



Platonic Academy of Melbourne

Annual General Meeting 2022

*Multipurpose Room 2 | Kathleen Syme Centre | 251 Faraday St, Carlton
2 pm Sunday 4 December 2022 | Meeting Chair: Phil Kafcaloudes*

Members attending this AGM

Phil Kafcaloudes (Meeting Chair)	Marguerita Adam
Bernie Lewin (PAM Chair)	Effie Pathimos
Mary Mitrakas	Tim Lightfoot
Peter Mitrakas	Martin Leckey
Eric Timewell	
Norman Jensen	

PAM Members at the time of the AGM 2022

Marguerita Adam	Andrew McMahon
Maria Atlas-White	Mary Mitrakas
Martin Black	Peter Mitrakas
Christopher Coney	Margaret T. Newman
Jem Ford	Effie Parthimos
Sandra Fuller	Lazarus Poutselas
Voula Giannopoulos	Jaqueline Preketes
Peter Howarth	Dan Probert
Alexandra Irimi	Paul Sheehan
Norman Jensen	Eric Timewell
Anna Joy Hoffmann	David Valkenet
Phil Kafcaloudes	Helen Vlahos
Maria Kapetanakis	John Vlahos
Sue Karras-Pearce	Kathy Vlassopoulos
Martin Leckey	Hume White
Bernie Lewin	Achilles Yiangoulli
Tim Lightfoot	

PAM Board 2022

Bernie Lewin (Chair)
John Vlahos (Treasurer)
Maria Atlas-White (Secretary)
David Valkenet
Mary Mitrakas
Phil Kafcaloudes
Paul Sheehan

New PAM Board for 2023

Maria Atlas-White (Chair)
John Vlahos (Treasurer)
Mary Mitrakas
Phil Kafcaloudes
Paul Sheehan
Bernie Lewin
Marguerita Adam (new)
<i>(The secretary position remains vacant)</i>

Minutes (draft)

1. Welcome

Phil welcomed everyone to the inaugural AGM of the Platonic Academy

Phil explained that “The Platonic Academy Ltd” was incorporated as a non-profit Australian company in 2021.

2. Apologies

David Valkenet, Maria Atlas-White, Paul Sheehan, John Vlahos (plane delay)

3. Outgoing Chairman’s Address

Bernie presented a history of the organisation

Bernie highlighted the role of the following folks in establishing the Academy:

- David Valkenet and Angus Conley as co-founders
- Nabeel Khan in establishing the geometry course
- Nick Dallas and the Greek Orthodox Community
- Early supporters of the Academy from within the modern Greek community, including Effie P., Mary M., Peter M., Maria A-W, Hume W, Phil K., Helen V., John V., Voula G, Alexandria I., Kathy V., Achilles Y., Jaqui P.
- Martin Black in starting ancient Greek language classes.

4. Finance Report

John Vlahos’s financial slide show was presented by Phil in his absence. The last quarter financial statement was circulated for those requiring more detail.

- Income: predominantly student fees
- Recurrent Expenditure: includes tutor fees, venue hire, admin costs (e.g., ASIC fees), website and zoom licences.
- Assets: The Academy has minimal assets valued around \$500, including geometry equipment, AV equipment, books, and cups.
- There was a COVID lock-down dividend with no venue hire fees.
- The Academy’s bank balance has been steadily rising and is now around \$6000.

Questions to Directors

The floor was open to questions to the Board regarding finance and any other governance matters. Responses included:

- Tutors are engaged by contract and paid a fee.
- The academy does not have any employees, nor intends to have any, and so it does not require employee insurance.
- The academy does not have offices or venues of its own and so relevant insurance for classes and events (such as public liability insurance) is covered by the venues that are hired.

Acceptance of Financial Statement

Acceptance of the financial statement was moved by Phil K. and accepted by a unanimous show of hands.

5. Election of the new Board

- David V's resignation from the Board was accepted.
- Nomination of Marguerita Adam to the Board was accepted.
- Resignation of Bernie L. from Chair of the Board was accepted (Bernie L. will remain on the Board).
- Nomination of Maria A-W to Chair of the Board was accepted.
- There was no nomination to Secretary of the Board, which remained vacant.

6. Update on courses for 2023

Bernie outlined plans for 2023:

Summer term starting week of Monday 13 Feb

- Mondays | *Reading Plotinus: An Introduction to neo-Platonism* | GOC
- Tuesday | *Ancient Greek Language & the First Philosophers Part I* | Syme
- Wednesdays | *Platonic Esoteric Geometry Part I* | Syme
- Thursdays | *Reading Plato* | 11 am during the day | Syme

Autumn term starting Monday 17 April

- This should include Part II of Greek Language & Geometry, perhaps Plato's Myths (and perhaps *Timaeus*, as requested during in the meeting.)

7. Greek Tour announcement

Mary M. announced the Greek tour that PAM is organising for Twilight Term (October) 2023.

It will be called: "Myths, Morals and Mysticism: A Journey into Platonism"

Mary outlined the itinerary.

The documentation is nearly finalised, and the tour will be promoted shortly.

8. Discussion of future direction

The floor was open to ideas of future course and events. Ideas that were raised in the discussion included:

- That from next year we try holding the AGM earlier (September?) and with an annual special guest lecture (to attract attendance).
- An excursion to Benaki exhibition at the Hellenic Museum
- A new course on the history of Platonism
- Repeat the *Timaeus* course soon
- Address Platonism in Art through a lecture or a course.

The meeting closed around 3 pm and refreshments were served.
