



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

The Annual General Meeting was held at 1.00pm, Friday 1 November 2019, Kaleide Theatre, Building 8, 360 Swanston Street, RMIT University, City Campus, Melbourne.

Present:	Denise Ferris (Chair), Australian National University Kit Wise (Deputy Chair), RMIT University Charles Robb (Secretary), Queensland University of Technology Lyndall Adams, Edith Cowan University Simon Biggs, University of South Australia Susanna Castleden, Curtin University Grant Ellmers, University of Wollongong Jane Gavan, Sydney College of the Arts (University of Sydney) Jacqueline Gothe, University of Technology Sydney Neal Haslem, RMIT University Meghan Kelly, Deakin University Veronika Kelly, University of South Australia Andrew Lavery, Sydney College of the Arts (University of Sydney) Louise Mayhew, Griffith University Sarah Pirrie, Charles Darwin University Marie Sierra, University of New South Wales Bruce Slatter, Curtin University Myra Thiessen, University of South Australia Kate Tregloan, University of Melbourne
Apologies:	Shane Hulbert (Treasurer), RMIT University
In attendance:	Shanti Shea An (Executive Officer, ACUADS)

1. Minutes of 2018 AGM

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

Moved: Charles Robb Seconded: Kit Wise

2. Chair's Report

The past twelve months have been an exciting period for ACUADS, as we continue to strengthen our sector support initiatives and advocate for the tertiary art and design sector. This will be my third year in the position of Chair and I am delighted to share the 2019 Chair's Report with you.

ACUADS Awards

In 2019, ACUADS has continued to offer awards to recognize the outstanding work which is done in the art and design sector, recognizing teaching and research excellence.

This year, there were five award recipients who are being recognized for their outstanding commitment to innovative teaching and research. In 2019, we also have the pleasure of awarding a Lifelong Fellowship Award. This year's award recipients are as follows:

- Innovative Teaching Award: Dr Kelly Hussey-Smith, RMIT
- Innovative Teaching Award: Dr Thomas Penney, RMIT
- Innovative Teaching Award: Dr Kate Warren, ANU
- Innovative Research Award: Dr Erica Seccombe, ANU
- Lifelong Fellowship Award: Professor Clive Barstow, ECU

These recipients have been awarded an ACUADS pin, a citation, accompanied by a \$500 payment. In future years, we continue to encourage all Heads of School to nominate staff that have demonstrated achievements in the area of teaching, research and practice.

Serving the Sector

Quick Small Grants

Since beginning this initiative in October 2015, ACUADS has now undertaken eight grant rounds. Up to five grants, each worth a maximum of \$5000, is available each year. We have continued to offer two rounds of funding each year to support initiatives of national significance and relevance to the art and design education sector.

This past year, ACUADS has funded projects by academics at RMIT University [(ARC Masterclasses for Australian university art and design schools) and (Past, present and emerging design histories: an archival digital network)], the Australian National University (Developing guidelines for peer review in the tertiary art and design sector), as well as a collaborative project between academics at the Queensland University of Technology and RMIT (Establishing an Australian and New Zealand Industrial Designers Educators Network).

As we noted in 2018, grant applicants often struggle to demonstrate how projects will meet the standards for 'national relevance'. The Executive maintains that this an important criterion, to ensure that the impact of these funded projects is substantial and meaningful for not only our member institutions but also the tertiary art and design sector at large.

Round 2 of 2019 grant funding is open until Monday 4 November. For a list of previous grant recipients and for details about how to apply for a Quick Small Grant, please visit our website:

Grants information: <https://acuads.com.au/awards/acuads-sector-support/>

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

Postgraduate Bursaries for Interstate Travel

This year we renamed the *Postgraduate Award* to the *Postgraduate Bursary for Interstate Travel*. These bursaries support postgraduate attendance at the annual conference and aim to assist with interstate or long-distance travel. A payment of \$500 is awarded and may be used towards travel costs, registration, and/or accommodation.

Congratulations to our three 2019 bursary recipients: Yusuf Hayat (University of South Australia), Bronwyn Bailey-Charteris (University of New South Wales), and Laura Mitchell (Edith Cowan University).

Advocacy and engagement

In 2019, ACUADS has contributed to constructive and instrumental dialogue around the Australian and New Zealand Standard Research Classification (ANZSRC). ACUADS made an official submission in response to the review, recommending a restructuring of the current Field of Research codes (FoR), the inclusion of curatorial activity as central to art and design research, and the inclusion of specific FoR codes to record indigenous knowledge and research. This submission was developed in close discussion with the DDCA and ACUADS committee members.

