



ANNUAL REPORT

JULY 2005-JUNE 2006

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REPORT FROM THE PRESIDENT

The Society has again had a very successful year in 2005/6. We continue to make our mark in the field of evaluation in Australia and New Zealand through developing evaluation capacity and promoting high quality, ethical evaluation practice.

The Society maintains a strong and secure financial position through diversified sources of income so that memberships, professional development workshops and the annual conference each make a substantial annual contribution to income. I would like to thank the members of the Executive, in particular, the previous Treasurer, Craig Trimble, and the current Treasurer, Graham Smith, for working diligently to ensure the Society's finances are well administered during this year.

There have been further developments in the governance of the Society this year. The Society has reaffirmed its legal structure as an incorporated association in the Australian Capital Territory and its tax-exempt status. A review of the constitution was conducted under the guidance of the Vice President, Jenny Neale, and a revised constitution is before members at the 2006 Annual General Meeting. The Board is also planning a review of its structure in the coming year as well as the development of a formal policy on workshops.

Regional workshops form a key element of the Society's professional development program. In 2005/6, a total of 10 workshops were conducted in Australia and New Zealand, attracting over 180 participants. The inaugural professional development workshop series concluded with a total of three more workshops by John Owen on evaluating policy, resulting in a total of six workshops in the series attracting 129 participants including 39 new members. Based on this success, the Society embarked on a similar workshop series conducted by Jessica Dart in the second half of 2006, which is proving to be equally successful.

The high quality of the Society's professional development activities is one of the reasons we have attracted over 174 new members in 2005/6, resulting in a net growth of nearly 5%. The Society's membership of 765 is the highest it has been in the past 7 years. Many of these new members have joined under the policy of providing non-members who register for a workshop or the conference with a year's membership. This has attracted over 250 new members since 2002.

A look at the regional pages in this annual report shows the wide range of activities conducted in 2005/6. I would like to thank the members of the regional committees for the hard work they have put in this past year and encourage them to continue to contribute at the regional level. I also extend an invitation to all members to join the committee in your region and participate in its activities.

The Society has maintained a central role in evaluation internationally through our continuing membership of the International Organisation for Cooperation in Evaluation (IOCE) and Penny Hawkins, Chair of the International Relations committee, being an IOCE Board member. The future role of the IOCE and our involvement will be clarified at sessions being held at the 2006 conference in Darwin.

The 2005 annual conference in Brisbane attracted a wide range of people interested in the field of evaluation and provided high quality presentations and workshops as well as an excellent opportunity to network. It was particularly pleasing to induct at the conference dinner a founding member of the AES, Dr Darrel Caulley, as the ninth Fellow of the Society. The conference received very positive feedback from participants and contributed a substantial surplus of almost \$30,000. The Darwin conference is set to continue this success and thanks to Jenny Young and the other members of the conference committee for their hard work.

I would like to thank Judy Pearce and the other staff at Expert Conferences for the excellent support they provide and the very professional manner in which they deal with the constant demands of running the administration of the Society.

Finally, I am very grateful to all members of the Executive and Board for their commitment of time and effort to the Society. Thanks are also due to the Chairs and members of Standing Committees who have contributed to the Society's achievements this year.



THE AUSTRALASIAN EVALUATION SOCIETY

The Australasian Evaluation Society is a professional organisation for people involved in evaluation. The AES has over 750 members involved in all aspects of evaluation and performance measurement. Members include evaluation practitioners, managers, teachers and students from all levels of government, educational institutions, research agencies, community organisations, businesses and interested individuals. Members meet regularly through Regional Groups centred in major cities in Australia and New Zealand.

A board of management provides overall governance, elected annually from the membership with representation from all regional groups. The AES is an Incorporated Association, supported by a Secretariat based in Canberra.

AIMS

The Society aims to improve the theory, practice and use of evaluation through:

- establishing and promoting ethics and standards in evaluation practice
- providing a forum for the discussion of ideas including society publications, seminars and conferences
- linking members who have similar evaluation interests
- providing education and training in matters related to evaluation
- recognising outstanding contributions to the theory and/or practice of evaluation
- acting as an advocate for evaluation in Australasia, and
- other activities consistent with the aims.

MEMBERS' BENEFITS

- Recognition and support - belonging to the premier professional evaluation organisation in Australia and New Zealand, with a network of over 700 practitioners involved in all aspects of evaluation and performance measurement.
- Professional development - keeping up-to-date through publications, seminars, workshops and conferences.
- Networking - making contacts with colleagues in evaluation by joining in regional group meetings for training, networking and discussion of current issues.
- Publications - receive AES publications including the *Evaluation Journal of Australasia*, the annual *Directory of Members* and the *Guidelines for the Ethical Conduct of Evaluations*.
- Awards - members can submit entries for the prestigious AES awards.
- International Evaluation Conferences - stay in touch with the latest trends and issues through the AES's annual conferences.
- Learn from the experts - leading local and international evaluators are involved in conferences and in special events in the regions.
- International links - be part of an international network of evaluation societies.

Further details about AES Membership can be found on our Web site at <http://www.aes.asn.au/>

A membership form is available <http://www.aes.asn.au/membership/>

OUR VISION

To be acknowledged as the primary organisation in Australasia providing services to those involved in evaluation (whether as practitioners of evaluation, users and sponsors of evaluation, or educators and trainers of evaluators) through

- being the leading source of information, advice, contacts and networks concerning evaluation theory, practice and use
- promoting evaluation and the interests of those involved in evaluation to the wider community.

OBJECTIVES

Objective 1:

to be the major **authority** on, and principal advocate for, evaluation in the Society's sphere of influence

Objective 2:

evaluation knowledge, skills, and values are exchanged between practitioners, organisations and evaluation societies

Objective 3:

links between evaluation interests are established and used by practitioners

Objective 4:

professionalism in the practice of evaluation is accepted by organisations, practitioners and societies

Objective 5:

membership of the Society is optimised to meet the society's aims

Objective 6:

management of the Society's affairs is conducted efficiently and cost effectively

PRIORITY AREAS FOR 2005-2006

- Indigenous Evaluation
- Working Effectively with Regions
- Governance of the Society, particularly financial prudence
- Improving Members Services

2005-06 KEY OBJECTIVES & STRATEGIES

Objective 1: to be the major authority on, and principal advocate for, evaluation in the Society's sphere of influence

Strategy	Activity	Timeline	Responsibility
1. Recognition internationally and in Australasia as the main professional body for evaluation in Australasia	Involvement in international partnership of evaluation organisations	Ongoing	Executive/Board
	Responding to and initiating contacts with other professional organisations, government agencies, private organisations etc	Ongoing	Executive/Board
	Promoting the Society to relevant organisations	Ongoing	Executive/Board
2. Referral Base for evaluation expertise	Maintenance and expansion of data base of consultants	Ongoing	Executive/Administrator

Objective 2: evaluation knowledge, skills, and values are exchanged between practitioners, organisations and evaluation societies

Strategy	Activity	Timeline	Responsibility
1. Conduct professional development activities to facilitate interchange of evaluation knowledge	Provide a series of workshops in regions	On going	Board
	Sponsor and organise Annual International Conference	September 2006	Chair and Planning Committee
	Approve business plan for next year's conference.	September 2006	Board
	Organise and promote regional seminars and meetings and other activities	Ongoing	Regional Groups
	Send <i>E-News</i> to members and put on the society's web site	Quarterly	E-news Editor
2. Produce publications and use electronic communication to disseminate evaluation information	Publish <i>Evaluation Journal of Australasia</i> twice yearly	June 2006, December 2006	Chair Publications Committee, EJA Editor/s
3. Identify and support appropriate strategic initiatives	Create a Strategic Initiatives position on the Board/Executive	Ongoing	Executive

KEY OBJECTIVES AND STRATEGIES**Objective 3: links between evaluation interests are established and used by practitioners**

Strategy	Activity	Timeline	Responsibility
1. Provide opportunities for networking at local, regional, national and international levels	Prepare and publish Directory of Members	April 2006	Admin/Executive
	Development and maintenance of AES website	Ongoing	Admin/Publications Committee
	Identify and conduct joint activities with other professional bodies eg. IPAA, academia, other evaluation societies	Ongoing	Board/Regional Committees
	Facilitate linkages with international evaluation organisations and activities – web site, publications, joint memberships, international partnerships of evaluation organisations, IOCE (International Organisation for Cooperation in Evaluation)	Ongoing	Executive, Admin, Publications
	Encourage networking at regional levels (see earlier comments about inclusion of regional roles)	Ongoing	Regional Groups
	Sponsor and promote visits by international speakers	Ongoing	Conference Planning Committees, Regional Groups, Executive

Objective 4: professionalism in the practice of evaluation is accepted by organisations, practitioners and societies

