

Annual report 2013–14

Our vision



QUALITY EVALUATION THAT MAKES
A DIFFERENCE

Our mission



TO STRENGTHEN AND PROMOTE EVALUATION
PRACTICE, THEORY AND USE

Our values



In December 2000 the AES adopted a Code of Ethics to guide its activities and the behaviour of members. In essence the guiding principle is that:

WHEN COMMISSIONING, CONDUCTING OR REPORTING AN EVALUATION, MEMBERS SHOULD STRIVE TO UPHOLD THE ETHICAL PRINCIPLES AND ASSOCIATED PROCEDURES ENDORSED BY THE AES IN THE GUIDELINES FOR THE ETHICAL CONDUCT OF EVALUATIONS.

Contents

About us	2
Aims of the AES	2
Member benefits	3
Corporate governance	4
Board and staff	5
President's report	7
Treasurer's report	13
The year's highlights	15
International Conference	15
Conference Support Grants Program	16
Awards for Excellence	17
Members	18
Membership trends	18
Special Interest Groups (SIGs)	19
Regional networks	19
AES committees and working groups	23
Indigenous Taskforce	24
AES Life Members and Fellows	25
Finances	26
Budget 2014–16	26
Financial Statements	27
Auditor's Report	38

About us

The Australasian Evaluation Society (AES) is a professional organisation for people involved in evaluation including evaluation practitioners, managers, teachers and students of evaluation, and other interested individuals.

It has close to 900 members involved in all aspects of evaluation and performance measurement. The AES is governed by a Board of members and managed by an Executive Officer and staff.

Members represent diverse areas of evaluation practice and sectors and meet regularly through regional networks, committees, and Special Interest Groups. The AES offers professional development through an annual international conference and regular workshops and seminars.

AIMS OF THE AES

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

- establishing and promoting ethics and standards in evaluation practice as a service to the community of evaluators and users of evaluations
- encouraging advances in the theory and practice of evaluation by publishing such advances and by recognising outstanding contributions
- providing education and training in matters related to evaluation
- providing forums for networking and the discussion of ideas including society publications, seminars, workshops and conferences
- acting as an advocate for evaluation and encouraging understanding about the use and application of evaluation
- linking members who have similar evaluation interests, and
- other activities consistent with this aim.



MEMBER BENEFITS

Recognition and support

Belonging to the longest established professional evaluation organisation in Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand, with a network of more than 1,000 practitioners, commissioners, and academics involved in all aspects of evaluative enquiry and performance measurement.

Professional learning opportunities

Opportunities are available to learn from leading local and international expert evaluators through the annual conferences and professional learning activities. Keep up-to-date through our publications, workshops, seminars, discussion groups and conferences.

Networking

Make contacts with colleagues in evaluation by joining in regional group meetings and other activities for training, networking and discussion of current evaluation topics.

Publications

Online, member-only access to the *Evaluation Journal of Australasia (EJA)* and the Guidelines for the Ethical Conduct of Evaluations.

Members' centre

Have electronic access to information and resources for members only, including the latest issue of the *EJA*, issues of e-news, and access to the Directory of AES members.

AES Awards for Excellence in Evaluation

Members are eligible for nomination for the prestigious AES Awards for Excellence in Evaluation.

Consultants' directory

You can profile your evaluation services and consultancy through our online Consultants' directory and receive tender information made available to the AES.

Annual International Evaluation Conference

Stay in touch with the latest trends and issues in evaluation through the annual AES International Conference, for which members receive advance notice and discount registration fees.

International links

Be part of an international network of evaluation societies.

Member discounts

- Benefit from discounts to QSR's highly valued NVivo software and support services as well as opportunities to share accessible online professional learning opportunities.
- Leading insurance broker, Aon, provides AES members a 15% discount off the standard consultants' insurance rate for Professional Indemnity and Public Liability Insurance.

Corporate Governance

How we are governed

The Society is incorporated under the Australian Capital Territory Associations Incorporation Act 1991. A board of management provides overall governance and strategic direction for the Society. The Board is legally responsible for all of the Society's decisions and activities. The Executive Officer has responsibility for implementing the directions and decisions of the Board.

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 Incorporation Act 1991 (Australian Capital Territory) and the provisions set out in the Society's Constitution and Policies.

Appointment of the Board

Following adoption of the new constitution at the Annual General Meeting on 3 September 2009 the Board consists of four named office bearers (President, Vice-President, Treasurer and Secretary) and two ordinary board members all elected by the membership. The Board has the discretion to appoint up to three ordinary board members, taking into account the overall mix of knowledge, skill and attributes of board members.

This new Board structure came into effect at the 2010 Annual General Meeting.

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.

Indemnity of the Board

In accordance with the Associations Incorporation Act 1991 and the Society's own policies, the AES has directors' and officers' insurance and professional indemnity for all Board members.

Incorporation

The move of the Society's office to Victoria means that we are obliged to reconsider our incorporation status. The newly elected board will consider recommendations from the current board to reincorporate and hold a General Meeting of members to consider a resolution about our incorporation.

Board and Staff

President: David Roberts

David Roberts has done many jobs including actor, truck driver, barman, youth worker, community advocate and public servant. He now runs his own consultancy company RobertsBrown Pty. Ltd. doing evaluations and research.

He has over 35 years' experience in evaluation and research. His experience includes three major, cross-portfolio policy reviews for the Council of Australian Governments. He has particular expertise in qualitative research and in questionnaire development.

David has been appointed or elected to more than 20 Boards of community organisations including: the Board of Trustees for the International Organisation for Cooperation in Evaluation (IOCE); the Management Group for EvalPartners; Inaugural Chair of the ACT Health Advisory Council, President of the ACT Health Care Consumers Association and Vice-President of the Housing and Disability Forum.

David's management experience includes: Executive Officer of the Riverland Health and Social Welfare Council; management of five grants programs; and Business Manager for the Product Integrity Animal and Plant Health Group in the Commonwealth Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry Australia.

David is currently finishing a Master of Evaluation at Melbourne University examining the psychological processes underlying responses in evaluation interviews.

Vice-president: Liz Smith

Liz is a founding partner of Litmus Limited, a specialist evaluation and social research consultancy in Wellington, New Zealand. With over 20 years' evaluation experience, Liz has expertise in complex multi-year health and social sector evaluations, as well as rapid response evaluations. She has also been privileged to be involved in development evaluations across Asia-Pacific. A systems focus underpins her approach to evaluation recognising the interconnection of systems and the interplay of complex variables when making evaluative judgements. She strives to ensure that evaluation findings contribute to capacity building and social change.

Liz has been a member of the Wellington Committee of the AES for over eight years, and is currently the NZ AES Convenor. In 2013, Liz was honoured to be elected as Vice-president. 2013–14 has been a year of growth and learning about the governance of the Society. Liz has led the NZ AES Review and sought to strengthen AES links with ANZEA and other professional organisations in New Zealand.

Treasurer: Bronwyn Rossingh

Bronwyn commenced her career working in chartered accounting firms before channelling her expertise in financial management, research, evaluation and training with Indigenous communities in Western Australia and the Northern Territory. Her research relating to not-for-profit organisations and Indigenous communities has been presented at international accounting conferences and she has publications in accounting, accountability and education. A number of recommendations arising from her research initiated changes within the NT Government concerning the funding process relating to Indigenous groups.

Bronwyn is a CPA and has a strong business background. Her PhD study was titled 'Culture Legitimate Accountability based on Indigenous notions of accountability contrasted with governmental based accountability'. She works at the Charles Darwin University where she project manages a number of research and other projects. Bronwyn promotes evaluation within

Board and Staff

the university and has been Treasurer for the AES since 2013 gaining a strong strategic and operational knowledge of the AES. Working closely with the AES Board and staff she strives to build the AES towards a stronger business model.

Secretary: Brett Lineham

Brett Lineham is an economist with a passion for economic and social research, evaluation and development. Recent work has focused on workplace productivity, health and safety, construction productivity, Pacific Island worker employment and employment regulatory changes.

Brett worked in international development in the Pacific and Asia (education and training) and carried out domestic work in health (strategic policy), special education, housing, the National Library and development of the Social Workers Registration Board.

Management roles included managing the New Zealand Housing Research Centre, Director of the New Zealand Planning Council and of a Parliamentary research unit, managing NZQA International and his own consultancy company, Extraskills.

In the NZ Ministry of Foreign Affairs he was posted in Asia, Europe, America and the Pacific. He was closely involved with disarmament both domestically and internationally.

Strongly believing in community service, he is a school governor, a netball umpire, coaches youth cricket and sings.

Brett is a member of the NZ committee of AES and Secretary of the AES Board.

Ordinary members

Amohia Boulton
Lenore Dembsky (to February 2014)
Delyth Lloyd
Duncan Rintoul
Kate Roberts (to April 2014)

Meeting attendance

Amohia Boulton	6 of 10
Brett Lineham	11 of 11
Bronwyn Rossingh	10 of 11
David Roberts	11 of 11
Delyth Lloyd	5 of 5
Duncan Rintoul	11 of 11
Kate Roberts	4 of 5
Lenore Dembsky	1 of 2
Liz Smith	10 of 11

Staff

Executive Officer
Bill Wallace

Administration Officer
Gillian Holley

President's report

The last year has been a challenging one for the AES with plans to further implement the Strategic Plan; major changes to structures; bringing the conference management in-house; an increase in the workshop program; and an increase in revenue.

