

Minutes of the NgoRS Membership Meeting (14 September 2026)

Board Members Present:

Alison Criss (Treasurer)
Jennifer Edwards (President)
Odile Harrison (At-large Member)
Joanna Hicks (President-elect)
Trevor Moraes (At-large Member)
Kate Seib (At-Large Board Member)
Hank Seifert (Ex-officio Member)
Evgeny Semchenko (At-large Member)
Julie Stoudenmire (At-large Member)
Anastasia Unitt (Trainee Member)

Absent Board Members:

Rachel Exley (Secretary)
Crista Wadsworth (Director of Communications)

Board meeting summary:

1. An in-person meeting of the NgoRS membership was held during the 2026 International Pathogenic *Neisseria* Conference (IPNC) in Busselton, Western Australia.
2. Jenn summarized the prior year's NgoRS activities, including:
 - a. Election results and the introduction of all Board members
 - b. Updates to the NgoRS website and to the Voice
 - c. Recognition of the Early Career Researcher Outstanding Paper Award winners
 - d. Reinstatement of the NgoRS Virtual Seminar Series with a call for presenters to contact Ana
 - e. NgoRS events and activities (Preparing for the Job Market Workshop, ECR Trivia lunch, Holiday Cookbook)
 - f. NgoRS membership renewal
3. The NgoRS Travel Award winners (below) were announced. In addition to covering registration costs, each award winner received a certificate as well as an NgoRS branded hat and a crocheted gonococcus. Jenn expressed gratitude to Nathan Weyand and his daughter for providing the crocheted gonococci.

Graduate Students:

Chloe Flemming –Univ Waikato, NZL
Samantha Hunter – Ohio Univ, USA
Alexandra Torres-Maisonet – Univ Virginia, USA

Post-docs:

Sophie Dyzenhaus – Univ Toronto, CAN
Kathleen Nicholson – Northwestern Univ, USA
Ilaria Onofrio – Univ Oxford

4. The 4th NgoRS Conference was announced with plans to hold the conference in the fall of 2027 and with President-elect, Joanna Hicks, to serve as Conference Chair.
5. Upcoming elections, to be held early in 2027, were announced. Jenn made an informal request for members to consider nominations. Open positions will include all five At-large members.
6. Jenn opened the floor to meeting attendees – no new discussion points were raised.

Respectfully submitted,

J. Edwards, NgoRS President