

The logo for the Australasian Evaluation Society is located in the top left corner. It consists of a white diamond shape with a triangle pointing up at the top and a triangle pointing down at the bottom. Inside the diamond, the words "AUSTRALASIAN", "EVALUATION", and "SOCIETY" are stacked vertically. "EVALUATION" is highlighted in a white rectangular box.

AUSTRALASIAN
EVALUATION
SOCIETY

2017-18

ANNUAL REPORT

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 940 members involved in all aspects of evaluation and performance measurement. The AES is governed by a board of members and managed by a Chief Executive Officer and staff.

Our members represent diverse professional sectors and areas of evaluation practice and meet regularly through regional networks, special interest groups, discussion groups and an annual conference. The AES offers professional development through an annual international conference, a peer-reviewed evaluation journal, 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.



About us

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 940 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 six

SAGE Publishing titles, and the Guidelines for the Ethical Conduct of Evaluations.

Members' centre

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

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 with a 15 per cent 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 Chief 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 First Nations people 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 ACNC, 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 2017–2018

Lyn Alderman	<i>President</i>
Liz Smith	<i>Vice-President</i>
Jess Dart	<i>Treasurer</i>

Ordinary board members

Dan Borg
Amohia Boulton (until 9/17)
Sharon Clarke
Sue Leahy (from 9/17)
Kiri Parata (from 11/17)
Doyen Radcliffe
John Stoney

Staff

Chief Executive Officer

Bill Wallace

Membership & Events Officer

Michelle Wightwick

President: Lyn Alderman

Lyn's experience encompasses several sectors including government, non-profit, corporate, higher education and vocational education. Her deep disciplinary knowledge and expertise is in policy design and analysis, program evaluation, evaluation frameworks, performance models, monitoring of quality assurance, institutional analytics and curriculum writing.

Currently, Lyn is the Chief Evaluator, Department of Social Services (2017–present) where she leads a team who provide evaluation services internally to the department and externally, through the Community Grants Hub, to other Commonwealth human service agencies. These services include evaluation readiness, procurement of external evaluation suppliers, project management of reviews and evaluations, evaluation capability building and contribution to evidence-informed policy and program reforms.

Previously, Lyn held the position of Associate Director, Academic Quality and Standards, QUT (2007–2016) where she led two portfolios: evaluation and quality assurance. Her leadership in this area was nationally recognised when she was awarded the L H Martin Institute Award for Excellence in Leadership (2016).

With over 50 publications to her name, Lyn advocates strongly for all evaluation practitioners to engage in scholarly writing as a professional development for personal reflection on practice, to disseminate evaluative thinking and to contribute to the scholarly debate on the benefits and use of evaluation per se.

Lyn held two major strategic roles within the AES: as the President of the AES (2014–2018) and as Editor of the *EJA* (2012–2018).

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 with programs focused on improving health and wellbeing outcomes and decreasing inequities.

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 the completion of a number of long-term evaluations. In her evaluation practice, Liz engages in participatory processes to meaningfully include diverse communities, service providers, stakeholders and key decision-makers. Currently, Liz is exploring the interface between evaluation and design.

Liz is an active member of the Australasian Evaluation Society. Since joining the AES in 2005, Liz has been involved in the Wellington AES

Board and staff

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 2014–2016, Liz chaired the AES's Stakeholder Engagement Group. In 2016–2017, she has chaired the member services and engagement committee.

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, Sydney 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 has been a member of the AES for over 15 years. She holds a PhD in evaluation from the University of Melbourne.

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 in-demand facilitator and trainer, and leads many capacity building endeavours for government, not-for profits and philanthropic organisations. Jess 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, Jess completed the Foundations of Directorship with the Australian Institute of Company Directors (including units in Governance for Directors; Finance for Directors; and Strategy and Risk for Directors).

Meeting attendance

Lyn Alderman	5 of 5
Dan Borg	5 of 5
Amohia Boulton	1 of 1
Sharon Clarke	4 of 5
Jess Dart	5 of 5
Sue Leahy	4 of 4
Kiri Parata	2 of 2
Doyen Radcliffe	5 of 5
Liz Smith	4 of 5
John Stoney	5 of 5

President's report

AES Strategy July 2017–June 2018

In our second year of the three-year strategy, I am proud to report that the AES board, leadership team, and committees have worked hard to operationalise the strategies for each of the five domains: cultural capacity, professionalism, influence, relevance, and organisational sustainability. Each domain is supported by a committee, with each committee chaired by a board member and supported by a secretary. Two of the committees, supporting cultural capacity and organisational stability, have fixed membership whilst the remaining three, supporting influence, relevance and professionalisation, are open to member participation. The board has started to review the three-year strategy as part of our succession planning for the incoming board. My report summarises our work over the five domains with individual activities elaborated in more detail within the *Strategy and Committees* section of this report.

Cultural capacity domain

The AES Constitution enshrines our commitment to cultural inclusiveness with an assurance that at least two board members are Indigenous. At the conference last year, we said farewell to Amohia Bolton who made a significant contribution to this committee for a number of years. In keeping with our strong commitment to cultural capacity, the AES board nominated Kiri Parata (who received a Conference Support Grant in 2017) to the board. Kiri joins Sharon Clarke and Doyen Radcliffe as our Indigenous board members.

In developing our Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP), I will always have fond memories of the board's close working relationships. Over a two-hour period, we were able to develop the RAP mission with words that were meaningful, respectful and appropriate to all board members. I found it a particularly moving event.

Professionalisation domain

In 2017, the board received the Pathways to Advanced Professionalisation report which recommends that the AES increase motivation, capacity and opportunities for our members.



AES President Lyn Alderman introduces the 2017 Awards for Excellence

The *Evaluation Journal of Australasia* (EJA) is in an extremely strong position with five success factors: negotiations with SAGE publishing; application to join SCOPUS; increase in the value proposition for AES members; return of the print form of the EJA; and transition to new editorial team.

