



## Minutes of the 205<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of Membership Tuesday, November 14, 2023

**DRAFT - To Be Approved November 14, 2024**

The 205<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of The New York Academy of Sciences (“Academy”) commenced on Tuesday, November 14, 2023, via in person and virtual connection.

The meeting opened with Chenelle Bonavito Martinez, Vice President of Event Operations and Customer Engagement, who welcomed all members participating in person and by virtual connection at our new headquarters at 115 Broadway in New York City. She thanked everyone for their continued support and extended a special welcome to members participating in their first annual meeting, including young members in the Academy’s educational programming. She then introduced the Academy’s Chair of the Board, Jerry Hultin, who presided over the meeting.

The Chair welcomed all members and noted that the Academy has continued its science leadership over the past year in a fast-changing world, promotes the advancement of science and technology, and offers the best of global science, including access to a world-wide network of colleagues and resources, and the opportunity to shape the future of science through leadership, especially to its members, employing science and technology to address global challenges, in many fields and ways, including:

- In the life sciences and biomedical research;
- Supporting, evaluating, disseminating and convening discussions of scientific research in energy, climate change and sustainability;
- Studying the promises and threats of Artificial Intelligence and quantum computing
- Exploring and taking action against discrimination in academia, in the lab, and in society overall;
- Investigating how systems thinking, scenario planning and risk analysis through our innovative International Science Reserve can help improve the quality of life.

The Chair noted that the Academy’s members are key to our mission and their support during these challenging times is truly appreciated.

The Chair turned to the business portion of the meeting. He thanked Academy Board member Laura Sachar, who has served as our Treasurer and is now stepping down from that role, and introduced Amber Miller, the Academy’s incoming Treasurer, and Giancarlo Bonagura, Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer, who presented a financial update based on the fiscal year 2023 audited financial statements, including revenue and expenses, fiscal year 2024 budget projection with revenue and expenses, and noted that this positions the Academy in a better financial state than in previous years.

The Chair then called for a motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting held November 14, 2022 and presented the candidates for election and reelection to the Board of Governors for Academy member voting. The motions were made, and via in-person and online polling, and with a majority in favor, the Chair confirmed the minutes of the previous meeting and ballot of candidates for

election/reelection stand approved. The following candidates have been elected/reelected to the Academy's Board of Governors:

**Officer Candidates Elected:**

**Jerry Hultin**, Chair of the Board (one-year term, 2023 – 2024)  
**Thomas Pompidou**, Vice Chair of the Board (one-year term, 2023 – 2024)  
**Amber Miller**, Treasurer of the Board (first three-year term, 2023 – 2026)

**Governor Candidates Elected:**

**Armen Avanessians** (for first three-year term, 2023 – 2026)  
**Subra Suresh** (first three-year term, 2023 – 2026)  
**Faye Wattleton** (first three-year term, 2023 – 2026)  
**Serg Bell** (first three-year term, 2023 – 2026)  
**Thomas C. Franco** (first three-year term, 2023 – 2026)  
**Katherine B. Forrest** (first three-year term, 2023 – 2026)

**Governor Candidates Reelected:**

**MaryEllen Elia** (third three-year term, 2023 – 2026)  
**Seema Kumar** (third three-year term, 2023 – 2026)  
**Ravi Kumar S.** (second three-year term, 2023 – 2026)  
**R. May Lee** (second three-year term, 2023 – 2026)  
**Thomas Pompidou** (third three-year term, 2023 – 2026)  
**Laura Sachar** (second three-year term, 2023 – 2026)  
**Peter Thorén** (third three-year term, 2023-2026)  
**Grace Wang** (third three-year term, 2023 - 2026)

The Chair then closed the business portion of the meeting and introduced Nicholas Dirks, President of the Academy, who thanked the members for joining the meeting, and noted that our members and supporters are at the heart of our mission, and both advise and join us for conferences and seminars that share important, late-breaking scientific research, with broad ranging topics.

The President discussed how our members are mentors to young people thorough our STEM challenges for high school students around the world and help select the most promising scientists for recognition and support, and solicit and review scholarly papers for publication in our science journal, *The Annals of The New York Academy of Sciences*.

The President gave a brief update on the International Science Reserve and a Fellowship program that will help the Academy adopt a 'think tank' model to generate new ideas and approaches to the critical issues around science as it impacts our society. He also provided an update on the Blavatnik Awards for Young Scientists.

The President noted that major challenges facing humanity both involve and need science, and good solutions are not solely about good science, but also careful collaboration of researchers, thought leaders, policy makers, and representatives from multiple sectors, including industry, academia, government, non-government and private sectors, which the Academy has a unique capacity to tap into these, and also depend on our members to help ensure a broad coalition, employing a rigorous scientific approach with the goal of making the world a better place.

The President then introduced Meghan Groome, PhD, Senior Vice President for Education, who will lead the Junior Academy induction into The New York Academy of Sciences. She thanked the members of the Academy teams that make the education programs powerful and successful, and also thanked the Academy's sponsors who support this work through their funding, guidance, insight and expertise:

- The Royal Academy of Engineering in Sweden
- The J. Christopher Stevens Virtual Exchange Initiative i.e. Stevens Initiative sponsored by the US Department of State, with funding provided by the U.S. Government, administered by the Aspen Institute and supported by the Bezos Family Foundation and the governments of Morocco and the United Arab Emirates
- Clifford Chance's Cornerstone Initiative
- Ericsson
- The Ministry of Higher Education of Oman
- NEOM

Dr. Groome thanked additional partners including the Royal Health Awareness Society in Jordan, Mentor Arabia and AMU, and parents, teachers and friends, with special thanks to the Academy's international cohort of mentors who work with student teams to guide them through the Junior Academy learning process.

Dr. Groome gave a brief history of the Junior Academy, as well as the 1000 Girls, 1000 Futures program, which brings together young people from around the world in a STEM-enriched environment that can open doors and prepare students for science paths otherwise unknown. She then announced the induction of 1,632 students from the Junior Academy and 1000 Girls, 1000 Futures to join the Academy as Young Members, and welcomed the class of 2023 as our newest members of The New York Academy of Sciences.

The President thanked Dr. Groome and congratulated the Junior Academy graduates and looks forward to their continued participation in the Academy for many years to come.

Following the conclusion of the Junior Academy induction, the President gave final remarks, and a brief summary of the role of members of the Academy, as well as the benefits of membership was discussed. The members were thanked again for their support and participation, and the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Tino van den Heuvel  
Corporate Secretary to the Board of Governors of The New York Academy of Sciences

Prepared by Catherine Sarquiz  
Executive Associate to the Corporate Secretary