Unfortunately our progress in these tasks was compromised by a number of changes to key staff. We have had four Executive Officers over the last twelve months. Two of the Executive Officers resigned and one was an interim temporary appointment. We are very fortunate that Bill Wallace agreed to step into the role in May and has done sterling work for us since then. The Board also decided that our financial situation was unsustainable so we took action to reduce staff costs.

Such staffing changes in such a small organisation had a significant impact on our ability to progress with the Business Plan 2013–16 (the 'Business Plan') and meet our financial targets. The events of the last 24 months have shown that we do not yet have the organisational infrastructure to operate as the Board had planned and much more work is needed to build the AES's organisational capability. Not surprisingly, much of our focus in the office and at the Board over the last 12 months has of necessity been on internal and administrative issues. Despite the challenges, we have made large strides forward.

As you will see in the Treasurer's report, while our expenses were high, our revenue was greater than in the previous year and our current assets have risen significantly. The Board is very confident that the steps we have taken this year will bear fruit in 2015 and 2016.

I have grouped our other achievements in four broad areas that align (with some modification) with the Chiang Mai Declaration, particularly Clause 5, and the objective and outcomes of EvalPartners.

The four areas are:

- organisational strength
- evaluation theory, practice and capability
- creating an enabling environment for evaluation, and
- equity, diversity and ethics

A stronger AES

We have made a start on strengthening our governance processes and putting in place the policies and procedures necessary for an employer. Among other changes we established a number of operational committees working directly with the Executive Officer. The work of those committees is outlined below.

An HR Sub-committee of the Board was established to look at policies and procedures and address some of the staffing issues.

We also established a Policy Advisory Group (PAG) made up largely of Board members. The PAG has five taskforces each chaired by a member of the Board and made up of interested and qualified AES members with responsibility for specific policy areas. The work of some of the taskforces is reported under other headings below. Two of the taskforces related to building a stronger AES.

One such taskforce worked on the changes to our incorporation status. Most of you will be aware that setting up the office in Melbourne means we need to re-incorporate. I am grateful for Kate Roberts' excellent work in leading the work on the re-incorporation, and I expect a final plan for that process will be put to the new Board after the AGM. I anticipate there will be a virtual General Meeting to consider the proposal soon.

A second taskforce, led by Liz Smith, consulted with New Zealand members on a range of issues, including our relationship with ANZEA and the

President's report

re-incorporation. She and the team are to be congratulated on a fine piece of work.

Part of the plan for 2014 was to bring the organisation of the conference in-house rather than paying money to a commercial company. The Darwin Conference is the first one under the new arrangements and is a testament to the work of Bronwyn Rossingh, Desleigh Dunnett, Becky Nathan, Bill Wallace and Kerry Grace, supported by a number of others.

We have also completed and analysed a member survey to help us understand your needs. The survey will be an important tool over the next year or so to help us provide better services to our members.

I'd also like to congratulate Ben Barnes for his efforts at revitalising the New South Wales regional network.

There is still much work to be done, especially with our member networks in some States and the SIGs but we are building strength.

Evaluation theory, practice and capability

Our work on evaluation practice and building evaluation capability has always included the conference, workshops, the journal and the awards for excellence.

The Brisbane Conference was a great success with 411 paying customers and some great keynote speakers. It was a real coup to bring Michael Scriven to the conference. Congratulations should go to all those involved, especially Marion Norton and Silvia Cosier.

Our workshop program this year started off slowly but has been very successful with over 250 attendees. We look forward to a larger number of workshops over the next twelve months.

The Journal and Publications Committee and Bill Wallace have done a great job of redesigning the *Evaluation Journal of Australia*, turning it into an online journal and the opportunity to extend its reach beyond our own membership.

This year also saw the inaugural NGO Evaluation forum meetings in Melbourne to support evaluation of international development by the community sector.

The Awards and Recognition Committee headed by Jenny Neale has also made great progress in promoting the award winning work and making it accessible to others as exemplars of excellence.

Enabling environment

'Creating an enabling environment for evaluation' is a goal that brings together some of the objectives outlined in the AES 10 Year Strategy. We have made a good start on working on this goal.

The Stakeholder Engagement Taskforce (SET) has largely completed the stakeholder identification exercise started in its previous incarnation as the Stakeholder Engagement Committee.

Some key members of the SET and others contributed to a submission to the Australian Government on the Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act (PGPA). Some ACT members and I have had further discussions with the Australian Department of Finance about how the AES might help with the implementation of the PGPA Act.

Other members worked with NSW Treasury on some projects to improve evaluation in NSW Government agencies.

We have also been working on developing our partnerships with a range of bodies, including the Institute of Public Administration Australia (IPAA), Charles Darwin University, the University of Melbourne, RMIT and the Australian Market and Social Research Society (AMSRS). For example, we have co-hosted two sessions with AMSRS on Evaluation and Market Research.

The Board has delegated some key liaison roles notably:

- Anne Markiewicz as our liaison with Papua New Guinea's Association of Professional Evaluators (AoPE)
- Dorothy Lucks and Suzanne Blogg as our representatives on the International Organisation for Cooperation in Evaluation (IOCE) and EvalPartners.

Equity, diversity and ethics

Equity and diversity for the AES relates both to evaluation practice and to equity and diversity within the AES itself. Our primary focus for the time being is equity for Indigenous peoples. The AES Board made a decision last year that our first priority was to work on improving the way we work with Indigenous peoples both within the AES and as a discipline.

Two Indigenous members were appointed to the Board: an Indigenous Australian (Ms Lenore Dembski) and a Maori woman (Dr Amohia Boulton). An indigenous taskforce was also established to provide advice to the PAG, and hence to the Board. Unfortunately, after six months Lenore found that her health and other commitments made it impossible to continue on the Board. I am sure the other Directors will join me in thanking Lenore for her invaluable contributions during her time on the Board and to wish her all the best for the future.

As a first step in developing an AES policy on Indigenous participation and Indigenous evaluation, there will be a workshop in Darwin to explore Indigenous perspectives on what the AES should work towards and what principles should inform our work.

Amohia Boulton also did an excellent job in heading up the Conference Support Grants Committee. She restructured the Committee so it was made up of Indigenous people and they did a wonderful job of attracting nominations this year, including six Australian Indigenous people. Thanks to Bill Wallace's outstanding efforts in raising sponsorship funds, seven grants were awarded for the Darwin conference this year.

MY VISION FOR THE FUTURE

The AES has come a long way over the last few years but there is a lot more work to do. Now is the time to start thinking about building on the work we have done and looking at what we want to achieve over the next five years. I would like to take this opportunity to start the ball rolling and hopefully generate discussion and debate about what we do and how we do it.

I will start by restating some general ideas about what the AES is and what we want to do and then look at what that might mean for our planning over the next few years.

The Board revised our Vision and Mission statements this year so that the AES Vision now reads:

'Quality Evaluation that makes a difference'

The Mission is:

'To strengthen and promote evaluation practice, theory and use'.

The Vision and Mission align well with the current objects of the AES and with the objects proposed in the draft constitution for the re-incorporated AES.

- Establish and promote ethics and standards in evaluation practice.
- Encourage advances in the theory and practice of evaluation.
- Provide education and training related to evaluation.
- Provide forums for networking and the discussion of ideas.
- Increase understanding of evaluation and advocate for quality evaluation.
- Be inclusive of indigenous and all cultural perspectives.
- Have governance systems that reflect and incorporate best practice.
- Provide a forum that allows the diverse voices of the AES community to be heard. The voices to include those who commission the evaluations, those who carry them out and the evaluands.

President's report

PRIORITY AREAS FOR THE NEXT FIVE YEARS

As I outlined in my report for 2014, I have found it useful to simplify our Objects and the ten Strategic Priorities using the objectives and outcomes outlined by EvalPartners and in the Chiang Mai declaration.

Equity, diversity and ethics

Underpinning all of our work are some moral principles or values that I believe most of us share and that should be applied to all areas of our work. The AES Code of Ethics and the AES Guidelines for the Ethical Conduct of Evaluations are a good starting point: but we need to apply the principles of equity and diversity to the AES as an organisation and to our interactions with others. As part of such an approach, the draft for the new Constitution contains a Preamble, which recognises the value of diversity, the principles of equity and recognises the role and contributions of Indigenous peoples.

However, words in a Preamble are insufficient. I believe our first priority must be to improve the way we work with Indigenous peoples both within the AES and within evaluation as a discipline. The way we work with Indigenous peoples should be based on principles developed by the Indigenous peoples. The literature suggests that such principles may include working in partnerships with Indigenous communities and organisations within a framework of Indigenous self-determination, Indigenous control and reciprocity. Our strategies need to recognise and address power inequalities and make genuine efforts to empower Indigenous peoples in their interactions with and membership of the AES; and to empower Indigenous participation in evaluations.

