

# AUSTRALIAN COUNCIL FOR EDUCATIONAL LEADERS



## ANNUAL REPORT

## 2019-2020

PROFESSIONAL LEARNING

DYNAMIC NETWORKS

ENLIGHTENED DISCOURSE

RECOGNITION OF EXCELLENCE

EXEMPLAR ORGANISATION



## //ACEL Annual Report

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## // Strategic Pillars &amp; Goals

**Professional Learning**

- Establish a portfolio of relevant, leading edge leadership programs
- Foster the development of innovative, relevant, and effective educational professional development conferences, seminars and events
- Ensure educational leaders have access to books and quality online/electronic educational leadership resources

**Dynamic Networks**

- Grow ACEL membership and customer base
- Encourage greater engagement among members and customers
- Extend reach of ACEL Members and Customers into regional/remote areas
- Establish strong partnerships with systems, peak bodies and like-minded organisations at the local and international level

**Enlightened Discourse**

- Provide a platform for sharing current research, policy and practice through our suite of journals and publications
- Host forums at the national and branch level to focus on key issues
- Put together Submissions/Representations to Government and peak bodies on behalf of the profession

**Recognition of Excellence**

- Position ACEL's awards, scholarships, recognition of excellence for educational leadership as Australia's foremost educational awards
- Recognise excellence in educational leadership with National Awards & Fellowships
- Identify new voices in educational leadership, educational research and indigenous education through scholarships
- Recognise contributions by teachers and leaders with State/Territory Awards and Fellowships

**Exemplar Organisation**

- Establish governance structures that are relevant to peak not-for-profit organisations.
- Enhance brand equity and public reputation
- Strengthen and support state and territory branches
- Build staff and management capability to drive growth and development.

## // President's Message



Stephen Gniel  
ACEL President  
and Interim Chief  
Executive Officer

The second half of this financial year was unprecedented in the history of our organisation as nationally and internationally we faced significant disruption and challenges resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic. It is a credit to everyone involved at ACEL that, thanks to our work over many years, we have adjusted and continued during this time to provide valuable services to members. This has been particularly important as educational leaders across Australia have also had to adapt to continue education provision to our children and young people despite closures and other impacts of the pandemic.

My message to members in last year's Annual Report was that the 'organisation's sustainability is well established with solid foundations of diversified revenue streams, our own office and delivering quality services to our members and the broader education profession'. It is from this position of strength that we have met the challenges of 2020, delivering a small, but impressive, surplus at the end of the 2019/20 financial year especially given the operating environment. This was achieved through careful management including a reduction of costs and expenses commensurate with the negative impact on our revenue. This has positioned the organisation well to continue to make changes to how we deliver on our ACEL purpose whilst maintaining our core objectives of serving the educational leader profession in truly challenging times.

Despite diversification of ACEL's revenue, membership continues to provide the financial basis for the sustainability of the organisation. We continue to be a member based organisation and in 2020 more than ever it has been the commitment of members especially those in local Branch executives who give voluntarily their time and expertise to building the knowledge and wisdom of our profession through Branch events and networks. On behalf of all ACEL members I thank each of our State and Territory Branch Presidents and their executives.

ACEL is a charitable institution established to support, develop and strengthen educational leadership capabilities across Australia and internationally. Our organisational purpose, is enshrined in the five pillars of our Strategic

Plan – Professional Learning, Dynamic Networks, Recognition of Excellence, Enlightened Discourse and Exemplar Organisation. These pillars have continued to provide the focus for the ACEL Board and management. During 2019/20 we continued to offer quality professional learning opportunities across Australia including our three conferences – the Disability Summit featuring experts and leading practitioners in the field of disability and inclusion, with a focus on the ways in which educators can ensure that all students access and engage in learning; the Early Childhood conference supporting best practice in early childhood education and leadership; and our flagship national conference that sets the learning agenda for educational leadership. Our signature educational leadership programs continued to bring together practitioners with some of Australia's and the world's best researchers and academics supporting both individual and collective professional growth. A number of these programs were impacted by restrictions on travel and gatherings, however, participants and presenters made the most of what was achievable to continue the learning during such an important time for the education profession to share and learn from one another

During the past couple of years we have focused on the significant expansion of our digital and online resources available free for members or on demand for educators including webinars, podcasts, interviews, articles with contributions from local and global experts. At the time these were developed for those who are time poor and/or located in regional/rural/remote settings. Of course, throughout 2020 we have had to rely much more heavily on digital offerings and our earlier foray into expanding ACEL's digital offering provided a wonderful platform to support educators throughout the restrictions and challenges brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic.

I am proud of the work of our organisation and present to you, our members, our 2019/20 Annual Report.



## // Board of Directors 2019-2020

### President



Stephen Gniel  
ACEL President

### Independent Directors



Martin Westwell



Diane Joseph



Ross Fox

### Branch Appointed Directors



Michele McLoughlin  
ACT Branch President



Ann McIntyre  
NSW Branch President



Aderyn Chatterton  
NT Branch President



Dr Deborah Kember  
QLD Branch President



Warren Symonds  
SA Branch President



Jacqui Lawless  
TAS Branch President



Coralee Pratt  
VIC Branch President



Sinan Kerimofski  
WA Branch President



Australian Council for  
Educational Leaders

# ACEL MEMBERSHIP

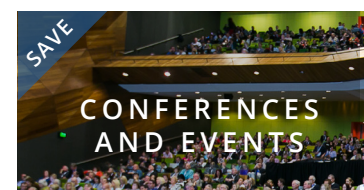
[ACEL.ORG.AU/MEMBERSHIP](https://www.acel.org.au/membership)



**FREE**  
**RESOURCE CENTRE**  
Free 24/7 Access to Over 1000 Articles, Videos, Journals & Exercises continuously updated from local & globally renowned leaders, speakers & authors.



**FREE**  
**PUBLICATIONS**  
Free Publications & Journals including Australian Educational Leader, Leading & Managing, and ACEL Monograph.



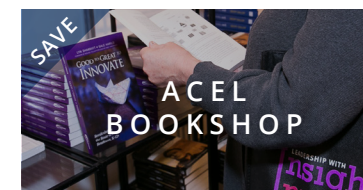
**SAVE**  
**CONFERENCES AND EVENTS**  
Exclusive Member Discounts on the premier conferences & events including: National Conference, Disability Summit and Early Childhood Conference.



**SAVE**  
**WORKSHOPS**  
Exclusive discounts on leading educational workshops presented Australia wide.



**SAVE**  
**LEADERSHIP PROGRAMS**  
Exclusive discounts on the top development, coaching and change programs for schools and individuals.



**SAVE**  
**ACEL BOOKSHOP**  
Membership discounts on all book orders via ACEL bookshop including our full New Release range.



**SAVE**  
**WEBINARS**  
Save on webinar series from leading local and international leaders.



**FREE**  
**DIGITAL CONTENT**  
Access the Members only Leaders Lounge channel with video presentations, podcasts, interviews and receive fortnightly curated content in your inbox.

### STANDARD MEMBERSHIP

Single Year  
\$195.00

2 Year  
Save \$30  
\$360.00

3 Year  
Save \$75  
\$510.00

### TEACHER LEADER MEMBERSHIP

Single Year  
w/Free Teaching in Action  
\$175.00

2 Year  
w/Free Teaching in Action  
\$300.00

3 Year  
w/Free Teaching in Action  
\$450.00

### INSTITUTIONAL GROUPS MEMBERSHIP

2-5 Members

\$190.00 pp

6-10 Members

\$185.00 pp

11+ Members

\$175.00 pp

### STUDENT / RETIRED MEMBERSHIP

Single Year  
\$85.00

2 Year  
\$140.00

3 Year  
\$200.00

Australian Council for Educational Leaders

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## PROFESSIONAL LEARNING

// Building a wide and deep portfolio...

