ICSEI AGM 24/25 November 2025

25 November 2025 8am AEDT

Online via zoom

Minutes

1. Welcome - to long time members and new members

President Jim Spillane welcomed all present to the ICSEI 2024-2025 AGM.

2. Apologies and proxies

Apologies: Kim Schildkamp, Melanie Ehren, Larissa McLean Davies

No proxies provided.

Present: James Spillane, Danette Parsley, Paul Campbell, Pierre Tulowitzki, Dorothy Andrews, Christine Grice, Trista Hollweck, Rania Sawalhi, Asmaa AlFadala, Diana Wilson, Joan Conway, Ken Brien, Sheridan Dudley, Benjamin Kennedy, Jennifer Norford, Nehaia Omar, Kristina Westlund, Stephen McGregor, Doris Whorter, Kimberley Nicholls, Yvonne Keating. Alec Young, Persille Schwartz, Simon Leonard, Ellen Goldring, Andrea Stringer, Jackie Brien.

3. Approval of 2024 ICSEI AGM Minutes

Minutes 2024-2025 AGM approved. (Sheridan Dudley moved, Pierre Tulowitzki seconded, all approved).

4. Thank you to ICSEI Board 2024-2025

Jim thanked all ICSEI Board Directors for 2024-2025: Danette Parsley, Paul Campbell, Melanie Ehren, Dorothy Andrews, Christine Grice, Trista Hollweck, Pierre Tulowitski, Asmaa AlFadala, Rania Sawalhi, Larissa McLean Davies.

Jim particularly acknowledged retiring Board members – Pierre Tulowitzki and Larissa McLean Davies – Pierre for his long and valuable contribution to the Board, and Larissa for her contribution on the LOC for the Melbourne 2025 Congress.

5. Audited Financial Report and the Independent Auditor's Report for the Financial Year ending 30 June 2025

Dorothy Andrews (FRAG Co-Chair) presented the Audited Financial Report, prepared by David Gallery from Stewart Brown. Dorothy noted that the Auditor advised ICSEI is well positioned financially with good support for the future.

Sheridan Dudley congratulated ICSEI on the Financial Report and questioned the large amount in 'other payables'; Dorothy explained that this relates to Melbourne Congress financial reconciliation which was still taking place as at end June 2025.

INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS FOR SCHOOL EFFECTIVENESS AND IMPROVEMENT
ABN 56 631 442 370

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
AS AT 30 JUNE 2025

	Note	2025 $	2024 $
ASSETS			
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	6	485,114	229,283
Trade and other receivables	7	28,324	13,036
Total current assets		513,438	242,319
Non-current assets			
Property, plant and equipment	8	1,149	-
Intangible assets	9	7,913	-
Total non-current assets		9,062	-
TOTAL ASSETS		522,500	242,319
LIABILITIES			
Current liabilities			
Trade and other payables	10	216,547	40,753
Total current liabilities		216,547	40,753
TOTAL LIABILITIES		216,547	40,753
NET ASSETS		**305,953**	**201,566**
FUNDS			
Accumulated funds		305,953	201,566
TOTAL FUNDS		**305,953**	**201,566**

Revenue	
Conference registration fees	332,203
Membership fees	69,648
	401,851
Other revenue	
Interest income	4,108
Donations	-
Other revenue	4,000
	8,108
Total revenue	409,959

Revenue	4	409,959
		409,959
Expenses		
Administration		(1,975)
Conference expenses		(185,903)
Depreciation and amortisation	5	(1,234)
Foreign exchange loss		-
Professional fees		(90,820)
Subscription fees		(5,986)
Website and design expenses		(501)
Insurance		(8,488)
Online transaction expenses		(10,665)
		(305,572)
Surplus before income tax		104,387
Income tax expense		-
Surplus for the year		104,387
Other comprehensive income		-
Total comprehensive income for the year		**104,387**

6. Acceptance of the Audited Financial Report and the Independent Auditor's Report for the Financial Year ending 30 June 2025

Dorothy Andrews moved the report, Ken Brien seconded, all accepted.

7. President's Report

Jim Spillane provided his President's Report.

President's report: Board

- Jim acknowledged the active, hard-working, committed, and engaged Board
- A well-functioning, financially healthy Not-For-Profit with:
    - President and President-Elect
    - Executive Director & Company Secretary
    - Active networks – Jim explained networks are the 'heart' of ICSEI and acknowledged Melanie and Paul who have re-vitalised networks in the last few years and also encouraged networks to work collaboratively.
    - 5 active standing committees with Board and ICSEI members
- Registered charitable status

- Revised ICSEI Constitution adopted 26 June 2025 with terms of office for President and President-Elect changed to 2 years.