I urge the AES to continue to work with Indigenous peoples to develop principles for partnerships and build an AES that employs such principles and actively recognises and values the role and contributions of Indigenous peoples.

The AES may also wish to consider developing and publishing a Values Statement that can help inform its policies and activities.

Given what I believe to be the ethical premise of most of our members and the potential tax advantages of being a charity, the AES might also wish to consider adding an Objective to the constitution along the lines:

'Contribute to the improvements in the lives of the residents of Australia, New Zealand and other nations in Australasia, particularly those who are most disadvantaged.'

Stronger AES

A major area of work for the AES is to build the organisational infrastructure: the structures, policies and procedures that make an organisation efficient, effective and sustainable.

While we have made a start in this area, there is much more work to be done. The AES will only be strong when we have a solid financial base and active members working collaboratively to achieve our goals. An important task that should be done as soon as possible is to ensure we have appropriate HR policies and guidelines for how we work together.

Evaluation theory, practice and capability

Improving the theory and practice of evaluation necessitates a range of activities including

- supporting opportunities for improvements in theory and practice and the transfer of such knowledge
- professional development and other activities to increase the evaluation capabilities of practitioners, governments, the community sector, media commentators, business, etc.
- developing standards and accreditation.

Much of our effort has been on building the capabilities of evaluation practitioners through the workshop program and to a lesser extent the Conference and the Journal. I would like the AES to look at how we can build the evaluation knowledge of some of our key stakeholders, especially non-practitioners such as users and commissioners. One option I would love to see is the establishment of an Evaluation Training Fund for the NGOs that would provide subsidies to NGOs for staff members to attend evaluation training courses.

The Journal and the Conference also support opportunities for improving and transferring knowledge. I would like to see the AES consider how we can make those vehicles more effective and whether there are other opportunities we could support.

Standards and accreditation

In order to realise the Vision and Objects we need to make some decisions about what constitutes quality evaluation. The Code of Ethics and the Ethical Conduct of Evaluations are useful but they are not complete evaluation standards. A key task in front of the AES is to develop standards for evaluation. Such standards need to cover a wide range of evaluation methods, applications and be culturally appropriate.

There are a variety of standards used around the world and some of those standards have been adapted in Australia for government departments. It should not be difficult to use the existing standards to develop AES Standards.

I would, however, urge us to think about the range of evaluations, the range of purposes to which evaluations may be put and for us to be open to new methods of data collection. In particular, we should be open to a range of approaches including those based on hermeneutic or phenomenological principles, or participant-driven evaluations.

I would like to see accreditation of expert evaluators along the lines of the Qualified Practising Market Researcher (QPMR) accreditation by the Australian Market and Social Research Society (AMSRS). The QPMR accreditation is widely recognised in Australia in government as well as in the private sector and is sometimes specified as a requirement for tenders. A QPMR need not be skilled in all methods and techniques but they must meet competency standards in at least one suite of methods and pass the ethics exam. QPMR's are also required to undertake continuous education to retain their accreditation.

Enabling environment

The notion of an enabling environment is key to the international efforts to promote evaluation. The idea is to build an enabling environment for evaluation, a space for evaluation in the minds

of the broader Australian and New Zealand communities and in the minds of Government. An environment in which there is an appreciation of the role and value of evaluation evidence in:

- assisting governments to develop policies and improve programs
- providing the public with information about community needs and the impacts of government policies
- helping the community sector and business improve their processes and projects.

Achieving such an enabling environment has multiple dimensions and won't occur overnight. Three such dimensions are: the public environment, the Government environment and the international environment.

Public environment

Changes in the public environment imply that the AES has a public presence as well as a stronger presence with stakeholders. In turn that implies a more active role in media and public commentary. I would like us to have a communications strategy with clear goals, consistent messages and a contact person for the media. This is not just a role for the Office Holders of the AES but a role that all members can play. The limitations are of course that only authorised persons can make any commitments and that messages should be consistent. The work of Susan Garner, Dorothy Lucks and Duncan Rintoul on 'Talking Up Evaluation' is a good example of the sorts of things I would like to see developed.

Government environment

The messages for the public should also inform our work with governments but we should work towards other goals with Government as well.

Our goals for evaluation might include:

- Explicit statements by each Government to the effect that the Government strives to continuously improve its performance through reflection and learning about its practice.
- National, State and Local Governments provide incentives and develop a culture that supports managing for results and continuous improvement (performance improvement

President's report

is fundamentally a cultural not technical endeavour).

- Explicit recognition that evaluation is a key tool to support evidence based policy and decision-making in government (NSW Commission of Audit into Government Expenditure 2012) and can be used to assess needs, the impacts of a program, the effectiveness or efficiency of a program; or to help decision-makers improve programs and services.
- Explicit recognition that evaluation is a vital tool for government transparency to voters in a democracy: and that evaluation reports should be published unless there is a reason not to do so.
- Each government agency be required to have an evaluation plan published and tabled in the relevant Parliament or Council.
- Each government agency should establish Performance Improvement Committees and Chief Performance Improvement Officers.
- Collaborative mechanisms for establishing performance targets for Departments and the ongoing investment in longitudinal data sets to support non-financial performance management within and across entities.
- Each government agency should exhibit 'performance leadership', senior leaders demand performance feedback and drive continuous improvement.
- National, State and Local Governments have a strong evaluation infrastructure, e.g. policies, guidelines, staff resources, IT systems, monitoring and evaluation systems. Including a centralised advisory service (help desk) function. Canada's Centre of Evaluation Excellence serves as a model.
- National, State and Local Governments provide comprehensive capacity building opportunities for executive and officer level staff.
- National, State and Local Governments encourage and enhance the use of program logics to clarify with sufficient precision how interventions are understood to bring about specified changes.

- Evaluation must be fit for purpose and meet the relevant standards.

Once we have agreed on our goals then I would like a policy document similar to the American Evaluation Association's 'An Evaluation Roadmap for Effective Government'. Such a Roadmap could be published and used in discussions with Governments at all levels. Ideally, the Roadmap would lead to our goals being represented in National Evaluation Policies (NEP) in Australia and New Zealand.

Alternatively, or perhaps as an interim step, we could use the Roadmap to work towards agreements with relevant national and state and local governments about the role of evaluation and the arrangements to support evaluations. Some or all of the relevant Governments may already have adopted elements of the goals but it is important that we work towards consistency of outcomes and have a shared understanding of what we wish to achieve.

International environment

I would add that I take a broad view of what constitutes an enabling environment: recognising that we exist in an international context that we can influence and that can in turn influence our immediate environment. I therefore see it as crucial that we continue to support the development of evaluation societies and our work on evaluation in the international arena.

One of our Strategic Priorities is evaluation capability development in the Asia/Pacific region. The focus of the Strategic Priority is on both individual practitioners and on emerging national evaluation associations.

However, I believe we should also consider whether the AES should work towards a regional evaluation society. I believe there should be a regional body and I don't believe it should be the AES as it is currently constituted. I suggest the first step might be to develop a forum to discuss regional issues such as: co-operation across countries, promoting evaluation within the region and promoting national evaluation societies.

David Roberts
President

Treasurer's report

STRONG INDICATORS FOR SUCCESS IN 2015 AND BEYOND

I would like to thank my fellow board members and AES staff for a very collegial effort over the past year that has assisted in building a more sustainable governance and business model to support the AES moving forward. During the financial year a number of challenging strategic, financial and staffing-related decisions were necessitated. The commitment, passion and professionalism of the each board member, in addition to support from the membership and the extraordinary efforts of Bill Wallace as the current acting Executive Officer, have greatly contributed to the organisation's sound recovery with strong indicators for success in 2015 and beyond.

For the 2014 financial year the AES incurred a loss of \$59,479 compared to the budgeted loss of around \$14,000. The difference between actual and anticipated loss is largely due to the impact of unexpected HR matters and the costs of resolving these matters, including putting in place interim measures to ensure operational effectiveness. The Board actively managed these matters to resolve them in the least damaging way for the organisation as well as building in mechanisms to minimise such risks in the future. If not for these unplanned and difficult to predict events, the organisation would have been on target to achieve budget, or even exceed it.

The following analysis presents the key movements and balances resulting from the organisation's activities for the financial year. Highlights to note relate to the strong profit

delivered by the 2013 Brisbane conference of \$103,619 and the resulting profit of \$67,093 from the Professional Learning Workshop program.

