



72nd Annual General Meeting and Luncheon Friday 21 March 2025 - Meeting package -

IRSEA enriches the lives of retired Senior Educational Administrators through engagement, collegiality, friendship, and support while deploying its intellectual capacity and educational expertise for the betterment of public education in New South Wales, Australia, and beyond.

AGENDA

- 11:00** **Arrival: Bar Area, Level 2**
11:45 **Adam Room, Level 4**
- 12:00** **General Meeting**
1. **Welcome and Acknowledgements** [Gerry McCloughan]
Apologies: Megan Avery, Chris Bonnor, Chris Carrol, Hetty Cislowski, Kay Coombes, Vincent Delany, Warren Fairfax, Eric Flood, Annie Hollander, Sharon Parkes, Tony Re, Alan Rice, Ritchie Stevenson, Jim White.
- 12:05** **2. Keynote Address: Deb Summerhayes PSM**
Excellence and Equity in NSW Public Education – Now and Into the Future
- 12:30** **Questions and discussion following the keynote**
- 12:45** **3. Fellowship for Senior Educational Administrators**
[Kerrie Ikin]
- 12:50** **4. Annual General Meeting**
 - Appointment of Returning Officer
 - Items for General Business; Approval of previous minutes, etc
 - Motions for approval:
 - 1. Membership fee increase,
 - 2. Progressing partnership with the PEF,
 - 3. Establishing *Vice-President Strategic Directions*.
 - Items from Reports (see pages 2-10)
 - Election of Executive Committee for 2024-25
 - Welcome to incoming President, Lindsay Wasson
 - General Business
- 1:15** **Lunch and presentation**
 - *Raffle Draw for Stewart House*

MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Welcome

Keynote



Deb Summerhayes PSM

Annual General Meeting

Lunch, networking and raffle



Presentation

The Meeting Package contains motions for approval, IRSEA reports and previous minutes for approval.

72nd AGM

Motions for Approval

Motions for approval:

1. Motion to increase IRSEA full membership fees from \$25 to \$30 beginning from the 2026-27 year (Ray Gillies).

This motion is presented to ensure IRSEA's financial sustainability within the current economic environment where significant increases to the cost of operation of the Institute are being experienced.

2. Motion that while Stewart House remains the primary charity of IRSEA, approval be given to progress a non-binding memorandum of understanding with the Public Education Foundation (PEF) and following a successful agreement that the PEF be acknowledged as a charity for voluntary donations by IRSEA members. (Gerry McCloughan).

The IRSEA Constitution allows formal identification of non-profit tax-exempt charitable organisations for children for donations and other support, as may be determined at annual general meetings of the Institute.

Currently, IRSEA has identified Stewart House, Harbord, New South Wales as an organisation to receive support from the Institute's and members' personal donations.

The motion being put forward today seeks the support of the AGM to include the PEF as an identified non-profit tax-exempt charitable organisation for children that is also supported for IRSEA members' personal donations and in-kind support.

3. Special resolution to establish the new *Vice-President Strategic Directions* position to the profile of the Executive Committee (Lindsay Wasson)

This motion seeks member support to create a new Executive Committee role to provide sustained continuity of leadership and management of the implementation of strategic initiatives.

Please see on page 14, ***Proposal to Establish the New Position of Vice President—Strategic Directions***, a paper which outlines the purpose and responsibilities of the new position.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Gerry McCloughan



I acknowledge the ongoing Custodians of the lands on which IRSEA members reside and meet. I pay respect to Elders past, present and emerging and commit to promoting improved education and life outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students and their families.

Dear friends and colleagues

Thank you for your support to me in the President's role over the last 12 months. It has been an honour to serve this exceptional organisation. I have enjoyed contributing to advancing the Institute's mission and planning for its sustainability as an organisation. I am proud of what IRSEA has achieved over the last 12 months and I pay tribute to the hard working Executive Committee for their time, enthusiasm and advice.

There is much for IRSEA members to celebrate as we look back over the last year.

