

Australian Council for Educational Leaders

2016 2017

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ACEL ANNUAL REPORT

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ACEL ANNUAL REPORT CONTENTS

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ACEL OUR PURPOSE

To inspire, support, recognise and advocate for excellence in educational leadership.

ACEL OUR STRATEGIC GOALS

We cultivate a collaborative learning community of educational leaders by:

- 1. Enhancing leadership capacity through delivery of high quality programs, events and publications
- 2. Elevating the standing of educational leadership by recognising excellence
- 3. Representing, supporting and advocating for the education profession
- 4. Sustaining strong state, national and international ACEL networks





ACEL FROM THE PRESIDENT

On behalf of the Board of the Australian Council for Educational Leaders I am pleased to present the 2016/17 Annual Report. It has been an absolute privilege to take on the President role this year. It is a significant responsibility to ensure the longevity and continued relevance of an organisation steeped in a deep history of success in serving its members and the broader educational leadership community. This is a responsibility I, along with my Board colleagues and management team have a deep commitment to. This financial year has been another fantastic year for ACEL and it is my great pleasure to recap some of the highlights, which have been guided by our purpose to inspire, support, recognise and advocate for excellence in educational leadership.

ACEL has continued to buck the trend of other membership organisations with solid growth in membership and the number of educators utilising our services. We are particularly delighted with the increase in membership from our rural and remote areas following a commitment through our strategic plan to provide quality services to our colleagues in these settings. This commitment has seen ACEL professional learning opportunities provided directly to educators in Dubbo (NSW), Rockhampton (QLD), Port Lincoln (SA), Armidale (NSW) and Karratha (WA). These opportunities were extremely well attended and we will be providing more professional learning sessions in these and other areas in the coming months.

A further significant achievement for ACEL in the last financial year was purchasing and moving into our new home in Surry Hills, Sydney. The Board and management have been working towards this goal for a number of years and the purchase of the property provides a solid financial investment into the future of ACEL. Adorning the new Boardroom is quote from Nelson Mandela that provides a wonderful reinforcement of the importance of what ACEL contributes towards: "Education is the most powerful weapon you can use to change the world".

Leading and governing an organisation of the scale and reach of ACEL, particularly a not-forprofit organisation, requires the dedication and commitment of both staff and volunteers. Our ACEL state and Territory Branches led by their Presidents contribute a significant amount of time and effort towards supporting educational leaders across Australia and I would like to thank them all for the valuable work. The Board this year undertook a major review of all ACEL policies to ensure these continue to meet their purpose as well as serving our legislative and legal obligations. The Board continued to deliver on our commitment to recognising excellence in the profession through continuing to refine and improve our National Awards and further enhanced Branch elections by successfully transitioning the entire process online. All of these improvements have been led by Board members and I would also like to thank them for their work.

I would like to acknowledge Dr Jim Watterston who handed over the reins this year having served as president of ACEL for the last six years. Jim has left the organisation in a strong position for the future and I thank him for his tireless work for the organisation and his personal support in my assuming the role. Kevin Richardson also completed his second term as an Independent Director this year and worked alongside Jim for the same time and contributed enormously to the successful growth of the organisation during that time. With Jim and Kevin's departure we welcomed two new Independent Directors, Diane Joseph and Ross Fox to the Board. With the appointments of both Ross and Diane we continue to ensure the board's diverse representation with Diane a previous Director General of the ACT Department of Education and Training and

school and system leader and Ross previously the Executive Director of the National Catholic Education Commission and now Director of Catholic Education, Archdiocese of Canberra and Goulburn.

I would also like to acknowledge Andrew Ius who served on the ACEL Audit and Risk Committee for the past four years. Andrew passed away earlier this year after a long battle with illness. Many of our Board members and the broader membership remember Andrew fondly as a dedicated and passionate educator who continued to contribute to ACEL even as his health deteriorated. Our thoughts are with Andrew's family, friends and colleagues.

ACEL has benefited over the last five years from the leadership, commitment and business acumen of our talented CEO, Aasha Murthy. This past year Aasha has again delivered a highly successful year on all measures and in the implementation of our Strategic Plan. Aasha is ably supported by a fantastic National office team who work tirelessly for our organisation. I would like to thank Aasha and the team for their support in my new role as President this year.

I look forward to presenting the Annual Report to members at our Annual General Meeting at our National Conference in Sydney in October.

Stephen Gniel

President ACEL



ACEL From the ceo

"We delight in the beauty of the butterfly, but rarely admit the changes it has gone through to achieve that beauty."

This sage observation, often attributed to Maya Angelou, comes to mind, as I contemplate writing this year's CEO report. In the past six years that I have been its raconteur, ACEL's developing life-story, has been about its phoenix-like rise, and its concerted growth thereafter, into a predominant not-for-profit organisation that actively supports the development of educational leadership capabilities across Australia. ACEL has rebuilt itself, enterprise by energising enterprise, to become a valuable adjunct to its stakeholders' learning aspirations: Conferences and Workshops; School Improvement and Leadership Programs; In-house Publications; Practical Resources and an Online Bookshop. As each carefully constructed offering, strikes a resonant chord with our members' needs, it has undergirded our continued commitment to, and growing investment in, more advocacy for the profession, and more development opportunities for emerging educational leaders.

As in previous years, ACEL's financial performance has been robust, with a net surplus of \$322,717.83 in the financial year 2016-17. This has increased retained earnings to \$2,167,774.34 as on the 30th of June 2017. We have completed the purchase of a property in Surry Hills, Sydney that houses ACEL's National Office. Our cash balance after this purchase stands at \$1,766,830.94. As ACEL comes of age and gains stature in the sector, it is keenly aware that its maturity is an earned status that carries responsibilities with it. Ergo,

our organisational purpose, which is commonly understood, and enthusiastically shared by all our stakeholders: Inspiring excellence in educational *leadership*. The three dimensions of ACEL's balanced score-card for measuring progress on its stated purpose, are also unambiguous: Support that enhances educational leadership capabilities; Recognition that celebrates the successes of exemplary people working in the education sector, and; Advocacy that gives platform and voice to the profession. A consistent calculus that rates ACEL's performance along these three dimensions, will ensure we stay true to our own "theory of action." Our performance in 2016-2017 on these three dimensions of our purpose follows:

Performing on our purpose

Support

Conferences

- The 2016 Educational Leadership Conference is arguably the apex event in the sector's annual calendar. The conference, held last year, in the Melbourne Convention Centre from the 28th to the 30th of September, attended by over 1200 delegates, more than measured up to everyone's high expectations.
- The 2016 Inaugural Early **Childhood Conference** held on Thursday 28th and Friday 29th July, at the Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre, underscores the importance ACEL accords to the Early Childhood Education (ECE) sector. The Queensland Minister for Education, Hon. Kate Jones MP, formally opened the Conference and stressed the importance of quality early childhood education for life-long success. Sponsored by the

Queensland Department of Education, the event attracted over 500 local and international delegates from the states and territories, New Zealand, Singapore, Hong Kong and China.

The 2017 National Disability Leadership Summit (NDLS) is a wellestablished annual event in ACEL's calendar. This year the NDLS was held on the 19th and 20th of June in Sydney. More than 300 educational leaders from Australia, New Zealand, and Hong Kong, came together to explore the importance of leadership, when providing learning to students impacted by disability.

ACEL's 2017 Well Being Conference with the powerful theme of, "Unleashing the Power of Confidence - Strengths Based Perspectives and Wellbeing," was held in Darwin on the 22nd of February. More than 300 educational leaders from all states and territories, as well as New Zealand, attended the event.

Seminars and Workshops

- Leading an Innovation Agenda in Education was delivered as a series of seminars by Professor Ian Williamson, from the Melbourne Business School in all capital cities, and was also convened as additional regional events in Dubbo and Rockhampton. There was a great deal of interest in these events and over 550 educators attended the workshops across the country.
- Strengths Based Schools was a highly experiential workshop series, where Dr. Robert Biswas-Diener, introduced participants to key issues and skills

related to developing strengths-based schools. These workshops were held in all the major centres, as well as in 3 regional areas: Port Lincoln (SA), Armidale (NSW) and Karratha (WA).

Visible Learning symposia hosted by ACEL, were delivered by Professor John Hattie in Perth, Adelaide, Canberra, Sydney and Brisbane. Over 1250 educators from the respective regions attended these two-day events.

