



Annual report 2014–15

www.aes.asn.au

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.

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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 860 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.

OBJECTS OF THE AES

Within the States and Territories of Australia and New Zealand, as well as the wider Australasian-Pacific region:

- 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, professional development and the discussion of ideas
- increase understanding of evaluation and advocate for quality evaluation
- be inclusive of Indigenous and all other cultural perspectives
- have governance systems that reflect and incorporate best practice
- provide a forum that allows the diverse voices of the community to be heard, including those who commission the evaluations, those who carry them out and the evaluands
- other activities consistent with the objects



MEMBER BENEFITS

Recognition and support

Belonging to the longest established professional evaluation organisation in Australia, New Zealand and the wider Australasian-Pacific region, with a network of 860 practitioners, commissioners, and academics involved in all aspects of evaluative enquiry and performance measurement.

Code of ethics

Members abide by the AES Code of Ethical Conduct, and are guided by and support the AES Guidelines for the Ethical Conduct of Evaluations.

Members are encouraged to rely on the Code when faced with situations that require them to balance competing ethical principles.

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

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

Australasian Evaluation Society Ltd is a charity registered with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC). Since May 2015, the Society has been a Public Company Limited by Guarantee after it transferred its registration as an association from the Australian Capital Territory. A board of directors 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 delegated 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 ACNC and the Australian Corporations Act 2001, as well as the provisions set out in the Society's Constitution and Policies.

Appointment of the Board

Following adoption of the new Constitution at the Special General Meeting in February 2015 and subsequent re-incorporation, from the 2015 Annual General Meeting, the Board consists of three named office bearers (President, Vice-President, and Treasurer) and three ordinary board members, all elected by the membership. The Board has the discretion to appoint up to three ordinary board members, ensuring that at least two members of the Board are Indigenous and taking into account the overall mix of knowledge, skill and attributes of Board members.

Role of the Board

The Board has overall control of the Society and is subject to the provisions of the Australian Corporations Act 2001, its obligations to the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission, and the AES Constitution. The Board may delegate certain powers to committees of members. All Board positions are unpaid.

Indemnity of the Board

The AES has directors' and officers' insurance and professional indemnity for all Board members.

Board and staff

Board members 2014–15

Lyn Alderman	<i>President</i>
Liz Smith	<i>Vice-president</i>
Jess Dart	<i>Treasurer</i>
Brett Lineham	<i>Secretary</i>

Ordinary board members

Amohia Boulton
Sharon Clarke
Duncan Rintoul

Staff

Executive Officer

Bill Wallace

Events & Member Services Officer

Jacqui Diamond (from February 2015)

Administration Officer

Gillian Holley (to February 2015)

President: Lyn Alderman

With over 20 years' experience in higher education and 10 years focused on evaluation, Dr Lyn Alderman has a wealth of understanding in institution-wide evaluation frameworks, evaluation of teaching, curriculum and performance models, and how to engage in broad and rich stakeholder engagement. As the sole investigator of an illuminative evaluation into Australian Government policy borrowing and implementation, lead investigator to research Post Occupancy Evaluation (POEs) of education facilities, external evaluator to examine the quality assurance framework of an international university and consultant to reconceptualise the student evaluation framework for a national university, Lyn is judiciously situated to present and disseminate her research and experience in higher education and evaluation. Lyn is the President of the Australasian Evaluation Society (2014–current) and an Editor of the Evaluation Journal of Australasia (2012–current).

Vice-president: Liz Smith

Liz is a co-founder of Litmus a specialist private sector evaluation company based in Wellington New Zealand and active across Australasia. Liz's evaluation journey started more than 20 years ago as a nurse in the John Radcliffe Hospital Oxford when assessing the effects of a new nursing practice on patients' health experiences. Since then Liz has been involved in more than 50 evaluations, mostly in the health sector or programmes focused on improving health and wellbeing outcomes.

Liz's evaluation practice is driven by her goal of contributing to the creation of equitable health care systems that offer positive patient experiences and outcomes. Currently, Liz is leading multi-disciplinary teams in a number of four-year evaluations. In her evaluation practice, Liz engages in participatory processes to meaningfully include diverse communities, service providers, stakeholders and key decision-makers.

Liz is an active member of the Australasian Evaluation Society. Since joining the AES in 2005, Liz has been involved in the Wellington AES Committee as the events coordinator from 2005–2012, and NZ Convenor from 2013–2015. Liz was elected as Vice President of the Society in 2013. In this role, Liz has focused on undertaking a review of NZ member's needs and strengthening the AES's relationship with ANZEA. In 2014/15, Liz chaired the AES's stakeholder engagement group and enjoyed working with a dedicated group of evaluators to strengthen stakeholder engagement locally, nationally, regionally and internationally.

Treasurer: Jess Dart

Dr Jess Dart is the founding Director and Chair of the Board of Directors of Clear Horizon Consulting. Clear Horizon is a specialist evaluation company established in 2005 operating nationally and internationally with offices in Melbourne, Perth and Canberra. Clear Horizon works with clients from a very wide variety of sectors, both domestically and internationally, and at all levels of government. Jess has been working in the evaluation space and been a member of the AES for over 15 years. She holds a PhD in evaluation from the University of Melbourne.

Board and Staff

With regard to her evaluation practice, Jess has a passion for evaluation theory and mixed-method approaches and is always striving to ensure that evaluation leads to improved social, economic and environmental outcomes. Jess is also a highly demanded facilitator and trainer, and leads many capacity building endeavours for Government, not-for profits and philanthropic organisations. She works across sectors, but has a specialist background in international development and sustainable agriculture.

Jess has enjoyed the privilege of being the Treasurer on the current AES board since September 2014. She brings to this role a solid knowledge of the evaluation industry and hard won experience of directorship. To complement her practical skills, she completed the Foundations of Directorship with the Australian Institute of Company Directors (includes units in Governance for Directors; Finance for Directors and Strategy and Risk for Directors).

Jess is looking forward to continuing to serve as treasurer. Whilst we have made great strides forward this year with our financial position, we need to continue to shape our strategy and budget to ensure AES remains relevant and viable in a fast changing context.

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.

Meeting attendance

Lyn Alderman	7 of 7
Liz Smith	5 of 7
Jess Dart	6 of 7
Brett Lineham	6 of 7
Duncan Rintoul	7 of 7
Amohia Boulton	6 of 7
Sharon Clarke	4 of 4

President's report

The past year celebrated a number of milestones for the Australasian Evaluation Society (AES) and for the field of evaluation. As we are now at the end of my first year as President, I would like to take this opportunity to celebrate the significant milestones of the AES and to congratulate all 90 of our working members.

Milestone 1: Company limited by guarantee

The AES is now a public company limited by guarantee. This outcome, which maintains our charitable status, was achieved following the hard work of many Board members and the attention to detail offered by our Executive Officer, Bill Wallace and the Reincorporation Taskforce, led by Kate Roberts. The need for reincorporation arose from the move of the main office from Canberra to Melbourne in 2011 and our need to operate across New Zealand and Australia. Although I have engaged only towards the end of this process, I can appreciate the work that has gone into this transition and would like to thank everyone who has contributed to this outcome.

Milestone 2: International Year of Evaluation

The United Nations declaration of 2015 as the International Year of Evaluation has heralded a celebration of evaluation around the globe. As the incoming AES President, it was a delight to contribute to this wonderful initiative and I thank all of our members for providing me with this opportunity. As a result of the Year of Evaluation, presidents of evaluation societies around the world are making concerted efforts to attend each others' conferences. I was privileged to be one of 10 presidents on a panel at the Canadian Evaluation Society conference in Montreal in May. In this spirit, the AES Conference in Melbourne in September will host evaluation presidents from Canada, USA, and New Zealand. I would like to express my appreciation to all presidents and their associations for sharing their time and expertise to celebrate the Year of Evaluation.

Milestone 3: Raising the voice of evaluation in the Pacific

The presidents of Aotearoa New Zealand Evaluation Association (ANZEA), AES, Mā Te Rae (Maori Evaluation Association) and representatives from Pasifika Fono met at the ANZEA conference in Auckland. The presidents of these associations agreed to work closely together to strengthen the evaluation voice of the Pacific nations within Australasia. The AES feels that this is a wonderful opportunity to build evaluation capacity within our region and we look forward to our next meeting at the 2015 conference in Melbourne.

Milestone 4: Extraordinary outcome at the 2014 AES International Evaluation Conference

The 2014 Conference in Darwin was my first event as President and I was humbled by how welcome I felt in such a unique environment, where community, place and connectedness came together. Rather than attend many of the sessions, I chose to stay by the registration desk, as I wanted to be available to speak with any and all members and colleagues. Through my conversations with attendees, I was able to experience the conference through a shared lens—an excellent reminder of the power of storytelling and listening. Congratulations to the organising team for an outstanding event.

Milestone 5: Sound financial position

The AES has had an outstanding financial year, mainly due to careful fiscal governance and an extraordinary outcome from the 2014 Conference. I would like to congratulate the Treasurer, Jess Dart, and Executive Officer, Bill Wallace for their work in this area.

President's report

Milestone 6:

Extended terms for office bearers

In previous constitutions, the Board executive and members were elected annually. The Board identified that this frequency of leadership change interrupted the flow of business while new Board members became familiar with their role. Following an environmental scan of other societies and associations, the Board took the initiative to change the terms and conditions of the Board leadership in the new constitution. From the 2015 Annual General Meeting, the new Board Executive will be elected for a three-year term (maximum of two terms) and ordinary members will be elected for a two-year term.

At the close of the recent call for nominations for the Board, the President, Vice-President and Treasurer roles were elected unopposed. The results of which mean the Board Executive will take up a three-year term with Liz Smith as Vice-President bringing two years of experience, and Jess and I bringing one year of experience on the Board. We anticipate that this mix will offer a more sustainable structure and enable a more effective flow of business into the future.