Our four general meetings continue to provide the primary vehicle for face-to-face networking and collegiality. Some stats for your interest – we have had 122 members and guests attending our general meetings, for an average of 30.5 per meeting. 54 people attended one or more meetings. We received over 60 formal apologies. And, ☺ . . . we should be giving gold stars★ to our 12 members who have not missed a general meeting in the last 12 months!

As always, regular IRSEA communications are superb. Thanks to Syd, Eric, Brian, Ray and Lindsay for work on correspondence – especially the emails, newsletters and the website.

Our guest speakers have been stunning. Thank you sincerely to David Riordan, CEO, Public Education Foundation, for enlightening us in May about the magnificent achievements of the PEF in supporting disadvantaged students and communities across NSW and the nation. Thanks to Viv White AM, Co-Founder and CEO, Big Picture Learning Australia (BPLA) for presenting to us in August with models that can transform learning by placing students at the centre of decisions around what, how and when they learn.

The December 2024 meeting was a remarkable celebration, with our own Dr Ken Boston AO recounting his *'Ripping Yarns from the files of the KGB'*. During this meeting, we instigated *Your voice matters*, an event feedback survey, and overwhelmingly responses indicated Ken's address as the highlight of the meeting. Well done Ken. Thank you to those members offering ideas for improvements for our meetings—the Committee has taken note!

Today, we are privileged to have our keynote address from one of our dear Honorary members, Deb Summerhayes, Deputy Secretary, Public Schools, NSW Department of Education. Deb's passionate support of our organisation is tribute to efforts of a long line of amazing IRSEA leaders who have been promoting IRSEA's capacity to provide the Department with independent, evidence and experienced-based educational advice, expertise and support to advance public education.

For some time now, Deb has actively supported IRSEA representation in the Public Schools' Capability Summits and regional Hub & Spoke professional development days as a means to share directions and achievements, but also to ensure that current senior officers of the Department recognise the value of connecting the past and the present to help shape the future of public education. I certainly hope that IRSEA and the Department continue to strengthen the ties between our two organisations for the good of school communities and student learning across NSW.

IRSEA continues to acknowledge excellence and dedication of members and colleagues in education. By the end of our meeting, IRSEA will have presented seven awards to extraordinary colleagues over the past year including two Life Memberships, two Outstanding Service Awards, and three Honorary Memberships. Congratulations to all honoured recipients.

During our meeting today, Kerrie Ikin will update members on the establishment of a Fellowship for Senior Educational Administrators, a research grant scheme to be jointly funded and awarded by IRSEA and the Department. This is an exciting initiative indeed.

Our general meeting raffles and member donorships have raised over \$3,700 for Stewart House in 2024. We hope to boost that figure today. Stewart House remains the primary charity of the Institute, as it has been over a very long time.

Sadly, eight colleagues have passed since the last AGM. I am acknowledging their passing during the meeting today. Valette to members Roy Knudson, aged 92 years; Eula Guthrie OA, aged 95 years Mervin Blanch, aged 98 years; John Fleming, aged 95 years; John Ward, aged 81 years; John Hoyer, aged 94 years; and Joan Healy, aged 87 years; and to colleague Cliff Williams, aged 85 years.

IRSEA continues to attract new members – in the last 12 months over 30 new Full Associate and Honorary members have been accepted to IRSEA. Currently, IRSEA membership is over 140.

During 2024, we were able to increase the number of additional social and professional events. Highlights included:

- re-establishing our IRSEA social luncheon program with an event at the Sydney Rowers Club, Abbotsford in October 2024;
- an amazing tour of the ANZAC Memorial in Hyde Park on 2 August 2024,
- participation in the forum: *Where now for Public Schooling in Australia?*, held at the University of NSW on Friday, 15 November 2024.