President's report: membership

- Significant increase in membership over this financial year:

Time period	Membership numbers	Percentage increase in membership
1 July 2024 – 30 June 2025 financial reporting year	273 paid and life members at 1 July 2024 529 paid and life members at 30 June 2025	93.77% increase

Current Members at 24 November 2025	
494 members, including:	
Life members	17
Student members	88
Middle- or lower- income country members	39
Institutional members	87

President's Report: Congress, Events, & Funding

- Successful ICSEI Congress in Melbourne in February 2025 with over 520 participants from 44 countries.
- Very excited for our 2026 Congress in Doha in January.
- The Board approved a bid for ICSEI 2027 and we signed the MOU. The venue will be announced at the conclusion of the 2026 ICSEI Congress in Doha.
- Currently reviewing two proposals as possible hosts for ICSEI 2028 and beyond.
- ICSEI had its second regional/topical event since the pandemic with a hugely successful conference in Cardiff in June 2025. Co-sponsor and organized by the Welsh Ministry of Education and Cardiff Metropolitan University. Huge thanks to Michelle Jones for leading this initiative.
- Jim also highlighted the successful regional event last year in Amsterdam.
- Planning is well underway for another ICSEI regional event in 2027.

- Received over $20,000 AUD from the Spencer Foundation in 2025 to fund Junior Scholar Program. Over $100,000 AUD raised over past three years from private foundations.

8. Standing Committee Reports

Standing Committee on Registrations and Membership (SCRAM):

Chair – Danette Parsley

Communications and Knowledge Sharing Standing Committee:

Chair – Paul Campbell

Generational Renewal, Inclusion and Diversity (GRID):

Chair – Trista Hollweck

Strategy, Professional Learning and Networks Standing Committee (SPLaN):

Chair – Jim Spillane

Finance, Risk, Audit and Governance Committee (FRAG):

Chairs - Dorothy Andrews and Christine Grice

Standing Committee on Registrations and Membership (SCRAM):

Committee Members:

Danette Parsley (Chair), Trista Hollweck, Pierre Tulowitzki, Line Skov Hansen, Andrea Stringer

Role and purpose:

To establish and maintain robust membership and congress management systems and report to the Board on the following key activities

Activities:

- Operate conference management system (Conftool)
- Configure and manage ICSEI 2026 Conftool platform and process for proposal submission and review, registrations, and detailed programme development
- Coordinate with and support local organizing committee with all aspects of programme planning
- Support ED in fielding ongoing questions and requests from congress participants
- Manage membership system (MembershipWorks)

- Support membership drive and regular communication with members (membership renewals, announcements, etc.)
- Conduct ongoing monitoring, troubleshooting, and assistance with new and renewal memberships
- Cross-check and provide ED with member status information for congress presenters
- Configure and test MembershipWorks platform to support FRAG with conducting Board elections
- Maintain ICSEI Website
- Collaborate with C&KS on website redesign and launch
- Extract and report data (congress participation and membership statistics) to inform Board and support financial accountability

Communications and Knowledge Sharing Standing Committee

Committee members:

Paul Campbell (Chair); Trista Hollweck, Alvaro Gonzalez, Mauricio Pino, Joelle Rodway, Rania Sawalhi, Andrea Stringer

Role and purpose:

Develop and implement a communications and knowledge sharing strategy to increase the profile of ICSEI, including attention to: ICSEI social media, website, publications, and other C&KS actions as considered appropriate.

Activities:

- New brand guidelines and logos, outlining the visual identity and branding principles for ICSEI.
    - To ensure consistent and professional representation of ICSEI across all platforms and materials.
    - To provide clear instructions for using ICSEI's logos, colors, fonts, and imagery.
    - To support ICSEI's mission and values through a cohesive visual identity that reflects its global and evolving nature.

Social media:

- Social media guidelines were finalised and implemented with the oversight of this committee in partnership with networks
- X/ Twitter @ICSEIGlobal: archived/ discontinued
- Moved from X/Twitter to Instagram and Bluesky (reflecting low engagement on X/Twitter, and growing research/ policy/ practitioner communities and reach on Instagram)

- Facebook: Currently 1,700 followers (+200 since last AGM)
- LinkedIn: 2,054 (Last AGM: 1,089)
- Instagram: 108 (since last AGM)
- Bluesky:218 (since last AGM)
- Developed an annual timeline for social media posts, and identifying key individuals to maintain social media activity, including from local organizing committees before, during, and after congresses.

ICSEI Voices/ Publications:

- ICSEI Dialogic published in 2025. Final editorial processes in progress for the 2026 Dialogic on 'Early Childhood Education and Care: Exploring the potential for promoting children's lifelong learning, well-being, and sense of belonging'. (published Jan 2026).
- ICSEI Podcast: Exploring the possibilities for an ICSEI branded podcast and podcasts collaboration.
- Liaison and communications with ICSEI Networks, Congress 2026, ICSEI Board.