Strategy	Activity	Timeline	Responsibility
1. Recognise outstanding contributions to the theory and/or practice of evaluation	Promote, administer and recommend annual awards by the AES	June 2006	Awards Committee
	Appointment of Fellows	June 2006	Exec/Board
2. Promote ethical conduct in the practice of evaluation	Promoting awareness and encouraging discussions	Ongoing	Ethics Committee and Regional Groups
3. Development and promotion of standards for the society	Explore the development of AES Standards	On-hold	Ethics Committee/Board
4. Identify and promote development of evaluation competencies	Development competencies self-assessment tool	On-hold	Exec/Board

Objective 5: membership of the Society is optimised to meet the society's objectives

Strategy	Activity	Timeline	Responsibility
1. Determine and implement best ways of optimising membership	Enhance and expand services to members		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Identify, arrange and promote membership benefits. ▪ Maintain accessible database of consultants ▪ Electronic advertising of regional activities 	Ongoing Ongoing Ongoing	Admin/Exec and Regional groups Admin Admin/Regional Reps
	Use of web site to attract enquiries about AES	Ongoing	Admin/Publications Committee
	Identify departments, agencies and organisations which may be interested in AES membership including Public Sector (Local Government/ State /Commonwealth) and Universities and professional organisations and target them	Ongoing	Regional groups/Executive
	Follow – up lapsed members.	Ongoing	Admin/Regional reps.
2. Engender and sustain interest in current and potential regions	Visits to potential regions, lapsed regions	Ongoing	Board/Members

KEY OBJECTIVES AND STRATEGIES**Objective 6: management of the Society's affairs is conducted efficiently and cost effectively**

Strategy	Activity	Timeline	Responsibility
1. Foster the efficient management of the AES	Maintain Board manual on AES website	Ongoing	Executive/Admin
	Finalise Business Plan for current year	December 2005	Board
	Develop Draft Business Plan for next year	June 2006	Executive
2. Develop and maintain efficient membership support systems	Prepare and publish Annual Report	August 2006	Admin/Exec
3. Provide efficient and effective administration and support services to the Society, the Board and its Committees	Oversee the administration of the AES Office and fulfil annual reporting requirements	Ongoing	President/Secretary
	Organise and produce minutes of the AGM, Executive and Board meetings	Ongoing	Secretary/Admin
	Ensure meetings of Executive and Board are conducted in Accordance with the Incorporation Act	Ongoing	Secretary
	Conduct annual election of office bearers	July/August 2006	Secretary/Returning Officer
	Maintain accurate accounts & quarterly BAS statements	Ongoing	Treasurer/ Admin
	Oversee preparation of financial statements for financial year	July 2006	Treasurer/ Admin
	Oversee conduct of audit	July 2006	Treasurer
4. Review constitution	Prepare accurate income and expenditure, regional and committee reports for each Board Meeting	Ongoing	Treasurer / Admin
	Identify and propose recommended changes for AGM	July 2006	Board/Exec
5. Review and improve the governance arrangements	Maintain risk management plan	Ongoing	Board/Exec
	Review legal structure	Ongoing	Executive

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES & REGIONS

AWARDS

Awards Review

Under the leadership of Professor Peter Bycroft the committee has been undertaking a review of the Awards processes and protocols with a view to establishing a standard set of guidelines summarising the current agreed/approved Awards practices and protocols. This is expected to be completed by December 2006. As part of that review, the Committee is addressing the current positioning and the promotion of the Awards in the Evaluation Community; taking a broader view of AES' role in the "industry" apropos the possible competing professional associations, their awards and their market position; and examining the need for a more comprehensive communications strategy which will take the Awards beyond the AES' existing membership and into the wider evaluation industry.

Committee members remain of the opinion that the Awards are significant peer recognition of evaluation practice yet, they often do not attract sufficient nominations – in both quantity and quality.

Committee:

Chair: Peter Bycroft

Other Members: Paul Chesterton, Prue Oxley and Zita Unger

ETHICS & STANDARDS

Committee:

Chair: David Turner

Other Members: Alan Woodward, Bron McDonald, John Alder

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

The International Relations activities for 2005 have been focussed in two main areas: the AES/IOCE relationship and the identification and engagement of international speakers for the 2006 conference. The AES is a major player in the development of the IOCE along with the two other longest established evaluation associations, the AEA and the CES.

- International speakers engaged for Darwin conference.
- IOCE session held at joint AEA-CES international conference in Toronto in October 2005.
- Assistance given to several groups to gain IOCE membership.
- Mini-IPDET course arranged to run back-to-back with the Darwin conference.
- Session organised at the Darwin conference in September 2006, involving international IOCE speakers/facilitators.
- AES link included in IOCE website and AES conference promoted at international meetings/events.

Planning for 2006-7

- Explore the potential for an AES scholarship scheme, including the idea of sponsorship for evaluators from developing countries to attend the annual AES conference.
- Investigate further the ways in which AES members can contribute to the activities of other IOCE member associations.
- Develop a proposal for an international session at the 2007 Melbourne conference.
- Assist with the identification and engagement of international speakers for the 2007 Melbourne conference.

Committee:

Chair: Penny Hawkins.

Committee members: John Owen, Jessica Dart, Ganesh Ruaniyar.

PUBLICATIONS

The Committee oversaw the production of the *Evaluation Journal of Australasia*, the production of E-News, a review of the Society's website, and the involvement of Society Fellows in the Journal review processes.

- E-News quarterly publication has been disseminated to members during the past year, and the extent of material included has been increased.
- *Evaluation Journal of Australasia* has been published during the last year, including vol 5#1 and vol 5#2. Editorial modifications to format of journal were made. There was increased interest from overseas contributors.
- The website has been extensively revised and updated, and is now able up-dated by by AES Administrator. Professional activities are posted on the entry page of the site and updated regularly.
- Contacts with overseas evaluation societies were extended. A one-off arrangement with *Evaluation* enabled AES members to subscribe electronically. The Committee is pursuing the possibilities of an online journal through a professional publications house.

Key Initiatives:

A catch up for journal editions will be achieved by the end of 2006. Conference papers seen as a rich source of articles for journal.

Future Directions:

Use of website for subscriptions to be achieved by mid 2007.

Committee:

Chair: John Owen

Committee Members: Bob Williams, Ros Hurworth, Delwyn Goodrick, Brad Shrimpton, Rick Cummings

AES REGIONS**Auckland**

In June 2006, the Auckland Evaluation Group (AEG) accepted an invitation from Aotearoa New Zealand Evaluation Association (ANZEA) to become a formal branch of ANZEA and advised AES that it would cease operations from 30 June 2006.

The executive is currently working through a process to consult the Auckland AES members as a group to establish how they would wish to be represented on the AES in terms of the structure of a regional group and membership on the Board.

No report was provided on Auckland activities during 2005-2006.

Canberra Region

In Canberra, the market for brief professional presentations is met well by the Canberra Evaluation Forum, which attracts larger numbers to its monthly meetings than the AES can do. So the committee continued to focus on meeting the needs of the more full-time evaluator community through user-pays workshops and unstructured meetings. In addition the committee:

- Contacted Senior Executives in major Commonwealth Departments to identify learning needs and promote the AES: DEWR; FaCSIA; Defence; DCITYA; ACT Auditor-General.

- Gave a presentation to the Canberra Evaluation Forum on the Brisbane Conference.

Workshops and seminars held during the year were

- Robert Lake: *Writing Reports that get read: Telling and selling the evaluation story* (workshop) 24 participants.
- Paul Chesterton: *Introduction to Evaluation* (workshop) 17 participants.
- John Owen: *Evaluation in the Pub* (seminar) 11 participants

Committee:

Regional Representative: David Roberts.

Committee members: Graham Smith (Treasurer), Rosemary James, Margaret McDonald, Tulip Penney, Susan Garner.

Planning for 2005-2006:

The ACT region has plans for a rolling series of workshops over a two year cycle including introductory workshops, qualitative skills, quantitative skills & reporting skills.

We have also worked with the Department of Family and Community Services and Indigenous Affairs to develop evaluation skills within that Department. Two cohorts of 20 people each will undertake a series of 4-5 workshops developing a range of skills. Each participant will become a member of the AES (if they are not already members).

A workshop with Ros Hurworth on *Qualitative Skills in Evaluation* is planned for July 2006.

New South Wales

The NSW Regional Group meets in Sydney to share ideas and discuss different aspects of evaluation. They have interesting presentations, time for members to talk about issues in their own practice, and the chance to network with other members.

The 2006 program emphasises professional development while continuing the networking and discussion of practice issues from previous meetings. Each meeting has a 1.5 hour professional development workshop that explores issues of interest to evaluation practitioners and to those commissioning or managing evaluations. These workshops focus on connecting theory and practice in an interactive way designed to leave participants with new ideas and approaches to evaluation.

