

Minutes of Meeting

DATE: 11:00am AEDT, Thursday 2 November 2023

SUBJECT: Annual General Meeting

LOCATION: Virtual

ATTENDEES ONLINE:

Marja Arponen (Queensland Shared Services)

Laurence Bennett (Woolworths Limited)

Scott Bingley (Victoria University (Academic))

Caroline Efron (Lactalis Australia)

Dave Hartwich (AGL)

Alan Myers (Sanitarium Health Food Company)

Tony Shillabeer (NSW Dept of Planning Industry & Environment)

Graham Slattery (Yancoal Australia Ltd)

Travis Smith (SA Power Networks)

Jonathon Thorpe (DuluxGroup Limited)

John Tyler (Fire and Rescue NSW)

Jen Barbour (SAUG)

Karen Zwissler (SAUG)

George Papadopoulos (SAUG)

Michael Kovacevic (SAUG)

MINUTES: Jen Barbour

REVIEWED: George Papadopoulos

ACTION SUMMARY LIST

Item	Action	By	Due Date	Status
1	Nil			

CLOSED ACTION SUMMARY LIST

Item	Action	By	Due Date	Status
1	Nil			

MEETING SUMMARY

The Annual General Meeting for the SAP Australian User Group was held on Thursday 2 November 2023.

Based upon the record of 11 ordinary members in attendance at 11.04am it was determined that a quorum existed, and the meeting was opened.

The CEO of SAUG welcomed attendees to the Annual General Meeting of the SAP Australian User Group.

The CEO moved to the formal part of the Annual General Meeting.

The CEO then dealt with each agenda item;

1. Confirm minutes of the 2022 Annual General Meeting held on Thursday 27th October 2022

Proposed by – John Tyler

Seconded by – Laurence Bennett

Acceptance of the minutes passed unanimously

2. The Chair, Laurence Bennett, presented the report on SAUG activities for FY2023 year.

Receive and consider the Chairman's Activity Report for FY2023 year

Proposed by – Graham Slattery

Seconded by – Jonathon Thorpe

Acceptance of the Chair's Activity Report passed unanimously

3. John Tyler, Treasurer, presented the SAUG financial reports for FY2023

Receive and consider the audited financial statements of FY2023

Proposed by – Graham Slattery

Seconded by – Jonathon Thorpe

Acceptance of the financial statements passed unanimously

4. Election of General Members of the Committee

Two Year term – four nominations were received for six Committee positions

The results of the four successful candidates are presented in random order:

- Caroline Efron

- Scott Bingley

- Laurence Bennett

- John Tyler

Receive and consider the appointment of the above members to the Committee for the term 2023/2024

Proposed by Alan Myers

Seconded by Graham Slattery

Acceptance of the new committee members passed unanimously

5. General Business

There was a call for any general business. No general business was tabled.

The CEO closed the meeting at 11.29am on 2 November 2023.

REVIEWED: George Papadopoulos

APPROVED: Travis Smith

DISTRIBUTED: To be included with Notice of SAUG Annual General Meeting 2024

SAUG AGM 2023 - CHAIR REPORT

Good morning and thank you for your attendance at this AGM.

The 2023 financial year was a positive year of growth and change for the SAP Australian User Group and it is with great pleasure that I present to you the Chair's report.

The outlook presented at the AGM last year indicated changes and expansion would be coming in F23, and it is pleasing to be able to report that the organisation has both embraced these changes as well as continued to deliver on the strategy of using the strong foundation of current SAUG events to seek new avenues of growing the SAP community.

During the first half of the year, the organisation moved out of the SAP offices in North Sydney and established independent offices. Working in conjunction with another technology organisation, a hybrid and shared work environment was secured and has proved to be a successful arrangement. The relationship with SAP has also evolved and Chris Peck has become the primary sponsor and point of interaction within SAP. Chris has proven to be a strong sponsor and has actively participated at a number of events, for which the organisation is appreciative. During the course of the year, there were some staffing changes however the team remains strong and engaged, with extremely successful events bearing testament to the skill and passion of the SAUG team members.

One of the key decisions made during the course of the year was to engage the services of Ian Ryan and Tim Wilkes as strategic advisors to the organisation. This has proven to be astute and a strategic point of view was developed, outlining the value that the organisation brings to the SAP community and providing vision and direction to guide activities. The return of value to members has been a dominant theme and discussion point and SAUG remains committed to ensuring that it is a member first organisation and that members receive benefits that far outweigh the annual cost of subscription.