Over the past year, we have further strengthened our portfolio of professional learning options for educators in diverse settings.





//Conferences

ACEL hosted three national conferences in 2019 – 2020.

The 2019 Disability Leadership Summit was held in Sydney from 9 – 10 September and attracted over 160 delegates. The Conference focussed on the importance for educational leaders to adopt a whole school approach to ensure quality education is delivered to all.

Sydney was also host to the 2019 National Conference which was held at the Hilton Sydney. The two and a half days conference held from 2 – 4 October also incorporated the National Awards Gala Dinner for the first time. With the theme ‘Vision & Voice’, the event brought international speakers together with Australian system leaders and leading researchers to share their insights and connect with over 800 participants.

ACEL partnered with the Australian Council of Children and the Media for the first time to deliver the Children and the Media National Conference on 28 October. The one-day event held at the SMC Function Centre was designed around the digital environments and developing minds.

As we strive for continuous improvements, we will be reviewing all feedback received from our conference delegates to ensure we continue to provide quality professional learning opportunities.

**LEADING  
(E)QUALITY  
IN EDUCATION**

ACEL 2019 NATIONAL  
DISABILITY SUMMIT

SUPPORTING SCHOOLS & FAMILIES

2019 ACEL National Disability Summit  
– Leading (e)Quality in Education

9th - 10th September 2019  
Sydney Masonic Centre  
Sydney

**DIGITAL  
ENVIRONMENTS AND  
DEVELOPING MINDS:**

RESEARCH AND STRATEGIES FOR  
PROFESSIONALS, PRODUCERS  
AND POLICY MAKERS.

2019 ACEL Children and the Media National  
Conference

28th October 2019  
Sydney Masonic Centre  
Sydney

ACEL 2019 NATIONAL CONFERENCE

**VISION AND VOICE**

SETTING THE LEARNING AGENDA

2019 ACEL National Leadership Conference  
– Vision and Voice

2nd - 4th October 2019  
Hilton Sydney  
Sydney







// Workshops & Webinars

We continued to offer a range of seminars and workshops throughout the year, providing opportunities for our members and customers to hear from local and international speakers including Bryan Goodwin, Erica McWilliams, Lyn Sharratt and Michael Fullan.

Our partnership with Corwin continued for the Visible Learning programs, with strong attendance across all 3 workshops this year.

We acknowledge the importance of professional learning for our members across all states and territories and this year we were able to expand our workshops further to include Darwin, Perth and regional areas such as Albury and Cairns. We look forward to continuing to expand our reach to include more regional town centres in the future.

The start of the global pandemic with COVID-19 and the follow-on effects have meant that we were not able to continue with face to face events from March 2020. However, this presented the opportunity for ACEL to grow our suite of online webinars, ensuring that we continue to provide professional learning opportunities throughout the year.

The webinar series formed part of our 'Digital Package' offering which we will continue to review and refine into 2020/2021.



**CURIOSITY WORKS**  
Leading and teaching with curiosity in mind

**Curiosity Works**  
Bryan Goodwin

29th July - 7th August 2019  
Darwin, Brisbane, Sydney, Melbourne, Perth



**EXCEPTIONAL TEACHING FOR COLLABORATIVE LEARNING**

**Exceptional Teaching for Collaborative Learning**  
Erica McWilliam

4th September 2019  
Brisbane



**CLARITY**  
WHAT MATTERS MOST IN LEARNING, TEACHING & LEADING

**Clarity**  
Lyn Sharratt

19th - 25th November 2019  
Albury, Sydney, Brisbane, Cairns, Perth



**7 Strategies for Improving Your School**  
**RIGOR**  
IS NOT A FOUR LETTER WORD

**7 Strategies for Improving Your School**  
Barbara Blackburn

4th - 18th September 2019

**Rigor Is Not A Four Letter Word**  
Barbara Blackburn

29th April - 13th May 2020



**visible learning<sup>plus</sup>**

**Visible Learning**  
John Hattie

18th - 22nd November 2019  
Darwin, Sydney



**VISIBLE LEARNING FOR MATHEMATICS**

**Visible Learning for Mathematics**  
Douglas Fisher and Lyn Coote

20th November 2019  
Melbourne



**nuance**  
WHY SOME LEADERS SUCCEED & OTHERS FAIL

**Nuance**  
Michael Fullan

17th - 27th February 2020  
Sydney, Brisbane, Melbourne, Perth



**IMPACTFUL LEADERSHIP**  
Vision, Purpose, & Creating a PathWay for Change!

**Impactful Leadership**  
Evan Robb

10th - 17th June 2020



**LEADING THROUGH DIFFICULT TIMES**

**Leading Through Difficult Times**  
Todd Whitaker

23rd - 30th June 2020





//Resources In Action

RESOURCES IN ACTION



Resources in Action was revamped for 2020 and remained a pillar of ACEL’s digital offering. With concise, considered and easy-to-implement resources in the areas of Leadership, Management, Teaching, Technology, and Early Childhood, these articles were a point of difference in our Professional Learning offering. They provided an excellent starting point both for practical application within the classroom and for continued professional learning discussion within school teams at all levels of their career.

Our subscriber base for Resources in Action has continued to grow and has also reached a broader audience through the Platinum Digital Package offering.



//Programs

Curiosity and Powerful Learning continued in 2019-2020 with another new cohort engaging with the program. Based on original research by Professor David Hopkins, operationalised by ACEL in partnership with McRel, the program has been customised to suit the needs of the NSW Public School system and maintains regular interest from other states across Australia. The program maintains strong feedback citing a tangible impact on teaching practice and student outcomes. The changes across 2020 have provided further opportunity for changes to the format of the program which will be reflected in 2021.

The “Leading School Transformation” and “Building Your Leadership Capacity” programs were well received. “Collective Efficacy” and “Teacher Wellbeing” also ran together for the first time in Sydney. The target audience for these suites of programs ranged from classroom teachers through to system leaders.

CURIOSITY AND POWERFUL LEARNING PROGRAM

BUILDING YOUR LEADERSHIP CAPACITY: MENTORING & COACHING

LEADING SCHOOL TRANSFORMATION

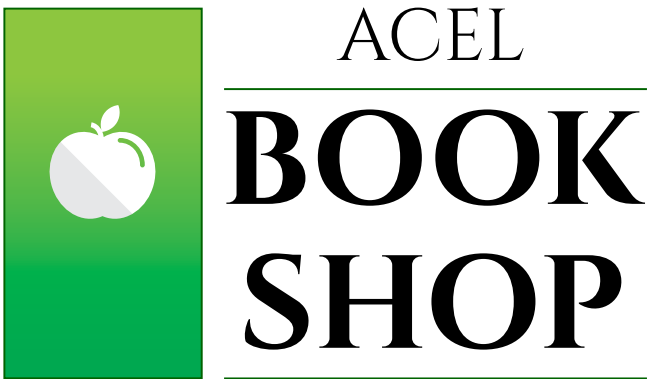
COLLECTIVE EFFICACY

Teacher Wellbeing





//ACEL Bookshop



The ACCEL Bookshop continued to provide a strong backbone for supporting ongoing professional learning and development in schools. The online bookshop is a trusted source for educators, libraries and institutions to purchase books and resources from, allowing them to continue individual professional development as well as bulk orders for their schools and libraries. The curated content in the bookshop targets aspects of educational leadership while also providing support materials at all levels. Exclusive ACCEL editions and bundled author and topic content further established our position as the leading book retailer within the education sector in Australia.

Throughout the COVID-19 lockdown periods, the bookshop saw strong growth supporting schools that were unable to engage with more traditional forms of face to face professional learning.

The ACCEL Bookshop supported events and conferences with the extension of book bundles and upgrades to workshops, and the presence of renowned Australian authors at major events where audiences had the opportunity to engage via book signings, meet and greets and live interviews.