Influence domain

The Advocacy and Alliances Committee continues to bear positive influence for the AES through formal submissions. This year our contribution was recognised and mentioned in the consultation report for the Independent Review of the PGPA Act and Rule.

From 1 July 2017, we welcomed Debbie Goodwin as our representative for the International Organization for Cooperation in Evaluation (IOCE) Board with each tenure held for a period of three years.

President's report

Relevance domain

The Membership Services and Engagement Committee worked hard over the last year to build momentum for webinars, a blog and a mentoring program. With a relatively small membership, the co-chairs worked with over 20 AES members to build momentum.

Organisational sustainability domain

Starting with an announcement at the Annual General Meeting in 2017, the board adopted a distributed leadership model of consultation, where board members met with members in Australia and New Zealand. This offered the board the opportunity to discuss changing the geographic mandate from Australasia to Australia. The outcome of this constitution will be part of the next annual report.

I'd like to thank Bill Wallace for his continuous support for the AES more broadly and specifically for my role as President. Bill's diligence and

attention to detail ensure that the business of the AES is in safe hands. I also thank Michelle Wightwick for her contributions this year. Michelle always brings a cheerful disposition to her work and is welcoming to all our members. To my fellow board members, thank you for your support, professionalism and dedication to the AES and its endeavours, it is truly appreciated.

Finally, I would like to thank our members for their continuing support and engagement with the Society. In an environment where many membership associations are struggling to maintain their membership base, AES membership has grown 4% in the past year and 12% since June 2014. This indicates that we continue to offer value to emerging and experienced evaluators, as well as commissioners of evaluation.

Lyn Alderman, PhD
President

Treasurer's report

This year we made a surplus, and added \$78,413 to our member funds. This was against a budget of \$12,079. We therefore performed considerably higher than the budget. Workshop income exceeded targets due to the success of a planning project and more targeted advertising tactics, and income from membership continues to increase showing a year on year trend. Although \$40,000 in strategic projects was unspent, we expended an unbudgeted amount of \$24,800 on the member consultation and charges associated with constitutional change, and this project is congruent with the Board's strategy.

We have set the budget this year at a loss of -\$40,400. This is because we now need to spend some of our member funds on strategic projects to ensure we invest in the future of your organisation and we are planning for a smaller and less profitable conference in Launceston this year.

Results against budget

- Our profit for the year was \$66,334 higher than budget. We made a profit of \$78,413 against the budget of \$12,079.
- We had higher income \$38,355 (12.1%) than budgeted for. This was due to more revenue from professional development and membership fees.

Treasurer's report

- Our Canberra conference expenses were \$29,491 less than budgeted, at \$428,206 against a budget of \$457,697.
- Conference income was almost exactly to budget.
- Governance costs for the constitutional change as well as administrative costs were higher than budgeted.
- We underspent on special projects. We budgeted for \$41,000 and spent only \$1,327.

Balance sheet analysis against previous year

- Cash balance has decreased by 5.4% (-\$32,289) compared to last year because we have paid more conference expenses upfront than we did last year as well as holding less unearned conference income.
- Total assets have increased by 7.8% (\$54,017) compared to last year.
- Total liabilities have decreased by 6.1% (-\$24,397) compared to last year mainly because we are holding less unearned conference income than last year.
- Total equity has increased by 26.5% (\$78,413), it is currently at \$374,030 (June 2018) and was at \$295,617 at the end of the last financial year

Profit and loss—our position compared to last year

- Operating income has increased by 4.1% at \$356,255.02 (June 2018) against \$342,099 (June 2017). This was due to an increase in membership fee and workshop income.
- Workshop fee income is up 4.3% and membership fees increased by 6.7 % compared to last year.

- Operating expenditure increased by \$57,383 (14.9%) at \$443,208 (June 2018) against \$385,84 (June 2017). This is mostly due to additional governance costs for the constitutional change as well as an increase in wages for AES staff, but offset by less spending on strategic projects.
- Overall profit increased significantly year on year, \$78,413 (30 June 2018) against \$7,764 (30 June 2017) 910% due to a larger conference in Canberra compared to Perth plus underspending on strategic projects.

Looking forward

With a smaller conference in Launceston this year, we are budging for a loss of -\$40,400 (this final figure being dependent on conference numbers—which are already looking better than expected). Due to four continual years of surplus we have sufficient reserves to invest \$50,000 into our strategic goals—this is particularly important given we will renew the strategic plan this year. We are committed to effectively leveraging the savings we have made in the last four years of surplus (over \$250,000) to ensure a solid future for the AES. It's time to spend!

Key budget items:

- We are forecasting a budget deficit of -\$40,400
- We have budgeted \$50,000 expenditure for strategic projects including recording the AES's history and investing in additional membership services.

Jess Dart, PhD
Treasurer

The year's highlights

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

This year's conference *aes17: Evaluation Capital* was held Australia's national capital, Canberra. Canberra means 'meeting place' in the local Indigenous language, and delegates were warmly welcomed to country by Ngambri custodian, Paul House, on behalf of Ngambri-Ngurm and Ngunnawal-Wallabooloo Aboriginal peoples of the Canberra region. Paul's welcome set the scene for delegates to continue to acknowledge the traditional custodians and to pay respect to their elders throughout the conference program.

aes17 started early in September, so delegates woke to crisp spring air that both stimulated and challenged the senses. Many walked to the conference venue, or joined other delegates and new evaluators for breakfast meetings before the formal program each day. There was certainly a buzz in the air—and not just in the mornings! The three-day conference program was bookended by stimulating workshops across the subthemes of Build systems, Use findings, Insights from theory, Learn from practice and Diverse voices (in short, BUILD). The conference program followed in the same vein offering more than 100 sessions of keynotes, short and long papers, panel discussions, skill building sessions, digital posters, and consultation and collaboration sessions.