Milestone 7:

Our voluntary working members

As you read this report, you will recognise that there are a number of committees, working parties, and Special Interest Groups that shape the AES (see organisation chart on the inside back cover). For an organisation with a membership of 860 and an office staffed by two full-time employees, there remains a large amount of discipline, expertise, work and organisation that is undertaken by our voluntary working members, many of whom take on more than one role. Thank you for your ongoing commitment to the AES and to the field of evaluation more broadly. This commitment is exemplified by a high response to a recent call for expressions of interest for three Assistant Editors for the *Evaluation Journal of Australasia (EJA)*. This ongoing commitment to AES by our members is heartening. Thank you!

In closing, I would like to pay tribute to the work of previous AES Board members and to those who worked closely with me throughout this year including Liz, Jess, Amohia, Brett, Duncan and Sharon. All Board members volunteer to give up time from their daily lives to provide insight, direction and support to the AES and to the President, this is greatly appreciated. I would also like to pay tribute to our Executive Officer, Bill Wallace for his diligence, cheerfulness, efficiency and ongoing support to AES and especially his support for my role as President.

Our team has also grown with the arrival of Jacqui Diamond who commenced in the role of Member and Events Officer in February. Jacqui's strong work ethic has made a direct contribution to the professional development program and the 2015 Conference. Thank you Bill and Jacqui for your ongoing hard work and support of AES and our endeavours.

Once again, thank you all for the opportunity to be your President. I will endeavour to continue my strong and clear leadership over the coming years.

Lyn Alderman, PhD
President

Treasurer's report

AN OUTSTANDING YEAR AND CAREFUL FORWARD PROJECTIONS

What a remarkable year we have had! We have added \$99 435 to our members' funds, which is the first time in several years that we have been able to do so. We budgeted for a surplus of \$31 855 and exceeded our estimations by \$67 580 which is 212%. Compared with last year, we are up by \$158 914. As a result we are now in the most favourable financial position we have been in since 2011. Since June 2014, our member funds have grown from \$114 960 to \$214 395.

Balance sheet analysis against previous year:

- Cash balance has increased by \$171 698 (52%) compared to last year
- Total assets have increased by \$213 885 (55%) compared to last year
- Total liabilities have increased by \$114 450 (42%) compared to last year (this includes \$242 773 in unearned income from conference fees which is a large part of the increase)
- Total equity has increased by \$99 435 (86%), it is currently at \$214 395 (2015) and was previously at \$114 960 (2014)

Profit and loss—our position compared to last year:

- Income increased significantly, currently \$605 018 (2015) from \$387 959 (2014)
- Memberships fees have slightly increased, currently \$144 115 (2015) from \$121 876 (2014)
- Professional learning income increased, currently \$135 284 (2015) from \$127 208 (2014)
- Publication income increased, currently \$22 573 (2015) from \$14 662 (2014)
- Overall expenditure increased, currently \$501 440 (2015) from \$447 438 (2014)
- Profit increased, currently \$99 435 (2015) from a deficit of \$59 479 (2014)

While I would love to claim the credit for this success, the truth is that our healthy balance sheet is due to a number of factors that have led to us spending less than usual. Firstly, I would like to acknowledge the outstanding returns from the 2014 evaluation conference last year. This was due to a lot of hard work from our Conference Committee who managed the conference in-house, thus incurring very low costs. Other reasons include cost savings due to a generous in-kind donation of the 2014 evaluation conference venue from Charles Darwin University, wages being lower than average, and one less board meeting than usual. Added together, these factors denote that we had a successful financial year largely due to lower than normal costs.

Nonetheless we are now a much more comfortable position. I would like to acknowledge the great work of Bill our Executive Officer, who runs a tight budget and a well-managed accounting system.

Looking forward

Despite this financially successful year, the Board and I are keen to keep a careful eye on the forward position of AES. It is important to understand that a lot of our positive gain this year was due to somewhat extraordinary circumstances that are unlikely to be repeated. Indeed, it is important to note that the AES was in deficit for four years, consequently, we are not keen to return to a deficit without a very clear plan for how this would contribute towards sustainable revenue into the future. While we did have a good outcome this year, as stated, this was largely due to low costs—a circumstance that will not always be repeated, therefore, we need to focus on increasing income. To this end, our budget for the forthcoming year is somewhat conservative; we feel that this year we need to take stock of our position, particularly in the context of smaller government and reduced budgets, which are currently affecting our industry.

Treasurer's report

The key budget items for 2015–16 include:

- A forecasted budget surplus of \$12 000 (this is lower than earlier forecasts due to fewer than anticipated conference registrations and sponsorship)
- A budgeted \$5 000 expenditure for evaluation year celebrations
- A slight estimated increase in revenue from workshops

Other than the items detailed above, the budget is more or less focused on normal operations. However, as our yearly income depends very much on conference attendance, if things go better than expected we can certainly revise this budget and invest in some forward planning.

Jess Dart, PhD
Treasurer

The year's highlights

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

The 2014 AES Conference was held from 8–12 September at the Australian Centre for Indigenous Knowledges and Education (ACIKE), located at the Casuarina Campus of Charles Darwin University (CDU). The conference theme was 'unleashing the power of evaluation'. It featured two days of pre-conference workshops, two and a half days of conference activities, a conference opening event, a social program, international keynote speakers, a broad range of presentations by attendees, and a range of other activities.

Registrations reached 327 attendees and this included 116 non-members. Delegates and speakers travelled from the USA and the UK as well as Australasian locations including the Philippines, Papua New Guinea and New Zealand.

Keynote speakers

The 2014 AES conference featured four keynote speakers including:

- Professor Jean King, Director of the Minnesota Evaluation Studies Institute (MESI) in the US, presented 'Engaging communities to build evaluator competence and change the world'
- Professor Steve Larkin, Pro Vice-Chancellor of Indigenous Leadership at Charles Darwin University, Australia presented 'Epistemology and race: making the 'invisible' visible in evaluation'
- Peter Mataira, Assistant Professor and Director of Indigenous Affairs at the University of Hawaii presented 'Issues, processes and politics in working with Indigenous communities: strengths enhancing evaluation research'
- Professor Per Mickwitz, Research Director at the Finnish Environment Institute (SYKE) presented 'Evaluating policies when transformational change is required'

There was strong representation from Indigenous evaluators from around the world, and an

Indigenous-only workshop was held prior to the conference. Peter Mataira, one of the keynote speakers, attended this workshop. During his presentation, Peter talked about how the workshop had impacted on his perspective and that he felt he needed to rewrite his presentation. The Indigenous workshop has enabled the AES to have a much greater understanding of developing appropriate policies and support for Indigenous AES members.

The conference opening ceremony was held in the evening prior to the beginning of the conference sessions. June Mills, a Larrakia traditional owner and singer welcomed the delegates to Darwin. June performed both traditional songs and those she has written herself about life in Darwin and the stories of her ancestors.

Traditional dancers from the One Mob Different Country dance group performed a number of dances during the opening ceremony. The One Mob Different Country is a program that operated out of the Berrimah Correctional Centre for approximately 12 years and now continues to operate from the new Darwin Correctional Centre for performances in the Darwin region.

Over 100 sessions were delivered during the conference covering a number of sub-themes including: evaluation and values; evaluation capacity building; influence and impact; responsive and responsible practices; theory and methodology; technology; essential skills and understandings; large-scale systems and interventions; and, performance measurement systems and strategies.

The 2014 AES conference planning committee worked hard to ensure the conference promoted great opportunities for networking amongst the delegates and presenters, as well as allowing delegates to gain a real feel for Darwin and Northern Territory life. Social activities included attending the Gala Dinner held in an outdoor venue overlooking the Darwin coastline, exploring the Mindil Beach markets and walks along the local coastal reserves.

The year's highlights

Pre-conference workshops

In total, nine workshops were held as part of the pre-conference workshop program, including an Indigenous-only workshop, which was attended by 26 participants.

Conference sponsors and supporters

The AES would like to extend their thanks to the conference sponsors and supporters. It should be noted that the conference committee employees and businesses have also provided invaluable support during the months of planning leading up to and during the conference.

2014 sponsors

Principal supporter:

Charles Darwin University

Sponsors:

Urbis, ARTD Consultants, Australian Government Department of Social Services, Clear Horizon Consulting, Nvivo, AI Media

We would also like to acknowledge the generous support of the staff at ACIKE, Charles Darwin University, Colmar Brunton, Larrakia Nation and Australian Red Cross.

Conference Support Grants

The AES provides grant support to a number of Indigenous evaluators each year. The grants enable emerging Indigenous evaluators from Australia, New Zealand, the Pacific Islands and Timor-Leste to attend the annual conference. Grants are awarded on the basis of applications complying with submission requirements and evidence of achievement against the assessment criteria.

In 2014, seven grants were awarded and the grant recipients were: Joanna Lee Hamilton, Theresa Holmes, Lisa Warner, Cherry Daniels, Leon Appo, Dean Yibarbuk and Payi Linda Ford.

The AES would like to acknowledge the sponsors whose generous and consistent support makes it possible to offer this program including: the Australian Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet, ARTD and Roberts Evaluation.

AES AWARDS AND RECOGNITION WORKING GROUP

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 the Pacific). At the 2014 conference dinner, the following awards were announced:

Emerging Talent Award

Ruth Aston, Centre for Program Evaluation at the University of Melbourne

Best Evaluation Study Award

The Centre for Program Evaluation at the University of Melbourne, in partnership with **Shelby Consulting and Murdoch University** for the evaluation study entitled 'The Evaluation of the [Western Australian] Independent Public Schools Initiative'.

Best Public Sector Evaluation Award

The Office of Development Effectiveness (ODE), Department of Foreign Affairs & Trade and ARTD Consultants for Evaluation of Australian Volunteers for International Development.

The working group members for 2014–15 were:

April Bennett

Dana Cross

Jessica Kenway

David McDonald

Chris Milne

Ian Patrick

Mathea Roorda (chair)

Over the next year, the working group plans to work with the AES office and other committees to identify opportunities for award winners to share their knowledge and learning with AES members.