Programs and Publications

- The Curiosity and Powerful Learning Program is currently being implemented in public schools across New South Wales. This program delivered by Professor David Hopkins, is designed to support schools as they work to improve teaching practice. ACEL are excited to be offering this program in other states in the coming years.
- The Executive Leadership Program was delivered in NSW and WA to Network and School Leaders. Over 300 educational leaders within various systems have gone through this program in the past 4 years. It will be offered for the first time to the wider educational community in 2018.
- ACEL's popular suite of e-Publications is being substantially redesigned to provide more practical tools and strategies to educators in a variety of areas; Leadership, Management, Teaching, Technology, Well-Being and Early Childhood education. Subscriber feedback obtained through surveys and interviews have informed every aspect of both, the revised format, and the enhanced content.



Advocacy

ACEL has engaged external experts to assist in creating a multi-year Advocacy Strategy and Implementation Plan for the organisation. As the first part of this initiative, we are engaging with our members, school and system leaders, and key national and global influencers in education, to elicit their views, on the scope, and form of such activity. This is a very exciting development for ACEL. As in everything we do, our activities will always be evidence-informed, profession-led, and positivelyoriented.

ACEL publishes a variety of journals and e-newsletters directed to both teachers, school and system leaders, in the sector. These publications play an important part in showcasing contemporary research and best practice. They provide readers with leadingedge ideas, strategic thinking and practical solutions to the challenges they face in their respective fields. To remain a vibrant outlet for the communication of ideas and thought-leadership, they therefore need to be regularly refreshed:

- The Australian Educational Leader Journal (AEL), is undergoing a "major upgrade," in 2018. AEL will emerge from this revamp, with completely "re-engineered" content. It will feature new sections, including: Case Studies; Book Reviews; Interviews with key educational leaders; and a Graffiti Wall to capture reader feedback and input.
- ACEL Perspectives will be morphing into our key vehicle for Advocacy. We have already published two Monographs this year: one by Professor John Hattie, and; the other by Geoff Gallop, who delivered the William Walker oration at the national conference. In the immediate future, it will become a powerful platform for our New Voice Scholars to share their insights on the state of the sector.

Recognition

To coin a corollary to an oft-used phrase, "What gets celebrated, gets remembered." ACEL believes that it is in a privileged position to spotlight and honour the heroes and heroines of our profession; people who have contributed, thought, emotion, and action, to making the sector better and different.

ACEL New Voice Scholarships

recognise forward-thinking, contextually-relevant, and responsive, educational leaders, through awards in three categories – educational leadership, educational research and indigenous leadership. Like their predecessors from 2015 and 2016, the recipients in 2017 are also a talented group of educators from diverse backgrounds, and from across the country. The sector will soon begin to reap the benefits of their work. A full list of winners is published in later in this report.

ACEL National Awards recognise individuals and teams that have made significant contributions to the sector, and influenced Australian education at a national level. As in previous years, the very high quality of nominations received this year, made the task of selecting winners a difficult, though pleasurable task for ACEL's awards committee. The 2017 recipients of the awards and fellowships have made significant contributions to the sector.

Conclusion

John Wooden, the redoubtable coach of the UCLA basketball team famously said that, "Success is peace of mind, and comes from knowing, you did your best, to become the best you are capable of becoming." ACEL will continue to strive in everything it does, to enable all its stakeholders, find their sense of quietude, by being their very best in this very special profession.

I look forward to meeting each one of you in Sydney during the ACEL National Conference, from the 4th to the 6th of October. It promises to be a very special learning experience, and I know you are as keen as I am to be part of the event!

Aasha Murthy CEO ACEL

"The greater danger for most of us lies not in setting our aim too high and

too high and falling short; but in setting our aim too low, and achieving our mark." –

Michelangelo

ACEL BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2016-2017

President ACEL



Stephen Gniel

Branch Appointed Directors



Kerrie Blain



Ann McIntyre

Independent Directors





Ross Fox



Tony Roberts



Dr Deborah Kember



Dr Jenny Stanley



Anne Foale



Jeremy Beard



Keith Newton



Diane Joseph



ACEL AUDIT AND RISK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE



The Audit and Risk Management Committee (ARMC) is a committee of the ACEL Board. The ARMC assists the Board of Directors in the corporate governance of ACEL and provides guidance regarding matters related to financial management and reporting, external audit and risk management.

The Committee acts in accordance with the ARMC Charter and develops an annual program of work which is approved by the Board. The Committee reports to the Board on the activities and findings of the Committee at each Board meeting. ARMC meetings are conducted either face-to-face or via Skype, generally on a monthly basis.

During the 2016/17 year the ARMC comprised Jenny Stanley (Chair), Michael King, Helen Starr and Andrew Ius. Following the resignation of Michael King from the Committee due to changing work commitments, the Board appointed Mr Keith Newton to the Committee.

The Board commissioned an inventory of ACEL's current policies in late 2016, and while the review found ACEL had good coverage of the issues typically expected to be in place under a

robust corporate governance framework, some opportunities for improvement were identified. This report provided the program of work for the ARMC for the remainder of the financial year. As a result a new Board Charter has been developed which will be used to induct the new Board. A Work Health and Safety Policy and Procedures and a Gifts and Benefits Policy have been developed. The Conflict of Interest Policy has been considerably strengthened.

Additionally the Committee has monitored risk management processes, external reporting requirements and the external audit as well as monitoring the monthly financial reports. The Committee has met with the external auditor to identify and discuss areas for improvement. The Committee also completed the annual selfassessment and review of its Charter.

The Audit and Risk Committee was deeply saddened to learn of the passing of Andrew Ius on 25 July 2017 following a long illness. Andrew had been a member of the Audit and Risk Committee since 2014. He was a man of great integrity, knowledge and wisdom and his contribution to the ARMC will be greatly missed.



Dr Jenny Stanley Chair



Michael King



late Andrew Ius



Helen Starr



Keith Newton

ACEL FELLOWS 1981-2016

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John Schiller

NSW

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1981 Clifford Burnett Charles Philip Cullen Edwin Harold Jones Patricia Jean Jones Thomas James Moore Francis (Frank) George Rogan William George Walker
1982 Hedley Beare Jarvis Lesley Finger William Richard Mulford Ian Francis Vacchini
1983 John Richard Steinle Eric George Hoare Gerald Anthony O'Callaghan Colin Reginald Joseph Moyle
1984 Phillip William Hughes
1985 Judith Dorothy Chapman William John Kennedy Richard Roger Lee
1986 Trevor Marshall Barr William Neil Hird Doug Swan Quentin Frederick Willis
1987 Clyde Percival Bant Pauline Josephine Murphy Brian John Caldwell Diana Mildred Fleming Robin Beth Gregory Alexander Ross Thomas Robert Muir Stone Ian Wilson Paterson
1988 Janette Barbara Biber Johanna Conway Thomas A Grunsell Barry Jenkins Milton Edgar March Laurence Royce Miller John Frank Clement Roulston John Woods
1989 John A Bunday Geoffrey A Burkhardt Kingsley Curtis James Stewart Hamilton Eric Hinchliffe Mary Mercer Merline Muldoon Kath Phelan Ruth Readford Neil Tuckwell
1990 Martin Donovan Brandreth Francis Allan Crowther James Anthony d'Arbon Barry Herbert Elliott Reynold John Macpherson Robert Keith Maynard Margaret Louise Nadebaum Charles Henry Payne
1991 Rt Hon Sir Zelman Cowen Mary Louise Bergin Neville Harry Fry Michael Bernard Myers Campbell William Reilly Anthony Tenney Maxwell John Sawatzki