Generational Renewal, Inclusion and Diversity (GRID):

Chair:

Trista Hollweck Co-Chair: Aashna Khurana

Members:

Ibrahim Alhouti, Adil Bentahar, Jacob Easley III, Benjamin Kennedy, Mauricio Pino Yancovic, Rania Sawalhi, Eucharia Uranta-Okonkwo, Andrew Wambua

GRID Role and Objectives:

To provide insight, advice, feedback, and perspective to Board activities and decision making through the lens of diversity, equity, inclusion, and generational renewal.

ICSEI strives to be a welcoming and respectful global community while navigating political, cultural and contextual challenges. A more engaged and resilient GRID network will help respond to these global challenges and work towards creating inclusive and equitable solutions.

GRID membership:

The GRID Standing Committee welcomed 3 new members this year who were Junior Scholars at Melbourne. We welcome all ICSEI members to consider joining GRID and as a committee we are working hard to support generational renewal.

Activities:

- GRID Spotlight Session for ICSEI 2026: Tuesday, January 20, 2026, 9:00-10:15am

Exploring Cultural Sensitivities: Voices from MENA/South-West Asian North Africa (SWANA)

Speakers: Dr. Rania Sawalhi (Professor, University of Jordan), Dr. Adil Bentahar (Professor, Mohammed VI University, Morocco), Mariana Pereira de Souza (Student, Georgetown University, Qatar)

Facilitator: Dr. Trista Hollweck (Adjunct Professor, University of Ottawa, GRID chair)

- An April virtual GRID gathering in partnership with the Culture, Race & Intersectionality (CRI) network for any ICSEI members interested in a discussion on the experiences of the LGBTQ+ community in relation to educational effectiveness and improvement in the current global climate.
- GRID Terms of Reference (TOR) - Updated (2025).

Strategy, Professional Learning and Networks Standing Committee (SPLaN):

Members:

Jim Spillane (Chair), Asmaa Al-Fadala, Melanie Ehren, Danette Parsley, Sara Romiti, & Kristin Vanlommel.

SPLAN has worked on 3 domains related to ICSEI's strategic direction:

Membership:

- Growing & diversifying membership through a 3-pronged strategy focussing on renewal, reactivation and recruitment. Available evidence suggests the approach is working and ICSEI membership has grown substantially over the past three years.

Fund Raising:

- Procuring other sources of funding (e.g., grants from private foundations) to support ICSEI's work.
- We received over 20,000 AUD from the Spencer Foundation in 2025 to fund the Junior Scholar program for another three years.
- Total funding raised over last three years is over 100,000 AUD.

ICSEI Events:

- Congresses: Doha 2026; MOU signed for 2027; currently reviewing 2 proposals for 2028.
- Regional events: ICSEI regional event co-sponsored and organized by the Welsh Government & Cardiff Metropolitan University on June 27th, 2025.
- Future Regional Events: Germany in 2026?
- Jim encouraged members to think about and write a proposal for an ICSEI Congress in the future, and to feel welcome to have conversations with Board Directors about what is involved.

Finance, Risk, Audit and Governance Committee (FRAG):

Co-Chairs:

Dorothy Andrews & Christine Grice

Members:

Rania Sawalhi, Andrea Stringer, Jackie Brien

Activities:

- Held regular quarterly meetings
- Finalised ICSEI Operating Budget for 2024-2025
- Established ICSEI Operating Budget 2025-2026
- Reviewed Congress Budget for 2026
- Managed ICSEI Finances and Reporting
- Updated and monitored Risk Register
- Advised Board re Election Process & approved Election result
- Dorothy advised that apart from financial matters, FRAG has spent a lot of time on review and development of ICSEI policies.
- Christine noted that as ICSEI grows as an organisation, we are learning more about governance responsibilities and risk mitigation.

9. Acceptance of President's Report for Financial Year ended 30 June 2025 (including Standing Committee reports).

President's report moved – Danette Parsley, seconded – Persille Schwartz, all accepted.

All attendees acknowledged Jim's leadership as President of the ICSEI Board and his extensive contribution to the work of ICSEI. Appreciation extended to Jim by all present.

10. Board changeover - thank you to current Board Directors and welcome to new Board Directors

Farewell from ICSEI Board and THANK YOU!

- Jim Spillane
- Pierre Tulowitzki
- Larissa McLean Davies

Welcome and Congratulations: 2025 Election Result:

President-Elect:

- Paul Campbell

Elected Directors:

- Ellen Goldring
- Romina Madrid

Board-appointed Directors:

- Dorothy Andrews (re-appointed)
- Rania Sawalhi (re-appointed)
- David Gurr

ICSEI Officers:

- Andrea Stringer (Executive Director)
- Jackie Brien (Company Secretary)

11. Congress 2026 – Doha, Qatar

ICSEI Congress 2026

"Crossing Boundaries in Education: Fostering Innovative, Inclusive and Sustainable Learning Environments"

- January 18-22, 2025
- Congress Venue: Doha, Qatar
- https://icsei.org/congress/icsei-2026/

12. Meeting Close

President Jim Spillane closed meeting at 8.45am 25 November 2025 AEDT.