Seminars for the year were:

- 7 March 2006: Sue Funnell, Chris Milne, and Ralph Hall: *Hot Topics in Evaluation* – 25 participants.
- 2 May 2006: Anne Chamberlain, Annette Michaux, and Wendy Field: *Building Evaluation Capacity in NGOs* – 20 participants.

Committee:

Regional Representative: Marie Delaney.

Committee members: Anton Mischewski, Sue Cunningham and Anne Chamberlain.

Planning for 2006-2007

Two regional workshops: Jessica Dart August 2006 – *People-Centred Program Logic*; Ross Conner September 2006 – *Cross cultural evaluation*.

Northern Territory

The NT regional committee was responsible for organising the 2006 AES conference. The conference committee was active liaising with NT government and non government agencies with an interest in evaluation to encourage their participation in the conference and sponsorship opportunities. As a result several NT agencies became members of the AES.

Joint activities with other professional bodies: Presenters: NT Attorney General – 6 participants

Networking activities: the AES was represented by Nea Harrison on the NT Annual Reports Awards Committee NT. AES members provide evaluation contractors with copies of the AES Code of Ethics, and report in evaluation reports that they abide by the AES code of ethics.

Lunchtime Forum: Professor Ian Falk and Dr John Guenther, Learning Research Group, Charles Darwin University: *Evaluation of the NT Government Domestic and Family Violence Strategy* – 15 participants.

Committee:

Regional representative: Nea Harrison.

Committee members: Jenny Young, Ian Falk.

Planning for 2006-2007

2006 was spent organising the Darwin AES Conference which meant that the lunchtime forums were suspended during 2006. 2006/7 will provide an opportunity to expand the NT membership and invite newly engaged people to Bi monthly lunchtime forums.

Queensland

The main professional development activities continue to be the free lunchtime seminars on evaluation topics, which consistently attract attendance of 40 or more people, with two seminars being attended by over 70 people. The venue is provided courtesy of Queensland Treasury. These seminars are held monthly, (February to November), and provide not only professional development but also networking opportunities. A free light lunch after each seminar is provided by the Department of the Premier and Cabinet. An increasing number of seminar participants are taking advantage of this opportunity to meet and exchange knowledge, ideas and information with others who are interested in evaluation issues.

The lunchtime seminars are also used to promote the AES and its aims, and materials such as the Guidelines to conducting ethical evaluations are made available to participants. These are very popular, and it is clear that they are being utilised – several Queensland Government departments refer to them in their own evaluation guidelines and framework documents.

The seminar program for 2005-2006 was as follows:

- 25 July 2005: Rod Goodbun: *Involving community in government policy evaluation: Evaluating 'Meeting challenges, Making choices'* - Approx 85 participants
- 23 August 2005: Diana Beere: *Evaluation capacity-building: An insider's tale of value adding* - No record of numbers (approx 30?)
- 14 September 2005: June Lenni: *Using empowerment evaluation to improve community-based programs* - No record of participant numbers
- 15 February 2006: Benn Barr & Myra Geddes: *Evaluating strategic policy reform: Challenges, limitations and learnings* - Approx 40 participants
- 16 March 2006: Robert Lake: *Theory-driven evaluation: Program theory and program logic explained and improved* - Approx 50 participants
- 27 April 2006: Tony Hayes: *The Service Delivery and Performance Commission: What, why, and where to from here?* - Approx 50 participants
- 18 May 2006: Scott Hook & Mark Rice: *Driving better project evaluation: Queensland Treasury's revised Project Evaluation Guidelines* - Approx 75 participants
- 6 June 2006: Peter Bycroft: *Waking the sleeping giant: The essential role of evaluation in policy and programs* - 38 participants

In addition, there was a Pre-Christmas social function on 29 November 2005, an with informal presentation by Suzanne Hoverman on highlights of the 2005 AEA/CES conference - 10 participants

Non-members are welcome to attend, and membership information is available, together with other AES materials (conference registration brochures, *Guidelines to the Conduct of Ethical Evaluations*, samples copies of *EJA*, etc).

Seminar participants are invited to complete feedback sheets, where they may indicate if they are interested in AES membership and/or adding their names to the non-member mailing list. Those who

indicate interest in membership are contacted personally and given information about the AES, and its local activities in particular. All new members are also contacted to welcome them to the AES and to encourage them to attend seminars, take advantage of networking opportunities, and perhaps consider presenting a seminar themselves. They are also invited to attend committee meetings at any time.

AES Office advises when it has been unable to follow up with lapsed members, and these are then contacted, if possible, by the QLD Membership officer. We also conduct follow-up of members who do not renew if follow-up by the Canberra office is not possible.

All regional activities are advertised by e-mail to all QLD members and also to those on the non-member mailing list (approx 450). Advertising also occurs via the website, which is kept as up to date as possible; via AES ENews; and through informal networking and workplace e-mail distribution lists.

There were two half days of workshops which proved very successful:

- 29 July 2005: Michael Quinn Patton: *Contingency-based evaluation* - 19 participants
- 29 July 2005: Michael Quinn Patton: *Systems thinking and complexity approaches to evaluation* - 19 participants

The Queensland Region also hosted the AES 2005 Brisbane International Conference in October 2005.

Committee:

Regional Representative: Diana Beere.

Committee members: Garry Videroni (Chair), Diana Beere (Regional Representative & PD sub-committee convenor), Patricia Régo (Membership officer), Toni Craig, June Lennie, Craig Trimble, Jill White.

AES 2005 Brisbane Conference Committee:

Diana Beere & Robert Lake (Convenors), Andrea Lanyon, Toni Craig, Suzanne Hoverman, Patricia Régo, Craig Trimble, Ellen Vasiliauskas, Jill White.

Planning for 2006-2007

We will be continuing monthly lunchtime seminars on evaluation topics, with speakers and topics now identified for the remainder of 2006 and well into 2007.

Two full-day evaluation workshops will be conducted in the latter half of 2006: one on *The Most Significant Change Technique* with Jessica Dart, to be held on 22 August 2006, and one on *Principals and Methods for Inclusive Community-based Evaluation*, with Ross Conner, on 12 September 2006. We also hope to run at least one workshop in the first half of 2007, depending on the availability of presenters.

We also hope to organise an end-of-year social event for Queensland AES members. This may include a professional development component – possibly a panel of speakers to share highlights and learnings from the AES 2006 Darwin International Conference and any other professional development activities they have attended during the year.

The Queensland Regional Representative has been invited to participate as a guest speaker in a half-day workshop with University of Queensland program evaluation students in August 2006. She will use this opportunity to promote the AES and the benefits of membership, and to provide students with copies of the *Guidelines for Conducting Ethical Evaluations*.

South Australia

Committee:

Regional Representative: Rita Perkons

Committee members: Anne Bosio, John Lawrence and Dennis List

Lynda Berends, Jessica Kenway, Jann Milic, Bridget Roberts (Secretary), Anthea Rutter.

Rita Perkons has recently left SA and thus vacated the position as Regional Representative. It is hoped that a report will be available before the Annual Report goes on the AES web site

Tasmania

No activity 2005-2006. Ad hoc cross-pollinational promotion of common-interest events made. Several copies of the Guidelines for the Ethical Conduct of Evaluations were distributed in response to queries. Inaugural Tasmanian Evaluators' Forum planned for August 2006. Lapsed members from previous three years invited. [Addendum: Forum attracted satisfactory attendees and initial feedback is positive].

Committee:

Regional Representative: Thomas Hay.

Planning for 2006-2007

Inaugural Tasmanian Evaluators' Forum planned for August 2006.

Victoria

Membership of the Society is optimised by:

- Reorganization / rethinking of seminar program
- Sign in sheet to note non-members and seek opinions of participants
- Advertising of events through AES members and a non-members database. Follow-up on non-members.
- Links with other professional groups web sites.

Seminars conducted in 2005-2006 were as follows

- Dr Graeme Harvey: *Success models in evaluation* – 15 participants
- Brad Shrimpton: *Bursting the bubble on youth health websites: the evaluation of Burst the Bubble.com* – 25 participants
- Associate Professor Ros Hurworth, Anne Markiewicz & David Brous: *Strategies for maintaining independence in program evaluation* – 25 participants
- Dr Lynda Berends: *Ethic and evaluation: stories from the field* – 25 participants
- Jane Brockington: *The role of evaluation in policy implementation* – 30 participants
- Scott Bayley : *Evidence requirements for evaluation program impacts* – 32 participants
- Dr Darren Harris & Dr Irina Ross: *Setting up an evaluation unit in a government department* – 35 participants

There was one workshop

- Dr John Owen – *Policy Development and Evaluation* – 14 participants

Committee:

Regional Representative and Coordinator: Graeme Harvey.

Committee members: Lynda Berends, Jessica Kenway, Jann Milic, Bridget Roberts (Secretary), Anthea Rutter.