Planning is underway for:

- the next social luncheon to be held at the Sydney Rowers Club, Abbotsford in April or May 2025.
- a Member-seminar being planned for Thursday 22 May 2025 to be held at the University of Technology Sydney Broadway campus. This will be the first of series of member-seminars established to support our *Thought Leadership* priority 2. The first seminar will be led by member Dr Jim Scott to share his PhD research: *Exploring the impact of a large-scale diagnostic science test and formative practices*. The one-hour seminar will be followed by a social luncheon.

- a Hunter Region IRSEA dinner and meeting to be held at the Apollo Hotel in Charlestown over Friday 13 June (for a social dinner) and Saturday 14 June (for a lunchtime meeting). This initiative aims to expand IRSEA's activities beyond the Sydney metropolitan area. The Friday/Saturday format is designed to allow both Full and Associate members to attend. Laureate Professor Jenny Gore, University of Newcastle, has agreed to be our Guest Speaker for the formal meeting on the Saturday.

Invitations detailing these three events will be advertised to members shortly.

In August 2024, we launched our draft IRSEA *Directions and Priorities* one-page plan which has been presented to all members for consultation via IRSEA NEWS and email. Thank you to the many members who have responded to the online consultation survey. If you have not had an opportunity to provide feedback as yet, the consultation window is open until 31 March 2025. Hard copy survey forms are available in the meeting today as well. See Gerry.

IRSEA is proceeding to establish formalised partnerships with other organisations in its mission to inspire and support the achievement of equitable outcomes and educational excellence in public education in NSW. Today, the IRSEA Executive Committee is seeking members endorsement for three motions to strengthen the Institute. Motion 2 seeks to progress a non-binding memorandum of understanding with the Public Education Foundation (PEF). I look forward to member support for our important three motions.

I am looking forward to my new role as Immediate Past President and in supporting the incoming Committee under the leadership of my fine colleague and good friend President Lindsay.

All the very best to all members for a wonderful 2025.

Gerry

President (2024-25)

SECRETARY'S REPORT: BRIAN DAVIES

I would like to thank Gerry McCloughan for his outstanding leadership as President and for his support, and that of the other members of the executive, in my role as Secretary over the last year. Unfortunately, Syd Smith will not be continuing, and I would like to acknowledge the great work he has done as Newsletter Editor.

Since the March 2024 Annual General Meeting, the executive committee has met four times (19 April, 21 June and 21 October 2024; and 13 February 2025). There was also an extraordinary video meeting on 23 July 2024 to discuss planning and associate membership. Three general luncheon meetings were held (30 May, 2 August and 6 December 2024).

We have been fortunate to have had excellent guest speakers for those meetings: David Riordan, CEO Public Education Foundation (May); Viv White, CEO Big Picture Learning Australia (August); and, Dr Ken Boston, Director-General of Education in NSW (1992-2002). The August meeting was preceded by a visit to the ANZAC Memorial organised by Raechel McCarthy.

Members also enjoyed a social gathering and luncheon in October at the Sydney Rowing Club in Abbotsford. Another social event is to be organised this year.

Important dates to place in your diary for 2025 are:

- Friday 21 March** - Annual General Meeting,
Castlereagh Boutique Hotel
- Friday 30 May** - General Luncheon Meeting,
Castlereagh Boutique Hotel
- Friday 1 August** - General Luncheon Meeting,
Castlereagh Boutique Hotel
- Friday 5 December** - General Luncheon Meeting,
Castlereagh Boutique Hotel

In relation to communication with members, there have been more problems for me with group emailing members with Big Pond accounts. Emails



have not been getting through as Big Pond has once again deemed my group emailing account as suspicious. It has been necessary to create more accounts just for the purpose of the group emailing. If you wish to contact the Secretary, please use secretary@irsea.org.au

In the area of communications, Ray Gillies has continued to do an enormous amount of work on our website. Members are encouraged to make use of this great site at irsea.org.au to keep up to date with developments. There is to be a survey about the IRSEA website organised by Ray with the assistance of Eric Jamieson.