1992 William George Bassett QLD Ruary James Bucknal Michael John Hough NT NSW Bruce Alan Lyons Douglas Charles Ogilvie WA QLD Fenton George Sharpe Elaine Winsome Thomas John Gilroy Thorne NSW VIC TAS 1993 Martin Kennings Caust Alan Edgar Druery SA QLD Carolyn Diana Harrod David George Heath Neil Andrew Johnson QLD WA NSW VIC VIC Ian Maxwell Ling Gwenyth Joan McNeil David Bruce Smith Keith Ernest Tronc VIC QLD Denise Florence Wilkowski ŇΤ 1994 Mary Grace Armstrong NSW Maureen Bridget Boyle ACT Ronald James Kirkma Garry Michael Askey-Doran NT TAS Norman Alfred John Hughes Peter Lloyd Hodge QLD TAS 1995 Robin Amm NSW Charles Burford William F Donovan NSW ACT Michael Gaffney Gail Mackay Joseph John McCorley John Olsen McGorm ACT QLD QLD SA NT Ian Stevenson Noel Lee Stonehouse Colin James Sutcliffe VIC QLD VIC Beryl Wilson 1996 James McDonald Cameron NT VIC NSW , Paul Carlin Robert Conners Janelle Eldridge NSW Tom Grace Everlyn Marie Jansen WA QLD Malcolm Lee Richard Mayhew ACT WA Cynthia Merrill VIC WA (Hon) WA NT (Hon) David Mossenson Philip Thurston Seino Geoffrey James Spring 1997 Peter Gronn VIC PNG QLD VIC Marian Lewis Neil Keith Money Michael Norman **Reginald Pollack** NSW Colin Stanley Trestrail Raymond William McCulloch WA VIC (Hon) 1998 Richard Jeremy Bates VIC Narottam Bhindi Michael William Bradley NSW NT Syliva Jane Walton VIC Glenda Campbell-Evans Michael John Colwell WA PNG Patrick Augustine Duignan Elizabeth Hazel Lee NSW ACT Jennifer Anne Lewis Angus Edward Lucas NSW QLD Glynys O'Brien SA ACT VIC (Hon) Robert Clive Townsend Peter William Hill 1999 TAS NT ACT John Ewington Victoria Stokes Prudence Clarke Donald Daniels PNG Louise Clayton-Jones NSW

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Isabelle Brigid Limerick	QLD
Graham Paul Harrington	TAS (Hon)
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Gordon Kenneth Avenell	QLD
Michael Anthony Cox	VIC
Hazel Jean Day	VIC TAS
Darryl Bruce Moir	NSW
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Kathleen Susan Cottee	SA
Neil Charles Cranston	QLD
Alan Hutchinson	VIC
Ronald Rea Ikin	NSW
Gregory Bryne Whitby	NSW
2003	
Kenneth John Eltis	NSW
Peter Bryant Hauser	VIC
Neville Tom Highett	SA
Janette Belva McClelland	NSW
David George Manttan	QLD
Heather Doris Sjoberg	NT
Robin Ann Sullivan	QLD
Gene R Carter	USA (Hon)
Anthony Brace Conabere	VIC (Hon)
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Brian Gray

2007 Annette Cunliffe
Leoni Degenhardt
Christine Edwards
Irene Gray
Michael Harvey
Genia Janover
Kathy Lacey
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Jean Lomax
Stephanie Munday-Lake
Helga Neidhart
Rob Rasmussen
John Worthy
Alexander Young RFD
Ron Miletta
Simon Marginson
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2008
Brenda Beatty
Carolyn Broadbent
Paul Brock
Louise Anne Bywaters
Christine Cawsey
Peter Anthony Hope Cooper
Philippa (Pip) Field
Christopher Presland
Allan John Shaw
Karen Starr
Rev Andrew Phillip Syme
Edward Richard Tudor
Kathy Walker
Jeff Walkley
Daniel White
Lisa Paul PSM
2009
Gerard Calnin
David Cannon
Henry Gray
Brenda Keenan
Gabrielle Leigh
Maureen O'Rourke
Marian Parkinson
Alan Reid
Heather York Schnagl
Marie Therese Smith
Jennifer Stanley
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John Hattie
Norman Hunter Helen O'Brien
Peggy Saab
Helen Starr
Anthony Whelan Peter Dawkins
Field Rickards
Jonathon Welch
2012
Ian Anderson
Amelia Angelakis
Elida Brereton Joan Conway
Lawrie Drysdale
Valerie Gould Marion Guppy
Daryl Hanly
Margie Kesby
Stewart Moyses Liliana Mularczyk
Mary Oski
Glenn Proctor
Kevin Richardson Steffan Silcox
Karen Spiller
Elisabeth Turner Michael Windred
Suzanne Carrington
Roderick Fraser
Julie Grantham Noel Hayman
Lee Musumeci
Jean Rice
2013
Robyn Bell
Kerrie Blain
Simon Clarke Michael Dahl
Simon Gipson
Diane Joseph Garry Le Duff
Toni Meath
Dennis Mulherin
Coralee Pratt Brian Ralph
Paul Rijken
Phil Ridden Brett Shackleton
Carolyn Woodhouse
Allan Blagaich
Leonie Clelland Tony Cook
Margaret Fenbury
Richard Gill Paul Mathews
Helen McGrath
Erica McWilliam
Paul Swan Leonie Trimper
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2014 Jeremy Beard
Jeremy Beard Ray Bloxham
Ray Boyd
John Collier Lisa Ehrich
Vicki Forbes
Bronwyn Harcourt
Robert Hoff Matthew Hughes
Deb Kember
Paul Kilvert Michael Lee
Warren Marks
Keith Newton
George Palavestra Phil Reid
Annette Rome
Stuart Sellar
Debbie Sukarna Barbara Watterston
Tony Bryant
Sylvia Corish
Anne Ellis, Sandra England

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Barry Kahl	SA (Hon)
Sue Kennedy Branford	SA (Hon)
Maria Kirkwood	VIC (Hon)
Mary Margetts	WA (Hon)
Pam McRobbie	SA (Hon)
Michael Morgan	WA (Hon)
Regan Neumann	QLD (Hon)
Jacqui Quartermaine	WA (Hon) NT (Hon)
Regina Thompson	INT (HOII)
2015	
Dr Norma Ashton-Smith	VIC
Pamela Betts	WA
Kerry Bolger	VIC
Professor Kathryn Brennan	NSW
Patricia Cowling	VIC
Dr Shane Glasson	WA
Dr Patricia Hindmarsh	TAS
Dr Norman McCulla	NSW NSW
Ann McIntyre	VIC
Margaret McKenna Anthony O'Byrne	VIC
Mandy Reynolds-Smith	TAS
Robert Walker	NSW
Dr Gerald White	SA
Stephen Breen	WA (Hon)
Wendy Cave	ACT (Hon)
Narelle Hargreaves	ACT (Hon)
Kim Hebenstreit	SA (Hon)
Jo Padgham	ACT (Hon)
Sheryle Yorston	SA (Hon)
2016	
Michelle Anderson	VIC
Bruce Armstrong	VIC
Antony Beswick	WA
Chris Bonnor AM	NSW
Wendy Cahill AM	VIC
Sandy Cartwright	NT
Helen Goode	VIC
Dr Neil MacNeil	WA
Michael O'Neill	WA
John Mula	TAS
Debra Punton	VIC
John Ryan	QLD
Dr Anne Tonkin Angus Tulley	VIC ACT
Roselynne Anderson	ACT QLD (Hon)
The Asia Education Foundation	VIC (Hon)
Nicole Hanna	WA (Hon)
Abdullah Khan	WA (Hon)
Darrel LeMercier	WA (Hon)

ACEL ENGAGING WITH OUR NETWORK

In the past year, our Membership has grown across all states and territories. We have been particularly effective in growing our institutional memberships, with more schools and systems providing these opportunities to their teams. The 2-year membership offer also has proved to be popular with educators committing to professional development on an ongoing basis.

Access to the Resource Centre was added as a benefit of ACEL membership, which has been well received by members and has also attracted new members.

The new ACEL membership website which exponentially improves the user's experience, of the wide range of ACEL's resources, and publications that are exclusively available to members. Contemporaneously, the site, also simplifies membership administration, by providing topical advice on topics such as; joining ACEL, renewing membership, membership benefits et al.

ACEL Live Chat has proved popular. We receive around 60 inquiries a week, predominantly for events / workshops. It is an easy and efficient way for members and customers to connect with us and get information on our events and programs.

Social Media

We continue to use social media to promote our events, and have experienced continued growth across all platforms. We have refined our strategy to ensure that we are using the specific platforms appropriately to optimize our reach and responsiveness.

We currently have around 3200 Facebook likes, over 10000 followers on Twitter and almost 4000 connections on LinkedIn. We have used Twitter effectively at our conferences as the medium of choice for delegates to share their insights and learning. We will expand this further in the coming months enlisting our New Voice Scholars to drive key messages





ACEL SEMINARS AND WORKSHOPS



Visible Learning:

The highly successful series of Visible Learning Symposiums has continued in 2016/2017, with all events across the country selling out well ahead of time. Over 1280 delegates attended the events held in Perth, Adelaide, Canberra, Sydney and Brisbane. Professor John Hattie's work continues to have a far-reaching impact and teachers and school leaders across the country engage enthusiastically with the material presented at these sessions.