Starting with Sandra Mathison's opening keynote address, the record audience of over 400 delegates was challenged to reflect on how evaluation can remain relevant, to consider whether evaluation contributes to the public good, and to motivate us to think it was time 'to speak truth to the powerless'. Then in turn, Richard Weston, Gill Westhorp, Andy Rowe and Dugan Fraser continued to challenge and provoke, to test our assumptions and values, and engage delegates with the big issues in the theory and practice of evaluation. Bringing diverse perspectives, they challenged viewpoints about evaluation, its potential and limitations, and its ability to inform public policy and administration, program design and service delivery.

They did not mince their words about the great responsibility of evaluation commissioners and practitioners; about the need to move away from ad hoc approaches; and to build sustainable systems and methods to deal with the challenges and complexity of the times. It was common to hear people talking about their impressions of the keynote speakers over coffee, lunch and dinner.

Nicolas Gruen was the invited guest speaker at the AES President's dinner on the icy cold spring evening of 5 September. Touted as 'Australia's Top Intellectual' we were educated and entertained while wining and dining in the National Arboretum Village Centre Restaurant. The occasion also marked the announcement of the winners of the 2017 Excellence in Evaluation Awards and the belated formal acceptance by Patricia Rogers of her 2016 Fellow nomination. All this was followed by dancing to top hits from the 80s and beyond played by an up and coming local band, *Pleased to Jive You*.

This year's conference certainly ended with a bang. After three days of being challenged by intellectual provocations and conundrums, stimulated to question some of our sacred cows, not to mention find time for deep reflection on the future directions of evaluation, our fearless keynotes, with help from Kathryn Newcomer and Jess Dart, took to the stage for final plenary: The GREAT DEBATE—*Are we fiddling while Rome burns?* It was a close call, but the side on the affirmative won the day.

Evaluation of the 2017 AES Conference Canberra

Jen Thompson, a capstone student at the Centre for Program Evaluation, University of Melbourne conducted the evaluation of *aes17*. Our sincere thanks are extended to Jen for her sterling effort in gaining insights into the outcomes of the conference, as well as areas for improvement.

The year's highlights

It seemed like record attendance at the final plenary debate, and judging by the levels of noise and laughter, delegates were not disappointed. The conference ended with the aes18 Convenors accepting the conference owl, acknowledging aes17 would be a hard act to follow, and that the GREAT DEBATE may well become an AES conference institution.

Many delegates remained after the conference to sightsee and experience some of Canberra's national landmarks and institutions. Some attended the final day of workshops on offer, while locals returned to their homes after an exhilarating conference and workshop program.

Conference sponsors

The generous support of our 2017 sponsors is acknowledged, including:

Change Agents

Australian Department of Social Services
Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

Silver Sponsors

ARTD Consultants
Clear Horizon
Urbis
ACIL Allen Consulting
MEERQAT

Bronze Sponsors

Grosvenor Management Consulting



Top left
Ngambri custodian Paul House delivers the Welcome to Country

Top right
2017 opening plenary, pictured L-R: Lyn Alderman (AES President), Sandra Mathison (Keynote speaker), Julie Elliott (co-convenor), at rear: Andrew Hawkins (ARTD Consultants)

Bottom
AES Board members Doyen Radcliffe, Sharon Clarke and Dr Amohia Boulton, introduce Indigenous conference support grant recipients at the 2017 Gala Awards Dinner

The year's highlights

AES AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE IN EVALUATION

The AES Awards for Excellence in Evaluation are awarded annually and are designed to encourage and recognise outstanding contributions to the theory, practice and use of evaluation. The 2017 awards were announced and celebrated on the evening of 5 September 2017 at the Awards Gala Dinner, held in conjunction with the 2017 AES Conference in Canberra, Australia.

2017–2018 Awards and Recognition Working Group members

April Bennett
Dana Cross
Rick Cummings
Wei Leng Kwok (Co-chair)
David McDonald
Ian Patrick (Co-chair)
Mathea Roorda
Carol Vale (from mid-2018)

2017 AES Awards for Excellence in Evaluation

→ Emerging New Talent Award Alexandra Ellinson



Alexandra Ellinson, recipient of the 2017 Emerging New Talent award

- **Evaluation Study or Project Award**
Alison Wallace, Dr Linda Kurti, Nicki Hutley, Dr Caroline Tomiczek, Alex Batchen (Urbis) and NSW Treasury, for the Evaluation of the Newpin SBB Program
- **Indigenous Evaluation Award**
Hokianga Hapū Community Water Supplies; Marara Rogers-Koroheke and Hone Taimona (Hokianga Health Enterprise Trust), Andrea Clark (Social Foci Limited), Jeff Foote and Maria Hepi (Institute of Environmental Science and Research Limited); John Wigglesworth (Hokianga Health Enterprise Trust), for Tukua te Wai Kia Rere: Evaluation of the Hokianga Drinking Water Programme

The year's highlights

EVALUATION JOURNAL OF AUSTRALASIA (EJA)

The *EJA* has experienced a stellar trajectory this year with five major achievements. These achievements are: successful negotiations with SAGE Publications; successful application with SCOPUS; successful increase in the value proposition for AES members; successful return of the *EJA* in print form; and successful transition to new editorial team. Individually, each achievement provides an exceptional strengthening of the brand and recognition of the *EJA* and collectively, this places the *EJA* in the position to become a world class journal that promotes the theory and practice of evaluation on an international stage.

Successful negotiations with SAGE Publications

In 2014, SAGE Publications approached the AES and expressed interest in entering into a publishing agreement. At the time, the Publications Working Party undertook a benchmarking exercise and reviewed the publication agreement terms of four different publishers (including SAGE Publications). It was determined at that time that the *EJA* was engaged in a great deal of change in moving online and moving from two issues per year to four issues per year. As a consequence, it was decided to remain with the current publication arrangements.

In 2017, SAGE Publications once again approached the AES and confirmed their ongoing interest in the *EJA*. This started a conversation which ultimately led to the AES contracting with SAGE Publication for a five-year period (2018–2022).

The *EJA* continues to make greater use of online technologies, employing an online manuscript submission system and benefiting from SAGE's enhanced search functionalities, which means that your article is in a better position to be widely read and cited. There are further online resources for authors, including advice on how to get published, preparing an article for publication once it has been accepted, and how to promote published work.