As in previous years, the NSW Department of Education and the NSW Teachers' RSL sub-Branch has once again invited members to the ANZAC Day Remembrance Service, which this year will be on Wednesday 23 April at 10.45 am (arrive by 10.30 am) at the NSW Department of Education, William Wilkins Gallery, Level 1, 105 Phillip Street, Parramatta. RSVP is required by 4 April to the Department at DoEEvents@det.nsw.edu.au or contact Scott Thurlow, Senior Project Adviser, on 0437 309 003.

IRSEA cannot continue unless members are willing to help on the Executive Committee. Thank you to all members who have assisted on the Committee this year and to those who have nominated to serve on the 2025-26 Executive Committee.

The following nominations have been received for the election at the 2025 Annual General Meeting:

Election of IRSEA Executive Committee 2025-2026

Committee Position	Nominations for 2025-2026
President	Lindsay Wasson ¹
Immediate Past-President	Gerry McCloughan ¹
Vice-President	Kerrie Ikin
Vice-President Strategic Directions ²	Eric Jamieson
Secretary	Brian Davies
Treasurer	Ray Gillies
Newsletter Editor	Michael Murray
Membership Officer	
Welfare Coordinator	Kerryanne Knox
Luncheon Coordinator	Gerry McCloughan/ Lindsay Wasson
Stewart House Contact	Alan Laughlin
Public Officer	³
Committee Members	Janina Sulikowski, Graham Dawson, Kim Fillingham, Irina White, and John Allsopp.

¹ Not elected; as per last year's position as Vice-President and President respectively

² Proposed new position

³Appointed by the committee

The first meeting for the new executive will be on Monday 28 April at the Castlereagh Boutique Hotel.

Brian Davies

Secretary

Contact: secretary@irsea.org.au

TREASURER'S REPORTS AND MOTIONS: RAY GILLIES



INSTITUTE OF RETIRED SENIOR EDUCATIONAL ADMINISTRATORS INC.

ABN 78 259 388 090

<https://www.irsea.org.au>

ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT FOR 2024

[To be approved by the meeting]

Balance sheet: Financial Year - 1 January to 31 December 2024

Assets		Liabilities	
CBA Society Cheque A/c	\$8,594.78	Subscriptions in advance	\$85.00
CBA Term deposit	\$10,775.51	Subs. arrears written off	\$50.00
Non-current assets	\$0.00		
Subscriptions in arrears	\$50.00		
Total assets	\$19,420.29	Total liabilities	\$135.00
Net equity	\$19,285.29		

Income and Expenditure: Financial Year ending 31 December 2024

Income		Expenditure	
Stewart House	\$4,300.00	Stewart House	\$4,300.00
Subscriptions	\$2,550.00	Newsletter (printing)	\$1,362.00
Donations to IRSEA	\$265.00	Newsletter (postage)*	\$429.90
Lunch meetings	\$7,510.00	Lunch meetings (members)	\$7,020.00
		Lunch meetings (guests)	\$780.00
		Lunch meetings (venue)	\$880.00
		Fees to Fair Trading	\$54.00
		Member certificates	\$278.80
		Refund (prepaid lunch)	\$65.00
Total income	\$14,625.00	Total expenditure	\$15,169.70
		Operating loss	(\$544.70)

Reconciliation as at 31 December 2024

CF from 2022-2023	\$9,139.48
Less operating loss	(\$544.70)
CF 2025	\$8,594.78

Interest earned on the CBA IRSEA Term Deposit in 2024 was \$440.44. The current term deposit was reinvested for nine months at 4.45% p.a. and matures on 14 July 2025.

1. I move that the AGM approves the Annual Financial Report for 2024.
2. I move that the IRSEA annual subscription fee is set at \$30 for 2026.