Building on the success of the Visible Learning symposiums, we hosted two workshops facilitated by Doug Fisher, Professor of Educational Leadership at San Diego State University titled 'Making Literacy Visible', provided over 400 educators with strong insights into the actions teachers and leaders can take to enable strong growth in literacy learning. These events were hosted in Sydney and Melbourne.

Strengths Based Schools Workshop series:

In this highly experiential workshop series, Dr. Robert Biswas-Diener introduced participants to key issues and skills related to developing strengths-based schools. He focused on the need to create school cultures that supports strengths and explored the impediments to achieving this in practice. Workshop participants gained practical skills such as "strengths-spotting" and learned various ways to develop strengths. These workshops were held in all the major centres, as well as in 3 regional areas: Port Lincoln (SA), Armidale (NSW) and Karratha (WA).

Leading an Innovation Agenda in Education:

Professor Ian Williamson from the Melbourne Business School, delivered a series of seminars on, "Leading an Innovation Agenda in Education," in all capital cities, and has also convened additional regional events in Dubbo and Rockhampton. These seminars explicated ways that educational leaders can successfully develop and implement an innovation agenda that allows their schools to not only survive, but thrive during periods of disruption. There was a great deal of interest in this event and over 550 educators from all sectors attended the events.







MCEC Me**l**bourne

2016 | 28th - 30th September





The 2016 ACEL Educational Leadership Conference – Insight and Innovation

ACEL's Educational Leadership Conference is arguably the apex event in the sector's annual calendar. The conference, held this year, in the Melbourne Convention Centre from the 28th to the 30th of September, more than measured up to everyone's high expectations.

The conference's theme of "Insight and Innovation," was underpinned by rich, evidence-based, scholarly and practitioner learning, from around the world. The speakers' messages were simpatico with the attendees' own quest for new insights to intractable issues and unrealised opportunities. As a result, twelve hundred delegates - movers, shakers, doers and thinkers - from across the country, and the wider Asia-Pacific region, who had come to the conference to be energised, and informed by its proceedings, left when it ended, feeling recharged and elated in mind and spirit. Educational leaders listened with unwavering intensity as experts held forth on a variety of issues, many of which had esoteric conceptual cross-overs. For example, on the subject of the various places to seek knowledge: Daniel Goleman suggested that it resides in the self; Sugata Mitra on the other hand, saw it scattered in the cloud; and Professor John Hattie argued it is hidden in the data. Jane West on her part, used the evidence from American schools, to stress that notwithstanding where participants seek it, knowledge would only become learning when it is accessible equitably. In turn, Ben Walden demonstrated with Henry V, that this learning would be imbued with purpose and meaning only if it is disseminated engagingly. The federal education minister, Hon. Simon Birmingham's, bookended the many-arced discourses in the sessions, when he reiterated to the delegates that the ministry's core principles for future success pivoted on: open dialogue with school leaders and teachers: and a pragmatic focus on what is doable in the classroom.



The 2016 Inaugural Childhood Conference

The 2016 Inaugural Early Childhood Conference held on Thursday 28th and Friday 29th July, at the Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre, underscored the importance ACEL accords to the Early Childhood Education (ECE) sector. The Queensland Minister for Education, Hon. Kate Jones MP, formally opened the Conference and stressed the importance of quality early childhood education for life-long success.

Sponsored by the Queensland Department of Education, the event attracted over 500 local and international delegates from the states and territories, New Zealand, Singapore, Hong Kong and China. This highly successful event is the first of its kind specifically designed for leadership in the Early Childhood Education (ECE) sector. Delegates came from a wide range of early childhood contexts including; childcare centres, preschools, primary schools, and teacher education departments at universities. The conference provided them with the opportunity to engage with the core theme of "Leading in a New Era," and participate in sessions showcasing best practice within the sector. The enthusiasm and engagement at the conference reflects the passion and commitment early childhood educators have for their work. ACEL is committed to supporting the ongoing development of leadership in the early childhood sector at a local and national level. It will therefore make the ACEL Early Childhood conference an integral part of its annual calendar going forward. It will also augment the content and focus of its publications and events to cater to the sector's interests.









Well Being Conference - Darwin

ACEL's 2017 Wellbeing Conference, with the powerful theme of, "Unleashing the Power of Confidence -Strengths Based Perspectives and Wellbeing," was held in Darwin on the 22nd of February. The Hon Eva Lawler, Minister of Education NT inaugurated the conference, which was supported by the Department of Education NT. More than 300 educational leaders from all states and territories, as well as New Zealand, came together to explore the importance of Wellbeing on staff and students. International keynote speakers and presenters, brought the theme to life, by sharing their insights, research and experience with delegates.



The 2017 National Disability Leadership Summit

This is a well-established annual event in ACEL's calendar and was held on the 19th and 20th of June 2017 in Sydney. More than 300 educational leaders from Australia, New Zealand, and Hong Kong, came together to explore the importance of leadership, when providing learning to students impacted by disability. The keynote presenters, conference speakers, and delegates at the event engaged deeply with a variety of issues of vital significance for the sector, including: current reforms and their effect on students' parents, and their wider community; opportunities for inculcating a strong foundation of high expectations in students with a disability; and strategies in the core areas of curriculum, learning, well-being, and collaboration that would deliver better outcomes for children and their families.





ACEL Programs



Curiosity and Powerful Learning

The ACEL strategic partnership with McREL to support schools in implementing school improvement through the Curiosity and Powerful Learning (C&PL) program, has continued in 2017. Discussions with Mitchell Institute and schools in Victoria, Western Australia and Queensland may lead to additional support structures, and a new cohort in October.

Executive Leadership Program

Over 300 educational leaders from Public Sector schools and systems across the country have participated in this signature program, designed and delivered by ACEL CEO Aasha Murthy. In 2018, it will be offered to the public for the first time which will enable leaders from other sectors to take up the opportunity to access contemporary content from diverse domains and refine their capabilities.

Coaching and Mentoring for Middle Managers

A program has been developed and is being facilitated for schools in the Catholic Education Department of Education in Parramatta. Facilitators of this program are Elevate Mentors and have completed the Mentoring Masterclass. Interest has been expressed from several systems in implementing this program for middle leaders in schools.

Elevate

The Elevate program has been redeveloped. The redevelopment has included a clearer outlining, identified areas of expertise, options to engage with coach/mentors for participant-identified number of hours and access to the newly developed Resource Centre. The program will receive additional, targeted promotions in the next 6 months to garner more interest. As part of the ELEVATE program redevelopment, a Masterclass was held for nine selected Mentors (formally identified as Learning and Development Partners) to develop their mentoring skills. Two of the participants in this Masterclass are now facilitating the Coaching and Mentoring for Middle Leaders program.

CURIOSITY AND POWERFUL LEARNING PROGRAM

EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP PROGRAM



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ACEL BOOKS & E-PUBLICATIONS



2017 BOOK CATALOGUE





Books

There are two key focus areas to achieve further growth in our revenue from the Bookshop.

- Expansion of the number of titles in existing subject categories and the introduction of new categories where there is increasing interest like Neuroscience and Positive Psychology among others. A new and improved website will be launched at the start of 2018, providing a much smoother experience for the customer.
- Retail presence at events: Strong Visual, Merchandising supported by state of the art Point of Sale (POS) systems have driven greater interest from delegates at the various conferences and events that ACEL hosts across all states and territories. Book signings from keynote speakers add another dimension to the experience

e-Publications

ACEL's suite of e-Publications is also being substantially redesigned to provide more practical tools and strategies to educators in a variety of areas; Leadership, Management, Teaching, Technology, Wellbeing and Early Childhood education. Subscriber feedback obtained through surveys and interviews have informed every aspect of both, the revised format, and the enhanced content.



ACEL JOURNALS & PUBLICATIONS

The **Australian Educational Leader** Journal (AEL) is undergoing a "major upgrade," for 2018. By the end of this year, the AEL will emerge from this revamp, with completely "re-engineered" content. It will feature new sections, including: Case Studies; Book Reviews; Interviews with key educational leaders; and a Graffiti Wall to capture reader feedback and input.

Leading & Managing (L&M) continues to be the leading peer-reviewed publication in educational leadership in Australia, with all members receiving an electronic version. The current agreement with University of Southern Queensland will be extended for 2017.