//Digital & Online Content

ACEL began the year with three key digital content streams – ACEL Resource Centre [online articles and resources], ACEL Leader’s Library [Video content, interviews and podcasts], and ACEL Webinars [regular online workshops featuring leading local and international educators]. Content across the streams included such education luminaries such as Barbara Blackburn, Todd Whitaker, Lyn Sharratt and Evan Robb.

As COVID-19 began to show signs of impacting Australia, ACEL launched their Digital Package subscription service, granting access to 6 exclusive webinar series as well as previous webinars, additional discounts on books and webinar-related resources, Leader’s Lounge and year-long access to Resources in Action.

The Digital Package has provided a new pillar to ACEL’s support and development of leaders and school teams and saw significant growth in the final quarter of the financial year.



ACEL ONLINE  
PROFESSIONAL LEARNING  
DIGITAL PACKAGES







# DYNAMIC NETWORKS

## //A Growth Story...

In the past year, Membership has continued to build across all states and territories. Institutional memberships have shown further growth, with a greater number of schools bringing their key teachers and leaders into the fold.





//ACEL Membership

Membership remained steady over the course of 2019-2020, a great result given the challenges we faced with the bushfires, drought, and the global pandemic. The education sector was one that had to keep operating throughout the year, and ACEL responded by ensuring that we continue to adjust our offerings for members through increased digital content allowing for greater accessibility for all.

We continue to see an increase in our institutional membership vs individual membership making ACEL accessible to more people with NSW, QLD and VIC making up over 65% of our membership base. We look forward to further expanding our membership through our local branch representatives across all states and territories.

//Partnerships

ACEL has continued to collaborate with other leading names in education throughout the past year. While continuing to work with established partners, ACEL has also established new partnerships to deliver co-operative events, publications, workshops and promotions. ACEL continued to partner with Corwin to bring Visible Learning workshops to locations across Australia. Our partnership with McRel International grew further through the highly successful Curiosity and Powerful learning program.

ACEL has built strong relationships with leading publishers and media partners in the delivery of core events and promotions. Active participation from publishing houses across Australia including Pan MacMillan, HarperCollins, Taylor & Francis and ABC Books has included provision of speakers and authors as well as publicity around our largest summits and conferences.

ACEL also partnered with Department of Education NSW to showcase our successful Disability Conference and National Conference in 2019. COVID-19 restrictions meant a postponement of the Early Childhood Conference, originally scheduled for Melbourne in 2020 in partnership with Department of Education, Victoria.



//Online and Social Media

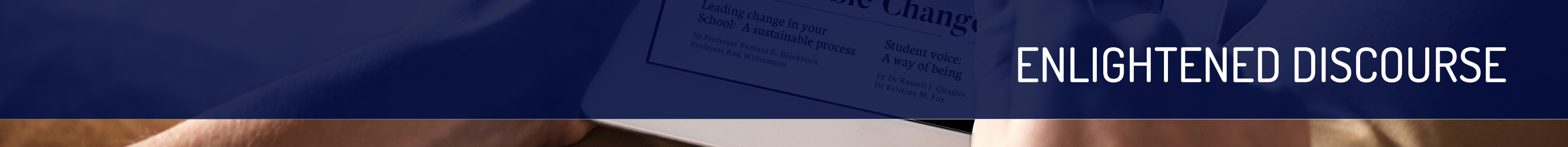
The ACEL website continued to be improved across 2019-2020, with a focus on ease of use and integration of all ACEL communications. The user experience and functionality continued to be improved for use on all devices.

A refreshed communications strategy in 2020 saw improved website page views, click rates and time spent on the ACEL website. Our direct communications were streamlined to ensure that the right messaging and opportunities were getting to the right members and non-members. The average customer spend per head has sustained throughout this year, including through the COVID-19 restrictions.

Social media continued to be an important platform for delivering core ACEL messages and organisational announcements. The engagement rates with conferences continued to build with significant interaction and posting from involved delegates.





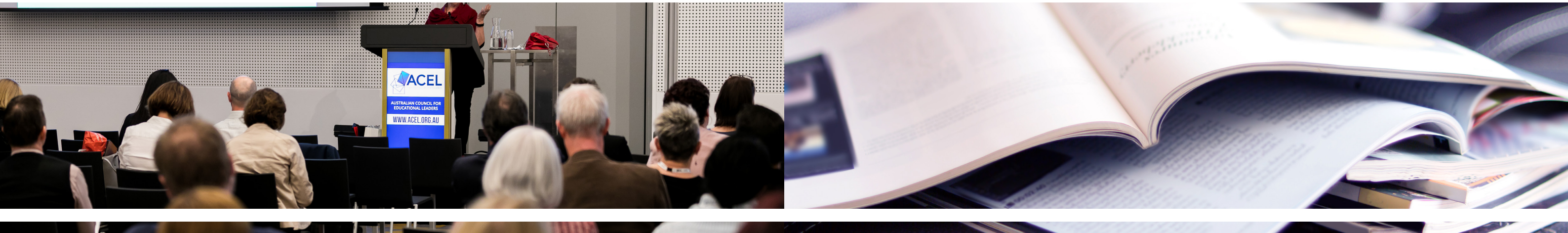


# ENLIGHTENED DISCOURSE

//Evidence Informed, Profession-Led and Positive

ACEL’s position as the premier professional organisation in the education sector enables it to provide a platform for the dissemination of current research, policy and practice.





// Forums

ACEL branches across all states and territories continued to provide opportunities for members and non-members to engage across various locally hosted forums and networking events to discuss topics of interest, current research, updates on policies as well as the opportunity to increase membership.

The past year saw over 30 locally hosted forums based around topics of interest within each state/territory. This includes ‘Breakfast with the Minister’, ‘Q&A Forums’, ‘Hot Topics’, ‘QLD In Dialogue’ etc.

Many of these regular sessions made a successful transition to the online environment in 2020, interestingly seeing a jump in attendance in many situations as new guests were able to participate when they may not have otherwise been able to previously.



// Journals and Publications

ACEL’s journals and publications play a pivotal role in the delivery of its mission to all stakeholders as well as furthering the discourse around what leadership means for and to educators. They provide an opportunity for established and emerging leaders, researchers and practitioners to provide new perspectives from a wide variety of contexts.

The Australian Educational Leader (AEL) is considered the best practitioner-based publication globally, for educators working in varied contexts. This journal showcases current research, policy and practice from Australian and international experts in educational leadership. Produced in-house by the ACEL team, the AEL journal has emerged as a key resource as well as a vehicle for communicating ACEL programs and other initiatives. The journal continues its tradition of highlighting great transformative changes and innovations in Australian schools through its ‘Success Story’ feature. In 2020, our Student Voice segment was refreshed to interview students from around Australia.

The peer-refereed Leading & Managing journal continues to be well regarded as a publication for academic articles. ACEL is continuing to ensure that this remains an attractive value proposition for authors seeking publication to a broad audience within Australia.

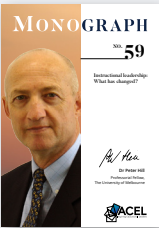
As part of our Monograph series, we were proud to publish Dr Peter Hill’s “Instructional Leadership: What has Changed?”. Our New Voice Scholars also gave their views on how education could be improved via our Perspectives’ online publication.

LEADING & MANAGING

JOURNAL OF THE AUSTRALIAN COUNCIL FOR EDUCATIONAL LEADERS



MONOGRAPH



NEW VOICE SCHOLARS PERSPECTIVES







//Australian Educational Leader

The 'Australian Educational Leader (AEL)' is considered the best publication in the region and even globally, for practitioners working in varied contexts. This journal provides perspectives and research from Australian and international authorities in education. Produced in-house by the ACEL team, AEL looks as good as its content. AEL continues its tradition of highlighting great transformative changes and innovations in Australian schools through its 'Success Story' feature.