Successful application to join SCOPUS

In 2018, with the move to publication with SAGE we join a worldwide community of researchers, policymakers, and—of course—practising evaluators. Articles published in the *EJA* from 2018 will have increased exposure to an international audience.

This benefit is further enhanced with SAGE submitting a successful application for the *EJA* to be recognised by SCOPUS.

The feedback received was:

- *The journal has scholarly relevance as evidenced by citations in other journals currently covered by Scopus.*
- *The abstracts are generally clear and provide an excellent summary of each article's content.*
- *The journal consistently includes articles that are scientifically sound and relevant to an international academic or professional audience in this field.*
- *In general, the content of the articles is consistent with the scope and aims of the journal. Although the scope of this journal is narrow, it addresses the need of an important niche audience.*
- *This title addresses a subject area not properly covered by an existing journal.*

This is a positive step forward and will help continue to raise the profile of the journal. It usually takes several months before articles start indexing in the Scopus database.

Successful increase in the value proposition for AES members

The AES is pleased to announce that in addition to receiving free access to the *EJA*, all AES members will receive free access to six other SAGE journals. The journals were selected by popular vote by AES members.

The year's highlights

AES membership provides access to:

- *Evaluation Journal of Australasia*
- *AlterNative*
- *Evaluation*
- *Evaluation Review—A Journal of Applied Social Research*
- *Journal of Mixed Methods Research*
- *Qualitative Research*
- *Evaluation and the Health Professions*.

It is intended that this increase in ongoing access to research literature will offer members the opportunity to bring academic theory and practice into their work as evaluators.

Successful return of the EJA in print form

In 2014, the AES made a strategic financial decision to move the *EJA* online and to retire the print form of the journal. The *EJA* is considered a flagship product of the AES and will always be supported financially and idealistically. However, due to economic circumstances, the AES board was determined to be fiscally astute in the ways in which this support was to continue.

Therefore, an additional benefit in moving with SAGE Publications is the return of the availability of the *EJA* in print form. In keeping with the strategic financial position of the AES, the print version of the journal will be available for an additional cost to members.

Successful transition to new editorial team

The editorial team has remained stable over the last year with a full year with four editors. Dr Lyn Alderman announced that she would be stepping down as editor on 30 June 2018 when the transition to SAGE was secure with two issues published with SAGE, all content now in the new online system and with ongoing stewardship by the three remaining editors. The successful plan to bring on board assistant editors, support their development in the first year and then transition into editors in the second year has allowed for a smooth transition process.

Editors

Dr Lyn Alderman (2012–2018)

Dr Liz Gould (2016–present)

Dr Carol Quadrelli (2016–present)

Dr Bronwyn Rossingh (2016–present)

Strategy and committees

The AES Strategic Priorities from July 2016 to June 2019 include five strategic objectives: cultural capacity; influence; relevance; professionalisation; and organisational stability. To support the strategy the AES has five committees: Cultural Capacity and Diversity; Finance and Audit; Learning and Professional Practice; Advocacy and Alliances; and Member Services and Engagement.

CULTURAL CAPACITY

Strengthen and build Indigenous and non-Indigenous capacity in culturally safe evaluation theory, practice and use

During 2017–18 the Cultural Capacity and Diversity Committee has continued to work closely with AES board members to strengthen and build Indigenous and non-Indigenous capacity in culturally safe evaluation theory, practice, and use.

As one of the working groups we are also supported by the board and its members to make the foundations of the organisation safe and strong to continue building Indigenous evaluation capacity for the future.

The year's highlights have been the development of the Cultural Protocols which have been approved by the board and mandated that all committees and AES professional learning events commence with Acknowledgement of Country. Protocols were successfully trialled at the 2017 AES Conference held in Canberra and the AES board mandated the use for all meetings and events.

Indigenous AES members were all identified so that the Cultural Capacity and Diversity Committee could correspond with these members.

Expressions of Interest were sought from the AES membership for the Cultural Capacity and Diversity Committee. We received interest from five members, however only three could commit. We welcome Carol Vale, Tofa Ramanlal and Kevin Dolman to the committee. Kiri Parata was also invited to sit on the board following Amohia stepping down.

ANZEA members Debbie Goodwin and Sarah Appleton organised a teleconference with Sharon and Doyen. Debbie spoke about her role and plans as the new International Organization

for Cooperation in Evaluation appointed position. Debbie also gave us information about EvalIndigenous Committee who meet by teleconference and correspond by email.

The draft Reconciliation Action Plan has been sent to Reconciliation Australia for review and feedback.

Sharon has been involved in the Strengthening Evaluation Practices and Strategies (STEPS) in Indigenous settings in Australia and New Zealand as a cultural adviser.

All Cultural Capacity and Diversity Committee members were also involved in the consultation in most States and Territories with the President or Chief Executive Officer on the AES Constitutional changes.

In 2017, 20 applications were received for the Conference Support Grants, 12 applicants were successful; however two had to cancel their registrations due to unforeseen circumstances. Overall, five attendees were from Australia and five from New Zealand and the Pacific.

Grants were awarded to the following recipients: Gloria Nema (Papua New Guinea), Jerry Oikwao (Solomon Islands), Kevin Dolman (Australia), Annabelle Landy (Australia based), Kiri Parata (Australia based), Tofa Ramanlal (Tonga, New Zealand based), Shirley Abraham (Vanuatu), Tautalaaso Tauealo, (Samoa) and Angela Jeffery (Australia). All Indigenous Awards are assessed by an all Indigenous panel.

The committee would like to acknowledge the enormous contribution and leadership shown by Dr Amohia Boulton who was appointed to the AES board in November 2013 along with Lenore Dembski. The board was reconstructed and the policy and operational committees were created. The former Indigenous Strategy Committee was

Strategy and committees



Dr Amohia Boulton, who stepped down from the AES board following four year's service

replaced by the Indigenous Taskforce and Terms of Reference were drafted.