L–R: Timoci O'Connor, John Owen, Janet Clinton, Rick Cummings, Heather Aquilina (winners Best Evaluation Study Award)

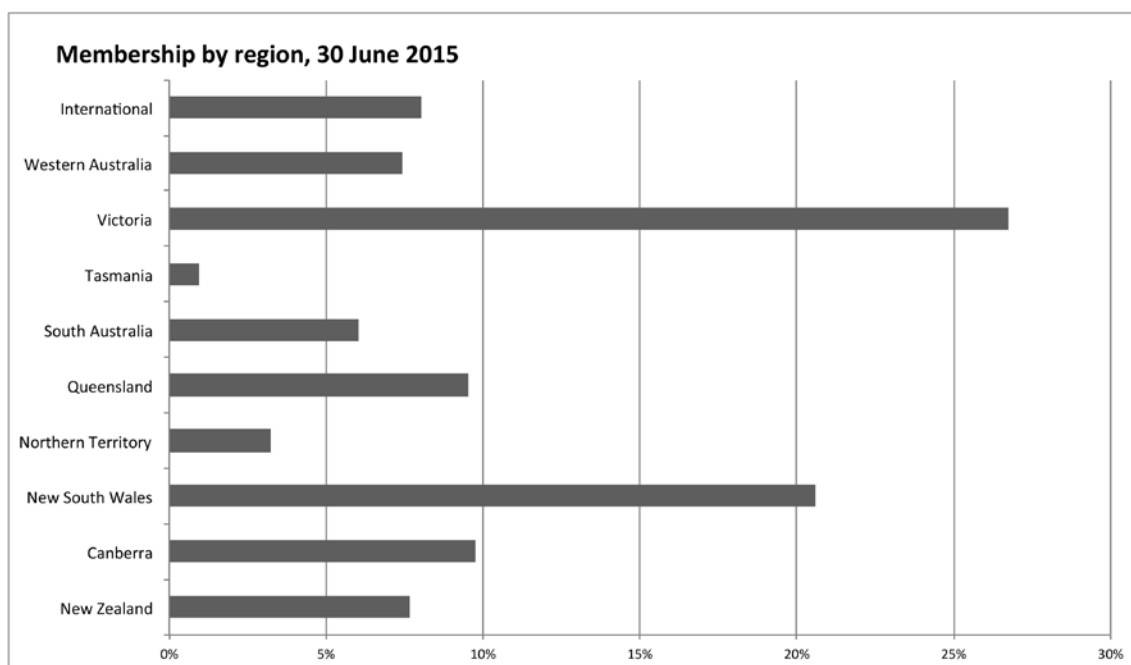
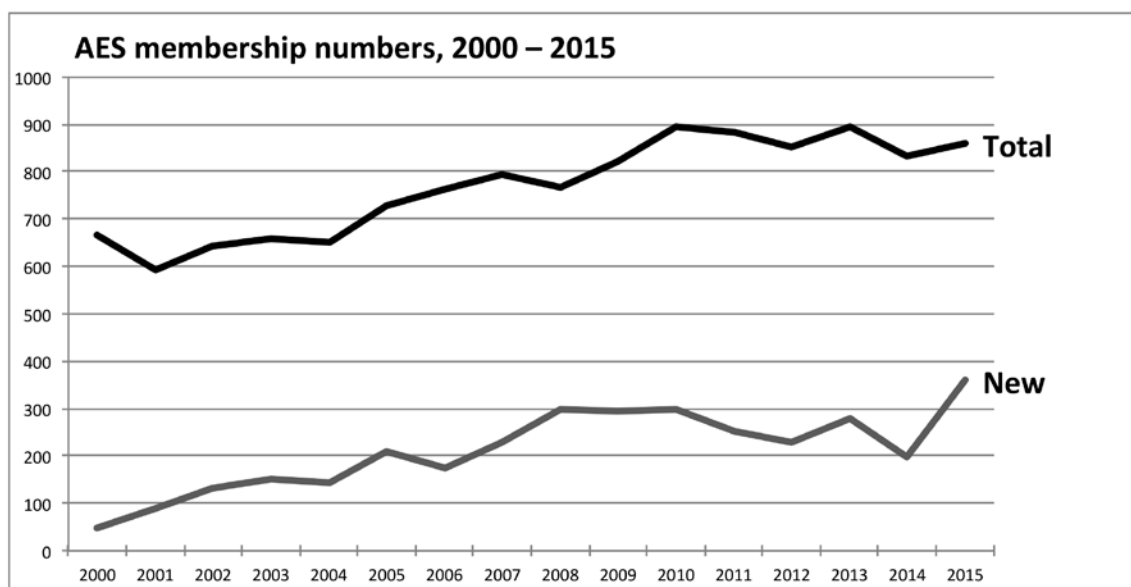


Dr Jenny Neale, 2014 Award's chair (with Lyn Alderman, AES President in background)

EVALUATION OF THE AES DARWIN CONFERENCE 2014

Two University of Melbourne Masters of Evaluation students, Sigrid Patterson and Charlie Tulloch, undertook a thorough evaluation of the AES Darwin conference using qualitative research methods. The evaluation reported on three themes: the participant experience to understand the value of the conference to attendees; organisation and logistics to consider the best ways to plan and conduct the conference; and strategic alignment to consider how the conference format could best meet participants' needs in future. The evaluation was conducted between August 2014 and February 2015, concluding with a report to the AES Board. Guidance was provided throughout the evaluation by Bronwyn Rossingh and Duncan Rintoul.

Members



Members

REGIONAL NETWORKS

Aotearoa New Zealand

2014–15 was a year of collaboration and strengthening for the New Zealand branch of AES. Effort was placed on strengthening relationships with key partners including Aotearoa New Zealand Evaluation Association (ANZEA); the Institute of Public Policy New Zealand; the Association of Social Science Researchers (ASSR); the Project Managers Institute of New Zealand (PMINZ); and the government agencies including Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT), and Ministry of Business Innovation and Employment (MBIE) who led the government response to the Year of Evaluation. This was achieved through a number of shared seminars and presentations and through the promotion of learning opportunities.

Key standouts included a joint AES and ASSR seminar titled 'Research and evaluation: Both sides of the same coin'; using the framework of Talking Up Evaluation, Liz Smith presented on 'What is evaluation?' to PMINZ; and the AES had a strong presence at MBIE's Year of Evaluation launch. The AES President Lyn Alderman and Vice President Liz Smith met with ANZEA to strengthen the relationship across the organisations and create a platform to work constructively together to support the representation of the diverse voices of evaluation in the Pacific.

Over the course of the year, regular lunchtime seminars were held to support networking and professional development. The year was kicked off with a vibrant and fast paced 'Facilitation Games' session, led by Sally Duckworth Litmus. In September 2014, Dr Jenny Neale led a well-received AES Workshop on 'Interviewing and focus groups', and Dr Amohia Boulton challenged our worldviews and perspectives in a thought provoking presentation on 'Undertaking evaluation with M ori communities: Lessons from the field'. We ended 2014 with a reflective session led by Saville Kushner on the European Evaluation Society Conference that was held in Dublin.

In 2015 we have continued this trend with regular seminars and opportunities offered to expand professional networks. In February 2015, Dr Robert Picciotto launched a series of AES events to

celebrate the International Year of Evaluation; following this, in a joint MFAT seminar, Robert discussed how evaluation is transitioning and specifically, he discussed the ten key challenges that the discipline is currently facing; Dr David Turner led a facilitated session titled 'Ethics equity-focused and gender-responsive evaluations'; and Heather Nunns drawing from her PHD findings, informed our thinking in her session titled 'Evaluative reasoning: How are we doing? Can we do better? Does it matter?'

Together with ANZEA, AES and MBIE, we farewelled Dr Jane Davidson who is returning to the US.

The AES calendar in the Wellington region has been a busy one. We would like to thank MFAT and Inland Revenue for the use of their facilities for a number of these events. We acknowledge that more work is needed to ensure AES members not based in the Wellington region have access to network and professional learning opportunities—this will be a focus for us in 2015–16.

We will begin the 2015–16 calendar with the closure of the Year of Evaluation. Following this, our ongoing focus will be on strengthening relationships, increasing NZ membership to AES, and conducting initial planning on the ways in which the AES and ANZEA can ensure that the role of evaluation has a clear presence and positioning in the government sector.

Australian Capital Territory

The Canberra Region celebrated the 2015 International Year of Evaluation by promoting discussion about the AES Evaluator Professional Learning Competency Framework through a schedule of Hot Issues Breakfasts, Brown Bag Lunches and After Work discussion activities. The year 2015 opened with an introductory session on the Competencies, and further activities have provided members with the opportunity to consider issues related to evaluation theory, evaluative attitude and professional practice, research methods and systematic inquiry, attention to culture, and stakeholders and context. These activities were well attended, as was a series of Book Clubs held over the course of 2014 that

Members

considered issues including interactive evaluation practice, 'wicked solutions' and the 2014 evaluation conference.

A range of AES Professional Workshops were held in Canberra over the 2014–15 period including Developing Monitoring and Evaluation Frameworks; Theory-based Evaluation for Complex Systems; and Using Program Theory and Program Logic for Improved Evaluation Practice.

The Canberra Regional Committee has worked to support the recent work of the AES in engaging with the Australian Government. A number of Committee members are also members of the Government Engagement Working Group and have contributed to AES submissions on the recently introduced Commonwealth Performance Framework.