# RECOGNITION OF EXCELLENCE

//Talent and Commitment runs deep in the education sector

ACEL has always been at the forefront in recognizing the contributions made by educational leaders at the local and national level. In recent times, we have acknowledged emerging talent through our New Voice Scholarships.



# 34<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL NATIONAL AWARDS CEREMONY

ACEL's status as the largest independent, cross sectoral, profession-led organisation is most visible in its recognition of educators that 'make a difference' in diverse settings. Award recipients are nominated by their peers for work that has had an impact beyond their own school or organisation. Fellowships are given at the branch and national level to reward contributions made to ACEL as board members, branch executives and writers.

Major awards like the Gold Medal, Hedley Beare Award for Writing, Nganakarrawa Award and the Keith Tronc Award for Outstanding Teacher Leadership are given to educators demonstrating specific attributes and who have been engaged in great work over time.



# 2020 ACEL NEW VOICE SCHOLARSHIPS

It is with great pride that ACEL congratulates the recipients of the 2020 New Voice Scholarships. New Voice Scholarships recognise forward thinking, contextually relevant and responsive educational leaders whose work has had an impact above and beyond their immediate context.

The New Voice Scholarships are part of ACEL's 10 year and \$300,000 commitment to recognising the emerging voices in educational leadership.

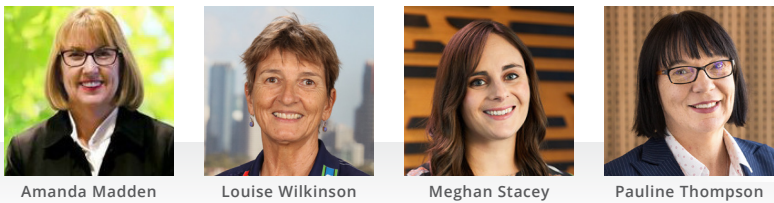
This year saw a high volume of outstanding candidates across the four categories open for submission, showcasing the depth of our emerging educational leaders that Australia has to offer.

Each scholarship welcomes the recipient into the ACEL network and supports the dissemination of new learning and thought. Among the suite of benefits recipients will also receive complimentary attendance at the 2021 ACEL National Conference.

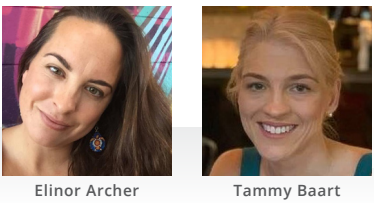
## CATEGORY 1: THE 'NEW VOICE' IN SCHOOL LEADERSHIP SCHOLARSHIP



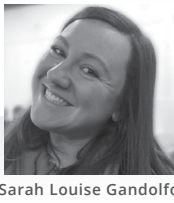
## CATEGORY 2: THE 'NEW VOICE' IN EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP RESEARCH SCHOLARSHIP



## CATEGORY 3: THE 'NEW INDIGENOUS VOICE' IN SCHOOL LEADERSHIP SCHOLARSHIP



## CATEGORY 4: THE 'NEW VOICE' IN EARLY EDUCATION AND CARE





[illegible]





# EXEMPLAR ORGANISATION

## //Investment in the Future

ACEL prides itself in being a progressive, future focused organisation serving the best interests of its members and the education community.





//Audit and Risk Management Committee

The Audit and Risk Management Committee (ARMC) is a committee of the ACEL Board.

Membership of the ARMC comprises:

- Mr Ross Fox** (Independent Director), Chair
- Mr Warren Symonds** (Branch Appointed Director)
- Ms Helen Starr**
- Mr Keith Newton**

The function of the ARMC is to support the Board in the corporate governance of ACEL and provide guidance regarding matters related to financial management and reporting, internal controls, external audit and risk management.

The Committee acts in accordance with the ARMC Charter, developing an annual program of work for approval by the Board. The Committee provides a report to each Board meeting. ARMC meetings are conducted either face-to-face or via teleconference, generally on a monthly basis.

During the year the ARMC monitored financial reporting processes; internal control and risk management systems and completed the implementation of the recommendations of the policy inventory.



Ross Fox  
Chair



Warren Symonds



Helen Starr



Keith Newton

//Advisory Group

The ACEL Academic Advisory Group has continued to focus on its goal to establish and provide platforms for sharing current research, policy and practice in educational leadership.

The key objectives for this group include:

- Establishing authentic engagement between ACEL and the Research community
- Seeking input into themes and content for its conferences, programs, events and publications
- Facilitating greater participation of academics/ researchers in ACEL conferences
- Working with the group and create a strong value proposition and the mechanisms and channels for researchers to engage with ACEL

The advisory group comprises of:

- Professor Tania Aspland**, Australian Catholic University
- Professor Michael Anderson**, University of Sydney
- Associate Professor Dorothy Andrews**, University of Southern Queensland
- Professor Jeffrey Brooks**, RMIT University
- Professor Simon Clarke**, University of Western Australia
- Emeritus Professor John Halsey**, Flinders University
- Professor Annemaree Carroll**, The University of Queensland
- Associate Professor Mark Rickinson**, Monash University
- Professor Michele Simons**, Western Sydney University
- Greg Prior**, Western Sydney University & Chair of Editorial Board AEL Journal
- Dr Scott Eacott**, University of New South Wales
- Dr Kirk Zwangobani**, Executive Teacher Dickson College





//ACT Branch Report



Michele McLoughlin  
ACT Branch  
President

I would like to begin my report by thanking the ACT ACCEL Executive members (Wendy Cave, Nicole Jagers, Tom Kobal, George Palavestra, Angus Tulley, Peter Usher, Kirk Zwangobani) and members of the ACT ACCEL subcommittees for their support and their commitment to implement the ACCEL Strategic Plan 2018-2021.

Every though 2020 has been a most unusual year, the Executive Team members have continued to work together to support the ACCEL Strategic Plan.

ACT ACCEL values the input from all branch members as they bring with them the knowledge, understanding and perspectives from the three different sectors of education: Government, Catholic and Independent.

We work collaboratively to ensure all voices are heard and all sectors of education have their contributions considered.

I thank my colleagues on the ACCEL National Board, the President Stephen Gniel and the previous CEO Aasha Murthy for their support and guidance throughout my third year on the ACCEL National Board. Every Board meeting provides an opportunity to learn and contribute to an amazing organisation that leads Australia with exceptional educational professional

learning opportunities and thought-provoking resources.

I also thank the ACCEL National Office personal. They are dedicated, hardworking talented individuals who bring different areas of expertise to ensure the growth and development of

ACEL National. Their professionalism and enthusiasm ensure that ACCEL is well supported and well represented in all dealings within and outside the organisation.

The 2020 ACT ACCEL 'Breakfast Panel' took place in February at the Catholic Education Office in Manuka. Katy Haire, Director General Education Directorate, Ross Fox, Director Catholic Education and Andrew Wrigley Director Association of Independent School were the panel speakers. The opportunity to hear from the leaders of ACT education was a fantastic way to begin the school year.

Due to COVID-19 all the usual ACCEL ACT events did not take place in 2020. Martin Westwell was to deliver the Currie Lecture; we look forward to hearing Martin speak in 2021.

The ACCEL ACT Executive continued to meet online with its regular meetings however, due to restrictions we were unable to undertake any local face-to-face professional learning events.

The ACT ACCEL Awards nominations and selections took pace in Term 3 and we anticipate a presentation ceremony to take place in late November 2020.

In October 2020 I welcomed Kirk Zwangobani as the incoming ACCEL ACT President 2020-2023. ACCEL ACT also welcomed the incoming 2020-2023 Executive members Kerrie Blain, Sandra Darley, Lachlan Ellis, Stacey Griffiths, Tabatha Kellett, Tom Kobal, Michele McLoughlin, Anna Owen, Melissa Planten, Angus Tulley, Peter Usher, Kirk Zwangobani.