Ray Gillies

Treasurer, IRSEA



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TREASURER'S REPORT TO MEMBERS FRIDAY 21 March 2025

Financial position on 21 March 2025

CURRENT BALANCES

Society Cheque Account (at bank)	\$14,723.44
Term deposit (matures 14 July 2025 at 4.45% pa)	\$10,775.51
TOTAL	\$25,498.95
Subscriptions due (paid to 2024)	\$350.00
Less subscriptions paid in advance	-\$115.00
Less donations due to Steward House	-\$2,300.00
Less donations due to be paid to PEF	-\$45.00
Less advanced payment for May meeting	-\$70.00
EQUITY	\$23,318.95

SUMMARY TO DATE

Receipts (1 January to 21 March 2025)

Subscriptions	\$2,375.00
Stewart House donations	\$2,300.00
March AGM lunches	\$1,820.00
Advance payment for May meeting	\$70.00
Other donation to IRSEA	\$175.00
TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$6,740.00

Expenditure (1 January to 21 March 2025)

Stewart House donations due to be paid	\$2,300.00
Lunch and venue costs due to CBH (March AGM)	\$2,040.00
IRSEA NEWS (March) printing and postage	\$406.34
Postage	\$30.00
Donations due to be paid to PEF	\$45.00
Unpaid annual subscriptions written off	\$50.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	\$4,871.34

NOTES:

1. IRSEA commenced the year with \$8,594.78 in the Society Cheque Account.
2. IRSEA is in a satisfactory financial position to meet any foreseeable debts.
3. To date, potentially 14 members are yet to pay their annual subscriptions for 2025.

Ray Gillies
Treasurer



MEMBERSHIP OFFICER’S REPORT: KERRIE IKIN

IRSEA Annual General Meeting; Friday 21 March 2025

This report sets out the most relevant of these data for the meeting today.

Current membership

We currently have 117 members: 29 female; and 88 male. Although we also had 117 members at our AGM in 2024 and with the same female/male distribution, some names have been added and sadly some are no longer with us. We now have 22 widows who wish to stay in touch and receive our newsletter, five fewer than in 2024.



Age Range: Members

Count Gender	Total
Female	29
Male	88
Total	117

Our membership remains weighted towards our elder statesmen and women, with just over 58% over the age of 80. We have been sad to lose a number of our members this year.

Financial and Non-financial members

The last of the 2024 subscriptions are still coming in and it is pleasing that most of our members are already financial.

Financial until

Year	Number
2023	1
2024	14
2025	91
2026	2
2028	1
Waived*	8
Grand Total	117

According to our rules, we have one member who remained unfinancial in 2024 and should therefore be removed from our membership list. This will be done following this meeting and after advice from our welfare officer.

* waived refers to those whose fees have been waived because of their health status, or because they had reached 80 years of age under our old rules.

Mailing Preferences

All new members have elected to receive the Newsletter and other mailouts by email. Email is our preferred method. It is allowing us to be far more flexible with the length of the Newsletter and the ability to add much more colour. Nevertheless, we continue to understand that for some, email is simply not an option.

Members

Count				
Gender	Email	Post	Other	Total
Female	21	7	1	29
Male	74	14		88
Total	95	21	1	117

Widow(er)s

Count				
Gender	Email	Post	Other	Total
Female	5	14	3	22
Total	5	14	3	22

Our Welfare Officer, Kerryanne Knox, has been busy this year checking on the wellbeing and wishes of members and widows when our Newsletter is returned. The entries 'Other' in the two tables above mean that we do not have a current mail or email address for 1 member and 3 widows. Kerryanne's ongoing and much appreciated work involves looking into this to check on their welfare and to find out whether they still wish to be in contact.

Honorary, Associate, and Life Memberships, and Members who have received our Outstanding Service Award

We now have 6 **honorary** members, 28 **associate** members, 2 **life** members, 9 members who have received the IRSEA Outstanding Service Award.

Geoff Walton and Brain Davies have both been awarded life membership in recognition of their dedication and service to IRSEA.

Honorary and Associate Members

Count			
Assoc. Hon.	female	male	Total
a	18	10	28
h	2	4	6
l		2	2
o	1	8	9
Total	21	24	45

Kerrie Ikin

Membership Officer, IRSEA

DRAFT MINUTES FOR APPROVAL



INSTITUTE OF RETIRED SENIOR EDUCATIONAL ADMINISTRATORS INC.