Planning for 2006-2007

Events are planned till the end of the 2006. Activities and focus for 2006/07 will be undertaken by the new committee. Two workshops are planned for July/August:

- Dr Jessica Dart: *People-centred program logic*
- Dr Jessica Dart: *Introduction to the Most Significant Change Technique*

Wellington

The Wellington Evaluation Group (WEG)'s activities have been steady with monthly meetings of the committee and planned events throughout the year, which have all been well attended.

- In October 2005 post the AES conference, Valerie Caracelli presented a workshop in Wellington.
- In November and December Michael Patton and John Mayne presented seminars and workshops in New Zealand, independently of WEG and members were able to attend these.
- In February 2006, a joint seminar on costing research and evaluation projects was held with the Association of Social Science Researchers (ASSR). The seminar: Behind the \$\$\$: reflections on costing research and evaluation projects was presented by Mathea Roorda, Vicki Wilde and Nan Wehipeihana.
- The March seminar focused on the application of Realistic Evaluation as a methodology. The seminar: A realist evaluation of Police practice in reducing residential Burglary was presented by Alison Chetwin, Ministry of Justice
- The April seminar focused on the presentation of a diagnostic needs assessment methodology using programme theory. The seminar: Theory Based Needs Assessment, was presented by Jane Davidson.
- In the period to May to August a number of international evaluators were brought to New Zealand independently of WEG. This included David Fetterman (June), Tessie Catsambas, (July), Jessica Dart (July) and Ricardo Millet August). WEG promoted these seminars to its members and did not run other seminars or forums over this period.

WEG offered a one-off scholarship for a Wellington postgraduate student whose research is in the area of evaluation to attend and present a poster at the Darwin Conference. The scholarship covers airfares, the conference fee and two/three night's accommodation and per diem and was awarded to Jenny Wilton who is completing a post-graduate Diploma in Public Health at the Wellington School of Medicine and Health Sciences.

Planning for 2006-2007

In August 2006, an evaluators networking breakfast is planned. This event was designed to facilitate networking amongst evaluators, students of evaluation and the Wellington branch committee of the AES.

Western Australia

The Western Australia branch of the AES is an association of people interested in the evaluation of policies, programs and practices. Members include evaluation practitioners, service delivery staff, academics, those who regularly commission evaluation reports and other interested persons. We believe that the techniques and methods of evaluation transcend the boundaries of any one specific field. As such, evaluation is relevant to federal, state and local government agencies; the business community; educational institutions; and the not-for-profit sector.

The identification of departments, agencies and organisations that may be interested in AES membership currently occurs on an ad hoc basis at AES branch meetings. A more proactive targeting strategy is currently under discussion. This would involve seeking out members in key evaluation roles in various agencies for discussion of their agency needs and how AES might better assist in fulfilling these.

Ways to enhance and expand membership are discussed at AES Regional meetings. Membership benefits are promoted at every AES seminar. The WA membership data base is currently in the process of being updated and responsibility for its maintenance transferred to a new member. Regional seminars, workshops and evaluation café activities are advertised electronically through PSWA. The seminar program for 2005 -2006 was as follows

- 20 October 2005: Dr Erica Lewin - *Anglo-Indian Women in Western Australia: Past, Present and Future Identities*
- 9 February 2006: Dr Bill Grace *Issues in Sustainability - Implications for Evaluation*
- 16 March 2006: Dr Ralph G Straton: *Evaluation design: Ideals, Reality Checks and Sustainability*
- 20 April 2006: Jenny Pope: *Sustainability Assessment*
- May 2006: Fred Chaney: *Native Title & Sustainable Indigenous Futures*

- 22 June 2006: Dr Bill Grace: *Evaluation Café - Sustainability Assessment - What are the Indicators?*

Committee:

Regional Representative: John Scougall

Committee members: Karen Schmidt (Seminar and Workshop Coordinator), Rosemary Cant, Kim Lazenby, Sherri Hudson-Mabbs, Dr Ralph Stratton, Dr Rick Cummings.

Planning for 2006-2007

WA Branch activities planned for the remainder of this calendar year are as follows:

August - Professor Philip Jennings, Seminar *Is Renewable Energy Sustainable?*

August – Dr Rick Cummings, Workshop *Rethinking the Use of Evaluation Studies*

September - Dr Ray Rist, Joint Forum with IPAA *Evaluation & Democracy: Making Sense of this New Era*;

September - Professor Marie Gervais, Seminar *Evaluation, Governance and Sustainability in a Complex Services Network* and a workshop - *Evaluation, Governance and Sustainability in a Complex Services Network*;

October - Dr Ralph G Straton, Workshop - *Design of Impact Evaluation Studies*;

November - Panel Discussion, Seminar - *How do we Measure and Evaluate Progress Towards Sustainability?*

Planning is yet to commence for seminars, workshops and evaluation café activities beyond 2006.

There has been an initial discussion about the establishment of a Conference Organising Committee for the 2008 AES Conference which is scheduled for Perth.

BRISBANE CONFERENCE 2005

The 23rd International Conference, 'Evaluation Inside Out', was held at Rydges South Bank, Brisbane, Queensland, from midday on Monday 10 to Wednesday 12 October, 2005. Pre-conference workshops were held at the same venue on Sunday 9 October and the morning of Monday 10 October 2005.

In holding pre-conference workshops on Sunday and Monday morning and restricting the conference to 2½ days, the Brisbane conference broke with the tradition of 2 days of workshops and 3 days of conference during the working week.

The Conference was attended by 224 delegates of whom 141 were members, 45 non-members, 23 day registrations, 8 students and 7 complimentary. Excluding day registrations, complimentary delegates and students, 72% of delegates were members. There were 150 registered workshop attendances.

Sixteen pre-conference workshops were offered in the conference brochure but only 11 proceeded. All 11 pre-conference workshops offered at the Brisbane Conference rated well in terms of participant satisfaction with 90% rating them good or very good.

Delegates' views about holding workshops on a Sunday were mixed. About half the respondents to a question about the impact of Sunday workshops on their conference or workshop attendance indicated that it had had no impact. Workshop attendance was down 35% overall compared to 2004 and the negative reaction of a number of delegates to holding workshops on Sundays suggests that Sunday workshops are not a good option for the AES.

AES 2005 Brisbane Conference Committee:

Diana Beere & Robert Lake (Convenors), Andrea Lanyon, Toni Craig, Suzanne Hoverman, Patricia Régo, Craig Trimble, Ellen Vasiliauskas, Jill White.

AWARDS, LIFE MEMBERS AND FELLOWS

AWARDS FOR 2005

There are five Awards offered annually by the Australasian Evaluation Society. The aim of the Awards is to encourage the development of evaluation and high quality evaluation practice in Australasia.

The awards made by the Society for 2005, awarded by the previous Awards Committee chaired by Jenny Neale were announced at the 2005 Brisbane Conference.

The Evaluation Training and Service (ET & S Award)

This award is presented to an AES member in recognition of an outstanding contribution to evaluation.

No award was made in this category.

The Caulley Tulloch Publication Prize

The aim of this award is to provide recognition to the best journal article or other publication in evaluation. It is funded by an endowment from Dr. Darrel N. Caulley.

The award for 2005 went to Glenys Jones and her team, Parks and Wildlife Service, Tasmania, for *State of the Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area*.

This report made an original contribution to evaluation practice in the area and demonstrates how evaluation can be practically applied to on-ground management through an adaptive management system. The strength of this publication lies in the comprehensive model that it provides for the field of conservation management.

The Evaluation Study Award

This is awarded to an individual or team which has conducted an evaluation study that has made, or has the potential to make, a significant contribution to the practice or use of evaluation in either the public or private sector in Australasia.

The 2005 award went to Wendy Searle, Tania Slater, Trish Knaggs, Janet November and Christopher Clark, Ministry of Justice, New Zealand for *Status Hearings Evaluation: A NZ Study of the Pre-Trial Hearings on Criminal Cases*. The Awards Committee considered that it was a timely evaluation as many Court systems are now under scrutiny because of the long delays in Court proceedings. In this very thorough study, the research questions are clearly articulated and it is a good example of accountability in a traditionally conservative Legal System! It is an excellent example of the impact an evaluation can have on improving client thinking and on improving business processes.

The Evaluation Development Award: Evaluation Policies, Systems, Frameworks and/or Methodologies

This is awarded to an individual or team which has provided leadership or innovation with respect to the practice or use of evaluation in either the public or private sector. The scope includes programs, products, services, personnel, management strategies and other initiatives.

The award for 2005 went to Bruce Davidson, Noosa Council and Ellen Vasiliauskas, d-sipher, Noosa, *Noosa 2015 - A Chosen Future*.

The Committee considered that the nomination was a fine example of quality evaluation processes that have been applied to local government planning and community involvement. As a result, an integrated evaluation approach has helped build community capacity to participate and provided a framework for issues to be examined outside of a political arena.

