

SHI Board Communiqué – December 2022

The SHI Board met on 6th of December 2022 and discussed the following matters:

Board Chair – topics for discussion

- The Chair welcomed Dr Edward Upjohn to the Board.
- The Chair also congratulated Dr Aaron Robinson on his recent appointment as Clinical Associate Professor with the University of Melbourne, through St Vincent's Hospital.

Appointment of Office Bearers

- Following the successful resolution of Board vacancies at the recent AGM, the Board accepted the nominations of A/Prof Rosemary as President, Dr Edward Upjohn as President Elect, and Jim Power as Treasurer. The Board agreed that the CEO would assume the position of Company Secretary.

Board Committees

- The Board agreed to the re-appointments of Jim Power, A/Prof Rosemary Nixon, Kirsty Turner (co-opted), Darren Scammell (co-opted) and David Malone (CEO) to the Finance Audit and Risk Management (FARM) Committee. The Board expressed their appreciation to Jim Power, who agreed to continue as Committee Chair.
- The Board agreed to the re-appointments of Dr Damien Angus, A/Prof Rosemary Nixon, Hamish Walton and David Malone (CEO), to the Governance Committee. The Board also supported the new appointment of Dr Jenny Cahill to the committee. The Board expressed their appreciation to Dr Damien Angus, who agreed to continue as Committee Chair.
- The Board supported the appointment of Dr Edward Upjohn to the Clinical Governance Committee, noting his surgical expertise would be of particular value to the committee's deliberations.

Financial Sustainability

- The CEO presented an overview of the SHI's recent and projected financial performance and outlined a number of reform priorities to restore financial sustainability.
- Board members discussed their concerns with underlying operational performance and expressed support for proposed changes to secure a pathway to financial sustainability.
- The Board discussed and provided feedback on proposals to improve billing practices, reduce debtors, broaden referral pathways, increase theatre utilisation, and explore strategic lease arrangements.

Operational Updates

- Review of HR compliance
- New EBA for Registrars
- Review of the IT and Disaster Recovery Plan
- Recent staff resignations and appointments
- Successful NSQHS accreditation
- VCAT hearing

- 2022 Staff Survey findings.

Adolescent clinics

- The Board discussed the opportunity for SHI to run dermatology clinics for adolescents aged 15-18 years old.
- Board members noted issues of access for specialist dermatology services, especially given the very long wait lists at the Royal Children's Hospital.
- The Board requested a policy be developed for treatment of 15-18 year olds at SHI.

Sub-committee reports – Finance, Audit and Risk Management committee

- The Board noted the FARM Committee's focus on financial performance and cash flows.
- Board members discussed the Institute's financial performance for the financial year to date, noting it compared favourably to performance over the same period in 2021.
- The Board noted the renewal of SHI's mortgage facility with the National Australia Bank.

Approved by A/Prof Rosemary Nixon AM, Chair of the SHI Board