ABN 78 259 388 090

<https://www.irsea.org.au>

71st ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 22 March 2024
DRAFT MINUTES
Castlereagh Boutique Hotel, 169 Castlereagh Street, Sydney

Annual General Meeting

1. **Welcome** – Eric Jamieson gave an acknowledgement of country and opened the Annual General Meeting at 12.00 pm with members welcomed. Eric also welcomed to the meeting Deb Summerhayes, Deputy Secretary NSW Department of Education, new members Maurice Brunning, Annie Hollander and Michael Murray, and new associate members Kathy Powzun and Kay Rigas, Relieving and Acting Executive Directors respectively of the NSW Department of Education.

Eric Jamieson organised and distributed a package of meeting papers.

2. **Confirmation of Apologies.** There were 26 people in attendance: 23 members and 3 guests. There were 17 apologies. Apologies were received from: Alan Rice; Hetty and Noel Cisowski; Joan Healy; Janina Sulikowski; Jason Miezi; Dr Sharon Parkes; Lyndall Foster; Cliff Cowdroy; Kerryanne Knox; Chris Carroll; Irina White; Kim Fillingham; Ritchie Stevenson; Ken Boston; Jan McClelland; Chris Bonnor.
3. **Presentation of IRSEA Associate Membership Certificates, Honorary Memberships and Outstanding Service Award – Eric Jamieson .**

Honorary Membership was presented to Deb Summerhayes, Deputy Secretary NSW Department of Education. Associate membership certificates were presented to Kathy Powzun, R/Executive Director, Public Schools, Regional South Directorate and to Kay Rigas, A/Executive Director, Public Schools, Metropolitan South and West.

An Outstanding Service Award was presented to John Allsopp, Luncheon Coordinator for his much valued work over 9 years on the IRSEA executive. John has not only made a significant contribution to the achievement of the aims and objectives of IRSEA but has provided outstanding leadership in supporting public education in both the school and TAFE sectors. John is standing down from the executive.

4. **Guest Speaker – Deb Summerhayes, PSM, Deputy Secretary NSW Department of Education:** Presentation on plans for the NSW Department of Education.
5. **Appointment of Returning Officer for the election to fill 2024-2025 executive and committee positions – Eric Jamieson**

Eric Jamieson appointed Barry Laing as the Returning Officer.

6. **Call for any items of General Business.** No items. Graham Dawson reported that he would be sending membership certificates to paid-up members who have yet to receive one.

- 7. Acceptance of Minutes of Previous AGM Friday 31 March 2023.** Copies of the draft minutes were circulated. The minutes were accepted. Moved John Allsopp and seconded Graham Dawson. There was no business arising.

8. Reports

- 8.1 President – Eric Jamieson.** Copies of the report were distributed. The President recited the report, which expressed appreciation of the contributions of executive members and connected the past and the present, to future possibilities for IRSEA.

There was an acknowledgement of members who have passed away since the previous AGM (March 2023): Brian Dennis (January 2024); Barry Higgins (June 2023); Margaret Hopkins (November 2023). Those who were non-members but were known to members were also acknowledged: Dennis Mackenzie (September 2023); and Bill Clark (reported in February 2024 Newsletter).

8.2 Treasurer – Ray Gillies

Copies of the Treasurer's Report for the Financial Year 1 January 2023 to 31 December 2023 were distributed. Total assets were \$19,524.55 with total liabilities of \$410.00. There was a small operating surplus of \$482.82. There was \$3,167.00 raised for Stewart House. The CBA term deposit of \$10,335.07 earned interest of \$284.37 and matures on 14 October 2024 with 4.25% interest.