The Community Development Evaluation Award

The aim of this award is to encourage evaluations that contribute to community development. It may pertain to or involve youth participation in the design or conduct of evaluation studies related to young people and their development or welfare.

The award for 2005 went to Brad Shrimpton, Centre for Program Evaluation and Mandy McKenzie, Domestic Violence Resource Centre, Melbourne, for *Evaluation of burstingthebubble.com*. The Committee was particularly impressed with the way in which the feedback of the young people was included at all stages of the work and also considered that the process could be a useful template for other people working in the area of youth initiatives.

LIFE MEMBER

Anona Armstrong

FELLOWS

The Fellows of the Society are

Anona Armstrong (Victoria), **Darrel Caulley** (Victoria) **John Owen** (Victoria), **Sue Funnell** (NSW), **Chris Milne** (NSW), **Colin Sharp** (South Australia), **Ralph Straton** (Western Australia) **Ian Trotman** (Wellington), **Jerome Winston** (Victoria)

Introduction

In 2002-03 the Society developed, after extensive consultation with members, a special category of membership to be known as AES Fellows. During the more than twenty years of its existence, the Australasian Evaluation Society has had a number of very distinguished members who have made significant contributions over a period of years to both the AES and the field of evaluation. Many have won AES awards, but this recognition is limited in time and often recognises only a part of their contribution. For those members who have made a long term contribution to the AES and the evaluation profession, it is appropriate to recognise their contribution through a special category of membership. This is a positive step towards enhancing the professionalism of the society. It is also in the Society's interests to maintain an ongoing and mutually beneficial relationship with these individuals who are recognised leaders in the profession. The concept of a special category of member, Fellowship, addresses both of these issues. The AES Policy on the Fellowship of the Australasian Evaluation Society is available at www.aes.asn.au

Purpose of the Fellowship

The purpose of the Fellowship shall be to further the aims of the AES by establishing a category of membership for the Society's most esteemed members to further enhance the Society's image as a professional body. This initiative supports Objective 4 of the AES Business Plan: Professionalism in the practice of evaluation is accepted by organisations, practitioners and societies.

Fellows for 2005

At the Brisbane Conference the ninth Fellow, Dr Darrel Caulley was inducted.

Darrel is a one of the original AES members, whose contribution over the past 25 years leaps out both in length of service and in breadth of activity. He set up the first "office" in a part of his home, employed the first part-time office support and set up a computer program to manage the membership records. After the first 10 years of the Society, Darrel was instrumental in undertaking the first major strategic review leading to the first formal corporate plan and then the revision of the constitution to reflect the changing Society.

He was instrumental in starting Evaluation News and Comment, was the publications coordinator for several years, and he continued editing it after his term as president. He has also been a strong supporter of awards, and very much in character underwrote his own award, the Caulley-Tulloch Publication Prize which recognises the best journal article or other publication in evaluation.

In addition to his strong contribution to the Society, Darrel has lectured in evaluation at LaTrobe University for many years, and is a strong advocate for qualitative methods. He is an active member of the Association of Qualitative Research, a past president and currently Editor of the Qualitative Research Journal of the Qualitative Research.

Darrel's contribution to evaluation, qualitative research and the wider community has also been recognised nationally when he was awarded in 2004 an Order of Australia Medal for service to education in the fields of qualitative research and evaluation methodology, and to the community.

Darrel was a member who came along at just the right time and provided the kind of support the Society needed to help it overcome problems and grow into the vibrant and successful society it is today.

THE SOCIETY'S CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

HOW THE SOCIETY IS GOVERNED

The Australasian Evaluation Society is governed by a network of regional and specialist committees. A board of management provides overall governance and is vested with the ultimate authority over the Society's affairs. The network comprises hundreds of members who work with the Board to achieve the Society strategic and business plans.

ACCOUNTABILITY OF THE BOARD

The Board is accountable to the Society's membership. All members of the Board must adhere to the requirements of the Associations Incorporations Act 1991 (Australian Capital Territory) and the provisions set out in the Society's Constitution and Policies.

APPOINTMENT OF THE BOARD

The Board make-up comprises the Executive, Regional Representatives and up to 5 other positions appointed by the Executive and Regional Committees reflecting major committees of specialist advice to assist in the functioning of the Board. The Executive is comprised of the 4 office bearers positions of President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer, plus up to an additional 3 positions nominated by the Board.

The Executive is elected annually by the membership. Regional representatives are elected from members within substantial geographic regions, eg. States and or regional areas, recognised by the Board as having sufficient members to enable the furtherance of the society's aim, including at least one each from Australia and New Zealand. Additional positions established pursuant to the Constitution are also elected by the membership.

Members of the Board shall not hold the same position for more than three consecutive terms, except for the Secretary and Treasurer who may stand for one additional term with the approval of the Board.

ROLE OF THE BOARD

While the Board has overall management and control of the Society, it is subject to the provisions of the *Associations Incorporation Act 1991* and the *AES Constitution*, and may delegate certain operational powers to committees and regions. All Board positions are unpaid. Board members direct costs of involvement with the Society in pursuing its aims and objectives are reimbursed.

THE BOARD MEETING AND REQUIREMENTS

In 2005-2006 there were 3 Executive meetings and 5 full Board meetings. Under the Society's Constitution a quorum for the transaction of the business of a meeting of the Board shall be 50% of the members of the Board. All meetings of the Executive and Board were quorate in 2005-6.

COMMITTEES

At the start of 2005-2006 there were 5 standing committees of the Board; Ethics; Awards, Publications; International Relationships and the Brisbane 2005 Conference Committee. After the 2005 AGM the Darwin 2006 Conference Committee replaced the Brisbane Conference Committee.

INDEMNITY OF THE BOARD

In accordance with the Association Incorporations Act and the Society's own Policies, the AES has directors and officers insurance and professional indemnity for all Board members.

WHO WE ARE GOVERNED BY: THE AES BOARD

Executive

Rick Cummings, President

Rick is Senior Lecturer of institutional research and evaluation in the Teaching and Learning Centre at Murdoch University. He has over 26 years of experience in public sector management, policy research and program evaluation mainly in education and health. Rick has been a member of the AES Executive since 2001.

Jenny Neale, Vice President

Jenny is an Associate Professor and Head of the School of Social and Cultural Studies at Victoria University of Wellington. She has over 25 years experience in research and evaluation practice. As well she has over fifteen years of teaching in the area to postgraduate students from the public, private and community sectors. Jenny joined the Executive in 2004.

Anne Markiewicz, Secretary

Anne joined the Executive in 2005 and has been operating as an independent evaluation consultant for the past 10 years. Anne specialises in the evaluation of social and health policies and programs targeted to meet the needs of disadvantaged and vulnerable communities. She has specific expertise evaluating programs in the fields of family well being, youth issues, aged care, disabilities, Indigenous issues and issues facing culturally and linguistically diverse communities.

Graham Smith, Treasurer

Graham joined the Executive in January 2006, after an earlier period as Canberra regional representative. He has experience in several types of review: operations research, performance audit and risk management as well as evaluation. He is currently a performance audit manager with the ACT Audit Office.

Nan Wehipeihana, Fifth Executive member

Nan joined the Executive in May 2004 after accepting the Board's invitation to take up the strategic initiatives position. Nan is an independent evaluator and specialises in public sector programme and policy evaluation. Nan has over 11 years research and evaluation experience and has a particular interest in evaluation practice as it relates to Māori and other indigenous cultures.

Regional Representatives

<i>Name</i>	<i>Regional Committee</i>
Michelle Lennan	Auckland (until June 06)
Nan Wehipeihana	Wellington
Diana Beere	Queensland
Marie Delaney	New South Wales
Rita Perkons	South Australia
Nea Harrison	Northern Territory
Thomas Hay	Tasmania
Graeme Harvey	Victoria
David Roberts	Canberra Region
John Scougall	Western Australia

Committee Chairs

<i>Name</i>	<i>Committee</i>
Peter Bycroft	Awards
Penny Hawkins	International Relations
John Owen	Publications
David Turner	Ethics
Jenny Young	Darwin 2006 Conference Committee

Board Members Attendance at Meetings

<i>Name</i>	<i>Executive</i>	<i>Board</i>
Rick Cummings	3	5
Jenny Neale	3	4
Anne Markiewicz	2	4
Nan Wehipeihana	3	4
Graham Smith	2	2
Diana Beere		5
Graeme Harvey		3
Penny Hawkins		1
Thomas Hay		1
John Owen		4
David Turner		5
Jenny Young		5
Marie Delaney		2
Rita Perkons		1
Peter Bycroft		1
Nea Harrison		3
David Roberts		3
John Scougall		1
Kim Lazenby	1	2
Michelle Lennan		3
Craig Trimble	1	4
Anne Barlow		2
Merrian McCormick		1

AES Administration

Judy Pearce, Administrator

AES FINANCES

The following should be read in conjunction with the Statutory Statements (pages 26 to 35). Statutory Statements are prepared on a full accrual accounting basis and in accordance with applicable Australian Accounting Standards and the requirements of the *Associations Incorporation Act 1991* (ACT) and the audit opinion is included according to these standards.