ACEL **Perspectives** will feature opinion pieces from all New Voice Scholars and will be used as the key vehicle in the implementation of the Advocacy strategy.

Two **Monographs** were published in the past 12 months – "Shifting away from distractions to improve Australia's schools: Time for a Reboot" By John Hattie and "What is an Educated Person?" by Geoff Gallop We launched the **"Resource Centre"** in the beginning of March. It will be the keystone of ACEL's online learning portal. The Resource Centre contains over 700 resources including articles, activities, podcasts and ACEL Conference videos. It has several unique and engaging features:

- Curated for educators against AITSL professional practices
- Search function to enable quick and targeted access to resources
- Self-directed professional learning opportunities for educators
- Monthly updates



ACEL 2017 AWARDEES

2017 National Award main category winners



Gold Medal: Emeritus Professor Richard Teese

ACEL presents the Gold Medal to an Australian educator whose influence and contribution to the study and practice of educational leadership is assessed as most outstanding at the national level. The Council is awarding Emeritus Professor Richard Teese the Gold Medal for 2017. Emeritus Professor Richard Teese is recognised for his major contributions to our knowledge of education systems, to public policy, and to the wider diffusion of knowledge about how well our schools work and for whom. The impact of Professor Richard Teese's work extends way beyond his role as Adjunct Professor, Victoria University and Emeritus Professor of Education, The University of Melbourne.



Hedley Beare Award: Dr Ken Avenell

ACEL presents this award for an outstanding body or piece of educational writing or a presentation that is forward-thinking, innovative and representative of new ideas and perceptions in education. This may take various forms (e.g. book, journal article, monograph) This award aims to promote quality writing by educators about educational leadership. Dr Ken Avenell, Senior Manager: Professional Learning & Leadership Development, Toowoomba Catholic Education, is receiving the Hedley Beare Award in recognition of his lengthy commitment to educational leadership and his prolific writing on the subject for many years.



Nganakarrawa Award: Emeritus Professor Linda Darling-Hammond

ACEL presents the Nganakarrawa Award to those whose general excellence in educational leadership and whose wisdom, learning, experience and contribution to ACEL have earned lasting respect and gratitude. With its origins in the Ndjebbana language of central Arnhemland, the term Nganakarrawa refers to 'those who move about, all seeing, all knowing, knowledgeable and well regarded.' Emeritus Professor Linda Darling-Hammond, CED Chair Stanford University, is being awarded the 2017 Nganakarrawa Award.



Keith Tronc Award: Shaelee Dunbar, Rachael Lehr

The Keith Tronc Award for Outstanding Teacher Leadership is presented to a teacher who has demonstrated outstanding practice in the classroom and as a result has made a difference to colleagues and the lives of students in their care. The recipients for 2017 Keith Tronc Award are Shaelee Dunbar, Head Teacher HSIE, Plumpton High School NSW and Rachael Lehr, Science Specialist and Digital Technologies Coordinator, West Beechboro Primary School WA. Their contribution has transcended their own classrooms and made a real difference to schools across their states.

ACEL Fellowships

Judy Crowe	VIC
Anne Foale	TAS
Alan Genoni	WA
David L Giles	SA
Joanne Jarvis	NSW
David Lee	WA
Lynda MacLeod	SA
William Maiden	ACT
Anthony Roberts	NT
Warren Symonds	SA
Vicki Treble	NSW
Tony Watson	WA

ACEL Leadership Award

Indigenous Pedagogical Leaders Mitchell Institute Victorian Association of Secondary School Principals NSW Secondary Principals Council The Smith Family Agnes McGrath, Audrey Billias Susan Edwards, Regina Thompson Rosanne Pugh NSW Darren Roylett SA Carl Salt SA Mathew Alan White SA

National Awards and Scholarships Committee

Christine Cawsey AM (Chair) Stephen Gniel Diane Joseph Kevin Richardson Aasha Murthy



ACEL **NEW VOICE SCHOLARSHIPS**



The ACEL 'New Voice' Initiative: Supporting emerging voices in educational leadership

In 2017, ACEL awarded a total of 16 'New Voice' Scholarships across three categories. Each scholarship welcomes the recipients into the ACEL network and supports the dissemination of new learning and thought. The recipients are recognised as forward-thinking, relevant and responsive educational leaders by peers and the wider education community.

Recipients of the ACEL 'New Voice' Scholarships receive:

- Complimentary attendance at the 2017 ACEL . National Conference in Sydney, including tickets to social events, valued at \$1,000
- Return flights to/from Sydney
- 1 Year ACEL individual membership .
- 1 Year Resource Centre individual subscription •

Category 1:

The 'New Voice' in School Leadership **Scholarship**





Andrew Cornwall



Rachael Lehr



Tamara Sullivan



Holly Telford





Anthony Speranza



Tabatha Kellett

Category 2:

The 'New Voice' in Educational Leadership Research Scholarship





Julie Arnold

Christine Grice



Drew Mayhills Sophie Murphy



Alison Venter



Julia Walsh



Marcela Huerta Villalobos



Category 3:

The 'New Indigenous Voice' in **School Leadership Scholarship**





Theresa Ardler

Debra Kiley

ACEL ACT BRANCH REPORT

This is my final year as the President of the ACEL ACT Branch. It has been my pleasure to have worked with the ACT committee members, a highly dedicated group of educators from all sectors of education. For the past six years we have worked together to ensure that educators in the ACT are offered support in their professional learning and are recognised for what they do. Our local committee has representatives from all sectors of education from preschool to university, and as such brings together a wealth of knowledge and experience. I thank the ACT team members sincerely for their collaborative efforts and commitment during the year. They work for all ACT educational leaders and aspiring leaders by planning for, and delivering, high-quality professional learning events and networking opportunities. I sincerely thank the ACT teacher registration body, Teacher Quality Institute (TQI), and in particular the CEO, Anne Ellis, for the support of ACEL and in hosting executive meetings and special events.

Thank you to my colleagues on the ACEL National Board and to the President, Stephen Gniel. We have worked together to ensure that educational opportunities are equitable across Australia. Thank you also to Aasha Murthy, the CEO of ACEL. It has been her leadership that has ensured ACEL is leading the field in support for, and recognition of, educators in Australia. Her support of me, and for the ACT Branch, have been unfailing.

As in previous years, 2017 started early with a Welcome to the Academic/School Year held at the TQI. For the first time we invited three new educators to give a brief talk about their journey into education and what is inspiring them to make a difference. They represented the three sectors of education in the ACT – Independent, Catholic and Government schools. Although their journeys into education have been very different they all are inspired to make a difference in children's lives. This event was an opportunity for teachers to get together and celebrate the start of the new school year. It was also an opportunity to ensure that educators know how ACEL can support them throughout the coming year. This year's Currie Lecture was presented by the Vice Chancellor of the University of Canberra, Dr Deep Saini. He talked of his life journey from a boy in rural India and the importance of a teacher who could see his potential. He spoke to the educators present of the influence they have in children's lives and in directing their future lives. The Currie Lecture is ACT ACEL flagship event and has been in place since 1977. It is traditionally held at the Great Hall of University House at the Australian National University. "Breakfast with the Minister", an annual event in May, is always well attended and valued by our members from all sectors of the educational community. As usual, it was held at the National Portrait Gallery and was an opportunity to hear the ACT Minister for Education, Yvette Berry, speak of her educational philosophy and plans for the year ahead. This is held as a lead into Education Week when we acknowledge what teachers do to support children to learn every day in every class.

In August Ben Walden delivered an engaging workshop on inspiring leadership through the lens of Shakespeare's Henry V. Those present will not see leadership in the same light again! Thank you to the Principal of Canberra Girls' Grammar School for hosting this event.

As well as facilitating professional learning events, our mission each year is to recognise and award excellence in the teaching profession. Each year the Awards Presentation Night, held in November, is a very successful event and a time to celebrate with the awardees. We thank the ACT Awards Sub-Committee members who meet throughout the year to ensure this event is valued.

It is my pleasure to hand over the presidency to Michele McLoughlin. I wish her, and the new executive committee, all the best in the future. I look forward to continuing to support the ACT Branch.

