



U3A-ACT Inc
Hughes Community Centre
2 Wisdom Street
HUGHES ACT 2605
www.u3acanberra.org.au
ABN: 35 234 986 878
19 November 2024

U3A-ACT INCORPORATED AGM

TUESDAY 19 NOVEMBER 2024

Hughes Community Centre, Hughes

NOMINATIONS RECEIVED BY 5:00PM, 12 NOVEMBER 2024 FOR POSITIONS ON THE U3A 2024-25 COMMITTEE

Positions	Nominations Received
President	Alex Gosman
Vice President	Lindsay Rae
Vice President	Andrea Hope
Treasurer	Graeme Swift
Secretary	Maria Magro
Ordinary Member	Mary Bermingham
Ordinary Member	Gary Davis
Ordinary Member	Tom Flynn
Ordinary Member	Christine King
Ordinary Member	Paul Minogue
Ordinary Member	Kristine Riethmiller
Ordinary Member	Peter Sheldrake
Ordinary Member	Brian Weir

Statements By Nominees

Alex Gosman (President)

I have been a member of U3A Canberra since 2016 and have served in several volunteer roles for the past six years including leading two courses, planning and organising the Forums, serving as U3A Canberra's representative on the Committee of NSW U3A Network, and for the past three years, occupying the position of Vice President on our Committee. I have also managed the Communications Team for some years.

Lindsay Rae (Vice President)

I joined U3A Canberra in 2018. I served as a Vice President for two years before becoming President in 2022 so have now served in this position three years,

including during the challenging second half of the COVID Pandemic. I have extensive experience in government, non-for-profit organisations and academia.

Andrea Hope (Vice President)

I have served as an ordinary member of the Committee for just short of two years. In that time I have been closely involved in substantial strategic tasks, such as developing a strategy to increase and refresh the membership of U3A Canberra. I have also delivered numerous U3A courses in the arts area and have been responsible for the liaison for programs provided by the National Film and Sound Archives.

I have many years management experience at the senior executive level in the Commonwealth Public Service and, post (semi) retirement, have been closely involved in the arts, including setting up and running an art gallery, establishing an arts trail and co-convening a major arts festival in Gerringong. I also served at as the President of the Kiama Friends of the Library.

Graeme Swift (Treasurer)

If elected, this will be my third year on the U3A ACT committee as Treasurer. I consider that I have added value to U3A's operations through the implementation of a financial package (MYOB) for managing finances and reporting, the introduction of an asset management system to control assets (Asset Tiger) and other improvements to the integrity and responsiveness of the financial elements of U3A management. With the assistance of the new assistant Treasurer (Mary McDonald) we propose an examination of banking arrangements to ensure we are receiving value-for-money. We have other ideas to ensure that U3A's finances and system remain fit-for-purpose and relevant.

Maria Magro (Secretary)

After a long and varied career in the Public Service, I retired in June 2020. During my time in the Public Service, I worked at several departments and agencies, including Services Australia, Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet and the Department of Foreign Affairs. The roles I had were varied from working on corporate, programme and communication functions.

In December 2020 I was appointed to the Community Service 1 Board as an ordinary member. During my three-year term, I was appointed Deputy Chair, Company Secretary and the Chair, Community Support Services Committee.

Now it is time to give back to the community, using the skills, knowledge and experience gained in the public service. I look forward to being a member and Secretary of the U3A Committee.

I hold a Bachelor of Communication.

Mary Bermingham (Ordinary Member)

I joined U3A in 2022 and in May 2024 I was appointed as membership secretary. I'm also an office volunteer in the Hughes office. I have enjoyed being a U3A volunteer

in the roles I have undertaken but would now like to expand my knowledge of the organisation as a part of the Committee.

I'm interested in understanding the governance and decision-making process of the organisation, and in my current role as Membership Secretary, I could provide some insights as part of the Committee's deliberations.

In terms of previous work experience I would bring to the Committee, I retired from the full-time workforce in December 2021, with my last 10 years as a director in the Department of Defence.

Gary Davis (Ordinary Member)

Over the last few years I have had the opportunity to be a member of the U3A Canberra Committee and contribute to the ongoing strategic and operational direction of our wonderful organisation.

I also run courses at U3A and bring my insights as a course leader to the matters discussed by the committee.

I have again nominated to be a member of the committee to continue to help value add to the decisions it makes.

Tom Flynn (Ordinary Member)

I have been the Secretary of U3A Canberra for the past two years and served in other community organisations in the roles of president and treasurer.

In addition I have many years' experience in policy and program areas in government bodies. I was one of two directors of a management consulting company for sixteen years.

Christine King (Ordinary Member)

I have fulfilled the role of Member Liaison Officer since mid-2021 and served on the U3A ACT Committee since 2022. I have many years' experience working with Committees in the public sector and not-for-profit organisations. I am personally committed to lifelong learning.

Paul Minogue (Ordinary Member)

I am a retired lawyer. I have been a member of U3A-ACT Inc. since 2017. I am co-leader of the Australian Sporting History Group. I have been U3A's Honorary Legal Advisor since 2021, and a Committee member since 2023. In these roles I have provided advice to, and worked with, the Committee on a number of matters, including changes to U3A's rules required under the Associations Incorporation Act, and review of U3A's operational policies and procedures.

Kristine Riethmiller (Ordinary Member)

Relevant community organisation Board & Committee experience includes Arthritis Australia (Chair of Board, Secretary, Committee Chair) 11 years, Lifeline Canberra (Secretary, Committee Chair) 8 years, Arthritis ACT Committee/Board (Secretary and Vice President) 7 years, Canberra Business Council/Chamber Board (Committee & Task Force Chair) 11 years, Canberra Women in Business (Committee Chair) 3 years, ACT Energy Consumers Reference Council 3 years.

I have sat on, or chaired, management, executive and advisory committees, subcommittees and working groups in both a professional and personal capacity. These committees include governance, strategy, finance & audit, risk, nomination & remuneration, people management, membership, fundraising & development. I have been a member of U3A for 6 years.

Peter Sheldrake (Ordinary Member)

I have been a board member for both non-profit and commercial organisations over the years with considerable experience of working with executive committees and advisory committees. My roles have usually been concerned with monitoring performance and looking at longer term strategy. I also conduct courses in discussion groups, for U3A and other organisations. I've been on the U3A Canberra Committed three years, and I'm seeking another term, which I anticipate will be my last on the Committee.

Brian Weir

I am nominating for a position on the U3A ACT Committee because I believe I can add value based on my background, experience and training in adult education, and in policy, business management / development and in not for profits organisations.

For the past 12 years I have been an academic in UC's Canberra Business School, where I taught, researched and undertook community and business engagement in business, tourism, climate change adaptation.

I have had U3A members participating in my classes and have learned more about the organisation, its mission and operations.

Prior to working at UC, I worked in the ACT Government in roles ranging from Ministerial Advisor to business / industry development and policy. I also worked in internal organisational consultancies in business development during restructuring exercises, as well as corporate strategy and planning projects.

I have consulted to both business and government agencies and authorities in the ACT and regional NSW. I have a bachelor's degree in science, a graduate diploma in legal studies, master's degree in public administration and a PhD in management. I have completed the Australian Institute of Company Director's course. I have been active at a senior / board level in several not-for-profit organisations.

I believe my background and experience enable me to usefully contribute to the work of the U3A Committee in its current operations and planning for the future.