

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

The Annual General Meeting was held at 5.30pm, Thursday 27 September 2018 in Room 309, North Metropolitan TAFE (Building 2), 30 Aberdeen Street, Northbridge, W.A.

- Present:** Denise Ferris (Chair) (ANU), Kit Wise (Deputy Chair) (RMIT), Shane Hulbert (Treasurer) (RMIT), Charles Robb (Secretary) (QUT), Simon Biggs (UniSA), Marie Sierra (UNSW), Bruce Slatter (Curtin), Danny Butt (VCA), Paul Uhlmann (ECU)
- Apologies:** Sarah Pirrie (CDU)
- In attendance:** Shanti Shea An (EO)

The Chair, Denise Ferris, welcomed those attending to the meeting.

1. Minutes of 2017 AGM

The Minutes were accepted without alteration as an accurate record of proceedings.

Moved: Bruce Slatter

Seconded: Charles Robb

2. Chair's Report

Over the past twelve months ACUADS has strengthened our initiatives whilst continuing to provide support to professional education, research and community service in art, craft and design in the higher education sector. This has been my second year as Chair and though this year seems to have rapidly disappeared, I'm delighted to share the Chair's Report with you. I thank the ACUADS Executive who are a generous and collegiate team. The Executive Officer allows ACUADS to function while the Executive manage their day jobs. Thank you to the current EO Shanti Shea An and our past EO Annika Harding.

ACUADS Awards

In 2018 the Executive continued awards, accompanied by \$500 payment, for outstanding staff in the art and design sector. Through these awards, ACUADS has supported evolutions in teaching and learning, recognised longstanding achievements and acknowledged significant contributions made by distinguished academics in the sector.

The Executive are intent on retaining an evaluative process for the awards, nevertheless a process where there is always discretion for additional awards where merit is made clear. In 2018, for example, we received an extremely high calibre of nominations for the category of Innovative Teaching and the Executive exercised their discretion, awarding three winners in this

category. The Executive continue to support multiple awards where a solid case is made against the selection criteria.

In future rounds, we particularly encourage everyone to identify potential nominations in the categories of Innovative Research, Lifelong Fellowship and International Fellowship (information on website).

Serving the Sector

Quick Small Grants

This past year, ACUADS has undertaken two grant rounds and has awarded five grants for initiatives of national significance and relevance to the art and design education sector. These grants are worth up to \$5000. In the Round 2 2017, ACUADS funded projects by academics at the University of Wollongong (“Teaching Climate Change in Art & Design”, Material Ecologies Research Network (MECO); the Australian National University (“Digital Arts Symposium: The Past, Present and Future of Digital Art in a Gallery context”), and Swinburne University (“Imbuing Designerly Learning to Future Proof Graduate Attributes”). In Round 1 2018, ACUADS funded a collaborative project between UNSW Art & Design, Artspace and the Housing for Health Incubator at the University of Sydney (‘Infrastructures of Inequality’), and a project by academics at RMIT (‘Grow Shepp: developing a community engagement model for design studios’).

More information on the initiative, and projects funded thus far, is available here:

<http://acuads.com.au/awards/acuads-sector-support/> and here:

<http://acuads.com.au/awards/grant-recipients/>

Grant applications are diverse, which is what you would hope for in the range of disciplines in ACUADS. However, it seems to be more difficult for applicants to ensure they meet the standards for ‘national relevance’, and not just local or institutional. This impact for all stakeholders does matter if we are to retain the importance of national information exchange.

Postgraduate Awards

In 2018 ACUADS continued to support Postgraduate attendance at our annual Conference via \$500 bursaries towards registration, accommodation and travel costs. Congratulations to Bridgette Minuzzo, UniSA; Jane Connory, Monash; and Stephen Banham, RMIT, who were each named a 2018 ACUADS Postgraduate Scholar.

Design: fostering relationships with design disciplines

We were especially successful in attracting colleagues from Design disciplines to our previous conference. We would like to continue to include relevant design disciplines in the annual conference and associated initiatives.