Also distributed was a financial statement as of 22 March 2024 showing total funds of \$23,273.75. It was noted that: IRSEA commenced 2024 with \$9,139.48 in the Society Cheque Account; IRSEA is in a satisfactory financial position to meet any foreseeable debts; 21 members are still to pay their annual subscriptions (renewal reminders sent).

The IRSEA Annual Financial Report was approved: Moved Ray Gillies and seconded Kerrie Ikin. The IRSEA annual subscription fee to remain at \$25 for 2024 was approved. Moved Ray Gillies and seconded Syd Smith.

8.3 Secretary – Brian Davies

Copies of the report were distributed. Eric Jamieson was thanked for his outstanding leadership as President and other members of the executive were thanked for their support. John Allsopp was acknowledged for his tremendous contribution as Luncheon Coordinator and to the executive generally, with his substantial experience across education, training and finance.

The Executive Committee met four times over the last 12 months (24 April, 27 June and 12 October 2023; and 16 February 2024). Three general luncheon meetings were held (5 May, 4 August and 1 December 2023). At the last executive meeting in February 2024, the dates for two of the general meetings this year had to be changed as rooms were not available at the Castlereagh Boutique Hotel for the proposed dates. The dates for the three general meetings are now: Thursday 30 May; Friday 2 August (unchanged); Friday 29 November. Our executive committee meeting dates for the rest of the year are: Friday 19 April; Friday 21 June; and Friday 25 October. Another social event for members was organised at the Kirribilli Club in June 2023 by Kerryanne Knox our Welfare Coordinator.

In the area of communications, Syd Smith has done a wonderful job in developing a new look newsletter. He has been assisted by our tireless President, Eric Jamieson, with new technology in the layout and publication of the newsletter. Many thanks also go to Grant Beard who has helped for many years with formatting the newsletter.

On 20 April 2023, Lindsay Wasson laid a wreath at the Department's ANZAC Remembrance Service. In 2024, the NSW Department of Education and the NSW Teachers' RSL sub-Branch will once again invite members to the Service, which this year will be on Wednesday 24 April at 2.00 pm at the NSW Department of Education, 105 Phillip Street, Parramatta. Members will be informed of the formal invitation once it is received.

8.4 Membership Officer – Kerrie Ikin.

Copies of the report were distributed. IRSEA currently has 117 members: 29 female and 88 male. There are also 27 widows who receive the newsletter. Well over 50% of members are over 80 years old. There are 18 members who are yet to pay their subscriptions. All new members have elected to receive the newsletter and other mailouts by email. This allows flexibility in the length of the newsletter and the use of more colour.

We have 5 honorary members and six associate members.

9. Election of committee members and office bearers for 2024-2025

The election was conducted by the Returning Officer, Barry Laing.

The Executive Committee for 2023-24 was declared as:

Committee Position	
President	Gerry McCloughan ¹
Immediate Past-President	Eric Jamieson ¹
Vice-President	Lindsay Wasson
Secretary	Brian Davies
Treasurer	Ray Gillies
Newsletter Editor	Syd Smith
Membership Officer	Kerrie Ikin
Welfare Coordinator	Kerryanne Knox
Luncheon Coordinator	Vacant
Stewart House Contact	Alan Laughlin
Public Officer	²
Committee Members	Alan Laughlin, Janina Sulikowski, Graham Dawson, Kim Fillingham, Irina White, Lyndall Foster

¹ Not elected; as per last year's position as Vice-President and President respectively

² Appointed by the committee

No nominations were received for the Luncheon Coordinator position.

Eric Jamieson handed over to the incoming President Gerry McCloughan and wished him well. Gerry McCloughan thanked Eric for his work as President and outlined directions that he wished to continue in his new role, including confirmation of priorities and directions for 2024 such as: building membership; involving membership in regional areas; working with the NSW Department of Education; and connecting with retired principal groups.

10. General Business

There being no General Business the 71st Annual General Meeting of the Institute of Retired Senior Educational Administrators closed at 1.15 pm.