I cannot end this report without thanking the previous CEO Aasha Murthy for her leadership of ACCEL for the last nine years. Aasha has been an incredible CEO who has with the ACCEL Board led ACCEL to a pivotal position in Education in Australia and overseas.

I also wish to congratulate ACCEL on the delivery of the first Global Online Conference.

It was an outstanding success and gave 4,000 educational leaders an opportunity to hear from renowned international speakers and guest presenters from Australia.

We look forward to 2021 supporting ACCEL National and exploring one of the ACT ACCEL Branch's guiding principles 'personal communication is the key for further developing ACCEL in the ACT'. Wishing everyone the very best for the rest of 2020 and beyond.

//NSW Branch Report



Ann McIntyre  
NSW Branch  
President

ACEL NSW is deeply aware of the influence of educational leaders in enabling our children and 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 we place a clear emphasis on professional learning, research, publication and advocacy. ACCEL plays a key role in education and leadership in NSW. This role is recognised through high engagement in professional learning and strong membership. ACCEL NSW represents over one third of the national membership and is continuing the build upon this foundation.

**Professional Learning**  
ACEL NSW professional learning continues to receive strong engagement and positive evaluation, and while the pandemic has disrupted the opportunity for physical gatherings at seminars, there has been strong engagement with online professional learning webinars for educators in both metropolitan and regional NSW. It is important for each of us to learn about the impact of our decisions during times of crisis, and our innovations over recent months have enabled us to learn about the benefits of reforms to enable both broad as well as deep engagement for our colleagues across the state. The provision of local seminars and the expansion of webinars has enabled increased access to quality professional learning for rural and remote educators as well as school leadership teams. As an endorsed provider of professional learning with the NSW Educational Standards Authority, ACCEL provides professional learning aligned to the Australian Professional Standards for Teachers at Lead Teacher level.

Strategies that promote accessible, relevant, quality professional learning sit at the heart of our purpose. Our first ACCEL Global Conference was held in 2020 and resulted in approximately 4000 participants engaging with an amazing group of educational leaders who stimulated our thinking over the 3 day conference. As a team we have worked together to enable ACCEL NSW to serve educators through the provision of advocacy for the profession, the recognition of excellence, evidence informed professional learning, research and publications.

ACEL's extensive online resource centre has enabled increased access to quality publications for ACCEL members across NSW. ACCEL NSW membership continues to increase in both metropolitan and regional areas as educators across the state become aware of the breadth and quality of ACCEL publications and professional learning.

**Awards and recognition**  
The 2020 ACCEL NSW awards and recognition program celebrated the achievements of 21 outstanding educators from schools, systems and universities, through our first ACCEL NSW Virtual Awards Celebration. The celebration drew together over 160 educators in the recognition of professional excellence. Senior educators from all sectors joined

in acknowledging award recipients. This year three educational leaders from NSW were inducted as ACCEL NSW Fellows. Four outstanding early career leaders received the Mary Armstrong Award for Teacher Leadership and twelve ACCEL NSW Leadership Awards were granted to individuals and school teams that have made a significant impact on student learning. The Patrick Duignan Award for outstanding leadership was granted to Vicki Treble. The NSW ACCEL Dr Paul Brock Memorial Medal, awarded to a prominent educational leader who has demonstrated the values of social justice in making a substantial contribution to evidence informed policy and practice, was awarded to Professor Deb Hayes.

**Future Plans**  
This is my final annual report as President of ACCEL NSW. I was first elected to join the ACCEL National Board as the Member Appointed Independent Director in January 2013. Following my election as President of ACCEL NSW in 2015 I served as National Director and President of ACCEL NSW for six years 2015-2020. During this time, it has been an honour to support new initiatives through my national ACCEL roles as Chair of Publication (2013-16) and Chair of Professional Learning (2013-2020).

I would like to acknowledge and thank the NSW ACCEL executive who have worked with me over the last six years. Mick Bezzina, Tony Bracken, Ann-Marie Furney, Suzanne Fern, Andrew Frazer, Joanne Jarvis, Brenda Quayle, Brad Russell, Andrea Stringer, Vicki Treble and Kylie Lipscombe. I would like to acknowledge the dedication and commitment of the Chair of the Awards Committee, Vicki Treble, who has led the transformation of the NSW Awards program. I congratulate Dr Kylie Lipscombe on her election to the position of NSW President for the 2021-2023 term. Kylie is an outstanding educational leader who will lead ACCEL NSW to continued success. I look forward to working with her as she transitions into this role. I thank the educators who have nominated to join the NSW Executive team for the 2021-2023 term. Kristen Murray, Sue Bryen, Rhonda Kaidby, Greg Whitby, and Kirsten McCarthy will commence their new role, along with the continuing executive members of Michael Bezzina, Suzanne Fern, Tony Bracken, Andrea Stringer, Joanne Jarvis, Brad Russell and Kylie Lipscombe. I wish you well in your service to the association.

For each of us, we lead and walk in the footsteps of others and I would like to acknowledge the wonderful educational leaders who over the last 50 years have paved the way for our association's current success. The service that we now provide, through the provision of evidence informed, relevant and accessible publications and impactful professional learning and advocacy, is a key feature of our educational landscape in NSW. ACCEL has continued to go from strength to strength over the last decade and I am confident that our association is in an excellent position to provide advocacy and learning for our profession through a very exciting future. I thank you for your support over the last 9 years, stay well, and I wish you every success for your future.





//NT Branch Report



Aderyn Chatterton  
NT Branch  
President

*Chatterton*

The 2020 school year has seen us navigate our way through a time that is unlike any other we have experienced. Through the disruption and uncertainty of a global pandemic, there have been inspiring stories of innovation, resilience and compassion coming from our Northern Territory schools and the Department of Education as a whole. For the branch executive of the Northern Territory, it has been vital that we celebrate, capture and honour the extraordinary work that has come from an extraordinary year.

The learnings and new ways of working that have emerged through 2020, have supported the Northern Territory branch of ACEL to achieve two of its key strategic objectives; to provide a platform to promote the voice of regional and remote educational leaders and to ensure membership and activity features a cross-sectorial representation. Two key events have enabled the branch to deliver on these objectives.

In September the branch hosted a local networking event on the eve of the Global conference. The event featured a panel of Northern Territory leaders who reflected on the opportunities, lessons and innovations that can emerge in times of disruption. The panel was comprised of three educational thought leaders presenting lived experience from the perspective of a remote teaching principal, urban based principal and a system leader. Featuring rich dialogue and unique perspectives, our panel members reflected on the core learnings that have emerged from the year and challenged us to consider ways in which to build on the strengths that have emerged and the lessons we have learnt. The branch executive were pleased to be able to use technology to host ACEL President, Stephen Gneil, who provided key messaging around the strategic priorities of ACEL while also hearing from our Territory thought leaders.

2020 saw the fifth year of our Annual Northern Territory ACEL awards and with that, growing local traditions and new innovation. Hosted by one of our 2019 New Voice Scholars and featuring Northern Territory Fellows presenting awards, the evening

was a celebration of excellence, commitment and passion for Northern Territory students. This year's awards was our first ceremony streamed Territory wide as three awardees received their award from within their remote community. Beaming awardees and their colleagues in from Nhulunbuy, Lajamanu and Robinson River was a significant moment as the Branch delivered on their commitment to expand ACEL's Northern Territory footprint. Congratulations to our 2020 awardees:

**ACEL Northern Territory Fellow**  
Louise Corrigan

**ACEL New Voice Scholar Education Leadership**  
Brooke Sweeney

**ACEL Northern Territory Leadership Award**  
Shane Dexter  
Hayley Green

**ACEL Northern Territory Aboriginal Educator Leadership Award**  
Nicky Flynn

**ACEL Northern Territory Inspiring Educator Award**  
Laura Ayres  
Nikki Flack  
Mollie Teale

**ACEL Northern Territory Early Career Teacher Leadership Award**  
Stella Kim

Finally, I would like to thank and acknowledge the invaluable contributions of the Northern Territory branch executive; Louise Corrigan, Shane Donohue, Jo Glennon, Geoff Perry, Regina Thompson and Julia Walsh. Their unwavering commitment to ACEL, through identifying, celebrating and promoting the exceptional strength of Territory educators is most appreciated. In a year that has required so much from leaders at the local level, the fact that our executive have continued to focus on building and strengthening our network and fraternity is something to be applauded and I feel very privileged to be a part of.