Kerrie Blain ACT ACEL President





ACEL NSW BRANCH REPORT



Educational leadership is a powerful strategy through which genuine reform of teaching practices and enhanced student learning is enabled. ACEL NSW is deeply aware of the influence of educational leaders in enabling all young people to succeed. We know that what leaders know and care about permeates their expectations, actions and outcomes. It is for this reason that ACEL NSW emphasises professional learning, research, publication and advocacy. Our leadership role is recognised through high engagement in professional learning and strong membership with ACEL NSW representing one third of the national membership.

The 2017 NSW Awards program drew together over 130 educators in recognition of professional excellence. Two educational leaders were inducted as ACEL NSW Fellows. Five outstanding early career leaders received the Mary Armstrong Award and eleven ACEL NSW Leadership Awards were bestowed. The Scholarship in Educational Leadership and Patrick Duignan Award for outstanding leadership were presented along with the NSW ACEL Dr Paul Brock Memorial Medal awarded in recognition of educational leadership demonstrating social justice and contributing to evidence informed policy, practice and research. The medal was awarded posthumously to Bernie Shepherd.

Professional learning has been characterised by program excellence, positive reviews and high attendance with NSW accounting for over 40% of national professional learning attendance. NSW continues to support educators in metropolitan and regional areas. Regional seminars are very popular with registrations larger than many Australia's capital cities. This strategy remains financially viable as well as morally responsible.

High quality professional learning has been provided by international and local educators. This included Visible Learning workshops presented by John Hattie in Sydney and Albury and Making Literacy Visible by Doug Fisher. Leading an Innovation Agenda was presented by Dr Ian Williamson in Sydney and Dubbo and David Hopkins presented Curiosity and Powerful Learning in Albury and Sydney. Strength Based Schools was presented by Robert Biswas-Diener (USA) in Sydney and Armidale. Spirals of Inquiry by Judy Halbert and Linda Kaser (CAN) and Transforming an Education System by David Wood (UK) were presented in Sydney. The National Disability Leadership Summit was held in partnership with NSW Department of Education. The Early Career Principals Program was conducted in Sydney and 38 principals from Australasia have graduated from this program.

Local forums were held in western NSW, New England and Riverina. The Leading Together to Make the Greatest Difference seminar presented by the head of education at University of Wollongong, DoE Executive Director, NSW ACEL President and outstanding school leadership teams was highly popular. The strongly valued How High-Performing Systems Shape Teacher Quality seminar, held at Parliament House Sydney, was presented by Rob Stokes Minister for Education, Adrian Piccoli Former Minister for Education, and NSW ACEL president.

ACEL NSW remains committed to ensuring high quality professional learning, publications and advocacy. State-wide connections with teacher and school leaders and policy and academic leaders remains a priority. ACEL NSW will continue to provide excellent professional learning, focused well researched publications and strong advocacy for the profession.

I would like to thank the NSW executive team who have served with me over the last three years; Norma Petrocco, Greame Ross, Lila Mularczyk, Peter Langford, Jennifer Miggins, Barry Pecar, Kuldip Dhesi, Brian Hickey, Andrew Frazer, and Vicki Treble. I also welcome the new NSW executive commencing their three-year term; Andrea Stringer, Brad Russell, Brenda Quale, Michael Bezzina, Tony Bracken, Andrew Frazer, Gabrielle Sinclair, Joanne Jarvis, Kylie Lipscombe, Suzanne Fern and Vicki Treble. I am honoured to lead ACEL NSW and look forward to what we will achieve together for educators in NSW.

Ann McIntyre NSW ACEL President



ACEL NT BRANCH REPORT

ACEL NT Branch has continued to increase its presence in the educational landscape of the Northern Territory in 2017. There has been increased interest and participation in ACEL events and greater partnerships being formed with other education organisations. The current ACEL NT executive has been committed to supporting and growing ACEL membership and education leadership as a priority. I would like to acknowledge the passion and energy they have brought to this task as well as the work they have done to organise a number of significant events in 2017. As retiring ACEL NT President, it has been my pleasure to work as a member of such a committed branch during my six years on the executive.

Awards and Recognition

The 2017 ACEL awards night was a real highlight. These awards acknowledged educational leaders from across increasingly diverse systems and sectors. The awards ceremony was attended by the Minister for Education, Honourable Eva Lawler and the Chief Executive of the Department of Education, Ms Vicki Baylis. We congratulate all awardees on their outstanding contributions to education in the Northern Territory.

2017 NT Award Winners

Early Career Teacher Leadership Award: Clare Bubb, Nightcliff Primary School Mimi Woolley, Holy Spirit Catholic Primary Inspiring Educator Award: Bianca Hyke, Stuart Park Primary School Joe Cullinan, St Pauls Catholic Primary School Marisa Boscato, Girraween Primary School Sophie Slack-Smith, Nightcliff Primary School Brises More, Nightcliff Primary School Leadership Award Agnes McGrath, Audrey Billias, Susan Edwards, Regina Thompson, Early Childhood Education and Care Kerry Hudson, Anula Primary School Susan Kilgour, Wulagi Primary School Paula Sellars, Holy Spirit Catholic Primary School NT Fellowship Award Anthony Roberts, Department of Education Schools North

Breakfast with the Minister

In April ACEL NT Branch held its annual "Breakfast with the Minister" event. The event was held at the Darwin Convention Centre in conjunction with the ACEL Wellbeing Conference. The NT Minister for Education shared her vision and plans for the NT for the coming year. This event was extremely well supported by the education community and it was an extremely positive way of engaging with the Minister.

Wellbeing Conference

ACEL NT held its inaugural Wellbeing Conference on the 22nd February 2017 in Darwin. This conference was a joint initiative between ACEL and the Northern Territory Department of Education. The conference theme focused on wellbeing and positive psychology. Keynote speakers included Robert Biswas-Dienar, Lea Waters and Wayne Schwass, as well as a range of local and national presenters. A highlight of the conference was the student panel and expert panel that shared their thoughts around the theme. Around 300 delegates attended the conference from around Australia and internationally.

Finally I would like to congratulate incoming president, Ms Aderyn Chatterton on her election. I know Aderyn will take ACEL NT in new directions and build on the work of the previous executive.

Tony Roberts

NT ACEL President





ACEL QLD BRANCH REPORT



Throughout 2016-2017 the Queensland Branch organised and participated in events, workshops and conferences to progress educational leadership. Additionally, we worked across the profession on projects to advance the teaching profession.

Thank you to our outgoing Executive members Dorothy Andrews, Ray Bloxham, Simon Boss-Walker, Paul Campbell, Joan Conway, Norm Hunter and Chris Jack. Their energy, enthusiasm and guidance over many years helped us to maintain the traditions of ACEL and create new traditions. Our 2017-2020 Executive is a mix of experienced system leaders, principals, and emerging leaders. Continuing members are Mark Campling, Karen Fox, Kelly McBurnie, Holly O'Sullivan Williams, Martyn Savage and myself. New members are Mark Allen, Elizabeth Benson, Alexander Mason, Sandra Nissen, Lee-Anne Perry and Marie Perry. Patron Frank Crowther continues to support the Branch with timely wisdom and advice. We marked the transition from the 2014-2017 Executive to the 2017-2020 with an evening of reflections, celebrations and ideas for future directions.

Thank you to the organisational leaders who supported our work this year: John Ryan - Director, Queensland College of Teachers (monthly Executive meetings); Ros Curtis – Principal, St Margaret's Anglican Girls' School (Robert Biswas-Diener workshop); The Governor of Queensland, His Excellency the Honourable Paul de Jersey AC (Profession celebration); the University of Southern Queensland (Dinner on the Downs), and Catherine O'Kane -Principal All Hallows' School (QLD Awards evening).

Our highlight this year was celebrating the release of the Statement of Commitment to the Profession of Teaching, following a long consultation and drafting period. The Statement is a voluntary declaration of values and beliefs about our profession. What started as a general discussion about the status of teaching as a profession became a documented reality thanks to the passion and commitment of many people. Significantly, Norm Hunter's leadership and long held beliefs helped us persevere and bring the Statement to life. The Governor of Queensland formally launched the Statement at Government House on 7 April 2017. The celebration, organised by Karen Fox, was an inspiring occasion. Teachers and educational leaders joined us from across the state. The Statement is available on the ACEL Queensland Branch website for use nation-wide in professional discussions, celebrations, inductions or for display. We modelled the use of the Statement to introduce the Branch Awards this year, noting the award recipients shared values and beliefs.