Amohia's evaluation knowledge and skills and wonderful personality has paved the way for Indigenous evaluators and emerging evaluators here in Australia and across the sea to New Zealand and out to the Pacific Islands with the Conference Support Grants to make a journey into evaluation a positive pathway for the future.

Committee members

Sharon Clarke
Kevin Dolman
Kiri Parata
Doyen Radcliffe
Tofa Ramanlal
Carol Vale

INFLUENCE

Promote the use of evaluation and evaluative thinking by agencies and organisations

The importance of a culture of evaluation in the Australian Public Service (APS) was highlighted in the draft Consultation Report for the *Independent Review of the PGPA Act and Rule* and, in referencing the AES' submission to the Review, the Consultation Report also recommended that the APS Secretaries Board adopt initiatives to improve the quality of performance reporting—including the greater use of evaluation and strategies to improve how entities measure the impact of government programs. This is a positive result for the AES in promoting the use of evaluation. It comes off the back of work that started in November 2017 when an informal working group of Advocacy and Alliances Committee (AAC) and Canberra Regional Committee members responded to calls for submissions to the Review. The AES submission focussed on current strengths and areas for development in non-financial performance reporting and the role that evaluation could play in supporting this. Information on the Inquiry including the AES submission and Inquiry Reports can be found at: <http://www.finance.gov.au/pgpa-independent-review/#intro>.

A resource (*Talking about evaluation*) is now available on the AES website (<https://www.aes.asn.au/resources/talking-about-evaluation-1.html>) for the evaluation community to help evaluators concisely explain what evaluation is and, more importantly, why it matters and is worth investing in. AAC members refreshed a useful document that had been developed by AES members following the AES 2014 Conference to develop this resource. It contains key discussion points and handy links to resources that should help evaluators be advocates for evaluation.

Member feedback on *Talking about evaluation* will be collected to check on its usefulness, and whether there is scope for further refinements.

Readiness for an AES advocacy and influence strategy has grown in view of conversations sparked by an internal discussion paper developed by the AAC. The paper sets out first principles'

Strategy and committees

approach to influence and advocacy. It asks key questions around what the AES wants from advocacy and why. The AES is now informed and able to adopt a strategic approach to progressing its influence agenda.

Looking ahead, the committee will focus on developing an AES Advocacy and Influence Strategy for implementation in 2019, which contains concrete actions and priorities to progress. This will be informed by consultations with members at the AES 2018 Conference, followed by state-based seminars/workshops.

The committee will also continue to develop resources for AES members to use to support their capacity to promote the use of evaluation and evaluative thinking.

Committee members

Luke Condon
Penelope Cooke
Alexandra Ellinson (Secretary)
Tracie-Lee Little
Dorothy Lucks
Diane McDonald
Margaret MacDonald
Tim Renwick
Duncan Rintoul
David Roberts
John Stoney (Chair)
Helen Watts
Poppy Wise (to 1/18)

RELEVANCE

Strengthen the value proposition of AES membership

The AES, like many professional organisations, needs to evolve to remain relevant and meet the changing and diverse needs of its members. Over the last 18 months, the Member Services Engagement (MSE) Committee has focused on developing three new services for AES members: webinars, the AES blog, and a mentoring program. The three services seek to increase engagement for members across Australasia and offer learning opportunities.

Work is underway to develop the capability and capacity for the AES to host webinars. The MSE Webinar Group has explored the potential applications of and best practice guidelines for webinar technology and online facilitation. This work accumulated in the prototype webinar on 'A webinar on how to run webinars'. The Webinar Group tested the member value of webinars at the 2018 AES Conference.

In early 2018, the MSE Blog Group was established. The goal of the blog is to: increase AES visibility; build the evaluation community and foster new connections; and speak to the Australian context. Work to date has focused on developing the blog plan and guidelines, and creating linkages with the Regional Convenors to ensure a steady flow of content. The AES Blog was launched at the 2018 AES Conference.

The MSE Mentor Group have been scoping two potential mentoring models: a less-formal facilitated online group mentoring model, and a traditional Mentor-Mentee model. Further work is being undertaken to determine the feasibility of sustaining a mentoring program.

The commitment and contribution of AES members made it possible for the MSE to take on three workstreams in 2018. The MSE co-chairs would like to thank all those who contributed to the work throughout the year, including from the Webinar Group, Blog Group and Mentor Group. We have enjoyed your company and learnt much by working together. As Helen Keller said, 'Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much'.

Committee members

Eve Barboza
Dan Boag (Co-chair)
Sheryl Boniface
Joanna Farmer
Lesley Petersen
Liz Smith (Co-chair)

Strategy and committees

PROFESSIONALISATION

Strengthen the capacity and professionalism of the evaluation sector

In 2017 the board received the Pathways to Advance Professionalisation report which it commissioned to explore options for strengthening and the capacity and professionalism of the evaluation sector. Professionalisation is defined within the report, not as making evaluation exclusive through barriers to entry, but continuously improving the quality of evaluation practice and products. Importantly, it notes the importance of consultation with members to inform how recommended strategies are implemented.

Within the report is a theory of change based framework for working toward a more professional sector, recommending the AES looks to:

- increase motivation through active contribution to a valued entity
- increase capacity for ongoing and linked professional support
- increase opportunities for professional practice.

It outlines four pathway options:

- Option 1—business as usual
- Option 2—focusing, connecting and augmenting current activities
- Option 3—a system of voluntary credentialing
- Option 4—a fully licensed and regulated profession.

In March 2018 the board endorsed Option 2, in which current activities are continued with some refocusing or augmenting. It also identified important linkages with other strategic priorities including cultural diversity, advocacy and member value. The Learning and Professional Practice Committee is working with other committees to ensure synergies with their work.

The AES executive have acted on recommendations within their scope, such as explicitly linking professional development activities to the AES competency framework, making professional practice documents more visible on the website and adding compliance with the AES Code of Conduct as a requirement for organisational membership.