//QLD Branch Report



Dr Deborah Kember  
QLD Branch  
President

*Deb Kember*

**Queensland Awards**

The Queensland Branch has a long tradition of honouring educational leaders who, in the view of their colleagues, have made a significant contribution to the understanding and practices of the teaching profession and educational leadership. Holly O'Sullivan-Williams FACELQ capably led the Awards Committee and navigated the challenges of COVID restrictions. The Awards Celebration went ahead despite many obstacles and we hosted our first ever online awards celebration with about 80 award recipients, friends and family joining us from Doomadgee in the Gulf of Carpentaria, Coen on Cape York to Cunnamulla in the south-west and many locations in between. This year the awards were expanded to recognise pivotal people (middle leaders) as emerging leaders, resulting in 24 awards and 120 recipients.

**University partnerships**

Our work with Queensland University of Technology (QUT) continues to strengthen. Executive members Dr Sandra Nissen and myself participated as guests for a discussion with QUT Masters of Educational leadership students on leading policy change. Norm Hunter and Executive member Liz Foster delivered a guest lecture to University of Queensland (UQ) Masters of Educational Studies students on Leadership in periods of uncertainty, focusing on how leaders manage challenges in schools. We also commenced discussions with QUT about mentoring Masters of Educational Leadership students towards publication in AEL or ACELQ Publications. We continue to sponsor the annual QUT award Excellence in the Master of Education (Leadership and Management) (highest GPA), congratulating Lisa Foster in 2019.

We continued our partnership with the *Science of Learning Research Centre* and the *School of Education* at UQ. Thank you to Dr Stephanie MacMahon and Professor Annemaree Carroll for their enthusiastic support of the project. Thanks also to all the speakers who have contributed their time and wisdom to the partnership. This series went online this year and broadened participation opportunities. Across the year we were joined by speakers Professor Paul Dux, Terry Byers, Troy Ascut and the Coolom State High School leadership team; Professor Jason Mattingley and Imogen Stead, with Ursula Elms, Andrew Landroth and Elizabeth Benson.

**Darling Downs Network**

This year the ACEL Darling Downs Professionals Network provided an opportunity for local educational leaders to meet and participate in a Panel Forum. They welcomed new educators and renewed existing inter-systemic networks and acquaintances. Presenters addressed the theme: Learning from COVID – Learning from Leadership Connections in a Time of Pandemic".

**In conversation**

Queensland Executive members Alexander Mason and Sandra Nissen designed and hosted an online facilitated conversation inspired by the *Statement of Commitment to the Profession of Teaching (2016)*. Initial conversations

focused on maintaining humanity in our leadership and teaching while operating with physical distancing and technology. Participants from across Queensland discussed their reflections on learning leaders who are making a difference through listening deeply, grappling with uncertainty, making best use of protocols to support discussion, noticing when colleagues and demonstrating the necessary attributes of relational leadership.

**Pivotal People**

The Pivotal People Gold Coast group are continuing to meet online. The 2020 theme was about middle leaders and their developing leadership identity. The group considered how do middle leader's knowledge, values, beliefs, attitudes, skills and experiences shape their leadership identity?; How the Science of Learning (education, neuroscience, psychology) can inform (and challenge) practice and leadership identity. In addition, the group discussed straddling the leader/teacher camps and pivotal people as doers, designers or drivers or all three? A further conversation focussed on middle leaders as action researchers learning from other schools about how they have used action research to improve teacher pedagogy. Thank you to educational leaders who have contributed to the conversations as guest speakers and panellists; Andrew Taylor Dr Stephanie MacMahon, Dr Jack Leggett and Dr Peter Grootenboer, Serena Paley and Alexander Mason.

**Thank you**

We are well supported by the Queensland College of Teachers, the Department of Education, Brisbane Catholic Education, Independent Schools Queensland and Queensland universities. Thank you to the organisational leaders: Deanne Fishburn – Director, Queensland College of Teachers (monthly Executive meetings); Toowoomba Catholic Schools Office and Toni Riordan – Principal for supporting the St Aidan's Anglican Girls' School students to perform in our Awards celebration.

We transitioned from the 2017-2020 Branch Executive to the 2020-2023 Branch Executive. Thank you to outgoing Executive members Mark Campling FACEL; Dr Lee-Anne Perry AM FACEL FACE GAICD; Holly O'Sullivan-Williams FACELQ, Martyn Savage FACELQ and Racquel Gibbons MACEL. Thankyou also to Robyn Press MACEL, our Branch Support Officer.

We welcomed our 16<sup>th</sup> President, Karen Fox FACELQ and 2020-2023 Branch Executive members. At our executive change over celebration we shared our thoughts about future directions with ACEL Patron Emeritus Professor Frank Crowther AM FACEL, and recommitted to the spirit of service to the profession, documented in the ACEL Strategic Plan and our *Statement of Commitment to the Profession of Teaching (2016)*.

This year marks the 47th year of ACEL in Queensland (inclusive of the Queensland Institute of Educational Administrators). Thank you to all our Queensland members and supporters who continue their active participation in the ACEL community.





//SA Branch Report



Warren Symonds  
SA Branch  
President

ACEL SA plays a significant role in developing and expanding leaders' knowledge, understanding and advocacy of education and emerging trends in education. I am extremely honoured to present you the ACCEL South Australian Branch annual report. The past year has been an exciting and challenging year due to COVID -19 for South Australia.

The ACCEL members in South Australia have been supported by a small team of very dedicated professionals, and I want to thank the SA Branch Executive: Dale Bennett, Rae Dawkins, Alice Dunlop, Christine Haynes, Bev Rogers, Laura Searle, Rob Sieben, Mark Simpson, for their outstanding work during these very challenging times.

South Australia has a significant depth of education leaders, researchers, highly skilled teachers and innovators. During the 2019 ACCEL annual awards, the following educators were acknowledged and congratulated for their outstanding work in supporting the young people of South Australia.

- **ACEL Gold Medal:** Margo Foster
- **ACEL Fellowship:** Carolyn Grantskalns, Rob Sieben
- **ACEL Leadership Award:** Martin Lippett

Throughout the year, the SA ACCEL branch facilitated various professional learning opportunities, and the two of our hot topics that received outstanding feedback were:

**Cognitive Load**  
An opportunity to hear Cognitive Load Theory explained in layman's terms and to learn how the way we present information in class can impact learning. Dr Brendan Bentley and Robert Sieben facilitated this topic.

**The Future of Education**  
A discussion about the future of South Australian Education through the eyes of the SACE Board. Professor Martin Westwell facilitated this topic.