Going forward, the Committee will continue to promote evaluation knowledge transfer through our monthly free events, which have benefitted from the support of ACT Health who have provided a regular venue. The Committee will also look to support the AES Head Office in the delivery of a strong professional learning program targeted towards both the public and private sectors; in particular, the Committee will focus on engaging users of evaluation information and findings such as senior managers, and increasing their capability to undertake strategic evaluations. The Committee will continue to assist the efforts of the AES in advocacy and engagement with Government, both in terms of consolidating the current relationship with the Australian Government and increasing engagement with the ACT Government. Initial planning for the 2017 evaluation conference in collaboration with the AES Office will commence shortly

New South Wales

During 2014, the New South Wales (NSW) Regional Committee conducted three seminars including: 'AES Conference Highlights' in October; 'Great Stuff-ups in our Evaluation Histories' in November; and Christmas networking drinks in December. The events had a reasonable rate of attendance, with an average of 25 attendees per event.

2015 was a bit slower to start, with the first free seminar held in July, titled: 'How to judge 'good' from 'bad' evidence in evaluation', this seminar was attended by around 75 people. Our next planned event will be the 2015 evaluation conference highlights, to be held on 22 October. The AES would like to thank the Australian Human Rights Commission for supplying the venue for these events. The Committee plans to conduct between four and six free events per annum, including Christmas networking drinks.

Over the 2014–15 period the NSW Regional Committee hosted five days of paid workshops including: 'Evaluation Fundamentals' by Duncan Rintoul and Margaret McDonald; 'Developing monitoring and evaluation frameworks' by Anne Markiewicz; and 'Commissioning better evaluations' by Duncan Rintoul and Vanessa Hood. Recently, we hosted 'An introduction to social return on investment' by John Gargani.

Northern Territory

The Northern Territory (NT) Regional Committee theme for 2015 was 'strengthening the demand for and use of evaluation in decision making'. This theme was in alignment with the 2015 International Year of Evaluation, and was focussed on building evaluation systems within organisations.

In October 2014, at the NT AES Sunset Journal Club the article discussed by the ten participants was titled 'The Real-Time Evaluation Memo' by Melanie Hwalek & Mary Williams (2011). In November, an expression of interest for new members on the NT Regional Committee was disseminated via survey monkey. In December, nine participants attended the Christmas social networking session. The NT Regional Committee was confirmed based on the survey results and networking session.

In February 2015 a lunchtime seminar offered in partnership with Menzies School of Health Research, was held was presented by Dr John Guenther from Flinders University of South Australia. Titled 'How can academia contribute to participatory methodologies for community engagement in the diverse cultural contexts of remote Australia?', 20 attended and 5 video-

Members

conferenced from Alice Springs and Katherine. In March Associate Professor Emma Williams was the guest speaker at the NT AES Sunset Journal Club. In May a lunchtime seminar was held, titled 'Using Social Network Analysis in Evaluating Community-Based Programs: Some Experiences and Thoughts.' Dr Gretchen Ennis from Charles Darwin University was the presenter and the seminar was held in collaboration with Menzies to enable remote participants from Alice and Katherine to connect via videoconference. Along with a tele-conference participant from Tasmania, a total of 31 participants attended!

A lunchtime session was held in June to discuss a workshop titled 'Commissioning Better Evaluations'. Several AES members had attended the workshop in Sydney and these members led the discussion regarding how the workshop's key messages could be applied in the NT context. The session provided a great opportunity to generate discussion between internal evaluators, commissioning evaluations and external evaluators about the submission of tenders; nine participants attended the session from five different organisations.

Key highlights

The 2014 evaluation conference held in Darwin reinvigorated the local membership. In order to capitalise on this momentum, a survey of all NT AES members was undertaken with the purpose of gauging interest for participation in the committee and to seek suggestions for how AES can support local needs. Key survey results included:

- holding seminars four times a year with a mix of late afternoons and lunch time sessions
- investigating opportunities for linking with other organisations
- investigating video, webinar or tele-link facilities for seminars for remote participants
- investigating options for supporting NT AES members to share information electronically

The NT Regional Committee was able to implement these initiatives predominately through collaboration with the Menzies School of Health Research (Menzies). This collaboration enabled

remote participants from Alice Springs and Katherine to connect via videoconference to the lunchtime seminars—this has been a highlight for the NT branch.

The Regional Committee also worked with the AES Executive Team to ensure the NT page of the AES website was up-to-date, including relevant information with links to local activities. The updated webpage was then promoted throughout the membership, thereby achieving another of the suggestions from the survey.

Future issues for consideration

- The NT Regional Committee will continue with the theme 'strengthening the demand for and use of evaluation in decision making' throughout 2015-16, as the committee believes that this area has not yet been explored to its full potential
- A future priority for the Committee will be the promotion of the AES website throughout the NT membership for the purposes of not only accessing presentations but also for sharing information amongst members
- The NT branch will also be interested in exploring the possibility of using webinars to connect with seminars in other states, in addition to maintaining local face-to-face activities

Queensland

With the help of several partnerships, the Queensland Regional Committee has gained a well-respected profile for quality, interesting presentations. The Committee has met its target of over 500 attendees by offering a variety of topics and formats. Over the course of the 2014–15 year, the following major events have been held:

- A forum was conducted by Professor Mark Moran, from the Institute of Social Science Research, University of Queensland in partnership with the Queensland Family and Child Commission; there were a total of 60 attendees at the forum
- A seminar (36 attendees) and master class (18 attendees) conducted by Professor Peter

Members

Mataira, (international speaker at the Darwin Conference) were held in partnership with Fullblack

- Two symposiums were held in July 2014 (55 attendees) and June 2015 (100 attendees) that brought together evaluators, social researchers, marketers, statisticians, policy makers and program managers. The symposiums were held in partnership with the Australasian Market and Social Research Association
- Five workshops held in Brisbane covered an introduction to evaluation, developing monitoring and evaluation frameworks, commissioning evaluations and using data visualisation (64 attendees)
- A three-day series of workshops and seminars held in Townsville provided a range of professional development from beginner level to advanced; there were a total of 18 attendees
- Monthly lunchtime seminars continued to be well attended with over 320 attendees; attendees rated the seminars as being of quality and value

We farewelled Dr June Lennie from our Committee this year as she retires after many years of service to AES both locally and nationally—thank you June.

Through the generosity of a Committee member, we have been able to hold our bi-monthly Committee meetings by teleconference this year, enabling us to include members outside of Brisbane.

We are looking forward to raising the profile of evaluation (and AES) in the broader community through a public policy and evaluation forum as part of the International Year of Evaluation. The forum will highlight the benefits that the community has gained from well-researched and evaluated policy.

We hope that during the next 12 months we will be able to expand our professional development activities more widely across the State.

Victoria

A key highlight for the Victoria Regional Committee for the 2014–15 period has been supporting the organisation of the 2015 evaluation conference to be held in Melbourne, during the International Year of Evaluation. Many of the Victorian Regional Committee members have had the opportunity to be actively involved in the Conference Organising Committee and/or its various sub-committees, and to shape the conference program, speakers, and social activities.

Throughout this busy time, the core work of the committee in organising the delivery of a monthly seminar to AES and non-AES members alike has continued, covering a wide range of subjects. A special effort has also been made to align seminar programming with the goals of the AES Professional Learning Committee, and in particular, to make links to the Evaluators' Professional Learning Competency Framework explicit.

The remainder of the calendar year will be focused on supporting the smooth delivery of the conference and the planned monthly seminars from August to November. Seminar planning for 2016 will commence in November/December with a planned start date of February 2016.

In addition, the Committee has a range of small advocacy and professional development projects, many of which are well underway including:

- reinvigorating the ECOI (Evaluation Community of Interest) in the Victorian state government
- engaging with the international NGO sector; three events are planned for the year, using a half-day practice clinic approach. An ethical evaluation event was held in March 2015 and an advocacy evaluation event was held on the 3rd of August. Each event is held at the Oxfam conference room in Carlton and tends to attract over 50 attendees, including a mix of NGO staff, consultants and academics
- expanding the reach of our professional development opportunities
- broadening private sector engagement in the AES

Members

- improving and consolidating our understanding of state and local public sector requirements

The Regional Committee plans on a calendar year basis, so there are no explicit plans for 2016 as yet, however, it is likely we will build on the 2015 projects, as well as any opportunities that may arise for the Committee from both the revised AES Strategic Plan and the 2015 evaluation conference.

Western Australia

2014–15 has been a very busy year for the Western Australia (WA) Regional Committee. Three workshops were delivered in partnership with the Institute of Public Administration IPAA including Introduction to Monitoring and Evaluation (delivered twice—November 2014 and May 2015) and Introduction to Program Logic, which is a new course that was developed and presented in June 2015; the new course proved very popular and will be offered again in 2015.

The AES also ran a number of seminars—Rick Cummings (Murdoch University) presented a seminar on Utilisation of Evaluation in September 2014; the seminar proved to be an interesting session that discussed what the utilisation of evaluation is, how do we enhance it, and can evaluators go too far in trying to influence stakeholders?

To share the learnings from the 2014 evaluation conference (particularly for local WA members who were unable to attend), the WA Regional Committee put together a panel of conference delegates to share their thoughts and experiences of the conference, this session took place in November 2014. During the session, each panel member provided a short presentation, this was followed by a group discussion and led to a lot of interesting evaluation debates.

In December, the Regional Committee met to discuss plans for the seminars and workshops in 2015, and there was initial discussion regarding WA's interest in hosting the 2016 AES conference. The meeting was followed by a seminar presented by Nolan Stephenson (Department of Regional Development) on developing an evaluation culture titled 'Experiences & Lessons Learned in the Department of Regional Development.'

From the beginning of 2015, seminars have been held in a new venue in the centre of Perth's CBD—the Ombudsman Western Australia. We are very grateful to the Ombudsman's Office for making the room available free of charge for the seminars, and to the staff who have been invaluable in facilitating room booking and setup. Since this arrangement has been established, we have held two seminars in the new venue: 'Evaluation approaches' (March 2015) delivered by Heather Aquilina (Shelby Consulting) and 'Evaluating research impact' (May 2015) delivered by Rebecca Lubansky, Cancer Council WA. The move has proved hugely popular with our attendance rates hitting nearly 50 for these seminars. Many seminars have led to some good discussions and slides were published on the website for people to follow up.