The report is being launched jointly between the AES and Better Evaluation, and with a wide reaching consultation strategy that includes a blog and webinar with the report's authors, a forum at the 2018 AES Conference in Launceston and regionally-based member forums. The consultations will identify member concerns and priorities in areas such as skill development and learning pathways, embedding professional competencies and identifying opportunities to strengthen the enabling environment for good evaluation practice.

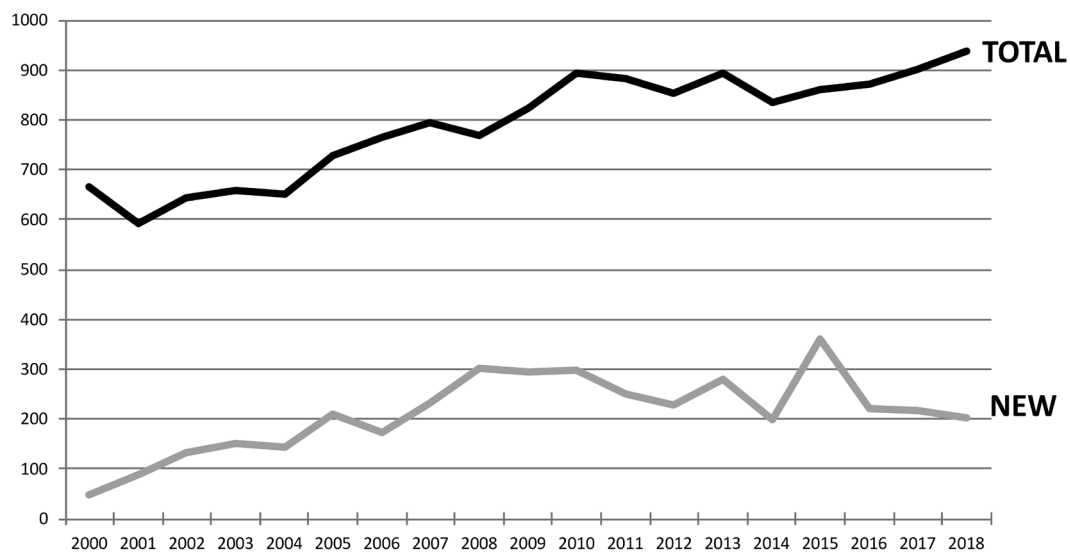
Committee members

Amy Gullickson
Sue Leahy (Chair)
Delyth Lloyd
Krystin Martins (Secretary)
David Turner

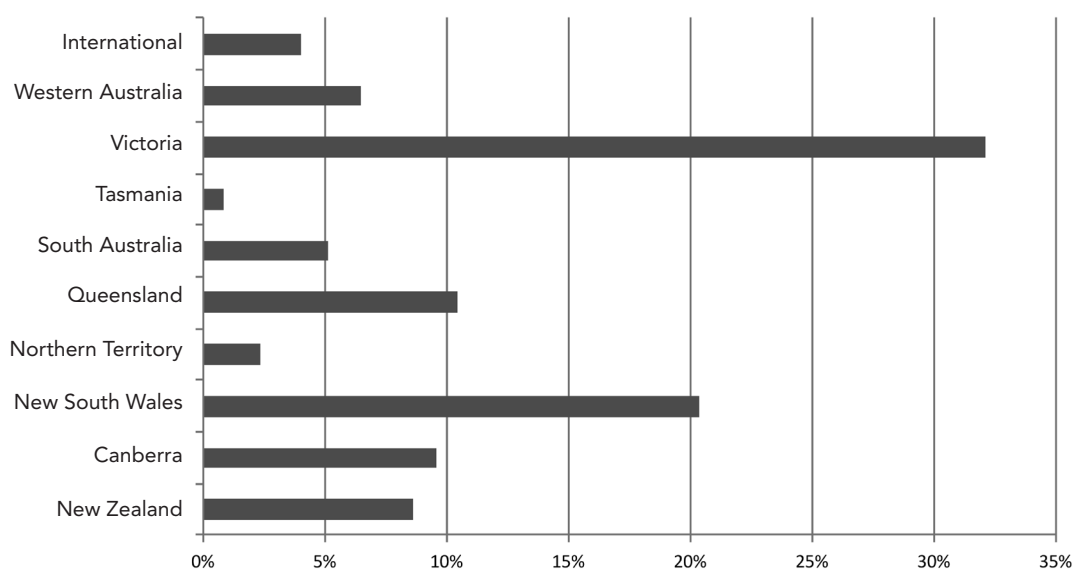
Member networks

MEMBERSHIP TRENDS

AES membership numbers, 2000–2018



Membership by region, 30 June 2018



Member networks

REGIONAL NETWORKS

Aotearoa New Zealand

The New Zealand committee's work this year has revolved around key focus areas: continuing to deliver regular (monthly) free seminars; supporting New Zealand members to provide feedback on the AES constitutional change; as well as considering 'what next?' for the committee.

Our free seminars have covered a wide range of areas, including: how New Zealand is assessed (and performing) on its international commitments to open data (Keitha Booth); a fresh approach to using theory of change in evaluation (David Bartle)—reflecting on how he's used this approach in a Department for International Development funded project in Pakistan; using evaluation as a tool to achieve user-friendly buildings where Chris Watson described a methodology he's developed to try and avoid 'repeat offenders'.

We have seen a few changes to our committee this year, with some new faces, and a change in convenor. Several of our committee members continue to be involved in other areas of the AES such as the awards committee as well as participating in special interest and working groups.

The coming year will involve the committee considering what constitutional change will mean (if anything) to its activities, and continuing to deliver a stimulating programme of free seminars.

Committee members

Sally Faisandier
Jenny Neale
Elizabeth Poppelwell
Jacqueline Rean
Mathea Roorda
Kara Scally-Irvine (Convenor)
Sunita Singh
Liz Smith
David Turner

Canberra Regional and 2017 AES Conference Committee

This year the ACT region hosted *aes17: Evaluation Capital*, which showcased impressive international and national keynote speakers who challenged assumptions and provided deep insights into the potential and limitations of evaluation to achieve social good. The conference evaluation demonstrated that there was certainly an appetite for investing in evaluation systems across government, not-for-profit and private sector organisations. Evaluation practitioners, commissioners and users of evaluation were able to choose from a smorgasbord of over 100 sessions. The conference theme and subthemes enabled more than 400 delegates to engage in skill building, explore theoretical frameworks and cultural perspectives, learn from practice, and contemplate new thinking and approaches to evaluation.

