Letter to ACS Congress Members

Enough is enough.

Last year, a General Meeting of the Society was run so badly that the ACS executive was severely chastised by a Federal Court judge.

We were astonished to discover that a constitution had been smuggled through that Meeting whose purpose was to dismantle the Branches, deny the members control over their own association, and centralise power in a Board of Directors.

We then heard that the ACS executive refused to take responsibility for the badly-run process. They also failed to answer questions about their use of funds.

We gather that a lot of revenue is generated from a government-granted monopoly in assessing the qualifications of overseas visa applicants.

We also know that millions have been wasted on swank premises that house both administrators and start-ups, on purchasing a loss-making start-up incubator in Brisbane, and on purchasing a cluster of loss-making industry associations.

On top of that, high salaries and bonuses have been paid to layers of executives and managers in an organisation with only about 100 employees. And, during the same period, members were told that their \$340 membership fee was too small and they had to pay for the privilege of attending Branch meetings.

Who does the Management Committee think it's running the Society for?

In recent months, we've seen the ACS executive refusing to respond to questions put to it by members and by the media, and then issuing gag notices to media outlets that had the temerity to report news about the Society.

Then there's been the strange sequence of articles about a CEO who has left, is then back, and is now leaving again.

Most recently, we see reports suggesting serious staff issues inside the organisation.

Despite the fact that most of us are current members, we have not been kept informed by the Society. We've had to find out about the ridiculous events of the last year and longer through our own private networks, plus media reports.

We call on you, the Congress-members, to get these problems sorted out. You have the power to vote people onto Management Committee. When they muck it up, you also have the power to throw them out. On behalf of all members, we're asking you to get on and do that, right now.

Signed by the following ...

Aubrey Adams MACS Snr Ashley Aitken MACS Ali Reza Alaei MACS Geoff Albrecht MACS Alex Alexander MACS Pavle Andric MACS, CP Aaron Arbery MACS David Arnott FACS

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Paul Myers MACS Snr Paul E Nash MACS

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Jeffrey Whittle FACS Jeffrey Wilkinson MACS

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