TREASURER'S REPORT FOR 2005-06

Introduction

There are several parts to the job of Treasurer. One is concerned with the task of handling the money. This includes drafting a budget, reporting to the Board on how income and expenditure is tracking against budget, advising on investment, helping to deal with the end-of-year processes, including audit, and also signing and despatched of a large number of cheques on a regular basis.

Another role that the Treasurer plays is that of a member of the Executive and the Board. A Treasurer is conventionally the person who advises caution, especially on financial issues, and this is sometimes the case when the issues relates to significant elements of income and expenditure.

The third and final class of activities can be put under the heading of corporate governance. Once again, there have been significant developments in the areas of our form of incorporation and on our taxation status that have had to be handled by the whole Board, but with the Treasurer having to contribute significantly to these issues.

There is enough work in the first two parts of the Treasurer's job to make up a reasonably sized voluntary officer's position. With the additional workload of corporate governance, the job becomes more difficult, and I am looking forward to this component reducing over the next 12 months. Work that remains to be done in this area includes seeking a definitive resolution of our taxation status, completion of the risk management process and drafting of a set of financial rules and delegations.

Features of the 2005-06 Results

This part of the report discusses some aspects of the 2005-06 results, and comments on possible trends. This report is somewhat abbreviated, as there has been very little time between the receipt of the audited financial statements and the need to produce this report.

The Society's overall operating result for the year 2005-06 was a loss of \$12 695 compared with a surplus the previous year of \$65,582 and a budgeted loss of \$18 867.

Non-conference income was slightly lower than expected (\$150 919 as compared to budget forecast of \$155 685). The main reasons for this were a reduction in membership fees. Non-conference expenditure was also slightly lower than forecast, (\$192 916 compared with together with \$194 552). Costs for governance and publications were somewhat lower than forecast, while costs for special projects and membership services were slightly higher

The conference continues to provide substantial financial support, with a surplus of \$29 312 being achieved over the financial year (\$163 377 revenue, \$134 065 costs). This compared with a budgeted surplus of \$20 000.

The net assets of the Society declined as a consequence of the loss during the year, and now stand at \$187 919 compared with \$200 614 12 months ago. Nevertheless, the Society continues to have substantial assets that provide security in the case of a bad financial year.

Outlook 2006-2007

The Society is budgeting for a further small cash deficit of around \$6000 in 2006-07. For this year only, the budget provides for an zero result from the Darwin conference, given its location and certain additional costs loaded on to the conference (such as the conference dinner), so that total outcome is also forecast to be negative \$6000. The main trends expected for 2006-07 compared with 2005-06 include a further reduction in income from memberships, given the small increase in the headline rate and the substantial discounts offered for two-year memberships. On the other hand, income and surpluses from workshops is forecast to increase, based on a high level of workshops already

organised and being held early in 2006-07. The above results in the total income forecast being slightly more than last year.

We are forecasting some savings from cessation of publication of the *Directory of Members*, and from reduced governance costs, as we are no longer proposing to convert to a company in 2006-07 (although there will be some expenses in seeking advice and in ASIC registration as a Registrable Australian Body). We are also expecting continued high costs for web services. Increases are also proposed for the key areas of Awards, Fellows, and Marketing.

Overseas initiatives are forecast to be similar to last year's expenditure (which was less than the budget). Expenditure on Executive meetings (which had a hump in 2005-06 due to three meetings being held) is expected to return to a more normal figure.

The end result of all this is predicted total expenses a little less than both the current budget and 2005-06 expenditure.

Conclusion

The current year and 2006-07 both appear likely to be in deficit. This is not disastrous, given our level of reserves, but does require continued monitoring.

The detailed financial statements follow. They include:

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Graham Smith

Treasurer

21 August 2006

OVERVIEW OF FINANCIAL RESULTS BY AES ACTIVITY – 7 YEAR COMPARISON

	2005-6	2004-05	2003-04	2002-03	2001-02	2000-01	1999-2000
Membership Services*							
Revenue	90,151	84,371	76,834	71,569	64,360	56,261	54,213
Cost	45,205	39,821	41,740	49,566	33,883	37,260	69,655
Result	44,946	44,550	35,094	22,003	30,477	19,002	-15,442
Professional Development & Special Projects							
Revenue	53,122	52,968	48,750	21,457	17,397	3,100	1,303
Cost	36,279	22,111	36,494	13,668	1,159	2,091	-
Result	16,843	30,858	12,255	7,789	17,397	3,100	1,303
Conference							
Revenue [§]	163,778	218,248	248,510	176,083	189,907	73,835	-
Cost	134,063	158,989	192,216	148,429	147,972	54,105	-
Result	29,715	59,259	56,294	27,654	41,935	19,730	39,901
Governance & Corporate Services**							
Revenue	7,248	7,450	3,571	3,475	1,631	4,458	2,427
Cost	111,187	62,817	61,160	52,357	48,179	52,171	79,091
Result	103,939	-55,367	-57,589	-48,881	-46,548	-47,713	-76,664
Total Australasian Evaluation Society							
Revenue	314,299	369,731	377,665	272,585	273,295	137,654	97,844
Cost	326,734	304,148	331,610	264,020	231,193	145,626	148,746
Result	-12,436	65,582	46,055	8,565	42,102	-7,972	-50,902

* Membership services includes Membership, Publications and AES Web (prior to 2005/2006 administrators charged split 1/3 membership, 2/3 Conference)

** Governance & Corporate Services includes Executive, Board and Regional Committees and support functions, Administration Support, Finance, Legal, Information Technology and interest income and banking charges.

§ Conference Income differs to financial statements by including Sponsorship Income of \$9,045

1999-00 and 2000-01

BOARD REPORT

Your Board members submit the financial report of the Australasian Evaluation Society Incorporated for the financial year ended 30 June 2006.

Board Members

The names of each person who was as a member of the Board during the year ended 30 June 2006 or at the date of this statement are:

Dr Rick Cummings, President

Dr Jenny Neale , Vice-President

Ms Anne Markiewicz (from 11 October 2005), Secretary

Mr Graham Smith (treasurer from 13 January 2006), Treasurer

Ms Nan Wehipeihana

Dr Diana Beere

Dr Graeme Harvey

Ms Penny Hawkins

Mr Thomas Hay

Ms Rita Perkons (from 11 October 2005)

Mr David Roberts (from 11 October 2005)

Dr John Owen

Mr John Scougall (from 11 October 2005)

Ms Nea Harrison (from 11 October 2005)

Mr David Turner

Ms Jenny Young

Ms Marie Delaney (from 31 October 2005)

Mr Peter Bycroft (from 11 October 2005)

Ms Michele Lennen (from 11 October 2005 to 9 June 2006)

Mr Craig Trimble (to 9 December 2005)

Ms Merrian McCormick (to 10 October 2005)

Ms Sue Paterson (to 10 October 2005)

Mr Anton Mischewski (to 31 October 2005)

Ms Kim Lazenby (to 10 October 2005)

Dr Anne Barlow (to 10 October 2005)

Principal Activities

The principal activities of the Society during the financial year were to:

- provide education and training in matters related to evaluation;
- recognise outstanding contributions to the theory and/or practice of evaluation;
- establish and promote ethics and standards in evaluation practice;
- provide a forum for the discussion of ideas including society publications, seminars, workshops and conferences;
- link members who have similar evaluation interests;
- act as an advocate for evaluation; and

- other activities consistent with the above aims

Significant Changes

There was no significant change in the state of affairs of the Society during the year.

Operating Result

The net deficit of the Society for the year ended 30 June 2006 was \$12,695 (2005: \$65,582 surplus).

Financial Position

In the opinion of the Board, the accompanying financial report presents fairly the financial position of Australasian Evaluation Society Inc. as at 30 June 2006 and its performance for the year ended on that date in accordance with Accounting Standards and other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board.

In the opinion of the Board, at the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that Australasian Evaluation Society Inc. will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

Signed in accordance with the agreement of the Board members this 22 August, 2006



(Board Member)

INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT

ascent
connect | relate | achieve

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INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT

To the Members
Australasian Evaluation Society Incorporated
(ABN 13 886 280 969)

Scope*The financial report and responsibility of the Board*

The financial report comprises the Balance Sheet, Income Statement, Cash Flow Statement, Statement of Changes in Equity and accompanying notes 1 to 15 for Australasian Evaluation Society Incorporated (the Society) for the year ended 30 June 2006.