The venue arrangements with the Ombudsman WA will continue into the next financial year.

We plan to have a seminar in September 2015 which will present a panel debrief of the 2015 evaluation conference; this has proved a popular format in the past two years, providing an opportunity in which to share conference highlights with WA members who are not able to attend. The panel debrief will also be the WA Regional Committee's celebration event for the Year of Evaluation. Another seminar is currently planned for November. The WA Regional Committee will then finish the year in December with a Christmas celebration and seminar and a workshop planning session. The WA Regional Committee are currently working hard on preparations for the 2016 evaluation conference.

Members

Network Committee members

Aotearoa New Zealand

David Turner (Convenor)
Liz Smith (former Convenor)
Sally Faisandier (Finance)
Brett Lineham
Elisabeth Poppelwell
Jenny Neale
April Bennett
Mathea Roorda

Australian Capital Territory

Julie Elliott (Chair)
John Stoney (Deputy Chair)
Lisa Barney
Scott Bayley
Susan Garner
Kim Grey
Stephen Horn
Helen Lilley
Megan Ross
Emma Williams

New South Wales

Ben Barnes
George Argyrous
Jennifer Davis
Ben Harris-Roxas
Sue Leahy
Greg Masters
Suzanne Pope
Peter Ryan
Ania Wilczynski

Northern Territory

Alison Rogers
Elizabeth Creed
Nea Harrison
Veronica Snook
Bev Sithole
Jenne Roberts
Liz Kasteel

Queensland

Marion Norton (Regional
Convenor)
Sarah Renals
Jesse Taylor
Rachel Eberhard
Kylie Brosnan
June Lennie
Rebecca Crompton

Victoria

Farida Fleming
Michael Herbert (resigned
March 2015)
Stefan Kaufman
Euan Lockie (resigned January
2015)
Lee-Anne Molony
Ian Patrick
Emma Pritchard
Julie Richmond
Anthea Rutter
Kari Sann

Western Australia

Carina Calzoni (Chair)
Heather Aquilina
Dorothy Lucks
Rick Cummings
Christina Ballantyne
Barry Thomas
Suzanne Paparo
Brigette Lacey
Sarah McDonald (nee Butler)

Members

AES COMMITTEES AND WORKING GROUPS

Stakeholder Engagement Taskforce

In the last 12 months, the members of the Stakeholder Engagement Taskforce (SET) have actively built on the work of the Stakeholder Engagement Committee (SEC). The SET re-established regular six weekly meetings to refocus and provide updates across the range of stakeholder engagement activities. The SET has also proactively responded to new stakeholder engagement opportunities that have arisen, creating a solid foundation for the ongoing engagement of AES at senior government levels in Australia. The work of this very dedicated and passionate group of evaluators is to be commended.

Government Engagement Working Group and the Commonwealth Performance Framework

The Australian Government's Department of Finance is developing a Commonwealth Performance Framework that has implications for the future commissioning and conduct of evaluation at the Commonwealth level. The Performance Framework is being developed to support the new Public Governance Performance and Accountability Act 2013. In late 2014, the AES commenced a round of engagements with the Department of Finance.

During September 2014, the AES and the Australian New Zealand School of Governance (ANZOG) jointly held a roundtable for the Public Governance Performance and Accountability Act 2013 at the Crawford School, Australian National University. The purpose of the roundtable was to provide a forum for experts and interested commentators to discuss the proposed Australian Government Performance Framework that has been developed by the Australian Government Department of Finance and Deregulation, as part of consultations that were being held by the Department. The roundtable brought together 40 participants including highly experienced academics, policy, program, public governance and evaluation practitioners to consider the proposed Performance Framework under 'Chatham House' rules. The roundtable produced a joint submission to the Department of Finance, which provided a synopsis

of the key issues and themes that arose from the comments and observations of participants during the roundtable sessions.

In December 2014, the Department commenced a round of consultation on a series of documents relating to the Public Governance Performance and Accountability Act 2013 including Technical Guidance for the Development of Performance Information. The Government Engagement Working Group, chaired by Julie Elliott and John Stoney, was set up to monitor and lead the AES response to the Performance Framework. The Working Group, following review by the Board, put forward a detailed submission, which was well received by the Department and informed the revision of key documents.

In June 2015, the Working Group put in a submission to the Joint Committee of Public Accounts and Audit's inquiry into the development of a Commonwealth Performance Framework. The submission can be found here: http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/Joint/Public_Accounts_and_Audit/Performance_Framework/Submissions.

The Government Engagement Working Group (GEWG) have noted an enhanced AES relationship with the Department of Finance as a result of their intense engagement; the Working Group continue to explore opportunities to build on this solid foundation. The GEWG have developed a joint workshop in which Benoît Gauthier, President of the Board of Directors for the Canadian Evaluation Society and the AES President will present to the Performance Community of Practice (CoP) in Canberra (led by the Department of Finance) following the 2015 AES conference. Brad Cook from the Department of Finance will also be doing a presentation on the Performance Framework at the AES Conference. In addition, cross-committee meetings have also been set up between GEWG and the Professional Learning Committee to discuss the approach of the AES in engaging with government and building evaluative capacity.

Strategic engagement with NSW Government

Line and central agencies in NSW continue to be focused on building evaluation capability within the context of the 2013 Evaluation Framework.

Members

Central agencies have driven this work with the indirect involvement of AES members.

AES representation in the International Organisation for Cooperation in Evaluation and EvalPartners

Dorothy Lucks and Suzanne Blogg have made a significant contribution in ensuring the AES has strong links and effective contribution to the work of the International Organisation for Cooperation in Evaluation (IOCE) and EvalPartners.

Key highlights for the year include:

- developing emerging grant funding opportunities for Voluntary Organization of Profession Evaluators (VOPEs) through corporate social responsibility of foundations such as Master Card Foundation and Rockefeller Foundation with a focus on young/emerging evaluators, evaluation sector professionalisation and expanding the VOPE Toolkit into multiple languages
- an EvalYear 2015 crowd map and series of worldwide events
- an EvalWeek 2015 Global Forum in Nepal to be attended by several AES representatives
- a National Evaluation Capacity (NEC) conference in Thailand, supported by the United States Development Program and the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance, with involvement from EvalPartners
- establishment of key networks to expand discussion on key issues facing the evaluation sector including: EvalYouth; EvalGender; EvalSDG Professionalisation forum. For more information please see: www.ioce.net/forum
- seeking additional AES 'Champions' to join the above initiatives

AES liaison with Papua New Guinea's Association of Professional Evaluators:

For a number of years, Anne Markiewicz has supported capacity building of the Papua New Guinea Association of Professional Evaluators (AoPE) and strengthened their links with the AES. Anne has resigned from this role due to work commitments. We thank Anne for all her work and commitment to strengthening AES's relationship with AoPE and ensuring the AES delivers on its responsibilities to VOPE.

Following Board discussions, this role together with the EvalPartners/IOCE role will be brought back into the Board to ensure close links with the strategic direction of the AES.

'Talking up evaluation'

Following consultation during the Darwin Conference, the Talking up evaluation was revised and will continue to be refined in line with the strategic direction adopted by the new Board. The one page resource is being designed for members to use in conversations with non-evaluators to inform them about evaluation and evaluation practice. Talking up evaluation will be released early in 2016.

What next?

The work of the Stakeholder Engagement Taskforce (SET) is broad and at times can feel all encompassing. It is therefore important to have a clear strategic vision of what the AES is seeking to achieve and what we can realistically achieve with our resources. The AES's strategic review is important in order to set the direction for the SET both in the short and medium-term. Drawing on a review of the SET's strategic direction undertaken in early 2015, the SET prepared significant feedback to the AES Board to inform the review of the AES Strategic Plan. The SET will review proposed activities for 2015–16 in the context of the agreed AES Strategic Plan. It is envisaged that the work of the GEWG and meeting our responsibilities to VOPEs in the Pacific regions will continue, as well as engaging with new emerging opportunities.

Members

SET members

Chair: Liz Smith (Vice President)

Julie Elliott

John Stoney

David Roberts

Anne Markiewicz

Duncan Rintoul

Helen Watts

Susan Garner

Dorothy Lucks

Suzanne Blogg

Brett Lineham (Secretary)

Lyn Alderman (President)

Government Engagement Working Group

Co-Chairs: Julie Elliott and John Stoney

Scott Bayley

David Roberts

Anne Markiewicz

Duncan Rintoul

Emma Williams

Jerome Winston

John Stoney

Graham Smith

Ess Watts

Peter Graves

John Daigleish

Helen Watts

AES liaison with Papua New Guineas Association of Professional Evaluators:

Anne Markiewicz (until May 2015)

AES representatives on International Organisation for Cooperation in Evaluation and EvalPartners:

Dorothy Lucks

Suzanne Blogg – resigned

Publication and Journal Committee

The Publication and Journal Committee has now completed its Terms of Reference. Listed below are the latest outcomes from this Committee including:

- development of a new structure for the Editorial Advisory Board
- development of position description documents for the Editors, Assistant Editors and Editorial Advisory Board
- invitation to members to submit expressions of interest in taking up one of three positions as an Assistant Editor. In total, 10 applications were received; any applicants who were unsuccessful were invited to participate as a reviewer or Editorial Board member
- development of a succession plan with the appointment of three Assistant Editors for a three-year term
- finalising the invitations for the newly defined Editorial Advisory Board and scheduling a meeting for 2015

Committee membership:

Lyn Alderman, Chair

Ian Patrick

Liz Gould

Janet Clinton

Sara Appleton-Dwyer

Rick Cummings

Paul Burton

Graeme Harvey

Evaluation Journal of Australasia

The purpose of the *Evaluation Journal of Australasia (EJA)* is to further the aims of the AES by publishing articles of professional merit on any subject connected with evaluation. Preference is given to articles that embody original concepts, significant new findings or methodological advances. Preference is also given to articles that present existing knowledge in a form particularly accessible or useful to students, practitioners and/or users of evaluation. The Journal is intended to be critical and intellectually rigorous, but at the

Members

same time readable, and accessible to the widest possible range of scholars and practitioners.