Advocacy and engagement

In 2018 ACUADS has contributed to ongoing conversations regarding tertiary art and design education within the sector. We submitted a DDCA NiTRO article reflecting on the 2017

ACUADS Conference which examined the theme of 'Value' within art and design education and research around Australia. This article was published in March 2018 in edition no. 12. Major points included

- Keynote speaker Anthea Callen asking, 'What does 'value' actually mean?' exploring how our notions of value are influenced by power, and reflect and construct normative models of worth.
- In her keynote address, T'ai Smith drove home the point that art's value is qualitative, in contrast to economic constructions of value.
- Sessions examining value in art education within the broader university setting, the broadly applicable value of design thinking, and the value that can be found in interdisciplinary research and teaching projects.
- Roundtable discussions, one focused on design, and one on visual art, also discussed the value of interdisciplinary collaboration and research.
- In his provocative closing address, Scott Brook argued that in our sector we are willing to forego financial security and other comforts because of the many kinds of value we see in what we do, and the opportunity to create value in our lives and our world.
- 2018 ERA submission time: our 'public / official' value as individual institutions is determined in the ARC's ERA measurement of research performance by a single number. That number stands, representing us as institutions to our universities, the funding sector and government. We still need to ensure that the criteria determining that value encompass the breadth of what we value as a sector — that should be an aim of ACUADS in 2019.

The Melbourne Meeting

The Executive had an extended meeting (unusually face to face) in Melbourne on March 23rd this year. The idea of that meeting was to enable extended conversations about a range of important issues in the tertiary sector. Information sharing on accreditation, workloads, identifying Excellence (ERA) etc.

Internationalisation

ACUADS has begun a process of joining with other organisations internationally. We have reciprocal membership now with the International Council of Fine Arts Deans (ICFADS). Their 2018 conference begins in Seattle in October, for your calendar their next is in Austin, Texas in October 2019. We are also exploring the UK Council for Higher Education in Art & Design (CHEAD).

Looking Ahead

In July 2018, we bid farewell to Annika Harding, with thanks for her hard work as ACUADS Executive Officer. We welcomed Shanti Shea An into this role, a role that allows ACUADS to

function and the various tasks managed. Shanti is a current Masters Student at ANU and practicing artist.

To the year ahead - we will be focusing on how to gain greater capacity through the Executive, and progress our agenda.

The differences in small and large Art & Design institutions is becoming increasingly clear as well, with mixed and hybrid faculties struggling to define their discrete disciplines but also at times thriving in a larger context.

Examiner Database

After the 2015 ACUADS Annual Conference, the wonderful Research Examination Database was established. We are now progressing the interface of this online tool so that individual entries can be edited and information can be continually up to date without utilising ACUADS resources. The form of the information is also be evaluated to ensure it is easy to access the categories — area of expertise, research specialisation, experience and availability.

Conference 2019

Discussions and preliminary planning have already begun for the 2019 Conference, which is to be held in Melbourne at this stage but as I write needs consensus. The Executive are always investigating, within our limited voluntary capacities, possibilities for extending ACUADS's role as an advocate for art and design education.

Denise Ferris

24th September, 2018

3. Independent Audit Report and Certificate by Member of Committee

The auditor's report was accepted by the membership and the Certificate by Member of the Committee was signed by Marie Sierra.

Moved: Denise Ferris

Seconded: Kit Wise

4. Annual Subscription

In 2018, in keeping with the two previous AGMs, we propose to maintain membership fees as presented:

- Under 250 EFTSL: \$938
- Under 1000 EFTSL: \$1,327
- Over 1000 EFTSL: \$1,565
- Two memberships: \$3,130
- Affiliate (non-voting) (30% of the "Under 250 EFTSL" rate): \$281

- Individual membership: \$100

The meeting agreed that the Membership fees be maintained.

Moved: Simon Biggs

Seconded: Charles Robb

Matters Arising: Review membership fees at next meeting. Discuss further, particularly the fee for 'two memberships', should this be maintained?

5. Appointment of the Auditor

The meeting agreed to reappoint the current Auditor, Rod Hutton of McLean Delmo Bentleys.

Moved: Kit Wise

Seconded: Marie Sierra

6. Election of Executive

The Executive Officer was appointed as a Returning Officer. There were five vacancies on the Executive and six nominations. Ballot papers were distributed to present members and the following were voted onto the Executive:

Lyndall Adams (ECU)

Denise Ferris (ANU)

Charles Robb (QUT)

Marie Sierra (UNSW)

Bruce Slatter (Curtin)

Kit Wise co-opted as Conference Convenor (RMIT)

7. 2019 Conference Venue: Melbourne (TBC)

Co-option of Conference Convenor: Kit Wise

8. Any other business

The Executive Committee immediately convened to elect Office Bearers. These roles were continued, including:

Denise Ferris (Chair)

Kit Wise (Deputy Chair and co-opted member)

Charles Robb (Secretary)

Shane Hulbert (Treasurer)