ACUADS made a submission to the Department of Education on the 2020 Higher Education Research Data Collection (HERDC). The Dept invited feedback to 2020 *Draft Specifications for the collection of 2019 data*. The Specifications provide guidance to higher education providers on their annual reporting requirements for research and development income. The department released the draft on 2nd October for feedback by 23rd October and we heard about the invitation through an individual institution.

Research Examiner Database

The Research Examiner Database was originally launched in 2016, in response to discussions around examination at the 2015 ACUADS Conference. This is an online tool for art and design staff and students seeking potential examiners, in the form of an online document accessible via our website. In

2018, we decided that the interface of this online tool needed to be updated to allow for users to update their information in an accessible way. In 2019, we released a new version of the database which is now live on our website: examinerdatabase.acuads.com.au.

We are encouraging all users to view and update their profile if they have not yet already. If you don't currently have a profile, you are welcome to create one for yourself by following the 'Create Profile' link. As this is a recently updated interface, we welcome any feedback to help us to continue to grow the database and ensure that it is a useful and relevant tool for students and staff looking for examiners going forward into the future.

Fostering international connections

This year we have been developing our connection with international organizations such as the International Council of Fine Arts Deans (ICFADS), the Council for Higher Education in Art & Design in the UK (CHEAD) as well as engaging with the International Association of Universities and Colleges of Art, Design and Media (Cumulus).

We are keen to continue fostering these relationships and international affiliations in 2020, with the aim of establishing an inter-organizational conversation around policy, research and advocacy across the tertiary art and design sector more broadly.

Looking Ahead

Discussions for the 2020 Conference have already commenced, Sydney and at this stage three institutions will share the conference with possibly a fourth joining. We look forward to sharing conference topic and news as planning progresses. From early 2020 we will make an effort to extend invitations to regional institutions to discuss the possibilities for 2021 conference on a regional campus.

Challenges and thoughts on initiatives for ACUADS

- The necessity of advocacy i.e. the need for a National Cultural Policy, but resourcing the means: time and funding to advocate and mobilise in the sector.
- Continuing membership and ACUADS relevance – expanded activities are limited by the funding base and the resources of Executive specifically Chair and EO.
- A structure for the Executive to share their HE knowledge with each other, face to face aka Melbourne meeting. Additional Executive face to face meetings are advantageous and progress ACUADS agendas but require additional resourcing
- Could articles for NiTRO be elicited routinely from ACUADS Executive and members on a rotating schedule?
- Considering the structural changes within universities we note that the various levels of power at universities may not necessarily be representatives from the cultural sector. How do we support members, faculties, schools, heads, convenors to facilitate advocacy through those not in our sector.
- How to best manage ACUADS resources, including the future accessibility of the archive, which may support future research using the historical knowledge ACUADS archive holds.

Denise Ferris
1st November 2019

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 Bruce Slatter.

Moved: Kit Wise

Seconded: Marie Sierra

4. Annual Subscription

In 2019, the Executive Committee proposed a new fee schedule:

- Under 1000 EFTSL: \$1,100
- Over 1000 EFTSL: \$1,800
- Affiliate (non-voting): 30% of 'Under 1000 EFTSL' fee = \$330
- Individual membership: \$100

The meeting agreed that the Membership fees be adjusted as presented.

Moved: Lyndall Adams Seconded: Sarah Pirrie

6. Appointment of the Auditor

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

Moved: Marie Sierra Seconded: Kit Wise

7. Election of Executive

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

- Sarah Pirrie (CDU)
- Veronika Kelly (UniSA)
- Laurene Vaughan (RMIT)

9. 2020 Conference Venue

It was proposed that the 2020 Conference be held in Sydney. The co-option of a conference convenor has been deferred and will be confirmed at a later date.

8. Other business

The Executive convened immediately to elect Office Bearers. The Chair, Deputy Chair, and Secretary roles were maintained, and Marie Sierra was elected Treasurer:

- Denise Ferris (Chair)
- Kit Wise (Deputy Chair)
- Charles Robb (Secretary)
- Marie Sierra (Treasurer)

Motion: A vote of thanks to Simon Biggs

Moved: Denise Ferris thanked Simon Biggs for his contribution to the Executive since being appointed in 2015.

Seconded: Marie Sierra

Motion carried

Motion: A vote of thanks to Shane Hulbert

Moved: Denise Ferris thanked Shane Hulbert for his contribution to the Executive since being appointed in 2013 and noted that he will be staying involved as ACUADS' Public Officer.

Seconded: Kit Wise

Motion carried