The *EJA* has made significant strides forward over the last few years under the direction of the Editors (Lyn Alderman, Janet Clinton and Graeme Harvey) and the strategic support of the Journal Publications Committee and Editorial Advisory Board. Recent developments for the Journal include:

- moving from a paper-based journal to an online journal
- moving all back issues of the journal online
- increasing the number of issues from two to four per year
- redesigning the look and feel of the journal
- introducing practice papers to accompany the existing academic papers and book reviews
- adopting the recommendations of the Committee on Publication Ethics, their Code of Conduct and Best Practice Guidelines for Journal Editors
- introducing the Ros Hurworth Award paper, to be published in the Journal annually
- determining the criteria for entry into Scopus and Web of Knowledge, and working towards acceptance by these entities

Editorial team membership for the Evaluation Journal of Australasia

Lyn Alderman

Janet Clinton

Graeme Harvey (*resigned as Editor*)

Darrel Caulley

Congratulations to the new Assistant Editors appointed for a three-year term:

Bronwyn Rossingh

Carol Quadrelli

Liz Gould

Indigenous Taskforce

This year has been one of consolidation—building on the gains we have made since 2012, we now support the growth of a vibrant Indigenous stakeholder group within the society. In the 2014–15 period we welcomed a new Indigenous Board member to the AES Board. Sharon Clarke is a Wergaia Gunditjmara woman who was raised in the southeast of South Australia and has a 22-year background in nursing with 23 years' experience in the area of Aboriginal Health. Sharon has worked for Aboriginal community-controlled health services, non-government and government organisations (in all aspects of Aboriginal health at local, state and national levels), and with Aboriginal people in rural, remote and urban settings. Sharon's work for SA Health over the last 16 years has been focused around the Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Well Women's Screening Program, Sharon also represented South Australia on the then, National Aboriginal Torres Strait Islander Women's Forum Committee for several years. Sharon is currently studying for a post-graduate Master's degree in Public Health in the Institute of Koorie Education, at Deakin University—she plans to complete this degree in 2017.

As Indigenous evaluators we know the importance of people and of place—the 2014 conference held in Darwin, amply demonstrated the significance of each of these. The conference was witness to the largest ever number of Indigenous participants in the history of the AES conferences. One of the conference highlights for Indigenous participants was the Indigenous-only workshop held prior to the conference. The workshop, facilitated by former Board member Lenore Dembski and current Board member Amohia Boulton, provided an opportunity for participants to discuss how the AES as an organisation, can better support Indigenous evaluation activity and better respond to the needs of Indigenous evaluators. A number of initiatives, have been put in place this year as a direct consequence of the strategising and feedback we received at this workshop.

Another highlight from this year's conference was that the Conference Support Grants Assessing Committee was able to award support grants to seven Indigenous conference participants; this is

Members

the highest number of Indigenous participants we have been able to support to attend. These emerging Indigenous evaluators represent nations and countries across Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific Islands.

This year we made a number of changes to the Conference Support Grants Assessing Committee. The first is that the Committee is now a 'standing' Committee, whereby members of the committee will serve a term of at least three years, thus making the process of convening the committee every year that much more streamlined. The second change is that the committee that assesses the Conference Support Grants for emerging Indigenous evaluators is now itself comprised entirely of Indigenous peoples. The Conference Support Grant Committee currently comprises Amohia Boulton (Chair), Sharon Clarke (Deputy Chair), Eliza Pross (a Palawa woman from Tasmania), Alitasi Su'a Tavila (a Samoan woman, who resides in New Zealand), and Doyen Radcliffe (a Naaguja man from the Yamatji Region of Western Australia).

We have been fortunate to implement two initiatives in 2014–15, which we hope will further increase the participation of Indigenous peoples and organisations in the Society. First, we have introduced a new membership category for 'Indigenous-managed community organisations'. This membership type has been established to recognise the growing interest that Indigenous community-controlled organisations have in evaluation and evaluation activity, whether it be from the viewpoint of a commissioner of evaluations, or as a participant in programme evaluation.

Secondly, we have introduced a membership category for individual Indigenous members. It is our hope that by introducing this category of membership type we will leverage off the interest shown at the Darwin conference and increase the number of Indigenous people who become active members of the society.

In the last year we have made some gains in raising the profile of Indigenous evaluation within the society. As a result, the AES has been enriched through the diversity of views that the Indigenous

members bring to an organisation such as ours. However, we also recognise there is much more we have yet to achieve. As we move towards three-year terms for Board members, it is perhaps fitting that we reflect on what more can be done in the Indigenous evaluation space when Board membership is stable for a significant period of time. The Indigenous Board members have identified a number of priorities for the next three years including: collecting better ethnicity data to understand the membership and makeup of our society; identifying exactly what types of training courses or workshops Indigenous evaluators need or want to see delivered by the society; and finally, identifying how we can better disseminate the knowledge that is generated in our Indigenous communities by Indigenous evaluators, so that we can all learn from this wisdom.

As we look ahead to 2016 and beyond, we are reminded of the challenges that were laid down by the Indigenous workshop participants at the 2014 evaluation conference. The Indigenous conference participants reminded us that AES needs to lead by example and that as a Society we need to get out into the community, go and talk to people and see the lived reality of Indigenous life. In doing so, we will become stronger as evaluators, stronger as an organisation and better able to meet our vision of leading evaluation in Australasia.

The Professional Learning Committee

The highlights for the Professional Learning Committee (PLC) for the period 2014–15 include:

- the Competency Framework
- the planning meeting in November 2014
- the AES Strategic Plan
- the AES Business Plan
- the PLC Terms of Reference

Several PLC meetings were held to discuss the above activities and documents; the priorities were then collated and worked into a draft plan for the Committee. Committee members were asked to nominate their desired outcomes for their work on the PLC and these statements

Members

were then aligned with priorities. Following this, subgroups were formed according to priority areas including the Competency Framework, a needs-based professional support program, high quality learning, engagement with government, and the professionalisation of evaluation. The purpose of each subgroup is to develop a five-year plan that aligns with the AES strategic plan.

The subgroup in charge of examining the Competency Framework conducted an audit of the current professional learning offered by the PLC. The results of which found that while all competencies were covered, they were not dealt with in a systematic and overt way. This gap will be addressed in the PLC five-year plan. In addition, the competencies are currently being assessed for relevance and the results will become available in time for presentation to the evaluation conference in September 2015.

The subgroup looking at engagement with government met in Canberra on 16 July 2015 and discussed the needs of government, the appropriate government contact to work with, and how to deliver a program to them. This subgroup will work very closely with the Strategic Engagement Taskforce.

A mentoring program and support for special interest groups is being worked on by the subgroup looking at professional needs. Much exciting work is being canvassed by the subgroup looking at the professionalisation of evaluation. The subgroup investigating high quality learning is looking at a mixed-method format of making learning accessible and relevant, as well as modernising the way learning is carried out.

Looking ahead, the PLC needs to develop a five-year strategic plan. Each of the Committee's subgroups will also begin implementing their programs.

AES Membership Committee

Committee members:

Susan Garner (Chair, ACT)
Eve Barboza (Deputy Chair, NSW)
Chris Cooper (Tas)
Christina Ballantyne (WA)
Duncan Rintoul (Board, NSW)
Ex-officio: Bill Wallace EO

The Membership Committee has a key role in supporting the work of the AES Office in attracting, retaining and building the membership of the AES. This includes conducting activities to better understand the value-add that membership provides, and assessing how the services offered to members could be improved.

In 2014–15, two main activities were undertaken by the committee including:

- Interviews with existing AES members both to identify any differences in the value of membership to those working in different sectors including government, non-government and higher education, and to explore any regional issues and differences in greater depth. Four to five existing members in each AES region are being interviewed over the August to September 2015 period
- The development of a survey of lapsed members to gain a better understanding of their reasons for leaving the Society, their perceptions of the Society, the services offered and the value-add that membership provided. A survey of lapsed members will be conducted regularly, commencing in August 2015

The results of the interviews and survey will inform the work plan of the committee over the 2015–16 financial year. New activities are intended to support the work of the AES Office, with a focus on improving existing services and developing new services, the aim of which will be to attract, retain and build the membership base.

Members

AES LIFE MEMBERS AND FELLOWS

The AES provides special recognition to members who have made significant contributions (both to evaluation and to the attainment of the objectives of the Society), by electing them to the status of Fellow. At present, there are 13 Fellows who have supported the Society in a number of ways over the past year including assisting with the ongoing services and activities of the AES, such as regional group events, publications, workshops and the 'Fellows Forum' presented at the 2014 evaluation conference. The Fellows have also reviewed the criteria and processes used in the nomination and selection of new Fellows, leading to changes being adopted by the Board.

The Fellows have a special commitment to providing support for the development of members new to evaluation, and will continue to assist the Society in promoting evaluation knowledge and competence in the community wherever 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

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS (SIGs)

Realist Special Interest Group

Emma Williams (Co-Chair)
Andrew Hawkins (Co-Chair)

There are 79 current members of the Realist Special Interest Group (SIG) and new members are continuing to join.

The highlights of the year included successfully trialling innovative ways in which to engage members, while continuing successful engagement methods, and welcoming new members willing to take on local engagement tasks. A particular highlight would be the two 'Realist SIG matinees', where members watched an online video and discussed it together.