Financial Analysis

BALANCE SHEET ANALYSIS AGAINST PREVIOUS FINANCIAL YEAR

- Cash and cash equivalents balance increased by \$116,348*
- Total assets situation has improved by \$122,269
- Total liabilities increased by \$181,748 (includes unearned 2014 conference income of \$171,170)*
- Net Assets/Equity reduction of \$59,479

PROFIT AND LOSS ANALYSIS AGAINST PREVIOUS FINANCIAL YEAR

- Overall income increased by \$29,226
- Memberships decreased by \$9,355***
- Conference profit increased by \$58,469**
- Professional Learning Workshops program income decreased by \$11,530
- Professional Learning Workshops program expenditure decreased by \$16,285
- Overall expenditure increased by \$80,615

*The AES is self-managing the 2014 International Evaluation Conference. In previous years the operational aspects were project managed by Arinex. All prepaid conference registrations received in the 2013/4 financial year have been directly paid to the AES. This income is not reflected in the income and expenditure statement for the 2013/4 financial year as it has been taken up in the balance sheet as Other Liabilities - Income in Advance representing \$171,170 of \$205,767. This explains why the 2013/4 bank account reflects a significantly higher balance than compared to the 2012/3 financial year. This registration income will be disclosed in the income and expenditure statement in the 2014/5 financial year as will conference expenditure relating to the 2014 conference.

**Under the Arinex model in previous financial years a net position only was disclosed as income in the financial statements.

***Decline in memberships mostly due to the impact of the tightening of budgets by governments and related public service redundancies

Treasurer's report

Budget for 2014–15

A budget surplus of \$31,855 is anticipated for 2014–15. This surplus will be achieved through the following core organisational activities and economies and efficiencies therein:

- an improved professional learning business model with estimated profit of \$47,690
- a consistent marketing approach to increase membership income to \$131,275
- an estimated conference profit of \$75,620, and
- a reduction of \$120,021 relating to administration and governance costs compared to 2013–14.

I would like to extend a special thanks to Maria Eliadis, the former AES Executive Officer. Her push for strategic business planning linked to value-adding and quality services for members has become an organisational standard.

I would also like to welcome and express thanks to Gillian Holley for the support and positive impact since recently commencing as the AES Administration Officer.

Bronwyn Rossingh CPA
Treasurer

The year's highlights

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

The 2013 AES International Conference in Brisbane welcomed 449 delegates from 17 countries with the program theme *Evaluation shaping a better future: Priorities, pragmatics, promise and power*.

The conference featured five keynote speakers:

- Professor Michael Scriven (US)
- Professor Jennifer Greene (US)
- Professor Saville Kushner (NZ)
- Nan Wheipeihana (NZ)
- Dr Asmi Wood (Australia).

The Conference was opened by a traditional welcome from actor, opera singer, songwoman and law-woman, Maroochy Barambah, from the Turrbal people – the traditional owners of Brisbane.

As well as keynote sessions, 105 presentations were delivered over three days, through roundtables, symposia, mini workshops, short and long papers, covering the following sub-themes:

- evaluation capacity building
- essential skills and understandings
- evaluation and value
- influence and impact
- large-scale systems and interventions
- performance measurement systems and strategies
- influence and impact
- large-scale systems and interventions
- responsive and responsible practices
- technology
- theory and methodology.

In response to previous conference feedback, the Queensland organising committee set out to design the conference to be inclusive, interactive, innovative, challenging and invigorating – along the way inviting community input into program design through surveys, focus groups and Facebook. To achieve the design objectives, new features on the conference program included:

- *We can't afford not to evaluate. So why don't we?* Q & A plenary session, facilitated by Christine Flynn, with panellists representing all sectors
- *Conversations with keynotes*: small group discussion sessions with keynote speakers
- *Evaluation Book Club* facilitated by Kim Grey and John Stoney discussing two articles by Michael Scriven
- hot topic table sessions with topics nominated by delegates
- emergent agenda – an open space technology session facilitated by Jess Dart
- forums on the AES strategic agenda
- the Professional Learning Journey mural which invited delegates to record visually the capability development and training that has been important to their evaluation practice and what they want to do next.

Other new organisational features included:

- increased encouragement and opportunity to use social media, especially in the Q & A session
- online availability of the conference program for searching on phones and ipads – also benefiting those who like to travel light – and enabling immediate updating of program changes. The online program had over 700 page hits during the conference.
- a welcoming Yari space to chat and find out about local cultural options or chill out in comfort.

The year's highlights

The inaugural Rosalind Hurworth Prize for the best full conference paper was awarded to Lesley Greenaway for her paper, *'Evaluation that Empowers' – a model for generating evaluation-minded organisations*.

The social program included a range of events. 70 overseas delegates met with AES Board members, committee members and staff at an International delegate dinner on the first evening of the conference. A social hour with a cash bar at the conference venue was very popular. An early morning coffee was arranged for first time delegates to meet the AES President and the Executive Officer, and early morning guided walks through parklands and botanic gardens were offered. As well as the AES awards ceremony, the conference dinner featured a talented young Aboriginal dance troupe from the Queensland Aboriginal Centre for the Performing Arts.

The pre-conference workshop program attracted 311 registrants for 22 workshops – a record number for an AES conference – conducted over the 2.5 days prior to the conference.

Thank you again to the sponsors of the 2013 International Conference:

- ARTD Consultants
- Clear Horizon
- Coffey
- Colmar Brunton
- Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs
- NVIVO
- Urbis.
- Davidson.

CONFERENCE SUPPORT GRANTS PROGRAM

Every year the AES makes available a limited number of grants to support emerging Indigenous evaluators from Australia, Aotearoa New Zealand, the Pacific Islands and Timor Leste to attend the AES International Conferences. Grants are awarded on the basis of applications complying with submission requirements and extent of achievement against the assessment criteria.

Four grants were awarded for the 2013 AES International Conference:

- Amelia Turner
- Doyen Radcliffe
- Melitta Rigamoto
- Valda Hoarder.

The AES would like to acknowledge the sponsors whose generous and consistent support makes it possible to offer this program:

- Roberts Evaluation
- Colmar Brunton
- ARTD
- The Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs.

Selection panel 2014

Silvia Cosier (chair)
Amohia Boulton
June Lennie

AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE

The AES Awards for Excellence in Evaluation are awarded annually and recognise exemplary evaluation practice, evaluation systems or evaluation capacity building in Australasia (Australia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea and Pacifica). Awarded annually, the awards provide significant peer recognition for leading evaluators, leading evaluations and evaluation best practice. The award recipients represent best-in-class for each Award category.

2013 Awards Committee:

Jenny Neale (chair)
April Bennett
Dana Cross
David McDonald
Ellen Vasilias
Yoland Wadsworth
Jerome Winstone

2013 Awards for Excellence recipients

→ OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION TO EVALUATION (ET&S) AWARD

Anne Markiewicz (pictured right)

This award recognises an AES member for their outstanding career contribution to the objectives of the AES, to evaluation theory and to the evaluation profession in Australasia.

→ BEST EVALUATION POLICY AND SYSTEMS AWARD

Nan Wehipeihana, Kate McKegg and **Kataraina Papi** of Research Evaluation Consultancy Limited (a member of the Kinnect Group), evaluators, and **Veronica Thompson** (Sport New Zealand) commissioner, for *He Oranga Poutama: What we have learned – a report on the developmental evaluation of He Oranga Poutama*

→ INDIGENOUS EVALUATION AWARD

Dr Annie Holden, ImpaxSIA Consulting, for *Visual Participatory Evaluation (VPE)* Cape York Aboriginal Australian Academy (CYAAA)

