

25 September 2011

Dear SOMANZ Members,

Nominations for SOMANZ Council 2011 – 2013

We are seeking nominations from members who wish to join the SOMANZ Council. Sandra Lowe (NSW), Barry Walters (WA), Karin Lust (QLD), and Peter Muller (SA) plan to renominate and will, we hope continue on Council. We will farewell with many thanks David Ellwood (ACT) and Anne Barden (WA) who have served ably on Council for 6 years, their maximum term. Lawrie McMahon (VIC) will remain on Council for 12 months ex-officio, as Immediate Past President, before also leaving the Council.

Although it is not mandatory under the Society's Constitution, it is always favourable to have good geographical coverage so we would welcome nominations to represent New Zealand, Victoria, Northern Territory, ACT and Tasmania - all states and territories for which there will be no representation without new appointees. We strongly encourage nominations from our New Zealand colleagues who have not been represented in recent times.

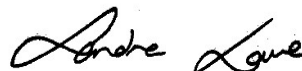
We also need to fill a constitutional vacancy for a "scientist" within the 8 vacant positions. Council is keen to encourage and support strong scientific representation.

Please send in your nomination form as soon as possible. Please note, it **must** be received at the SOMANZ Office by **5pm on Friday 7 October 2011**.

Kind Regards



Prof Lawrie McMahon
Acting President



A/Prof Sandra Lowe
Acting Secretary/Treasurer

SOMANZ Constitution Extract

ARTICLE 4: OFFICERS

Section 1: The Council

The business of the Society shall be conducted by a Council consisting of eight members (including the Office Bearers). No more than two members shall come from any one State or Territory of Australia or New Zealand. At least two members of Council shall be obstetricians. A least one member of Council shall be a scientist. The Council shall be responsible for conducting the affairs and business of the Society. The Council may, at its discretion, delegate such duties as it may determine to a Sub-Committee of members of the Council or other members of the Society. The immediate past President shall remain on Council for one year ex-officio.

Section 2: Office Bearers

There shall be a President and a Secretary/Treasurer. The Office Bearers shall be elected by Members of Council from within their own number.

Section 3: Election of Officers

Election of the President, Secretary/Treasurer and Members of Council shall be made every two years. Nominations shall be made in writing by a Member of the Society. Each shall be seconded by a Member of the Society. The nominees shall signify consent to such a nomination in writing. The nominations shall be in the hands of the Secretary one month before the Annual Meeting of the Society. A ballot shall be held for all positions and announced at the Annual Meeting.

Section 4: Terms of Office

The term of office for the President is two years. Thereafter he/she may not be re-elected as President until four years have elapsed since his/her previous term.

The terms of office for the Secretary/Treasurer and Members of Council are for two years. Each is eligible for re-election for a subsequent two terms, each of two years. Thereafter, each may not be re-elected until four years have elapsed since his/her previous term. No Member shall serve on Council for longer than three consecutive two year terms.

Section 5: Co-option of Additional Council Members

The Council shall have the power to co-opt additional Council Members to fill vacancies, but not for a period exceeding that of the unexpired portion of the terms in which the vacancies occurred.

Section 6: Duties of Officers

The President shall be Chairperson of the Council. In his/her absence, the other Council Members shall elect a Chairperson for any particular Meeting. The Secretary shall keep minutes of the proceedings of the Society's meetings and Annual General Meetings, and the meetings of the Council. At the Annual General Meeting, the Secretary shall report on the work done by the Society during the previous year. The Secretary/Treasurer shall oversee the collection of dues from the Members and the other financial affairs of the Society. The Treasurer shall present a Treasurer's report of income and expenditure to the Annual General Meeting. The other officers shall have the powers and perform the duties that may be prescribed by the Council.



Section 7: A Quorum of the Council

Three Members shall form a quorum at a meeting of the Council.

Section 8: Council Meetings

The Council shall meet at the time of the Society's Annual General Meeting. The Secretary shall notify the Council of the forthcoming Meeting more than a month beforehand. Additional meetings of the Council may be called at the discretion of the President between Annual General Meetings.

Section 9:

Members of Council shall have a limited liability of no more than \$25.00 in respect of any action brought against the Council.