As part of our recognition of outstanding achievement for South Australian Educators, the Branch Executive launched our 2020 Annual awards, and we received significant nominations from the ACCEL members. I congratulate the following award recipients:

- **The Alby Jones Gold Medal Award:** Simon Murray OAM
- **ACEL Educational Leadership Medal:** Karen Fitzpatrick, Peter Mader, Deb Merrett
- **ACEL (SA) Fellowship Award:** Meredith Edwards
- **The Pip Field Emerging Leaders Award:** Martyn Anderson, Rebecca Baker, Patrick Harmer
- **The ACEL (SA) Distinguished Contribution to Research in Educational Leadership Award:** Associate Professor Mathew White, Emeritus Professor Kay Whitehead
- **The ACEL (SA) Media Award:** Tim Williams (Advertiser), Rob Johnson (SACE Board)

The executive team organised for the annual awards to be held at Government House and had 120 guests invited. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, this event was cancelled and has been re-scheduled to be combined with the 2021 awards ceremony. To acknowledge the awards, each recipient has been featured in our regular newsletter articles showcasing their work and achievement.

Our future plans focus on continuing with our personalised approach and investigate more effective opportunities to engage our educational leaders. COVID-19 has provided us with the opportunity to run our professional learning through ZOOM meetings, and various hybrid approaches and these approaches have received favourable feedback. To continue with our more hands-on skill approach we are investigating, for example: supporting students with Dyslexia, using gestures to improve learning and how to improve video lesson content.

Overall, the past twelve months have been challenging and rewarding. In as much, I would like to acknowledge the outstanding work of the ACCEL SA Branch Executive for the enormous amount of time and effort they have given to supporting our SA members.

//TAS Branch Report



Jacqui Lawless  
TAS Branch  
President

The Tasmanian Branch Executive is a small and dynamic group, dedicated to supporting educators within Tasmania and providing opportunities of Professional Learning and Networking.

Thank you to the 2019 team for their ongoing commitment Cath Apanah, Louise Bender, Jenny Cowling, Tom Dorey, Malcolm Elliot, Lucy Fisher, David Moltow, Eamonn Pollard, Chris Rayner, Steve Barrett and Anne Foale. During the end of 2019, we lost members of the Executive to new professional roles, that made it difficult for them to continue. This also included our President Tamika Grist, who moved interstate to take on an exciting and challenging position. We are indebted to Tamika, Louise, Steve and Jenny for their passion and work for ACCEL and Tasmanian Education.

Branch elections, mid 2020, saw many members of the Executive complete their terms. Many thanks to Lucy Fisher, David Moltow, Tom Dorey and Eamonn Pollard for their years of service. We welcome Sue Walker and Deb Day to the Executive and are looking forward to them sharing their gifts and talents.

The 2020 Academic Year began with a 'Welcome Event' as the Republic. The warm evening was one of expectation. Educational Leaders welcomed the year by sharing their hopes for the year, their leadership challenges and goals. At this time, we were certainly unaware of the uncertainty that would be in store for 2020.

As our ability to provide Professional Learning opportunities changed the expansion by ACCEL of webinars has enabled increased access to quality professional learning for areas of Tasmania. ACCEL's extensive online resource centre has also enabled increased access to quality publications for ACCEL members. These opportunities were embraced by Tasmanian Educators and we are looking forward to this pathway expanding so that our region can continue to access these professional Learning experiences.

Due to favourable conditions in Tasmania, the ACCEL Annual Awards were able to be held in person and continued to grow. Our largest ever Awards Evening was attended by Governor of Tasmania, Her Excellency, Professor the Honourable Kate Warner. Her presence emphasised her commitment to education and educators and also was evidence of the esteem in which the ACCEL Awards are held. Educators from across the state recognised for their passion, innovation and dedication to education and to Educational Leadership. The evening was one of reconnecting with colleagues, networking and sharing ideas and experiences. Many new educators joined us for the Awards Evening and we hope they will continue to support the event. The 'Breakfast with the Minister' also has become an annual event, one that is shared with the Tasmanian Principal Association. The breakfast was once again well attended with the Minister engaging with educational leaders in an honest and open atmosphere.

As we continue to move forward in uncertain times we hope ACCEL Tasmania will continue to create exciting opportunities to ensure the provision of excellent professional learning, focused well researched publications and the opportunity to build links and relationships between Educational Leaders and sectors.





//VIC Branch Report



Coralee Pratt  
VIC Branch  
President

*Coralee Pratt*

Our educational leaders have navigated a very different landscape this year. They have surged and pivoted, adapted and thrived, and have done so with professionalism and optimism.

It has been difficult to lead with clarity and strength when the rate of change is so rapid. However, educators have clearly retained and more often increased the confidence of their community stakeholders. There is a richer understanding of the complexity and high-level professional skills required to teach students of all ages.

2020 has been a challenging year, particularly in Victoria. We started the year facing the destruction caused by relentless bushfires and the uncertain future of our planet due to global warming. Then the Covid-19 pandemic and consequent restrictions impacted education settings. Leaders were challenged to create authentic, remote learning environments, provide equitable access to digital learning tools and support students most vulnerable to disengagement.

Victoria has currently provided remote learning to students longer than any other jurisdiction in the world. To support our educational leaders at all levels to be responsive, adaptive and flexible, ACCEL Victoria quickly pivoted to modify and change many aspects of the Annual Implementation Plan. The delivery mode of many activities was changed or postponed to a later time.

We started by utilising the popular *Q & A Forums* to connect educational leaders and share innovative and responsive thinking.

The first Forum was presented using a web-based video conferencing tool on 29 July entitled *Future Possibilities* and guest panellists included: Adriano Di Prato (Learning designer, educational thought leader); Lauren Sayer (Director Digital Learning, Haileybury); Nathan Chisolm (Principal, Prahran High School); Debbie Dunwoody (Principal, Camberwell Girls Grammar). Focus was on: the mega trends reshaping society, nurturing learning communities through intentional design: the importance of preparing young people for their future empowering them to operate from a position of trust and permission: and the better integration of technology in learning, leveraging micro-credentials for schools and students to transition to university.

The success of this Q & A Forum quickly led to the second: *Dancing in the Rain: Celebrating teacher and leader efficacy*. ("Life isn't about waiting for the storm to pass, it's about learning to dance in the rain"), also delivered remotely. Presenters responded to provocations about what strategies they used to build efficacy, resilience, and community; how they recognised and celebrated the successes and what will change in the future when schools returns to on-site learning? Guests included: Bev May (Principal, Brighton Beach Primary School), Tracey Ezard (Author, Coach, Mentor, Thought Leader); Gerald Houlihan, Deputy Principal at St Michael's Grammar School); Andrea Contessotto (Teacher, Emmaus College).

During 2020 we continued our mission to improve connection with regional and rural members. The increased use of digital connection will further support this endeavour in the future. Reaching out to members through personal invitations is a new strategy which is starting to indicate some positive impact.

The 2020 ACCEL Leadership Conference was scheduled to be held in Melbourne so once the Global Online Leadership Conference was announced, the Branch executive started to support the national office team. This included providing anecdotal quotes from executive members about why value their ACCEL membership to be incorporated into conference promotional material, and recruiting a range of students to participate in the conference, providing their thoughts about the key conference themes before it commenced and then their feedback and reflections after each key presentation. Student voices were highlighted in the daily reflection videos produced by ONIX.

Recognition of excellence is a vital element in honouring and promoting the profession, and the 2020 awardees, announced in September exemplify the ACCEL intent of *inspiring educational leaders*. Congratulations to all 2020 ACCEL Fellowship awardees: Sarah Broster: Sherril Duffy: Dr Rita Ellul: Joseph Favrin: Dr Peter Goss: Gerard Houlihan: Sue Harrop: William Keane: Lauren Sayer: Christopher Reed: Patricia Sweeney. Significant awardees include: Chris Wardlaw (Chair VCAA and Deputy Chair AITSL) who was awarded the *Hedley Beare Educator of the Year*: Dr Amanda Heffernan (Monash University) *Brian Caldwell Research Award* and Virginia Trioli (Journalist, Australian Broadcasting Commission) was awarded the ACCEL Victoria Media Award for accurate, impartial and informative educational reporting. A celebratory event is planned for early 2021 to honour all recipients

This year we farewelled five Victorian Branch executives: Aine Maher, Lauren Sayer and Denis Masseni who had supported the Branch for six years each, and Rita Ellul and Warren McLeod, both were members for three years. We both acknowledge and sincerely thank them for their generosity and dedication to ACCEL. In October we welcomed five new members: Gail Major, David Gurr, Karen Money, Lauren Wood and Fiona Hutton. We are fortunate to have a branch executive with a diverse range of experiences, knowledge, skills and professional connections, that support ACCEL members in so many ways.