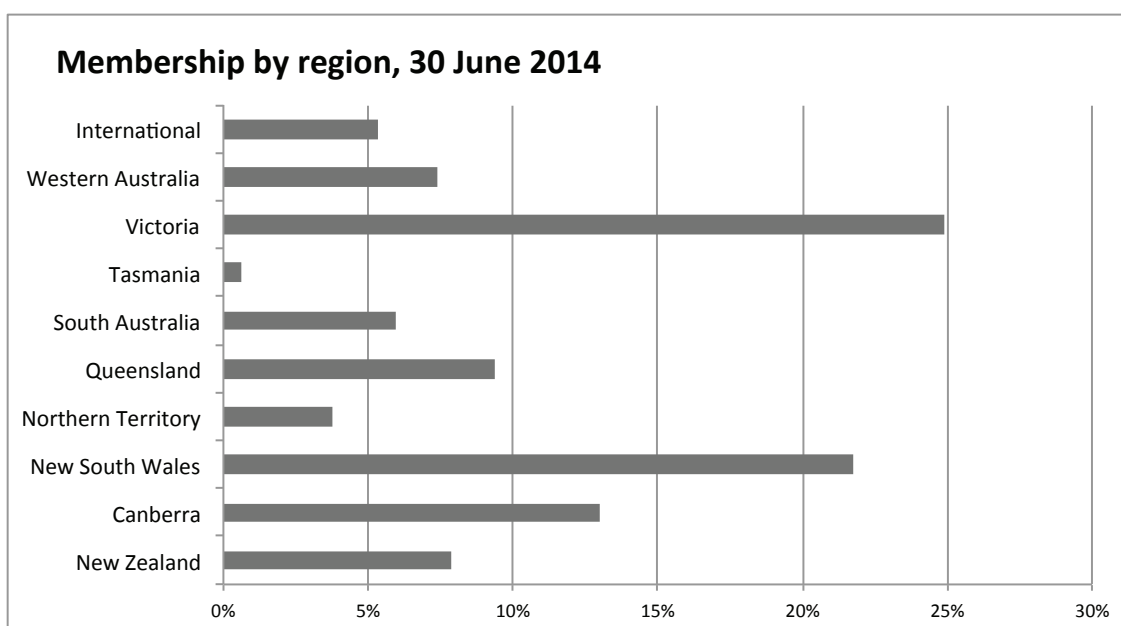
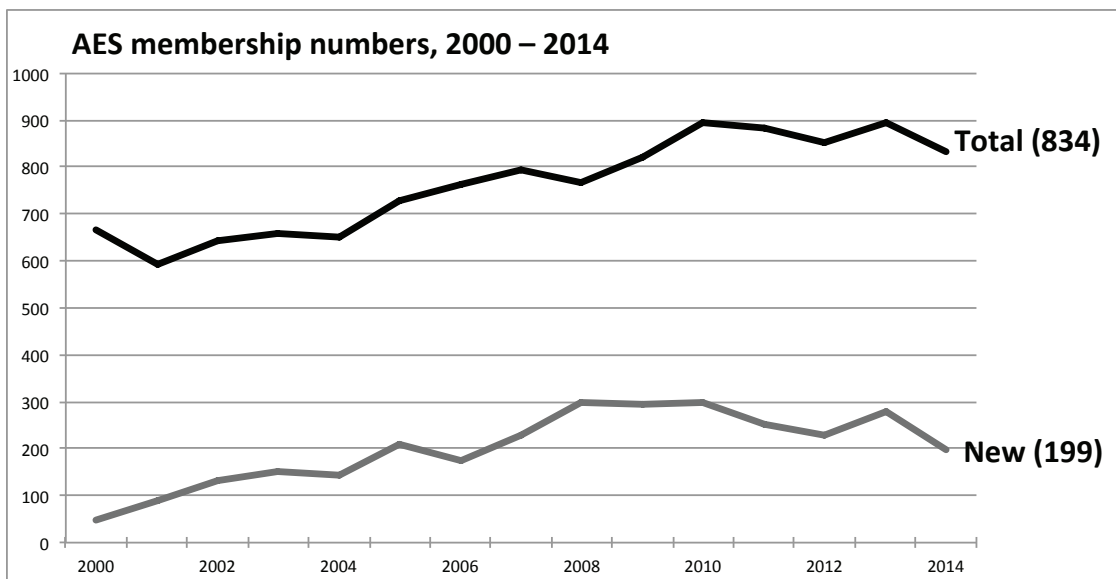


→ AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN EVALUATION IN THE AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND PUBLIC SECTORS

Dr David Matthews, Alison Hickman, Rebecca Karlson, Paul Bennett and **Lt Colonel David Garside** (commissioner) for Defence Campaign Assessment

To read the Awards' panel's citations for each of the above, go to <http://aes.asn.au/previous-awards-recipients.html>

Members



SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

The AES encourages its members to network around areas of mutual interest and to establish Special Interest Groups (SIGs). The SIGs contribute to the development of the AES conference program, offer specialist events, share interesting updates and explore topical debates.

Over 200 members subscribe to one or more of the five AES SIGs:

- Performance Measurement
- Realist Evaluation and Realist Synthesis
- Eval-Tech
- International Development.

Convenors:

Performance Measurement
Graham Smith

Realist Evaluation and Realist Synthesis
Andrew Hawkins
Emma Williams

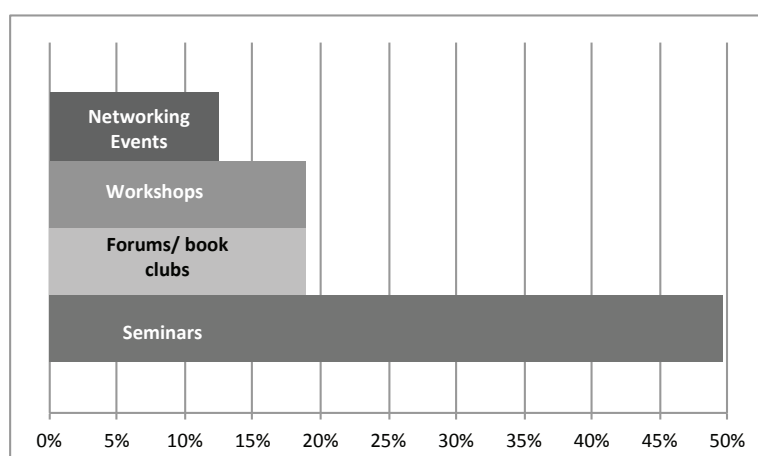
Eval-Tech
Sandra Stopher
Adrian Field

International Development
Currently inactive

REGIONAL NETWORKS

Over 1,500 participants from Aotearoa New Zealand and Australia attended 70 AES professional development and networking events during 2013–14 (outside of the annual conference). Several of these events involved partnering with other organisations, including the Institute of Public Administration Australia and government departments.

The following chart depicts the proportion of participation of Professional Learning activities by type.



Members

Aotearoa New Zealand

2013–14 was a period of reflection for NZ members. The NZ AES Review was undertaken which sought input from NZ members on the reincorporation of the AES, the role of the AES in NZ and our relationship with ANZEA. The review highlighted the long history of the AES in NZ. The Society's ongoing relevance and importance to members as their professional body. Members reflected on how the AES could better meet their needs and reinforced the importance of working effectively with ANZEA for the benefit of NZ evaluators.

Responding to members feedback, an evaluators' book club was launched and in the second half of the year regular monthly lunchtime seminars have been held. AES and ANZEA are discussing joint seminars. In seeking to better meet members' needs, further work is needed to offer greater inclusion to events and activities by members based outside of Wellington and to strengthen mentoring and professional development opportunities.

Some highlights for the year. We celebrated the success of Veronica Thompson, Sport New Zealand and Kate McKegg, Kataraina Pipi and Nan Wehipeihana in winning the AES Best Evaluation Award for Te Whetu Rēhua: A framework for defining as Māori participation in sport and recreation at a community level, with an award ceremony and presentation about the evaluation. Professor Bob

Picciotti challenged our thinking with his presentation on *Renewing Democratic Evaluation: The case for a progressive evaluation model* – a joint AES and Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade seminar.

Canberra

The ACT committee continues to support a lively professional culture of evaluation focussed on improving understanding of evaluation theory, practice and use across the ACT. In addition to hosting two AES workshops, and five other professional development and social functions, ranging from 'Hot Issues Breakfasts' through 'Brown bag Lunchtime Workshops' to 'Evaluation Book Clubs, the committee acknowledges the following highlights for the year.

The ACT Committee led a popular conference session in Brisbane with other State and Territory committees (September 2013). This session demonstrated the value of actively maintaining strong ties with other regional committees and involved an exchange of ideas about how committees can work to support their members.

We partnered with the Surveys and Management Section of the Statistical Society of Australia to deliver the *Canberra Panel Survey Forum, How to get value for panel surveys* presentation by Professor Peter Lynn (October 2014).

As stakeholders in the Commonwealth Performance

Framework, the Committee has been actively following the progress of the evaluation and performance management elements of the Public Governance, Performance and Accountability (PGPA) Act. In particular, this work includes coordinating the AES Submission to the Department of Finance consultation in early 2014. Reflecting the international evidence, the submission discussed the three intervention points necessary for a performance system to work: appropriate performance leadership; institutional infrastructure; and organisational capacity, including a performance culture to support the supply of quality performance information. Through the practical support provided by the ACT Committee, the AES is engaging with the Department of Finance and other organisations involved in the implementation of the Commonwealth Performance Framework.

New South Wales

During 2013–2014, the AES in NSW has held five days of paid workshops (around 100 participants) and has worked with NSW Treasury and IPAA NSW on two large evaluation events (over 200 participants).

For the first time in recent years, NSW has recently established a committee of AES members to conduct member activities. The newly established Committee will organise a range of professional development

opportunities, including reinstating the free seminar series, as well as continuing to support the paid workshops and working with other bodies to promote quality evaluation.

A major highlight on the NSW calendar was a series of Realist evaluation practitioner and policy maker workshops facilitated by Professor Nick Tilley (UK).

Northern Territory

The NT Regional Group has held bi-monthly skills development sessions in combination with a networking opportunity held on the alternate month. The NT Regional Group has focused on holding workshops and activities that have encouraged engagement with and promotion of the Darwin conference.

Throughout the 2013 and 2014 year, the NT Branch of the AES has pursued the guiding theme of 'Innovative and Dynamic Approaches to Evaluation'. We have encouraged members to participate in cross-sectoral learning and aimed to increased opportunities for exchanging knowledge across disciplines.

At least 50% of the seminars utilised teleconferencing, videoconferencing, webinar or skype facilities. Seminar outlines, resources and outcomes have all been posted on the AES website or emailed out to people on our mailing list after each seminar session to enable NT wide participation.

Highlights from this year included Margaret MacDonald's seminar on Collective Impact, which NT members greatly appreciated, and the NT AES Sunset Book Club which was a new addition to the calendar and also very well received.

Queensland

The main highlight of the year was holding the International Conference in Brisbane in September. We were delighted that over 440 delegates from 17 nations attended the conference at South Bank and 300 people attended pre-conference workshops.

