to work alongside. Thank you, Luisa.

Catriona Cairns