The new executive committee is to meet next on Friday 19 April 2024

Brian Davies

Secretary

PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH NEW POSITION

PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH THE NEW POSITION OF *VICE PRESIDENT STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS*

Purpose

This paper proposes the creation of a new Executive Committee role—*IRSEA Vice President Strategic Directions*—to provide sustained continuity of leadership and management of the implementation of strategic initiatives.

Background

In recent years, the IRSEA Executive Committee has undertaken a series of strategic initiatives aimed at expanding membership, strengthening professional networks, formalising our mission, and advocating for Public Education as the preferred provider of excellence in student learning.

This has been driven through the development of a range of strategies to:

- invigorate membership by recruiting a broader membership base featuring a shift in demographics;
- add new opportunities for social/collegial gatherings, experiences and celebrations;
- establish a range of awards and honours for both members and notable others;
- formalise IRSEA's high moral purpose with Mission, Vision and Priority statements;
- forge pathways to partnerships and coalitions with organisations of shared values and strategic intent; and
- frame its future as a leading advocate and highly influential contributor to support Public Education as the acknowledged provider of first choice for excellence in student learning outcomes.

Discussion

The scope, scale, complexity and ultimate success of this comprehensive and integrated set of initiatives will require levels of leadership and management continuity that may be better served through a reconsideration of the Committee profile and terms of tenure.

The added work-load inherent in our expanded focus and commitments has meant that a greater burden of responsibility has been carried by Committee members within a structure which reflected and delivered, more than admirably, for a far less ambitious agenda.

A related challenge is the short tenure of key leadership positions, notably President, Vice President, and Immediate Past President. While there are more than valid and admirable reasons for this 'rotation' of leadership, the one-year term for each represents a challenge for the successful carriage of more complex strategic initiatives that can be more than one, two or three years in their making and realisation.

This issue is amply evidenced by:

- the time-lag in framing more formal arrangements with the retired principals' council and association;
- the time and complexity of negotiating and entering into partnerships with the Public Education Foundation (PEF) and the Department of Education (DoE);
- the logistical and management requirements of extending the scope and range of our meetings to regional areas; and
- the difficulty of, and the effort required in realising our great purpose of supporting the regeneration of Public Education in this state.

We have been well served by the current Executive Committee structure and profile. Officers in Executive Committee roles have been magnificent in their dedication, the quality of their work and the splendid outcomes they have achieved.

This proposal asserts that the already powerful impact of our Committee would be enhanced, and the added responsibilities of our members would be more effectively designed, by adding the position of ***Vice President Strategic Directions*** to our structure. This position would enable IRSEA to more ably fulfil its noble remit as an acknowledged leader in shaping the new educational landscape while maintaining and growing its highly attractive suite of social/collegial activities for its members.

Vice President Strategic Directions – Key Responsibilities

1. Support IRSEA's Executive in implementing its strategy, ensuring it is disciplined, achievable, measurable, and sharply focused on the elements most required to deliver the organisation's vision and purpose.
2. Guide the development of clear annual priorities, timelines, and success measures to drive effective implementation.
3. Ensure the Committee's ongoing and regular focus on success measures to track progress, assess achievements, and inform leadership decision-making.
4. Provide structured oversight to maintain momentum on long-term initiatives and ensure alignment with IRSEA's broader goals.
5. Facilitate strategic oversight and continuity across leadership transitions to sustain focus and progress on key priorities.

Note: This position has no automatic succession right to the Presidency of IRSEA. Only the currently configured Vice President position will assume that role as per usual practice.

Recommendations

1. The Executive Committee support the establishment of the position of ***Vice President Strategic Directions*** at the AGM, March 2025.
2. The new position of ***Vice President Strategic Directions*** be appointed for a one year term with the same re-election option as per other positions to bring essential continuity to our work for the levels of influence, impact and outcomes we seek to achieve.
3. The Executive Committee commence a feasibility process for the optional extension of tenure of the President, Vice President and Immediate Past President positions for 2-year terms.

Lindsay Wasson

Vice President

24 February 2025