Two workshops were held. Gill Westhorp presented a workshop on Realist Evaluation and Marion Norton conducted an Introduction to Evaluation workshop targeting the not-for-profit sector.

Monthly lunchtime seminars continued to be well-attended. Topics included performance measurement, survey design, evaluating leadership, ethics, realist evaluation methodology and new evaluation techniques using videos and laptops.

Thanks to a partnership with the Queensland Council of Social Services, seminar videos are available to members and supporters online. We are grateful to Community Information Support Services (a not-for-profit organisation) for continuing to provide the Queensland regional committee with administrative assistance.

Victoria

The main activity of the Victorian region committee has been to deliver its monthly seminar program. These well attended ninety-minute mid-week sessions provided an excellent opportunity for local members to not only hear presentations on topical evaluation subjects but also to network with fellow AES members and interested non-members and guests. Topics ranged across technical, organisational, social, economic and political aspects of evaluation. A wide range of government, academic and evaluation consultant speakers took part in this program.

Committee members Lee-Anne Molony, Farida Fleming and Ian Patrick prepared a submission supporting a bid for Melbourne to host the 2015 AES Conference. Following the success of the bid, the Victorian region committee worked over several months to engage with members interested in joining the conference organising team and to propose a conference convenor to the Board.

Farida Fleming led a working group that engaged with international NGOs in the region to establish an evaluation capacity building collaboration that has led to a program of joint seminars. Other activities supported by the region included three workshops organised by AES national office.

Members

Western Australia

A highlight in 2013–14 was the further strengthening of the alliance between Institute of Public Administration Australia (IPAA) and AES. IPAA has an extensive membership base covering the public and not-for-profit sector. The alliance meant a much larger reach and opportunity to attract people working in the field that may not be linked into the AES network. Through this alliance, a series of three workshops has been developed and successfully delivered in 2013–2014. The region ran a well-attended series of seminars, including reflections on the 2013 conference.

A major WA event was the release of Western Australian Treasury Evaluation Guide.

Seventy participants from across the public, private, academic and non-government sector attended the recent WA Treasury Program Evaluation Unit networking event. AES members participated in the event with regional network convenor, Carina Calzoni giving an overview of the Society.

Network Committee members

Aotearoa New Zealand

Liz Smith (Convenor)
Jenny Neale
Sally Faisandier
Brett Lineham
David Turner
Mathea Roorda
April Bennett
Amohia Boulton
Sarah Appleton
Elisabeth Poppelwell

Canberra

John Stoney
Kim Grey
Julie Elliott (Convenor)
Scott Bayley
Emma Williams
Nicki Mazur
Helen Lilley
Lisa Barney
Stephen Horn
David McDonald
Susan Garner

New South Wales

George Argyrous
Ben Barnes (Convenor)
Jennifer Davis
Ben Harris-Roxas
Mazen Kassis
Sue Leahy
Greg Masters
Suzanne Pope
Peter Ryan

Northern Territory

Alison Rogers (Co-Convenor)
Julie Fraser
Jenny Roberts
Samantha Togni
Alicia Boyle
Dagmar Schmitt
Liz McDonald

Queensland

Peter Allen
Kylie Brosnan
Catriona Flavell
Silvia Cosier
Jo Durham
Rachel Eberhard
June Lennie
Linda Newman

Marion Norton (Convenor)
Brentyn Parkin
Catherine Ryan
Sarah Stamp
Jill White

Tasmania

Chris Cooper

Victoria

Euan Lockie (Convenor)
Lee-Anne Molony
Farida Fleming
Stefan Kaufman
Cynthia Mulenga
Ian Patrick
Julie Richmond
Anthea Rutter
Kari Sann
Michael Herbert
Jia Zhen
Jo Norman
Emma Pritchard

Western Australia

Carina Calzoni (Convenor)
Dorothy Lucks
Rick Cummings
Brigitte Lacey
Sarah Butler
Heather Aquilina
Barry Thomas
Suzanne Paparo

For more information about the seminars and other events offered across Aotearoa New Zealand and Australia please visit the www.aes.asn.au/regions.

AES COMMITTEES AND WORKING GROUPS

Membership Committee

During 2013–14, the Membership Committee revised its terms of reference to transition to the new AES governance arrangements and to position itself to provide sound advice to the Executive Officer to retain, attract and grow the AES membership base. The committee provided advice about information requirements and how best to collect information about member interests and needs.

A major focus of the committee this year was the design, development and conduct of the inaugural AES Members survey. The survey data offers the potential to inform strategies across the organisation and committee structures to maximise AES member satisfaction and member participation in the activities of the organisation. Headline results were presented at the 2013 AES International Conference in Brisbane; and since then further analysis undertaken to inform the work of the Strategic Engagement Taskforce and the West Australian regional group. It is intended to conduct the survey annually.

Members:

Eve Barbosa
Carina Calzoni
Chris Cooper
Susan Garner (Chair)
Nea Harrison
Duncan Rintoul

Journal and Publications Committee and Editorial Team

The Journal and Publications Committee has held a stable membership over the last two years and was pleased to extend a warm welcome to a new member from our New Zealand membership, Sarah Appleton. The Committee has settled down to schedule meetings three times a year and work through issues and ideas that are above and beyond the day-to-day business associated with the publication of the journal. The most significant change was the announcement at the 2013 Conference that the journal would move completely online and the paper-based edition was retired with Issue 2, 2013. This has led to a strategic three-year plan to move the journal from two issues per year to four issues per year (1 Mar, 1 Jun, 1 Sep and 1 Dec publishing dates) and to extend the format to include practice papers together with the academic refereed papers and book reviews. This new schedule will be launched at the 2014 Conference with the 1 Sep 2014 issue, and the challenge for the next year is to publish every issue online to meet the criteria for entry into *Scopus* and ultimately *Web of Knowledge*. A significant area of interest for the Publications Committee is to re-imagine and reinvigorate the Editorial Advisory Board to better support the journal in the future.

Members:

Lyn Alderman (Chair and *EJA* Co-Editor)
Sarah Appleton
Paul Burton
Janet Clinton (*EJA* Co-Editor)
Rick Cummings
Liz Gould
Graeme Harvey (*EJA* Co-Editor)
Ian Patrick

Members

Professional Learning Committee (PLC)

During 2013–14, the Professional Learning Committee established a competency framework to guide the professional development of members and other interested professionals, the Evaluators' Professional Learning Competency Framework. Its purpose is to guide and support members and other interested parties to enhance their evaluation knowledge and expertise, which in turn contributes to the AES objective of improving the quality of evaluation practice in Australasia.

The Framework draws on the competency frameworks of a number of evaluation organisations, in particular, the Aotearoa New Zealand Evaluation Association, the European Evaluation Society, the Canadian Evaluation Society, and the International Development Evaluation Association. Their work and contribution to this framework is acknowledged.

The Framework is available for download at www.aes.asn.au.

Members:

Dianne Hardy
Rick Cummings
Margaret MacDonald
Jo Durham
Delyth Lloyd
Amy Gullickson
Dorothy Lucks
Eve Barboza
Heather Nunns
Catherine Hurley

INDIGENOUS TASKFORCE

Since the appointment in November 2013 of two Indigenous Board members, the AES has been working towards strengthening its responsiveness to, and support of, Indigenous evaluators. As a consequence of the revised structure of the Board and the creation of its respective policy and operational committees, the former Indigenous Strategy Committee (ISC), which was convened to advise the Board on issues of concern to Indigenous people, is in abeyance. This committee has been replaced by a new Indigenous Taskforce.

The Taskforce has drafted an initial Terms of Reference aimed at strengthening Indigenous accountability which has been submitted to the Board for approval. According to the ToR, the Taskforce's primary aim is to develop a Society of evaluators with an appreciation for, understanding of, and capacity to undertake, high quality Indigenous Evaluation. The Taskforce will achieve this aim through a series of objectives which include:

- ascertaining the needs of new and emerging, mid-level and senior Indigenous evaluators
- developing processes, policies and programmes which strengthen the development of Indigenous evaluators of all levels
- supporting those members of the Society working with Indigenous communities to do so in a culturally competent manner
- supporting the Board to recognise and respond to cultural protocols where necessary

A key duty of the Taskforce in the next six months will be to consult with Indigenous evaluators about what they want from the AES, and how the AES can better support Indigenous evaluation. To that end,

a full day workshop entitled 'Evaluation by us, for us: What is required of AES to strengthen, advance and support Indigenous Evaluation?' will be held this year as part of the 2014 Darwin Conference. This free, Indigenous only, workshop will be an important opportunity for Indigenous evaluators and community members to provide suggestions as to how the AES as an organisation, can better support Indigenous evaluation activity; better respond to the needs of Indigenous evaluators; and ultimately contribute to better evaluation outcomes for Indigenous peoples.

In addition to providing the Board with strategic advice, the two Indigenous Board members are actively assisting the Darwin conference organisers to ensure the 2014 conference has a strong Indigenous presence. To that end, we are also looking forward to a being able to host a strong group of AES Conference Grant Support recipients at the upcoming 2014 Conference.