The Board is responsible for the preparation and true and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with the provisions of the *Associations Incorporation Act 1991* of the Australian Capital Territory and the constitution of the Society. This includes responsibility for the maintenance of adequate accounting records and internal controls that are designed to prevent and detect fraud and error, and for the accounting policies and accounting estimates inherent in the financial report.

Audit approach

We conducted an independent audit in order to express an opinion to the members of the Society. Our audit was conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards, in order to provide reasonable assurance as to whether the financial report is free of material misstatement. The nature of an audit is influenced by factors such as the use of professional judgement, selective testing, the inherent limitations of internal control, and the availability of persuasive rather than conclusive evidence. Therefore, an audit cannot guarantee that all material misstatements have been detected.

We performed procedures to assess whether in all material respects the financial report presents fairly, in accordance with the *Associations Incorporation Act 1991* of the Australian Capital Territory, Accounting Standards and other mandatory financial reporting requirements in Australia, a view which is consistent with our understanding of the Society's financial position, and of its performance as represented by the results of its operations and cash flows.

We formed our audit opinion on the basis of these procedures, which included:

examining, on a test basis, information to provide evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial report, and

assessing the appropriateness of the accounting policies and disclosures used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management and the Board.

While we considered the effectiveness of management's internal controls over financial reporting when determining the nature and extent of our procedures, our audit was not designed to provide assurance on internal controls.

Independence

In conducting our audit, we followed applicable independence requirements of Australian professional ethical pronouncements.

Qualification

It is not practicable for the Australasian Evaluation Society Incorporated to maintain an effective system of internal control over cash received from conference and membership activities until their initial entry into the accounting records. Accordingly, our audit is limited to amounts recorded as received in the accounting records of the Society

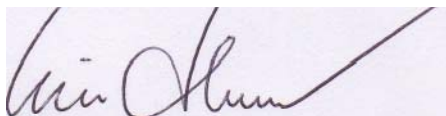
Qualified Audit Opinion

In our opinion, except for the effects of such adjustments, if any, as might have been determined to be necessary had the limitation described in the qualification section above not existed, the financial report of the Australasian Evaluation Society Incorporated:

- gives a true and fair view of the financial position of the Society at 30 June 2006 and of its performance for the year ended on that date, and
- is presented in accordance with the *Associations Incorporation Act* 1991 of the Australian Capital Territory, Accounting Standards and other mandatory financial reporting requirements in Australia.

ASCENT AUDIT PTY LTD

Authorised Audit Company



Eric Hummer Director

Dated: 22 August 2006

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 30 JUNE 2006

	Note	2006 \$	2005 \$
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents	<u>5</u>	176,762	188,779
Receivables	<u>6</u>	421	7,482
Other	<u>7</u>	16,515	9,151
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		<u>193,698</u>	<u>205,412</u>
NON CURRENT ASSETS			
Plant and equipment	<u>8</u>	217	474
Other	<u>7</u>	-	5,907
TOTAL NON CURRENT ASSETS		<u>217</u>	<u>6,381</u>
TOTAL ASSETS		<u>193,915</u>	<u>211,793</u>
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Payables	<u>9</u>	4,631	10,179
Unearned revenue	<u>10</u>	1,365	1,000
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>5,996</u>	<u>11,179</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES		<u>5,996</u>	<u>11,179</u>
NET ASSETS		<u>187,919</u>	<u>200,614</u>
EQUITY			
Retained surplus		<u>187,919</u>	<u>200,614</u>
TOTAL EQUITY		<u>187,919</u>	<u>200,614</u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

INCOME STATEMENT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2006

	Note	2006 \$	2005 \$
Revenue from ordinary operations	<u>2</u>	314,296	369,731
Cost of sales - publications		(23,683)	(20,410)
Membership services		(21,523)	(9,304)
Regional activities		(38,925)	(23,761)
Administration and governance		(108,795)	(91,685)
Conference costs		(134,065)	(158,989)
Net surplus / (deficit) from ordinary activities		<u>(12,695)</u>	<u>65,582</u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

CASH FLOW STATEMENT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2006

	Note	2006 \$	2005 \$
Operating activities			
Receipts from members and customers		336,859	224,773
Interest and dividends received		7,258	6,859
Payments to employees and suppliers		(356,133)	(172,890)
Net cash generated (used)	13(a)	<u>(12,017)</u>	<u>58,742</u>
Investing activities			
Payments for software		-	(450)
Net cash generated (used)		<u>-</u>	<u>(450)</u>
Net movement in cash and cash equivalents		(12,017)	58,292
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year		188,779	130,487
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	5	<u>176,762</u>	<u>188,779</u>

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2006

	2006 \$	2005 \$
Balance at beginning of the year	200,614	135,032
Net surplus / (deficit) for the year	(12,695)	65,582
Movements in reserves	-	-
Balance at end of the year	<u>187,919</u>	<u>200,614</u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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Note 1: Statement of Accounting Policies

This general purpose financial report has been prepared in accordance with Australian accounting standards, Urgent Issues Group Abstracts and other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board and the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act 1991 of the Australian Capital Territory. The financial report has been prepared on an accruals basis and is based on historical costs and does not take into account changing money values or, except where stated, current valuations of non-current assets. Cost is based on the fair values of the consideration given in exchange for assets.

Any new Accounting Standards that have been issued but are not yet effective at balance date have not been applied in the preparation of this financial report. The possible impacts of the initial application of these Accounting Standards have not been assessed.

The financial report covers the Australasian Evaluation Society Incorporated ("the Society") as an individual entity. The Society is an association incorporated in the Australian Capital Territory under the Associations Incorporation Act 1991.

The financial report of the Society complies with all Australian equivalents to International Financial Reporting Standards (AIFRS) in their entirety.

The following is a summary of the significant accounting policies adopted by the Society in the preparation of this financial report. The accounting policies have been consistently applied, unless otherwise stated.

Basis of Preparation

First-time Adoption of Australian Equivalents to International Financial Reporting Standards

The Society has prepared financial statements in accordance with the Australian equivalents to International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) from 1 July 2005. For the purposes of the application of AIFRS measurement and disclosure requirements the Society is classified as a not-for-profit entity.

In accordance with the requirements of AASB 1: First-time Adoption of Australian Equivalents to International Financial Reporting Standards, any adjustments to the accounts resulting from the introduction of AIFRS have been applied retrospectively to 2005 comparative figures excluding cases where optional exemptions available under AASB 1 have been applied. These accounts are the first financial statements of the company to be prepared in accordance with AIFRS.

The accounting policies set out below have been consistently applied to all years presented.

Reconciliations of the transition from previous Australian GAAP to AIFRS are outlined below in note 1(k).

Reporting Basis and Conventions

The financial report has been prepared on an accruals basis and is based on historical costs.

(a) Plant and equipment

Each class of plant and equipment is carried at cost less, where applicable any accumulated depreciation. Plant and equipment are measured on the cost basis. All other non-current assets are carried at cost.

The carrying amount of property, plant and equipment is reviewed annually by management to ensure it is not in excess of the remaining service potential of these assets.

The depreciation amount of all assets are depreciated on a straight line basis over the useful lives of the assets to the Society commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use.

All classes of property, plant and equipment are depreciated using the straight line method.

The Depreciation rates used for each class of depreciable assets are:

<i>Class of assets</i>	<i>Rate</i>
Furniture and equipment	100%
Computers and software	40%

The assets' residual values and useful lives are reviewed, and adjusted if appropriate, at each balance date.

(b) Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand and deposits held at call with banks or financial institutions.

(c) Cash flows

For the purposes of the statement of cash flows, cash includes cash on hand, travellers cheques, cash at bank and bank bills maturing within one year.

(d) Foreign currency transactions and balances

Foreign currency transactions during the year are converted into Australian currency at the rate of exchange ruling at the date of the transaction. Amounts receivable and payable in foreign currencies at balance date are converted at the rates of exchange ruling at that date. All exchange differences are brought to account in the balance sheet of the financial year in which they arise.

(e) Income tax

No provision for income tax has been made in the financial report, as the Society has self assessed as exempt from income tax.

(f) Comparative information

Where appropriate, comparative information has been reclassified to assist in the understanding of the financial report.

(g) Revenue recognitionMembership subscriptions

Membership fees are payable annually in advance and are due on the anniversary of the month of joining. Membership fees are treated as income when the subscription is received except for fees received from new members. Fees received from new members whose membership has not been approved prior to year end are brought to account as income in advance (current liability) and carried forward to the year in which the membership is approved.

Conference income and expenditure

Conference income and expenditure which is received or expended prior to year end, but which relates to a conference to be held after year end, is recognised as conference income in advance (current liability) and conference prepaid expenses (current or non-current asset) and is carried forward to the year in which the event is held.

Where conference administration is outsourced, income received and expenditure incurred by the conference organiser prior to year end, but which relate to a conference to be held after year end, have not been recognised. Gross income and expenditure is recognised regardless of whether the conference administration is outsourced once the conference has been completed.