At the 2017 QLD Awards Celebration Dr Joan Conway received the Miller-Grassie Award and delivered the Miller-Grassie address. Tania Leach, Leanne Nixon, Heather Cowan, Travis Goulter and Vicki Caldrow received Leadership awards. Pam Betts, Bruce Addison, Pat Coughlan, Neville McDonald, Andrew Pierpoint, Julie Raitelli and Chris Rider received Fellowships. Shauna Peterson, Amanda Heffernan, Francis Ackah, and Talitha Kingsmill received research awards. Angela Mollard received the Media Award.

Congratulations also to New Voice Scholarship recipients Tamara Sullivan (Leadership) and Julie Arnold (Research). We celebrated the Lifelong memberships of: Marian Lewis, Norm Hunter, Joan Conway, Lisa Ehrich, Lee-Anne Perry, and Mark Creedon. We also supported the Fraser Coast Alliance Annual Awards for Excellence, following the leadership of Simon Boss-Walker.

National tour speakers conducted workshops in Brisbane during the year: Robert Biswas-Diener (Strengths Based Schools); John Hattie & Kristin Anderson (Visible Learning Workshops); and Ben Walden (Henry V - Inspirational Leadership).

Early childhood leaders gathered at the Early Childhood Conference in Brisbane. The Queensland Department of Education sponsored the conference that attracted delegates and speakers from all states and territories as well as USA, Canada, UK and Finland.

Our network in Toowoomba held a successful 'Dinner on the Downs' with Leanne Wright, Regional Director, Department of Education and Training as guest speaker.

Lastly, we explored new territory through Leaders CoLab (the use of social media and networking to promote educational leadership). Sandra Nissen facilitated online discussions following the Visible Learning workshop with participants, and those unable to attend. We also supported members to broaden the influence of existing local networks, through for example, Kelly McBurnie and St Peters Lutheran College establishing the Queensland Early Childhood Network.

Dr Deb Kember QLD ACEL President



ACEL SA BRANCH REPORT

The ACEL (SA) Branch continues in its role as a committee of the ACEL Board, to implement the strategic goals of ACEL in South Australia, using local knowledge and context to support our South Australian members.

Events

The Branch Executive has presented a range of local events and functions for our members as well as promoting national events across our networks. These included:

- 'Celebrating Education in South Australia' where the Minister for Education and Child Development, The Hon Dr Susan Close and the Shadow Minister, Mr John Gardner outlined the positive aspects of education in South Australia and their policy positions on a number of issues. This event also provided the opportunity for South Australian members to acknowledge those who had received National ACEL Awards:
 - Keith Tronc Award and 'New Voice' Scholarship -Laura Searle
 - ACEL Leadership medals Dave Edwards, Marilyn Clarke and Panayoula Parha
 - Presidential Citation Kevin Richardson.
- Teacher Leader Forums centred around aspects of student and teacher wellbeing, organised by Laura Searle and Alice Dunlop.
- The ACEL Retirees and Friends group continued to meet on a quarterly basis. Thank you to Frank Cairns who took over the organising of this event from Cathy Buchanan.

ACEL (SA) Awards

The Awards Dinner was held at the National Wine Centre on Friday 19th May. Professor David Giles received the 2017 'Alby Jones' Award and Professor Pat Thomson the 2017 ACEL (SA) Distinguished Contribution to Research in Educational Leadership Award.

Leadership medals were awarded to Warren Symonds, Mathew White and Carl Salt, and SA Fellowships to Lynda MacLeod and Simon Murray. The Media Award was presented to Spence Denny from ABC radio.

Lynda MacLeod, the convener of the awards committee is to be congratulated for organising such a successful evening.

Thanks to ACEL Fellows, Cathy Buchanan, Kathy Cotter and Jean Lomax who evaluated the 2017 award submissions against the criteria and made recommendations to the Branch Executive.

The work of the National Office staff in supporting the planning and delivery of branch events is also greatly appreciated as they tailor the degree of support to the requirements of the function/event coordinator.

SA Branch Executive

The South Australian Branch Executive was deeply saddened by the passing of Cathy Buchanan (FACEL) on 13th July 2017, following a short illness. Cathy resigned from the SA Branch in July 2016, but continued to organise the Retirees and Friends Group until the end of 2016. She had been an active member of ACEL since joining in 1992. Cathy had been on the SA Branch Executive since 1994. She was branch secretary for many years, prior to managing annual awards process and dinner. Cathy was a much loved and highly respected member of our branch and will be greatly missed.

My thanks to Branch Executive members Marilyn Clark, Toni Cocchiaro, Alice Dunlop, Pam Kent, Lynda MacLeod, Carolyn Palmer, Laura Searle and Bev Rogers for their commitment and diligence in supporting the work of ACEL. I would particularly like to acknowledge Lynda MacLeod for her support and commitment over her two terms on the Branch Executive.

Thankyou to Rae Dawkins, our Minutes Secretary, and Frank Cairns, Mark Simpson, Dale Bennett, Rob Sieben, Troy Thomson, Janis Carroll-Lind, Warren Symonds and Sean Watt who responded to the expression of interest to participate in the work of the ACEL Branch Executive for a 6-month period prior to the 2017 elections.

I wish the new Branch Executive, under the leadership of Warren Symonds, every success and look forward to ACEL continuing to grow and develop in South Australia.

Dr Jenny Stanley SA ACEL President





ACEL TAS BRANCH REPORT



For the Tasmanian Branch of ACEL, the past year has been one of consolidation and growth and we have received numerous affirmations of the value of the opportunities for learning, networking and recognition provided by the dedicated executive of our small branch with the very helpful support of the national office. I extend my sincere thanks to the members of the Tasmanian Branch for their input, support and collegiality throughout the course of 2016/17. The 2016/17 Executive has included; Alec Young FACEL, Helen Spencer, Jacqui Lawless, Tom Dorey FACEL- Tas, Jenny Cowling, Lucy Fisher FACEL- Tas, Eamonn Pollard, David Moltow, Sandra Harvey and co-opted member Cath Apanah.

Branch Awards

The ACEL Tasmanian Awards Dinner was patronised by the highest numbers for many years. Nearly 80 people braved a very cold mid-winter night to gather at the University of Tasmania and share a very convivial gathering and an affirmation of excellent leadership being provided by many educators in Tasmania. All three sectors, Government, Catholic and Independent shone in the Awards and recipients came from Primary, Secondary and Senior College levels of the schools sectors. The recipient of the Eminent Educator of the Year for 2017 was Mr Robert Phillips a consultant currently and formerly Leader and Manager in various roles in the Department of Education.

The inaugural Patron of the Tasmanian Branch

As Branch President I was delighted to announce at the Awards gathering that a highly regarded "elder statesman" of ACEL and formerly of ACEA, had accepted my invitation to take on the role of Patron of our local branch. Professor William [Bill] Mulford AO is now our Patron and he comes with an exemplary history with our council/association. He helped to found ACEA in 1973, which later changed its name to ACEL. Professor Mulford was the Secretary, [1975-76], Vice President, [1982-83] and President [1983-86], he was awarded Life Membership in 1976, a Fellowship in 1982, the Nganakarrawa Award in 1991 and the Association's Gold Medal for 2000.

Prof. Mulford began the role with a feisty and challenging address at the Awards event. In his address Professor Mulford challenged teachers and leaders to work intelligently to uphold the professionalism of their chosen career and to do so despite an ever-changing political context. The role of ACEL in offering a stable, consistent, sector blind, apolitical, professional and ethical position on educational leadership and providing a forum for such motivated educators to develop, find support and network, becomes highly critical in the context described by Professor Mulford.

Learning and Networking

Visits to the State by outstanding presenters, Robert Biswas-Diener, John Hattie and Corwin [Visible Learning] and Ben Walden provided professional, enlightening and inspiring learning which was greatly appreciated by all participants. The support of the national office in making these opportunities available is acknowledged. One of our national scholars was scheduled for Launceston in the north of the State this year in order to provide a better opportunity for access to those working in the regional areas of the state. It is hoped to continue this endeavour in the future, to provide more balanced access for northern members. Local Branch events have enjoyed excellent patronage this year with local Hot Topic forums which are generally run in week 3 of terms 2, 3 and 4 in Hobart, attracting generally good numbers to network and learn from excellent practioners. A workshop on "Evidence for Learning' organised for the first day of term break drew enough support to make us consider this timing for future events.