Although the conference was all consuming and at times exhausting, the committee also hosted AES workshops and regional activities to engage ACT members across the capability spectrum, from novice to advanced. Topics included evaluation rubrics and the practical challenges of site visits. Committee members also provided input into the AES submission to the reviews of the PGPA and the Independent Review of the Australian Public Service.

In February, the committee developed a comprehensive forward plan which aims to provide a range of stimulating AES workshops as well as regional activities, such as Book Clubs on seminal evaluation publications, Brown Bag Lunches with invited guest speakers, and Hot Issues Breakfasts on current issues in evaluation. Topics for workshops include policy logic, design and evaluation, cross cultural evaluation, evaluation basics, program theory, developing monitoring and evaluation frameworks, performance story reporting and introduction to quantitative methods or statistics for evaluators.

Member networks

Regional activities will cover topics such as evaluative thinking, conflict resolution, 10 reasons not to measure impact, and given we are in the ACT, our considered opinion about the review of the Australian Public Service.

Committee members

Scott Bayley
Joan ten Brummelaar
Frances Byers
Margaret Cargo
Julie Elliott (Co-convenor)
Susan Garner (Co-convenor)
Peter Graves
Trisha Gray
Kim Grey
Stephen Horn
John Stoney
Graham Smith
Sue Sutton
Roberta Thorburn

New South Wales (NSW)

In the first half of the year we had one free seminar and through an expression of interest process we renewed our NSW committee membership and recruited the AES Sydney 2019 conference committee. The committee would particularly like to thank the outgoing members for their support over the past years and especially Ben Barnes for his stewardship as NSW convenor since 2011. We also welcome the new members listed below.

The new committee hit the ground running in February agreeing to a number of changes in how we would work. Foremost, the organisation of the members around roles designed to better share the workload, using more interactive approaches in our free seminars, plus evaluating them and trialling new time slots to accommodate more member's needs.

In the second half of the year, we continued to support the AES paid workshop program and conducted four free workshops:

- Putting the logic back into program logic!
- Agile evaluation, can there be such a thing?

- Learning from evaluation 'failure'.
- Learning lab: real life evaluation challenges.

These were all interactive and three were facilitated by committee members. Attendance ranged between 30–50 people and was followed by networking drinks at a nearby bar. Flow on effects from the 'Agile evaluation' workshop included several articles shared via LinkedIn. After evaluating these events, the feedback very broadly confirms we are getting it right and our workshops are engaging and beneficial. In the qualitative commentary, the interactive approach is expressly appreciated and the facilitation much commended.

For example for the:

- Ability to talk through the questions with peers
- Time to discuss ideas
- Interactive approach
- Open frankness of the facilitators
- Mastermind process as a facilitation technique.

The NSW AES would like to thank the Australian Human Rights Commission for supplying the venue for our free events program.

Looking ahead, we have a full program of free workshops planned for the rest of the year and with AES support, we have initiated a Google and linked Mentimeter account for NSW committee use. We look forward to feeding back our experience of using these to the other state/territory groups.

Committee members

George Argyrous
Ben Barnes (Convenor to 12/17)
Jen Davis (Convenor from 2/18)
Florent Gomez (from 2/18)
Ben Harris-Roxas (to 12/17)
Linda Klien (from 2/18)
Sue Leahy (to 12/17)
Greg Masters
Jade Maloney (from 2/18)
Ruth McCausland (from 2/18)

Member networks

Sarah Meikle (from 2/18)
Bryony Mika (from 2/18)
Angela Pearce (from 2/18)
Suzanne Pope (to 12/17)
Peter Ryan (to 12/17)
Kath Vaughn (from 2/18)
Keren Winterford (from 2/18)
Ania Wilczynski (to 12/17)

Northern Territory (NT)

The NT AES branch took advantage of the gorgeous Darwin sunsets to host an outdoor 'sunset seminar' at the completion of each workshop. These seminars invite the presenter of the workshops to be the guest of honour. The 'sunset seminar' series provides an opportunity for members and non-members to interact with the presenter and discuss the contents of the workshop in a relaxed setting after work hours. These opportunities are thoroughly enjoyed by all who attend and are a very engaging way of promoting the AES to participants who are not yet members of the society.

The NT AES branch worked in collaboration with other networks of interested professionals. These collaborations included building upon the existing partnership with the Menzies School of Health Research and initiating a new partnership with the Northern Territory Women in Economics Network. Cross promotion, wider reach, extending networks and learning from the different professional perspectives were some of the benefits of promoting these mutually beneficial partnerships.

Some highlights included a workshop titled 'Making it stick—Creating an evaluation report for impact and use' was delivered by Dr. Samantha Abbato from Visual Insights and a workshop titled 'Cross cultural evaluation' was delivered by Deborah Rhodes, Independent Consultant in International Aid and Development.

The NT AES branch looks forward to bringing some of these professional development opportunities to members and prospective members in 2018: ethics in evaluation; evaluations with a value for money focus; methods to incorporate design

theory into program planning; and, communicating evaluation findings. To deliver this for our members, the branch is committed to strengthening the connections with existing collaborators, consolidating the working relationship and scoping out the potential for new partnerships.

Committee members

Nea Harrison
Alison Rogers (Co-convenor)
Catherine Street (Co-convenor)

Queensland

The Queensland Regional Network Committee's strength is in its members who pull together to keep things moving in times of change. This was no more apparent than in the last eight months when due to changes in circumstances our Seminar Coordinator and then our Convenor sadly both had to stand down. Whilst no individual committee member felt able to step directly into these shoes, a number of members stepped up to share the tasks and responsibilities. These changes have positively impacted the committee, enabling members to learn new skills which in turn has built the resilience of the regional committee.