Interest revenue

Interest revenue is recognised on a proportional basis taking into account the interest rates applicable to the financial assets.

Other revenues

Revenues are recognised when the applicable goods and services have been provided and the income earned.

All revenue is stated net of the amount of goods and services tax (GST).

(h) Goods and Services Tax

All revenue and expenses are stated net of the amount of goods and services tax, except where in the amount of goods and services tax incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office. In these circumstances the goods and services tax is recognised as part of the cost acquisition of the asset or as part of an item of the expense. Receivables and payables in balance sheet are shown inclusive of goods and services tax.

(i) Impairment

At each balance date, the Society reviews the carrying values of its tangible and intangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have been impaired. If such an indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset, being the higher of the asset's fair value less costs to sell and value in use, is compared to the asset's carrying value. As a not-for-profit entity, value in use for the Society according to AASB 136 Impairment of Assets, is depreciated replacement cost. Any excess of the asset's carrying value over its recoverable amount is expensed to the income statement.

(j) Critical accounting estimates and judgements

The board evaluates estimates and judgements incorporated into the financial report based on historical knowledge and best available current information. Estimates assume a reasonable expectation of future events and are based on current trends and economic data, obtained both externally and within the Society.

Key estimates - Impairment

The Society assesses impairment at each reporting date by evaluating conditions specific to the Society that may lead to impairment of assets. Should an impairment indicator exist, the determination of the recoverable amount of the asset may require incorporation of a number of key estimates. No impairment indicators were present at 30 June 2006.

(k) First-time Adoption of Australian Equivalents to International Financial Reporting Standards (AIFRS)*(i) Reconciliation of total equity as presented under previous AGAAP to that under AIFRS*

There are no differences between total equity as presented under previous AGAAP to that under AIFRS as at 1 July 2004 or 30 June 2005.

(ii) Reconciliation of surplus for year as presented under previous AGAAP to that under AIFRS

For the year ended 30 June 2005, there are no differences between the reported surplus presented under AIFRS and the reported surplus presented under previous AGAAP.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2006

(iii) Reconciliation of cash flow as presented under previous AGAAP to that under AIFRS

For the year ended 30 June 2005, there are no differences between the cash flow statement presented under AIFRS and the cash flow statement presented under previous AGAAP.

	2006 \$	2005 \$
Note 2: Revenue from Ordinary Activities		
<i>Operating activities:</i>		
Revenue from sale of goods:		
Publications	7,796	6,694
Total revenue from sale of goods	<u>7,796</u>	<u>6,694</u>
Revenue from services:		
Membership fees	82,355	84,371
Special projects	53,110	52,968
Conferences	163,377	209,203
Sponsorship	400	9,045
Total revenue from services	<u>299,242</u>	<u>355,587</u>
<i>Total revenue from operating activities</i>	<u>307,038</u>	<u>362,281</u>
<i>Non-operating activities:</i>		
Interest	7,258	7,450
<i>Total revenue from non-operating activities</i>	<u>7,258</u>	<u>7,450</u>
<i>Total revenue from ordinary activities</i>	<u>314,296</u>	<u>369,731</u>
Note 3: Expenses From Ordinary Activities		
Depreciation of computers and software	257	239
Note 4: Auditors' Remuneration		
Remuneration of the auditor for:		
auditing or reviewing the financial report	3,278	3,008
other services	1,000	900
	<u>4,278</u>	<u>3,908</u>
Note 5: Cash and cash equivalents		
Cash at bank	67,982	85,854
Cash on deposit	108,580	102,725
Cash on hand	200	200
	<u>176,762</u>	<u>188,779</u>
Note 6: Receivables		
CURRENT		
Trade and other debtors	421	5,488
Accrued interest	-	1,994
	<u>421</u>	<u>7,482</u>
Note 7: Other Assets		
CURRENT		
Prepaid conference expenses	13,517	6,884
Other prepayments	2,998	2,267
	<u>16,515</u>	<u>9,151</u>
NONCURRENT		
Prepaid conference expenses	-	5,907

	2006 \$	2005 \$
Note 8: Property		
Plant and Equipment		
Furniture and equipment, at cost	489	489
Accumulated depreciation	(489)	(489)
	-	-
Computers and software, at cost	914	914
Accumulated depreciation	(697)	(440)
	217	474
	217	474

Movements in carrying amounts:

Movement in the carrying amounts for each class of property, plant and equipment between the beginning and the end of the current financial year

	Furniture & equipment \$	Computers & software \$	Total \$
Opening balance	-	474	474
Depreciation expense	-	(257)	(257)
Closing balance	-	217	217

Note 9: Payables

CURRENT

Unsecured liabilities:

Owing to related parties	-	33
Creditors and accrued expenses	4,631	10,146
	4,631	10,179

Note 10: Unearned Revenue

Member fees received in advance	1,365	1,000
	1,365	1,000

Note 11: Key management personnel

(a) Details of Key Management Personnel

Names and positions held of key management personnel in office at any time during the financial year are:

(i) Board Members of the Australasian Evaluation Society

Dr Rick Cummings	Dr Graeme Harvey	Mr John Scougall	Ms Michele Lennen
Dr Jenny Neale	Ms Penny Hawkins	Ms Nea Harrison	
Ms Anne Markiewicz	Mr Thomas Hay	Mr David Turner	
Mr Graham Smith	Ms Rita Perkons	Ms Jenny Young	
Ms Nan Wehipeihana	Mr David Roberts	Ms Marie Delaney	
Dr Diana Beere	Dr John Owen	Mr Peter Bycroft	

The Board Members did not receive any remuneration directly or indirectly from the Society or any related body corporate for management of the Society, other than reimbursements of expenses incurred on behalf of the Society.

Note 12: Society Details

The Society is an association incorporated under the *Associations Incorporation Act 1991* of the Australian Capital Territory. The aim of the Society is to establish and promote ethics and standards in evaluation practice within Australia and New Zealand. The Society does not maintain an office. The postal address of the Society is P.O. Box 223, Lyneham, ACT, 2602, Australia.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2006

Note 13: Cash Flow Information

(a) Reconciliation of net cash relating to operating activities to net surplus

	2006 \$	2005 \$
Net surplus	(12,695)	65,582
Non-cash flows in operating surplus:		
Depreciation and amortisation	257	239
Changes in assets and liabilities:		
Receivables	7,061	1,007
Other assets	(1,457)	(9,390)
Payables	(5,548)	4,864
Unearned revenue	365	(3,560)
Net cash relating to operating activities	<u>(12,017)</u>	<u>58,742</u>

(b) Non-cash transactions

There were no non-cash investing or financing transactions during the current financial year.

(c) Unused credit facilities

The Society does not have any credit facilities.

Note 14: Financial Instruments**(a) Financial Risk Management**

The Society's principal financial instruments comprise cash at bank, receivables and accounts payable. These financial instruments arise from the operations of the Society. The Society does not have any derivative instruments at 30 June 2006. It is, and has been throughout the period under review, the Society's policy that no trading in financial instruments shall be undertaken. The main risks arising from the Society's financial instruments are interest rate risk and credit risk. The policies for managing each of these risks are summarised below.

Interest rate risk

Interest rate risk is the risk that the value of a financial asset or liability will change due to interest rate fluctuations. The interest rate applicable to each class of financial asset and liability are set out below.

Financial assets:

> Variable rate cash deposits totalling \$67,982 at the average rate of 1.7%.

> Money market call account of \$108,580 at the average rate of 5.65%.

Credit risk

The maximum exposure to credit risk of the Society at balance date to recognised financial assets is the carrying amount as disclosed in the balance sheet of the Society and notes thereto. The Society does not have any material credit risk exposure to any single debtor or group of debtors.

(b) Net Fair Values

The net fair value of financial assets and liabilities approximates the values shown in the balance sheet and the notes thereto.

Note 15: Subsequent Events

The financial report of the Company was authorised for issue on 22 August 2006 by the Board.

AES MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS

Region	1 July 1999	1 July 2000	1 July 2001	1 July 2002	1 July 2003	1 July 2004	1 July 2005	1 July 2006
NZ - Auckland	26	23	24	26	29	33	31	34
NZ - Wellington & South Island	77	72	80	84	84	97	108	116
NZ - South Island	10	3						
ACT	68	71	64	72	65	50	75	85
NSW	105	107	94	100	104	92	103	106
NT	36	29	19	16	15	21	13	11
QLD	77	70	63	74	83	87	87	94
SA	64	63	52	51	55	56	71	82
TAS	16	13	7	7	10	14	12	9
VIC	132	129	109	125	124	127	138	151
WA	67	67	62	66	72	58	71	56
International	15	18	18	20	17	17	19	20
Reciprocal	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
TOTAL	694	666	592	642	659	652	729	765
New members	74	48	89	134	151	142	209	174
Non renewals		76	163	102	134	149	132	138