The SIG ran five virtual 'realist book club' sessions in 2014–15. The first three sessions involved discussion of key articles, the final two were billed as 'midday matinees' and involved viewing a keynote presentation, followed by interactive discussion online. The number of participants at the events averaged six, with a mix of regular and new attendees. Feedback suggests that a larger number of members participate in readings and watch the video (which can be undertaken at any time) than the number that participates in the interactive discussions. The topics covered in the sessions included:

- July 2014—Informed Guesswork: The realist response to complexity, Chapter 5 of Ray Pawson's *The Science of Evaluation*
- September 2014—Realist Evaluation Ray Pawson and Nick Tilley 2004 unpublished extract from the *Magenta Book* (used with permission)
- November 2014—A Realist Diagnostic Workshop by Ray Pawson and Ana Manzano-Santaella published in the *Journal Evaluation* 2012
- February 2015—Nick Tilley keynote address from the 1st International Conference on Realist Approaches to Evaluation and Synthesis (CARES): Successes, Challenges and the Road Ahead, 27–30 October 2014 in Liverpool

Members

- May 2015—Mike Kelly keynote address from the Liverpool conference noted as above

In October 2014 the SIG began to produce newsletters. The newsletters are six to eight pages in length and cover topics such as conferences, new publications and resources, with international coverage but a strong focus on Australasian activities. The newsletters include any local events and suggestions for further networking and learning opportunities. The latest newsletter was produced in April 2015.

Going forward, the SIG is planning to continue with the virtual book club (the next is scheduled for 13 July 2016), and the newsletters, as well as continuing to support local events, such as a current Victoria regional committee plan for local Realist SIG face-to-face meetings.

One issue limiting participation in the virtual book club has been our reliance on Skype for video chats, as this platform is blocked in some government agencies. It would be beneficial if the AES could provide access to an appropriate online platform for hosting webinars and group video meetings, such as 'GoTo' meeting.

Techeval Special Interest Group

Two activities in the Techeval Special Interest Group (SIG) stand out for the 2014–15 period as highlights of the year:

- Another successful symposium at the 2014 evaluation conference with a range of presenters, although the reduced number of attendees at this conference required a broader outreach to AES members and conference attendees in order to attract participants
- Ongoing development of the LinkedIn page to enable online sharing and resources for members—notably, an AES alert to the SIG and LinkedIn page was distributed in February. As the moderator of the LinkedIn page, Adrian Field has uploaded articles and resources on technology and evaluation, drawing from evaluation blogs and resources on the web as they emerge; new members and contributions to the page are welcome

Looking ahead, a symposium will be held at the 2015 evaluation conference, following the Brisbane and Darwin symposia. It is also hoped that there will be a symposium for the 2016 program. It is hoped that the 2015 evaluation conference will provide a good opportunity to discuss 'where to next' with the SIG, and to discuss ways in which the LinkedIn page could be taken to the next level of activity.

Convenors:

Adrian Field
Sandra Stopher

Financial reports

Finances 2012–16

PROJECTED

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
INCOME					
Workshops	143,752	138,738	127,208	135,284	140,000
Conference income	13,655	45,150	103,619	293,482	524,320
Memberships	131,275	131,231	121,876	144,115	140,000
Publications	111,777	22,268	14,662	22,573	21,500
Other Income	4,446	21,346	20,594	9,564	800
Total Income	281,964	358,733	387,959	605,018	826,620
EXPENDITURE					
Workshops	84,331	76,400	60,115	83,151	82,000
Conference & projects	2,628	5,000	0	192,228	475,244
Memberships	8,978	7,418	2,138	2,209	8,000
Publications	25,289	21,348	20,026	28,591	26,000
Other expenses	24,864	41,571	32,410	4,136	1,000
	146,090	151,737	114,689	310,315	592,244
Administration & Governance	185,443	215,086	332,749	195,268	222,286
Total Expenditure	331,533	366823	447438	505583	814530
SURPLUS	-49,569	-8,090	-59,479	99,435	12,090

Financial Statements

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2015

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STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2015

	Note	2015	2014
		\$	\$
Revenue		605,018	387,959
Depreciation and Amortisation		4,136	4,402
Other Expenses		501,447	443,036
Profit before Income Tax	3	99,435	(59,479)
Total Comprehensive Income		99,435	(59,479)

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2015

	2015	2014
	\$	\$
Revenue		
Special Project Income	8,713	18,857
Publications Sales	22,573	14,662
Professional Fees		
Workshops Income	135,284	127,208
Conferences Income	293,482	103,619
Membership Fees	144,115	121,876
Interest Received	851	1,737
	605,018	387,959
Expenditure		
Administration & Governance	195,268	332,749
Cost of Publications	28,591	20,026
Depreciation	4,136	4,402
Membership Services	2,209	2,138
Special Projects (incl Conference Support Grants)	192,228	28,008
Workshops	83,151	60,115
	505,583	447,438
Profit before Income Tax	99,435	(59,479)

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 2015

	Note	2015	2014
		\$	\$
Current Assets			
Cash and Cash Equivalents		504,401	332,704
Trade and Other Receivables	6	7,407	14,682
Other Current Assets		82,189	35,150
Total Current Assets		593,997	382,536
Non-Current Assets			
Property, Plant and Equipment	7	66	199
Intangible Assets	8	6,571	4,014
Total Non-Current Assets		6,637	4,213
TOTAL ASSETS		600,634	386,749
Current Liabilities			
Trade and Other Payables	9	60,218	66,022
Provision	10	9,659	3,802
Other income advances		316,362	201,965
Total Current Liabilities		386,239	271,789
TOTAL LIABILITIES		386,239	271,789
NET ASSETS		214,395	114,960
Equity			
Retained Profits		214,395	114,960
TOTAL EQUITY		214,395	114,960

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2015

	2015	2014
	\$	\$
Retained Earnings		
Balance at 1 July 2014	114,960	174,439
Profit Attributable to Members	99,435	(59,479)
Balance at 30 June 2015	214,395	114,960

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 2015

The financial statements cover Australasian Evaluation Society Ltd. as an individual entity.

Australasian Evaluation Society Ltd. is a not for profit Association incorporated in Victoria under the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012 ('the Act').

Comparatives are consistent with prior years, unless otherwise stated.

1. BASIS OF PREPARATION

In the opinion of the Committee of Management, the Association is not a reporting entity

since there are unlikely to exist users of the financial report who are not able to command the preparation of reports tailored so as to satisfy specifically all of their information needs.

These special purpose financial statements have been prepared to meet the reporting requirements of the Act.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the recognition and measurement requirements of the Australian Accounting Standards and Accounting Interpretations, and the disclosure requirements of AASB 101 Presentation of Financial Statements, AASB 107 Statement of Cash Flows, AASB 108 Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors and AASB 1054 Australian Additional Disclosures.

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.

Significant accounting policies adopted in the preparation of these financial statements are presented below and are consistent with prior reporting periods unless otherwise stated.

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

(a) Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprises cash on hand, demand deposits and short term investments which are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and which are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

(b) Provisions

Provisions are recognised when the association has a legal or constructive obligation, as a result of past events, for which it is probable that an outflow of economic benefits will result and that outflow can be reliably measured.

(c) Employee Benefits

Provision is made for the Association's liability for employee benefits arising from services rendered by employees to the end of the reporting period. Employee benefits that are expected to be wholly settled within one year have been measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liability is settled.

Employee benefits expected to be settled more than one year after the end of the reporting period have been measured at the present value cash outflows to be made for those benefits. In determining the liability, consideration is given to employee present wage and the probability that the employee may satisfy vesting requirements.

The net changes in the measurement of the liability are recognised in profit or loss.

Employee benefits are presented as current liabilities in the assets and liabilities statement if the Association does not have an unconditional right to defer settlement of the liability for at least one year after the reporting date regardless of the classification of the liability for measurement purposes under AASB 119.

(d) Property, Plant and Equipment

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

Property, plant and equipment, excluding freehold land, is depreciated on a straight line basis over the assets useful life to the Association, commencing when the asset is ready for use.

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

Office Equipment	66.60 %
Website Costs	33.30 %

(e) Revenue and Other Income

Revenue is recognised when the amount of the revenue can be measured reliably, it is probable that economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the Association.

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

Interest Revenue

Interest is recognised using the effective interest method.

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

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 expenses 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.

(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).

In these circumstances, the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of an item of the expense.

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.

(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.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2015**

	2015	2014
	\$	\$
3. PROFIT	99,435	(59,479)
Expenses		
Depreciation and Amortisation Expenses	4,136	4,402
Other Expenses	501,447	443,036
	505,583	447,438
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	4,136	4,402
Net Expenses Resulting from Movement in Provisions	4,136	4,402

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.

	2015	2014
	\$	\$
5. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS		
Cash at Bank	426,466	255,620
Anz V2 Bank Account	77,935	77,084
	504,401	332,704
Reconciliation of Cash		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	504,401	332,704
	504,401	332,704
CASH FLOW INFORMATION		
Reconciliation of Cash Flow from Operations with Profit after Income Tax		
Profit after Income Tax	99,435	(59,479)
Adjustments for Non-Cash Components in Losses:		
Depreciation	4,136	4,402
Changes in Assets and Liabilities		
Receivables	7,275	11,280
Other Assets	(47,039)	(21,603)
Non Current Assets	(6,560)	0
Payables	53	18,842
Unearned Income	114,397	162,906
Net Cash Increase in Cash Held	171,697	116,348
6. TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES		
Current		
Trade Debtors	7,407	14,682
Total Trade and Other Receivables	7,407	14,682

The maximum exposure to credit risk at the reporting date is the fair value of each class of receivable in the financial statements

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 2015**

	2015	2014
	\$	\$
7. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT		
Plant and Equipment		
Office Furniture & Equipment	3,920	3,920
Less Accumulated Depreciation & Impairment	3,854	3,721
	66	199
Total Plant and Equipment	66	199
Total Property, Plant and Equipment	66	199
8. INTANGIBLE ASSETS		
Non-Current		
Formation Expenses	6,560	
Website Development	12,020	12,020
Less Accumulated Impairment	12,009	8,006
	6,571	4,014
Total Intangible Assets	18,591	16,034
9. TRADE AND OTHER PAYABLES		
Current		
Sundry Creditors	3,230	4,606
Trade Creditors	12,253	26,383
Anz Visa Card	4,680	4,042
Payg Tax Withholding accrued	8,436	6,783
Provision for GST	31,619	24,208
Total Trade and Other Payables	60,218	66,022
10. PROVISIONS		
Current		
Provision for Annual Leave	9,659	3,802
	9,659	3,802
11. ASSOCIATION DETAILS		
The registered office of the association is:		
Australasian Evaluation Society Ltd., Level 4, 100 Leicester Street Carlton Vic. 3053		

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.