AES LIFE MEMBERS AND FELLOWS

The Fellows are members of the Society who have been recognised for their significant past contributions to evaluation and to the attainment of the Society's objectives. During the year individual Fellows have made a number of additional contributions, including through:

- the Society's ongoing services and activities such as regional group events, publications and international liaison
- presenting the 'Fellows Forum' and individual papers at the AES 2013 Brisbane Conference
- the assessment of the 2013 nominations for AES Fellowship on behalf of the Board, utilising and trialling a new guide for nominators developed by the Fellows
- the detailed review of the current criteria and processes for the selection of new Fellows and the consequent recommendation to the Board regarding relevant changes. The AES Fellows, through their commitment to the conduct of high quality evaluations, will continue to be available to assist the Society whenever possible.

Fellows Coordinator	Ralph G Straton
Life Members	Anona Armstrong Ian Trotman

AES Fellows

Anona Armstrong	Victoria
Darrel Caulley	Victoria
Richard Cummings	Western Australia
Sue Funnell	New South Wales
Penny Hawkins	Wellington
Chris Milne	New South Wales
John Owen	Victoria
Colin Sharp	South Australia
Ralph Straton	Western Australia
Ian Trotman	Wellington
Zita Unger	Victoria
Yoland Wadsworth	Victoria
Jerome Winston	Victoria

Finances

The AES Board presents the budget for the 2014–16 period and the audited financial reports for the year ended 30 June 2014.

BUDGET 2014–16

	2014–15	2015–16
INCOME		
Workshops	130,000	182,000
Conference	297,949	480,000
Memberships	131,275	140,464
Publications	16,000	20,500
Other Income	13,700	18,000
Total Income	588,924	840,964

EXPENDITURE		
Workshops	82,310	109,200
Conference	222,329	354,000
Memberships	4,000	16,000
Publications	20,700	24,840
Other expenses	10,600	14,500
	339,939	518,540

Administration	175,730	224,448
Governance	41,400	37,390
	217,130	261,838
Total Expenditure	557,069	780,378
Surplus	31,855	60,586

Financial Statements

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2014

Statement of Comprehensive Income	28
Income & Expenditure Statement	28
Assets & Liabilities Statement	29
Statement of Changes in Equity	29
Notes to the Accounts	30
Key Management Personnel	35
Statement by Board Members	36
Compilation Report	37

STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2014

	Note	2014	2013
		\$	\$
Revenue	2	387,959	358,733
Depreciation and Amortisation		4,402	5,198
Other Expenses		443,036	361,625
Loss before Income Tax	3	(59,479)	(8,090)
Total Comprehensive Income		(59,479)	(8,090)

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2014

	2014	2013
	\$	\$
Revenue		
Special Project Income	18,857	17,532
Publications Sales	14,662	22,268
<i>Professional Fees</i>		
Workshops Income	127,208	138,738
Conferences Income	103,619	45,150
Membership Fees	121,876	131,231
Interest Received - Bank account	1,737	3,814
	387,959	358,733
Expenditure		
Administration & Governance	332,749	215,086
Conference Evaluation Costs	–	5,000
Cost of Publications	20,026	21,348
Depreciation	4,402	5,198
Membership Services	2,138	7,418
Special Projects (incl Conference Support Grants)	28,008	36,373
Workshops	60,115	76,400
	447,438	366,823
Loss before Income Tax	(59,479)	(8,090)

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements. These financial statements have not been subject to audit or review and should be read in conjunction with the attached Compilation Report.

**ASSETS AND LIABILITIES STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2014**

	Note	2014	2013
		\$	\$
Current Assets			
Cash and Cash Equivalents	5	332,704	216,356
Trade and Other Receivables	7	14,682	25,962
Other Current Assets	8	35,150	13,547
Total Current Assets		382,536	255,865
Non-Current Assets			
Property, Plant and Equipment	9	199	598
Intangible Assets	10	4,014	8,017
Total Non-Current Assets		4,213	8,615
TOTAL ASSETS		386,749	264,480
Current Liabilities			
Trade and Other Payables	11	66,022	47,180
Other	12	205,767	42,861
Total Current Liabilities		271,789	90,041
TOTAL LIABILITIES		271,789	90,041
NET ASSETS		114,960	174,439
Equity			
Retained Profits		114,960	174,439
TOTAL EQUITY		114,960	174,439

**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2014**

	2014	2013
	\$	\$
Retained Earnings		
Balance at 1 July 2013	174,439	182,529
Profit Attributable to Members	(59,479)	(8,090)
Balance at 30 June 2014	114,960	174,439

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements. These financial statements have not been subject to audit or review and should be read in conjunction with the attached Compilation Report.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2014

1. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements cover Australasian Evaluation Society Inc. as an individual entity. Australasian Evaluation Society Inc. is an association incorporated in Australian Capital Territory under the Associations Incorporation Act.

Basis of Preparation

The financial statements are general purpose financial statements that have been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards (including Australian Accounting Interpretations) of the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB) and the Associations Incorporations Act. The association is a not-profit entity for financial reporting purposes under Australian Accounting Standards.

Australian Accounting Standards set out accounting policies that the AASB has concluded would result in financial statements containing relevant and reliable information about transactions, events and conditions to which they apply. Compliance with Australian Accounting Standards ensures that the financial statements and notes also comply with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS). Material accounting policies adopted in the preparation of the financial statements are presented below and have been consistently applied unless stated otherwise.

The financial statements have been prepared on an accruals basis and are based on historical costs, modified, where applicable, by the measurement at fair value of selected non-current assets, financial assets and financial liabilities. The amounts presented in the

financial statements have been rounded to the nearest dollar.

(a) Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand, deposits held at call with banks, other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less, and bank overdrafts. Bank overdrafts are shown within borrowings in current liabilities on the statement of financial position.

(b) Property, Plant and Equipment

Each class of property, plant and equipment is carried at cost or fair value as indicated less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation and impairment losses.

Plant and Equipment

Plant and equipment is measured on the cost basis and is therefore carried at cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. In the event the carrying amount of plant and equipment is greater than its estimated recoverable amount, the carrying amount is written down immediately to its estimated recoverable amount. A formal assessment of recoverable amount is made when impairment indicators are present (refer to Accounting Policy note - Impairment).

The cost of fixed assets constructed by the association includes the cost of materials, direct labour, borrowing costs and an appropriate proportion of fixed and variable overheads.

All other repairs and maintenance are charged to the statement of comprehensive income during the financial period in which they are incurred.

Depreciation

The depreciation method and useful life used for items of property, plant and equipment (excluding freehold land) reflects the pattern in which their future economic benefits are expected to be consumed by the association. Depreciation commences from the time the asset is held ready for use. Leasehold improvements are depreciated over the shorter of either the unexpired period of the lease or the estimated useful lives of the improvements. The depreciation method and useful life of assets is reviewed annually to ensure they are still appropriate.

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

Office Equipment	66.60 %
Website Costs	33.30 %

The assets' residual values and useful lives are reviewed, and adjusted if appropriate, at the end of each reporting period. An asset's carrying amount is written down immediately to its recoverable amount if the asset's carrying amount is greater than its estimated recoverable amount.

Gains and losses on disposals are determined by comparing proceeds with carrying amount. These gains and losses are included in the statement of comprehensive income. When revalued assets are sold, amounts included in the revaluation relating to that asset are transferred to retained earnings.

(c) Trade and Other Receivables

Trade receivables are recognised initially at the transaction price (i.e. cost) and are subsequently measured at cost less provision for impairment. Receivables

expected to be collected within 12 months of the end of the reporting period are classified as current assets. All other receivables are classified as non-current assets.

At the end of each reporting period, the carrying amount of trade and other receivables are reviewed to determine whether there is any objective evidence that the amounts are not recoverable. If so, an impairment loss is recognised immediately in statement of comprehensive income.

(d) Revenue and Other Income

Membership 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 when the membership exceeds on year. Income received in respect of memberships exceeding one year are carried forward as income in advance (current liability) and recognised in the subsequent period. 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 and seminar income expenditure

Events income and expenditure are recognised in the year that the event is held. Events income and expenditure which is received or expended prior to year end, but which relates to an event to be held after year end, is recognised as income in advance (current liability) and conference prepaid (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 relates to a conference to be held after year end, have not been recognised.

Interest revenue

Interest revenue is recognised when it is received. All revenue is stated net of the amount of goods and services tax (GST).

(e) Trade and Other Payables

Trade and other payables represent the liabilities at the end of the reporting period for goods and services received by the association that remain unpaid.

(f) Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO). Receivables and payables are stated inclusive of the amount of GST receivable or payable. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO is included

with other receivables or payables in the statement of financial position.

Cash flows are presented on a gross basis. The GST components of cash flows arising from investing or financing activities which are recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO are presented as operating cash flows included in receipts from customers or payments to suppliers.

(g) Income Tax

No provision for income tax has been made in the financial report, as the Society has received advice from the Australian Taxation Office that the Association is considered a tax exempt entity.

