

Wheat Breeding Society of Australia Inc.

Minutes of the Associations business meeting held at the Plant Breeding Institute Narrabri on Tuesday August 30, 2022.

In attendance more than 90 assembly delegates.

The meeting was opened by the President Professor Richard Trethowan who welcomed the attendees who then read out tributes to two past Triticum Award recipients.

The tribute to Dr Frank Ellison who had a career as a wheat breeder at the University of Sydney spanning more than 30 years highlighted that 2022 was twenty years since his untimely passing.

Frank's contributions to the Australian wheat industry through the varieties he developed and the postgraduate students that he mentored lives on today.

The tribute to Peter Wilson highlighted his career as a pioneer wheat breeder operating in the commercial environment where continued operation relied totally on growers adopting his varieties.

Peter was a member of the Committee that developed the foundations of the current Plant Variety Rights system that underpins commercial variety development in Australia.

President's report.

The current assembly was originally planned to be held in 2021 but was delayed due to the COVID pandemic so that a face-to-face meeting could be held as opposed to virtual event.

A successful preconference tour of the north west was enjoyed by 43 participants.

There are 127 full registrants attending the assembly which is a great result considering it is the first time an assembly has been convened in a regional city.

Special thanks were extended to the assembly sponsors:

Australian Grain Technologies Pty Ltd as the assembly's Platinum Event Partner.

The Grains Research and Development Corporation for being an Event Partner.

The Gold sponsors Illumina and LongReach Plant Breeders and Silver sponsors InterGrain Pty Ltd, Sydney Institute of Agriculture and the NSW Wheat Research Foundation.

The President thanked the invited keynote speakers for their contributions to the success of the assembly.

Treasurers report:

The treasurer Dr Meiqin Lu indicated that the assembly had an opening account balance of \$42,822.42 and as of today had expenses associated with the assembly of \$169,914, which after sponsor income and registration income would leave the society with a likely balance of \$39,038.

Location of the next assembly:

The next assembly, likely to be held in 2024 will be in Victoria with office bearers being:

President: Dr Dan Mullan.

Secretary: Dr Josquin Tibbitts.

Treasurer: Dr Meiqin Lu.

Launch of the Societies web site:

The secretary Dr Lindsay O'Brien demonstrated the web site which will be used to store information on past assemblies, the Triticum awardees and for all communication about future assemblies.

The President thanked the keynote speakers, all the presenters for their high-quality presentations and the staff of the Plant Breeding Institute and Australian Grain Technologies Pty Ltd for their work in setting up what is the main seed sorting and packing work space and turning it into such a wonderful dinner setting.

The President closed the business meeting by again thanking all sponsors for their financial support that made the assembly possible.