AUSTRALASIAN EVALUATION SOCIETY LTD COMMITTEE'S REPORT

The committee members present their report on the association for the financial year ended 30 June 2015.

Committee Members

The names of each person who has been a committee member during the year and to the date of this report are:

Gwendolyn Alderman
Jessica Dart
Liz Smith
Brett Lineham
Amohia Boulton
Sharon Clarke
Duncan Rintoul

Principal Activities

The principal activities of the association during the financial year were:
Promote Ethics and Standards in evaluation practice in Australia and New Zealand.
Advancing Social or Public Welfare

Significant Changes

No significant changes in the nature of the association's activity occurred during the financial year.

Operating Result

The profit of the association after providing for income tax amounted to \$99,435.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Members of the Committee.



Gwendolyn Alderman



Jessica Dart

Dated 20 August 2015

**AUSTRALASIAN EVALUATION SOCIETY LTD
STATEMENT BY MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE**

The committee has determined that the association is not a reporting entity and that this special purpose financial report should be prepared in accordance with the accounting policies outlined in Note 2 to the financial statements.

In the opinion of the committee the financial statements:

1. Present fairly the financial position of Australasian Evaluation Society Ltd. as at 30 June 2015 and its performance for the year ended on that date.
2. At the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that Australasian Evaluation Society Ltd. 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 committee by:



President: Gwendolyn Alderman



Treasurer: Jessica Dart

Dated 20 August 2015

Australasian Evaluation Society Ltd.
Compilation Report To Australasian Evaluation Society Ltd.

We have compiled the accompanying special purpose financial statements of Australasian Evaluation Society Ltd., which comprise the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2015, the statement of profit and loss, a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory notes. The specific purpose for which the special purpose financial statements have been prepared is set out in Note 1.

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 used is appropriate to meet the needs of the Committee of Management and for the purpose that the financial statements were prepared.

Our Responsibility

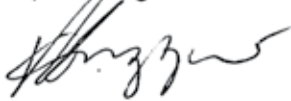
On the basis of information provided by the Committee of Management, we have compiled the accompanying special purpose financial statements in accordance with the basis of accounting and APES 315: Compilation of Financial Information.

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

Fellow Certified Practising Accountant and Chartered Tax Adviser
Suite 2, 121 Cardigan Street Carlton Victoria 3053



Vito Cannizzaro
31 July 2015

BPR AUDIT PTY LTD
AUTHORISED AUDIT COMPANY
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**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT
TO THE MEMBERS OF
AUSTRALASIAN EVALUATION SOCIETY LTD**

Report on the Financial Report

We have audited the accompanying financial report, being a special purpose financial report, of Australasian Evaluation Society Ltd, which comprises the Assets and Liabilities Statement as at 30 June 2015, Income and Expenditure Statement, Statement of Changes in Equity, a summary of significant accounting policies, other explanatory notes and the Statement by Members of the Committee.

Directors' Responsibility for the Financial Report

The members of the management committee of Australasian Evaluation Society Ltd are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report and have determined that the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements, which form part of the financial report, are appropriate to meet the requirements of the *Corporations Act 2001* and are appropriate to meet the needs of the members. The management committee member's responsibility also includes establishing and maintaining internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on our audit. No opinion is expressed as to whether the accounting policies used, as described in Note 1, are appropriate to meet the needs of the members. We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. These Auditing Standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the members of the management committee, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

The financial report has been prepared for distribution to members for the purpose of fulfilling the management committee member's financial reporting requirements under the *Corporations Act 2001*. We disclaim any assumption 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.



LIABILITY LIMITED BY A SCHEME
APPROVED UNDER PROFESSIONAL
STANDARDS LEGISLATION

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Independence

In conducting our audit, we have complied with the independence requirements of the *Corporations Act 2001*. We confirm that the independence declaration required by the *Corporations Act 2001*, provided to the members of the management committee of Australasian Evaluation Society Ltd on 18 August 2015, would be in the same terms if provided to the members of the management committee as at the date of this auditor's report.

Auditor's Opinion

In our opinion the financial report of Australasian Evaluation Society Ltd is in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001*, including:

- a. giving a true and fair view of the Australasian Evaluation Society Ltd's financial position as at 30 June 2015 and of its performance for the year ended on that date in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 2; and
- b. complying with Australian Accounting Standards to the extent described in Note 2 and complying with the Corporations Regulations 2001.

BPR Audit Pty Ltd

BPR Audit Pty Ltd
(Authorised Audit Company)
Suite 16, 333 Canterbury Road
CANTERBURY VIC 3126



Bernie Rohan
Director

Dated: *18 August 2015*

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Your Independent External Expert

**AUDITOR'S INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION
UNDER SECTION 307C OF THE CORPORATIONS ACT 2001
TO THE MEMBERS OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE OF
AUSTRALASIAN EVALUATION SOCIETY LTD**

I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, during the year ended 30 June 2015, there have been:

- a. no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements as set out in the Corporations Act 2001 in relation to the audit; and
- b. no contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

BPR Audit Pty Ltd

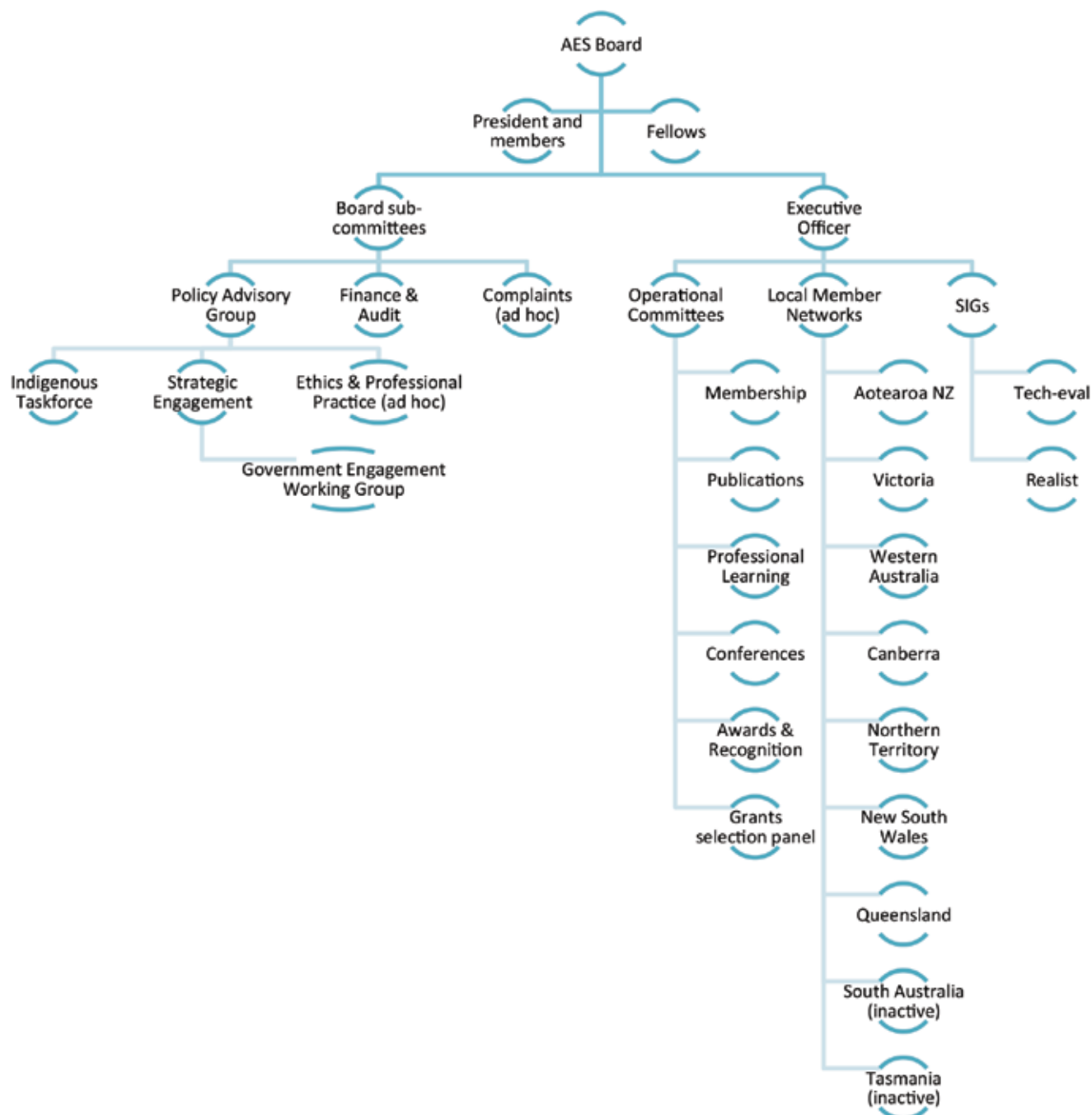
BPR Audit Pty Ltd
(Authorised Audit Company)
Suite 16, 333 Canterbury Road
CANTERBURY VIC 3126

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Bernie Rohan'.

Bernie Rohan
Director

Dated: 18 August 2015

Organisational chart



In accordance with an AES initiative to reduce our impact on the environment, this annual report has been printed using paper from responsible sources.

Printed by Printgraphics, Melbourne
An accredited ISO14001 Certified Environmental Management System printer



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