Another key activity that was successfully undertaken in F23 was the development of a new look and feel for SAUG. The brand has been refreshed and I am sure as you will see through the presentations and materials, that the investment in the rebranding has been worthwhile. SAUG has also consciously made the decision to remain actively involved in the global SAP user group community. There is a firm belief that we in Australia have much to offer, not only for our own SAP community, but for those around the world. A growth mindset exists within the SAUG team and actively contributing in the global user groups also presents the opportunity to uncover new ways in which to bring further insights and value to you, our members. To this end, the organisation actively participated in the face to face SUGEN events in Germany, as well as attending the Sapphire conference in Orlando. It was also pleasing that the organisation was able to send a team member to the bi-annual Saphila conference in South Africa. All of the above has resulted in strong connections, including the establishment of a quarterly interaction with the American user group, ASUG.

Value generating activities

F23 saw a full year of in-person events following the disrupted years of COVID. The National Summit attracted over 480 attendees, with Melbourne just shy of 300. The Canberra and Brisbane conferences in the first half of calendar year 2023 also showed pleasing attendance. It has however been noticed that since COVID, the approach to conferences has altered slightly. It feels like attendees register later, and are also likely to be more flexible in their attendance. As the SAUG team was planning and preparing for the events, good agility was shown as they adapted to some of these changing dynamics. Positive feedback from attendees vindicated the approaches.

In addition to these events, 10 webinars, 7 Solution Series and 15 SIG meetings were held. Out of interest, the Asset Management SIG was consistently the most popular. The SAUG Executive Council was reinvigorated with expanded influence and geographical scope. These meetings which are targeted at executives were held in Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane. And excitingly, two new events were introduced in F23. These were a WA Connect event held in Perth in June 2023, with 42 people attending. A partner value session was also held in March 2023, as a first foray into understanding how SAUG may further foster a thriving SAP ecosystem that has active participation from partners beyond just sales and lead generation activities. And lastly, it is not surprising that the most popular topics across all events were BTP, AI, S/4 customer journeys and Data & Analytics.

Membership

During the year, there was an increase of 6.7% in membership numbers, up to 318 members. This is the highest in a number of years and would indicate that members recognise the ongoing value of belonging to SAUG. Interestingly, the number of user accounts increased by 7.5% over the same period to just under 6200, suggesting greater usage of resources within members. A small number of members did unfortunately depart, with the main reasoning being related to cost control and non-essential spend. In these increasingly turbulent economic times, the articulation and delivery of value to members remains the top priority of the organisation.

The following lists the breakdown of members across the various membership categories:

- Ordinary (Customer) Members = 180
- Consultant (Partner) Members = 73
- Associate (Individual) Members = 40
- Other Members = 25

Finance

As reported in the F22 AGM, the organisation was able to weather the COVID 'storm' through strong and prudent financial management. It was seen in the F23 year that there was a significant increase in revenue when compared to F22. There was however a similar increase in expenses, primarily due to a full return to face to face events. The organisation did register a net loss for the year, however this was a much stronger outcome than the 2022 financial year. During the F23 year, the committee reviewed the management of financial reserves. It was found that over the past number of years, the organisation's reserves have been steadily increasing.

Given the nature of a not-for-profit member based organisation, the committee considered the best investment approaches of these funds to ensure that the value and benefit is appropriately returned to the members. A decision was made on the minimum level of funding that would be kept in reserve for the ongoing operations of SAUG, with the remainder being available for investment. This investment has resulted in hosting new events (as was mentioned previously), the rebranding of SAUG as well as new channels of providing knowledge and insights to members.

The full financial report will be delivered later in this meeting.

Outlook

The F23 financial year ended with strong momentum. The hosting of the new event in Perth in June provided tangible evidence of the organisation's commitment to expanding and growing the SAP ecosystem in Australia. The first quarter of F23 has seen a further Western Australian event and an event in South Australia is scheduled for the next few weeks. Another key strategic initiative that has been launched since July is the knowledge and education campaign. Working with industry experts, the first campaign covers the topic of AI, with a position paper having been produced and events planned and scheduled. There is a strong belief that SAUG is well positioned to provide members with an independent, vendor agnostic view on key topics of the day, with AI being one of these topics. As the AI campaign runs through to conclusion, so a further topic or theme will be selected and actively socialised within the SAP community. Expansion of the partner interactions will develop further, and of course, the running of world class events and conferences will continue.

The SAUG team and committee are excited about the opportunities that exist in F24 within the SAP community in Australia. There is a sense of confidence and forward momentum, and we jointly look forward to connecting and providing increased value to our member organisations. SAP has always provided strong applications and products, and expertise in SAP continues to be a good skillset to have. It is the commitment of SAUG to ensure that the SAP community continues to be a place where these skills and experiences can be leveraged and grown.

In closing, thank you to the SAUG team. Karen, George, Michael, Jen, Louise and Alex - you serve this community well and your efforts don't go unnoticed. Thank you as well to the SAUG committee. JT, John, Travis and Gemma, your support, insights and guidance have been invaluable. And finally thank you to you, the members of the SAP community in Australia. Thank you for your ongoing support of the user group, for your contributions to the SAP ecosystem and for your continued assistance in sharing the benefits of SAUG to colleagues and other companies using SAP.

Laurence Bennett
Chair