ASCP Chair's Report, AGM 2025
Charles Barbour

The ASCP Executive Committee met regularly throughout the year, working on a number of initiatives. On the basis of discussion at the 2024 AGM, we focused particularly on three issues: expanding our activities beyond the ASCP annual conference, including sponsoring and helping fund research events that involve HDR and ECR members; expanding our support for HDR and ECR members more generally; and developing a longer term approach to the organisation of the annual conference, such that we can determine its location and organising committee at least two years in advance.

In the first instance, we have developed a competitive bi-annual grant of up to $1000 to support research events organised by members, with a particular focus on supporting HDR and ECR members. In the second instance, we have worked to expand the John Dalton Memorial bursary such that more members would be eligible to receive more funds to support attendance at the annual conference. In the third instance, we have worked to establish the location and organising committee for the 2026 and 2027 annual conferences, and a more robust procedure for establishing the same going forward.

We have also sought to contribute to larger academic conversations and policy discussions facing the Australasian academic community in general. To this end, we submitted a detailed response to the proposed changes to the ARC granting schemes, with particular emphasis on how those proposed changes might affect our members. And, with the generous support of non-executive member Miriam Branovsky, a sub-committee worked to develop an Academic Freedom statement.

Finally, the ASCP's ECR Prize was awarded for the first time this year to Sofia Kartavtseva for her paper "The Body Reinvented: A Sadeian Grotesque Study of Gender."

The specific movements of the ASCP Executive since the 2024 AGM are listed below:
Dimitris Vardoulakis appointed member at large
Tom Corbin moved from ECR officer to conference officer (has since left the Executive)
Reappointment of Simone Drichel and Neil Vallelly as NZ representatives
Luke Monks-Quinane moved from postgraduate representative to ECR representative
Brigid Martin resigned from the role of communications officer
Leonard D'Cruz became the new communications officer
Daniele Fulvi became the new Public Officer
Tim Flanagan became a Government/Institutional Representative
Louise Richardson-Self became an Equity and Diversity Officer
Talia Fell became a Postgraduate Representative.
Annie Sandrussi resigned from the ECR officer role.
Emily Hughes and Elliot Patoura became our new ECR officers
Thanks as always to James Garrett for his work on the ASCP website
Academic Freedom statement (with thanks to Miriam Bankovsky as a non-Exec subcommittee member)
Updated "Work Opportunities and Information for Graduates" and Journals List on the ASCP website
Inaugural Events grant split between Patsoura and McCoy's event on Lacan's "Science and Truth", and Lopez and Lazarus's two-day event on Gillian Rose, and Hegel, Marx and Aristotle

Charles Barbour, Chair, ASCP, November 22, 2025.