(h) Comparative Figures

When required by Accounting Standards, comparative figures have been adjusted to conform to changes in presentation for the current financial year.

Where the association has retrospectively applied an accounting policy, made a retrospective restatement of items in the financial statements or reclassified items in its financial statements, an additional statement of financial position as at the beginning of the earliest comparative period will be disclosed.

(i) Critical Accounting Estimates and Judgments

The Board members evaluate estimates and judgments incorporated into the financial statements 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 association.

Key Estimates - Impairment

The association assesses impairment at the end of each reporting period by evaluation of conditions and events specific to the association that may be indicative of impairment triggers. Recoverable amounts of relevant assets are reassessed using value-in-use calculations which incorporate various key assumptions.

(i) New Accounting Standards for Application in Future Periods

The AASB has issued new and amended Accounting Standards and Interpretations that have mandatory application dates for future reporting periods. The association has decided not to early adopt any of new and amended pronouncements and that it would not have any material effect on the association's financial statements.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2014**

	2014	2013
	\$	\$
2. REVENUE		
Sales Revenue		
Rendering Services	386,222	354,919
	386,222	354,919
Other Income		
Interest Received	1,737	3,814
	1,737	3,814
	387,959	358,733
3. EXPENDITURE		
Expenses		
Depreciation and Amortisation Expenses	4,402	5,198
Other Expenses	443,036	361,625
	447,438	366,823
4. PROFIT FOR THE YEAR		
Profit before income tax expense from continuing operations includes the following specific expenses:		
Charging as Expense		
Movements in Provisions		
Depreciation		
– Depreciation of Property, Plant and Equipment	4,402	5,198
Net Expenses Resulting from Movement in Provisions	4,402	5,198
Crediting as Income:		
Interest from:		
– Interest received – bank account	1,737	3,814
Total Interest Revenue	1,737	3,814

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements. These financial statements have not been subject to audit or review and should be read in conjunction with the attached Compilation Report.

	2014	2013
	\$	\$
5. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS		
Cash at Bank	255,620	34,822
Anz V2 Bank Account	77,084	181,534
	332,704	216,356
Reconciliation of Cash		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	332,704	216,356
	332,704	216,356
6. CASH FLOW INFORMATION		
Reconciliation of Cash Flow from Operations with Profit after Income Tax		
Loss after Income Tax	(59,479)	(8,090)
Adjustments for Non-Cash Components in Losses:		
Depreciation	4,402	5,198
Changes in Assets and Liabilities		
Receivables	11,280	(25,962)
Other Assets	(21,603)	(9,593)
Non Current Assets	0	(7,475)
Payables	18,842	36,147
Unearned Revenue	162,906	3,439
Net Cash Decrease in Cash Held	116,348	(6,336)
7. TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES		
Current		
Trade Debtors	14,682	25,962
	14,682	25,962
Total Trade and Other Receivables	14,682	25,962
8. OTHER ASSETS		
Current		
Prepayments	35,150	13,547
	35,150	13,547

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements. These financial statements have not been subject to audit or review and should be read in conjunction with the attached Compilation Report.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2014**

	2014	2013
	\$	\$
9. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT		
Plant and Equipment		
Office Furniture & Equipment	3,920	3,920
Less Accumulated Depreciation & Impairment	3,721	3,322
	199	598
Total Plant and Equipment	199	598
Total Property, Plant and Equipment	199	598
10. INTANGIBLE ASSETS		
Non-Current		
Website Development	12,020	12,020
Less Accumulated Impairment	8,006	4,003
	4,014	8,017
Total Intangible Assets	16,034	20,037
11. TRADE AND OTHER PAYABLES		
Current		
Sundry Creditors	4,606	3,977
Trade Creditors	26,383	26,365
Anz Visa Card	4,042	2,700
Payg Tax Withholding accrued	6,783	7,220
Provision for GST	24,208	6,918
	66,022	47,180
Total Trade and Other Payables	66,022	47,180
12. OTHER		
Current		
Income in Advance	205,767	42,861
	205,767	42,861

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements. These financial statements have not been subject to audit or review and should be read in conjunction with the attached Compilation Report.

13. ASSOCIATION DETAILS

The registered office of the company is:

Australasian Evaluation
Society Inc.
Level 4, 100 Leicester Street
Carlton Vic. 3053

The principal place of business is:

Australasian Evaluation
Society Inc.
Level 4, 100 Leicester Street
Carlton Vic. 3053

14. KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL

Board Members of the
Australasian Evaluation Society
are:

Mr David Roberts
(President)

Ms Elizabeth Smith
(Vice-president)

Mr Brett Lineham
(Secretary)

Ms Bronwyn Rossingh
(Treasurer)

Ms Delyth Lloyd

Mr Duncan Rintoul

Dr Amohia Boulton

The Board Members did not receive 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 or workshop fees charged at rates as determined by the Australasian Evaluation Society Board.

STATEMENT BY BOARD MEMBERS

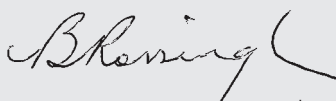
In the opinion of the Board Members as set out in the accompanying financial statements:

1. Presents a true and fair view of the financial position of Australasian Evaluation Society Inc. as at 30 June 2014 and its performance for the year ended on that date in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards (including Australian Accounting Interpretations) of the Australian Accounting Standards Board.
2. 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.

This statement is made in accordance with a resolution of the committee and is signed for and on behalf of the Board Members by:



President: David Roberts



Treasurer: Bronwyn Rossingh

Dated 12 August 2014

Australasian Evaluation Society Inc.
Compilation Report To Australasian Evaluation Society Inc.

We have compiled the accompanying special purpose financial statements of Australasian Evaluation Society Inc., which comprise the attached income and expenditure statement for the year ended 30 June 2014. The specific purpose for which the special purpose financial statements have been prepared is to provide financial information to the Committee of Management.

The Responsibility of the Committee of Management

The Committee of Management is solely responsible for the information contained in the special purpose financial statements and has determined that the basis of accounting adopted is appropriate to meet the needs of the Committee of Management for the purpose of complying with the Association's Constitution.

Our Responsibility

On the basis of information provided by the Committee of Management, we have compiled the accompanying special purpose financial statements in accordance with the basis of accounting and APES 315: Compilation of Financial Information.

Our procedures use accounting expertise to collect, classify and summarise the financial information, which the directors provided, in compiling the financial statements. Our procedures do not include verification or validation procedures. No audit or review has been performed and accordingly no assurance is expressed.

The special purpose financial statements were compiled exclusively for the benefit of the Committee of Management. We do not accept responsibility to any other person for the contents of the special purpose financial statements.

V P Cannizzaro & Co
FCPA and Chartered Tax Advisor
Suite 2, 121 Cardigan Street Carlton Victoria 3053



Vito Cannizzaro
01 August 2014

BPR AUDIT PTY LTD
AUTHORISED AUDIT COMPANY
SUITE 16 333 CANTERBURY ROAD
CANTERBURY VIC AUSTRALIA 3126
TELEPHONE 61 3 9836 8824
INFO@BPRAUDIT.COM.AU
WWW.BPRAUDIT.COM.AU
ABN 32 089 855 747

bpr
audit

**INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT
TO THE MEMBERS OF
AUSTRALASIAN EVALUATION SOCIETY INC**

Scope

The financial report and committee members' responsibility

The financial report comprises the statement of financial position, statement of financial performance, statement of cash flows, accompanying notes to the financial statements, and the committee members' declaration for Australasian Evaluation Society Inc, for the year ended 30 June 2014.

The committee of the association is responsible for the preparation and true and fair presentation of the financial report and has determined that the accounting policies used and described in Note 1 to the financial statements which form part of the financial report are appropriate to meet the needs of the members. 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.

The financial report has been prepared for distribution to members for the purpose of fulfilling the committee members' financial reporting requirements under the Associations Incorporations Act [ACT]. We disclaim any assumptions of responsibility for any reliance on this report or on the financial report to which it relates to any person other than the members, or for any purpose other than that for which it was prepared.

Audit approach

We conducted an independent audit in order to express an opinion to the members of the association. 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 judgment, 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 is presented fairly in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1, so as to present a view which is consistent with our understanding of the association's financial position, and of its performance as represented by the results of its operations and cash flows. These policies do not require the application of all Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements in Australia. No opinion is expressed as to whether the accounting policies used and described in Note 1, are appropriate to the needs of the members.

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 reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by the directors.



LIABILITY LIMITED BY A SCHEME
APPROVED UNDER PROFESSIONAL
STANDARDS LEGISLATION

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 accounting bodies.

Audit Opinion

In our opinion, the financial report presents a true and fair view in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements the financial position of Australasian Evaluation Society Inc as at 30 June 2014 and the results of its operations for the year then ended.

BPR Audit Pty Ltd

BPR Audit Pty Ltd
Authorised Audit Company



Bernard P Rohan
Director

Dated: *6th August 2014*

Australasian Evaluation Society Inc.
Level 4, 100 Leicester Street
Carlton VIC 3053

ABN 13 886 280 969