As this year draws to a close myself, and very long serving and loyal member of the executive, Mr Alexander Young come to the end of our tenure. I acknowledge Alec's unstinting endeavour for the Association in various executive roles for almost two decades.

I hand over with great confidence in the continuing members of the executive – all named above and new members, Malcolm Elliot, Marty Crerar, and Tamekia Grist. New President Ms Helen Spencer has a long association with ACEL in both Tasmania and Canberra and will ensure the positive trajectory of ACEL in Tasmania continues.

Anne Foale TAS ACEL President



ACEL VIC BRANCH REPORT

Overview and Branch Executive

The Victorian branch has continued to have a strong Executive with representation across the sectors. The 2016/17 Executive

President Secretary General Members Aine Maher Lawrie Drysdale Denis Masseni Lauren Sayer Jane Wilkinson Melissa Etherton

Jeremy Beard Helene Hiotis

Kim Dray Coralee Pratt Leanne Kirkland Lawrie Drysdale Sue Buckley Gerald Bain-King

General Executive

We welcome onto the executive for 2017/18 Sue Buckley - General Manager, Teaching & School Leadership, AITSL Gerald Bain-King - Principal, CBC St Kilda Melissa Etherton - Director of Professional Services, MLC

Awards & Recognition

The awards committee has always been active to ensure that we have appropriate recognition of our members at both state and national level. Our State Award recipients were:

Hedley Beare Educator of the Year Prof Karen Starr

ACEL Victorian Fellowship Awards

Therese Keane Vic Zbar Kay McCullough Paul Runting Michael Horsley John Christie Loretta Hamilton Margaret Hird David Zyngier Liana Cartledge Catherine Misson Leanne Kirkright Jan Barber Tom Daly Vernon Hilditch President's Award Aine Maher

Victorian Media Award Alan Kohler

Events & Advocacy

In 2017 under the guidance of Coralee Pratt we have an extensive ACELNet events program. There were three outstanding Q&A sessions, and two President's Research Series evenings at Deakin and Melbourne University.

The 2017 Fellows dinner in September saw the fourth Patron's Lecture Series. Our patron, Professor Brian Caldwell, invited Tom Bentley to deliver the lecture titled **"The responsibility to lead: Education at a global crossroads**". Tom is Principal Adviser to the Vice Chancellor at RMIT, Honorary Senior Fellow at the University of Melbourne and former Deputy Chief of Staff and senior policy adviser to Julia Gillard. The event was well-attended and it was encouraging to see the number of schools that used this as an opportunity to send teams of young leaders.

Future Plans

It has been a pleasure to have been President on the Victorian branch for the past six years and also be a National Director during that period. I have worked with and met some outstanding educators. It has been a privilege to have the opportunity to communicate with members regularly through the Victorian News. I thank sincerely my retiring colleagues - Kim Dray, Helene Hiotis and Leanee Kirkland for their never ending support and effort over the same period. I wish Coralee every success and I am sure she will bring a much higher level of educational interrogation to the position. It would be remiss not to acknowledge the friendship and advice offered over the time by Victoria's esteemed educator and our patron, Prof. Brian Caldwell.

Jeremy Beard VIC ACEL President





ACEL WA BRANCH REPORT



The last year has been one of consolidation of growth of ACEL in WA. The WA Branch Executive Committee undertook to build on the strategy of developing services in regional areas to augment those already soundly established in the metropolitan area. This started with a Hot Topic in the Pilbara in term four 2016, followed by Robert Biswas-Diener presenting a workshop on *Strength-based Schools* in Karratha in March 2017. In March Prof. David Hopkins ran a workshop in Geraldton.

Both Robert and Ben have also presented their workshops in Perth, and David drew an impressive crowd to an evening seminar where he spoke about *Powerful Learning*.

With the change of government in May this year, ACELWA had the opportunity to welcome the new Minister for Education and Training, the Honourable Sue Ellery to her role. This resulted in her accepting an invitation to participate in a dialogue with members at a *Breakfast with the Minister* event in which she outlined her government's agenda for the next four years and answered a myriad of questions from the floor in a refreshingly open and honest manner. It is a dialogue ACELWA and the Minister have agreed to continue in various forms over the term of her office.

In May this year, the newly appointed Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Education and Training, the Hon. Samantha Helen Rowe MLC officiated at the 2017 Branch Awards Ceremony which saw Lee Musumeci, the highly regarded and influential Principal of Challis Community Primary School named as the Pre-Eminent Educator of the Year. At the same time five Fellowships and ten Certificates of Excellence were awarded to worthy recipients from across the public, non-government and Catholic school systems along with two Teacher Leader Awards. One of the teacher leaders, Rachael Lehr, subsequently won a New Voice Scholarship and the Keith Tronc Award for Outstanding *Teacher Leadership.* Further, two outstanding post-graduate students were presented with an Award for Excellence and *Leadership in Tertiary Studies*. All awardees names can be found on the ACEL website.

The ACEL WA Hot Topic Q&A series under the direction of Bronwyn Jones, and an outstanding Teacher Leader event organised by Richard Deck, formed the basis for a member participation program along with strategically selected national and international presenter events to enable members to interact and stay abreast of current research and practice.

New members are welcomed and those who have 'forgotten' to renew receive a friendly reminder by a member of the Executive Committee. The Fellows & Awards sub-committee, led by Dr Robyn White and the Regional Development and Liaison sub-committee led by Sinan Kerimofski ensure we recognise outstanding contributions and support leaders at all stages of their career.

The Advocacy and Publications sub-committee, led by Dr Sandy Heldsinger and Tracey Gray actively promote WA writers and media exposure to what ACEL stands for. Mitch Bristow ensured we have a strong presence in the world of digital communications, and Nicole Brown (Secretary) and Swathi Vishnumahanti (Programs and Publications Consultant) continue to provide active support to each of the sub-committees and to the overall strategic development of the Branch.

It was pleasing to see all positions on the Executive Committee hotly contested in recent elections with a good balance of new appointees joining those re-elected. Appreciation is extended to those who have retired from the committee for the loyal and highly competent services you have provided. You have left ACELWA in a much stronger position than when you started.

It has been a privilege and an honour to be have served as President of ACEL WA and I welcome and look forward to Sinan Kerimofski, the incoming President, and the new Executive Committee continuing the development and importance of ACEL.

Keith Newton WA ACEL President



ACEL FINANCE REPORTS

PROFIT AND LOSS STATEMENT

For the year ended 30th June 2017

Income	
Branch Income	\$41,180.00
Business Development	\$910,122.00
Professional Learning	\$1,445,007.00
Publications and Research	\$448,085.00
Conferences and Special Events	\$1,644,279.00
Interest Received	\$56,113.00
Total Income	\$4,544,786.00
Cost of Sales	
Branch Expense	\$92,801.00
Business Development	\$269,237.00
Professional Learning	\$1,024,434.00
Publications and Research	\$220,590.00
Conferences and Special Events	\$1,196,818.00
Total Cost of Sales	\$2,803,880.00
Gross Profit	\$1,740,906.00
Expenses	
Administration	\$468,281.00
Salaries and Wages	\$867,516.00
Superannuation	\$82,391.00
Other	-
Total Expenses	\$1,418,188.00

Net Profit	\$322,718.00
Retained Profit at the Beginning of the Financial Year	\$1,845,056.00
Retained Profit at the End of the Financial Year	\$2,167,774.00



BALANCE SHEET

As at 30th June 2017

Assets	
Current Assets	
Cash	\$1,766,831.00
Receivables	\$318,076.00
Total Current Assets	\$2,084,907.00
Non Current Assets	
Other	
Property, Plant and Equipment	\$1,868,152.00
Total Non Current Assets	\$1,868,152.00
Total Assets	\$3,953,059.00
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable and Other Payables	\$1,700,645.00
Provision for Employee Benefits	\$51,726.00
Total Liabilities	\$1,752,371.00
Non Current Liabilities	
Employee Provisions	\$32,914.00
Total Non Current Liabilities	\$32,914.00
Total Liabilities	\$1,785,285.00
Net Assets	\$2,167,774.00
Equity	
Retained Surplus	\$2,167,774.00
Total Equity	\$2,167,774.00



The ACEL brand communicates our complete commitment to providing quality educational leadership services.

The ACEL logo is an adaption of the Commonwealth Council for Educational Administration and Management logo that was created by William Walker with the establishment of this Council in 1970.

Australian Council for Educational Leaders

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