There is a beautiful Maori phrase 'Kia Kaha' which translated means 'stay strong'. ACCEL Victoria has remained strong and focused in delivering opportunities and supporting members throughout 2020. Much of this success must be attributed to the dedicated and supportive Branch Executive who are all engaged in challenging full-time positions and yet manage to volunteer many hours to ensuring ACCEL Victoria is a thriving professional association. It is my privilege to work with this team, and we look forward to continually harnessing opportunities and supporting Victorian members in the future.

//WA Branch Report



Sinan Kerimofski  
WA Branch  
President

*Sinan Kerimofski*

Once again I am honoured and excited to present to you the annual report for Western Australian (WA) ACCEL branch. The WA branch executives continue to work hard to provide support, advocacy and quality professional learning for leaders in WA. The Branch continued to be well supported by the Department of Education, Catholic Education Office, Independent Schools WA and various WA Universities. We also continued to increase our customer reach particularly in the regional and remote locations.

As we are all aware 2020 has been a year like no other. I recall the branch executive members planning events with enthusiasm knowing for some it was their final year on the committee. Unfortunately, many of these events didn't take place. Our awards ceremony was scheduled just as COVID-19 took hold of the world in March 2020. This had to be cancelled for the year. Similar to other branches we adapted and hosted an online event and heavily promoted the webinar series coordinated by National Office. As WA had closed its borders to the rest of the country and continues to do so, it has been impossible to source any presenters from outside of WA.

This has however provided the branch with the opportunity to seek and promote local leaders doing great work in their field of expertise.

Titled: Future Leaders...Where am I on my leadership journey? was a teacher leader event hosted in August 2019. The event attracted 54 attendees and was a successful event. The Power of student voice was another Hot Topic event hosted in November 2019. Again this attracted just over 50 attendees. The highlight being the students who attended and presented to the audience. As WA climbed out of a semi lock down we were able to host a Hot Topic focusing on Learning Environments. This event provided a lot of food for thought and rich discussion. Tasmin Drummond and Branch Executive Mathilda Joubert were thanked for their presentations and insights into the benefits of flexible learning spaces. We also appreciated being able to utilise the Professional Learning Institute as a venue once again.

The Branch Executive was divided into the following portfolios with each subcommittee reporting back during branch meetings.;

- Fellows and Awards Committee
- Events Committee
- Advocacy/ Publications/ Publicity Committee

- Digital Communications Committee
- Teacher Leader Committee
- Regional Events

Membership remains stable in WA. As always new members are welcomed and those who have 'forgotten' to renew receive a friendly reminder by the president. The various sub-committees recognise outstanding contributions and support leaders at all stages of their career. The Advocacy and Publications sub-committee actively promote WA writers and media exposure to what ACCEL stands for. We continue to have a very strong Twitter presence thanks to support from an ACCELWA Fellow and now new branch executive, Rachael Lehr who has managed the @acelwa twitter page. The page now has just over 2100 followers an increase of 300 in the past 12 months.

ACCEL WA remains committed to ensuring high quality professional learning, publications and advocacy. State-wide connections with teacher and school leaders is very important to our branch. ACCEL WA is committed to providing excellent, relevant professional learning, focused well researched publications and strong advocacy for the profession.

This year we farewelled a number of branch executives who have completed their tenures as branch executives and thanked them for their commitment to ACCEL WA. Nicole Brown has been one of the longest serving branch executives and has been the branch secretary for a number of years. Her knowledge and input will be sorely missed. I would also like to thank, Matt Osborne, Shelley Forbes, Kristin Humphreys and Dainon Couzic for their contribution to the ACCELWA branch. We warmly welcome new executive members Gary Racey, Olivia Matthews, Merrilee Wright and Rachael Lehr. I'm sure the new branch executive will continue to build on the solid foundations from the outgoing members. I would like to thank the other WA executive team from whom I have had tremendous support from as president; Leonie Clelland, Bruno Pillegi, Mathilda Joubert, Bek Duykers and Natalie Oddy. We also welcome Kylie Day who has been seconded to represent Catholic Education.

I am honoured to lead ACCEL WA and look forward to what we have planned for the next year.





# FINANCE REPORTS

//2019-2020

Profit and Loss Statement for the year ended 30th June 2020  
Balance Sheet as at 30th June 2020



// Finance Reports

Profit and Loss Statement

For the year ended 30th June 2020

Income	2020	2019
Branch Income	\$21,223	\$33,871
Business Development	\$816,786	\$874,397
Professional Learning	\$1,578,398	\$2,753,283
Bookshop and Resources	\$564,254	\$522,228
Conferences and Special Events	\$881,386	\$1,288,303
Interest Received	\$19,413	\$22,463
JobKeeper Subsidy and ATO Cash Flow Boost	\$116,000	\$0
Total Income	\$3,997,460	\$5,494,545
Cost of Sales		
Branch Expense	\$74,954	\$109,923
Business Development	\$191,239	\$258,492
Professional Learning	\$906,273	\$1,815,925
Bookshop and Resources	\$368,768	\$396,395
Conferences and Special Events	\$735,219	\$1,121,731
Total Cost of Sales	\$2,276,453	\$3,702,466
Gross Profit	\$1,721,007	\$1,792,079
Expenses		
Administration	\$410,179	\$513,492
Salaries and Wages	\$1,093,072	\$1,034,437
Superannuation	\$104,252	\$97,268
Total Expenses	\$1,607,503	\$1,645,197
Net Profit	\$113,504	\$146,882
Retained Profit at the Beginning of the Financial Year	\$2,508,209	\$2,361,327
Retained Profit at the End of the Financial Year	\$2,621,713	\$2,508,209

Balance Sheet

As at 30th June 2020

Assets	2020	2019
Current Assets		
Cash	\$1,577,979	\$1,716,319
Receivables	\$65,009	\$288,753
Prepayments	\$191,320	\$568,311
Total Current Assets	\$1,834,308	\$2,573,383
Non Current Assets		
Property Plant and Equipment	\$1,776,117	\$1,796,171
Total Non Current Assets	\$1,776,117	\$1,796,171
Total Assets	\$3,610,425	\$4,369,554
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts Payable and Other Payables	\$102,645	\$629,960
Provision for Employee Benefits	\$103,942	\$54,065
Other Liabilites	\$746,430	\$1,130,410
Total Current Liabilities	\$953,017	\$1,814,435
Non Current Liabilities		
Employee Provisions	\$35,695	\$46,910
Total Non Current Liabilities	\$35,695	\$46,910
Total Liabilities	\$988,712	\$1,861,345
Net Assets	\$2,621,713	\$2,508,209
Equity		
Retained Surplus	\$2,621,713	\$2,508,209
Total Equity	\$2,621,713	\$2,508,209

The Financial Report for FY 2019-20, including the Auditor’s report is presented to the AGM as a seperate document







The Australian Council for Educational Leaders (ACEL) is a not-for-profit company that actively supports the development of educational leadership capabilities across Australia through conferences and workshops, leadership programs, in-house publications, online resources, and a bookshop. Access to these leadership-focused opportunities is available for classroom teachers through to system leaders.

ACEL is the largest professional association in the education sector in Australia and the wider Asia-Pacific region.

#### Our Purpose:

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







## ANNUAL REPORT 2019-2020

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

The ACCEL 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.

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### Australian Council for Educational Leaders

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