The 2017–18 financial year saw the Queensland Committee as ambitious as ever, providing a multitude of opportunities for members and non-members to build evaluation capacity and raise awareness of evaluation in the public, private and not-for-profit sectors. The committee provided 10 free lunchtime seminars, which were attended by 281 individuals. Topics included: evaluation theories, capacity, capability and capital building, collective impact, realist theory, mentorship, data visualisation, complex adaptive systems, vulnerable populations and of particular local relevance 'The Commonwealth Games Legacy Program'. Feedback from the seminars has in the most part been very positive. Where feasible the committee has focused attention on areas that can enhance attendees experience such as providing clearer communication to presenters regarding the need for practical application of knowledge. The committee would like to continue to work with the national office to

Member networks

streamline attendees' access to the presenter's PowerPoint slides and audio recordings when permission has been granted to circulate.

In addition to our popular seminars, the committee circulated our Queensland newsletters to 102 members and 427 non-members, initially bi-monthly, then monthly at the request of AES Queensland survey respondents. The committee also host an Evaluation Interest Facebook Group and periodic Conversation Group meetings. An evaluation of the Facebook and Conversation group indicated that they provided a sense of connectedness and community. Substantial potential for growth and development of these initiatives was also identified. In 2017–18 the Queensland committee also promoted and hosted four well received specialist workshops organised by the AES national office. These included 'Impact survey design' by Dr Jeff Coutts, 'Developing monitoring and evaluation frameworks' by Dr Ian Patrick, 'Effectively communicating evaluation—the Evaluation report and beyond' by Samantha Abbato, and 'Mentoring for evaluator capability' delivered by Dr Lesley Petersen.

In 2017–18 the Queensland regional committee will continue to deliver its free monthly seminar program providing opportunity to showcase local evaluation expertise across a wide range of contexts. We plan to trial hosting activities outside of the Brisbane CBD to support evaluation interest and capacity in other locations. In the near future we look forward to hosting a workshop by the ever-popular Carol Vale focusing on culturally appropriate evaluation. In addition, the Queensland committee, supported by the AES national office is hosting a joint symposium with the Australian Market and Social Research Society on 8 November 2018, entitled 'Engage, empathise and empower! Using behavioural insights to understand the decision maker'. The venue has been kindly donated by Griffith University Southbank Campus which is ideally situated for delegates. Pricing will be finalised in line with the costs associated with the program and venue but the intention is not to increase it significantly from previous years and to aim for approximately 80 delegates to attend.

Committee members

Buthaina Al Kindi
Lewê Atkinson
Kylie Brosnan
Rebecca Duell
Jo Durham
Trish Gibson
Cherie Lamb
Rhianon Vichta
Carol Quadrelli
Zhan Patterson
Sarah Renals
Brent Turner
Peter Weston

South Australia (SA)

The South Australian committee is going through a process of re-establishing a sustainable program in the context of a relatively small evaluation sector, which creates challenges for a sustainable committee, a critical mass of active members from the local professional community, and a pool of potential contributors to the program. Consequently, the committee set out to achieve the following objectives: to have at least five quality events (seminars) each year; to have at least 20 people attending each event; and to encourage participation from people interested in evaluation who are non-members, including links to other professional bodies such as the Australian Organisation for Quality.

During 2017–18, the committee achieved its strategic objective of having a sustainable program of well-attended events by coordinating and running five events during the year with 18–32 attendees (a mix of AES members and others interested in evaluation). We have also completed a program for the remainder of the calendar year.

This has contributed to two of the AES's strategic objectives:

- *Organisational stability*—while there has been some turn over in the committee we have been able to find replacements and have a sustainable committee.

Member networks

- *Relevance*—the program of events is based on formal member feedback and the improved attendance at seminars indicates that we are meeting local needs.

In terms of contributing to the other three strategic objectives of the AES:

- *Professionalisation*—membership is relatively stable and includes a healthy mix of evaluation professionals in public sector agencies (demand-side and supply-side) and private sector service providers (supply-side) as well as evaluators focused on both domestic practice and international practice (particularly international development programs).
- *Influence*—the committee has not actively tried to influence the demand-side within South Australia since the local market is small and fragmented. The focus was rather on promoting events beyond just members, which led to people from other organisations (particularly state government departments) attending. As the policy position of the new state government becomes clear, the committee may actively engaged agencies with a mandate for procuring and/or using evaluation. As a start, the committee has organised a panel event focussed on SA's public sector to be held in July.
- *Cultural capacity*—the committee has yet to focus explicitly on this objective.

Looking forwards, the focus of the committee continues to be consolidation and ensuring that we have a sustainable program of events, which provide us with a foundation for growth, influence and promoting evaluation in public and private sector programs. One specific action to broaden the reach of the AES is to collaborate with other like organisations to co-host events (for example, the Australian Organisation for Quality). Planned seminars are:

- a panel event focussed on SA's public sector to be held in July
- a panel event post the national conference to report back to members on key trends and issues

- a joint seminar with the Australian Organisation for Quality
- evaluating art.

Committee members

Patricia von Baumgarten
John Fargher
Ruth Fernandez (Secretary)
Michelle Jones
John Pilla (Convenor)

Victoria

This year's highlights have been a refresh of the committee membership, growth in the Victorian AES membership numbers and the ongoing success of the monthly seminar series.

While the turnover in half the committee at the end of 2017 was not a highlight, it did provide an opportunity for new members to join and we were fortunate to be joined by three very active and engaged new members—Kathryn Robb (Oxfam and CPE student) toward the end of 2017, Kon Jew-Chung (DPC) and Eleanor Williams (DHHS) in February 2018. This brought the committee numbers back up to seven, which is a good size.

The 'new' committee has quickly re-established itself as fully functioning with clear roles and active and enthusiastic participation by all. In their agency positions, Kon and Eleanor are actively involved in further embedding evaluative practice in the Victorian public sector, enabling the committee to remain strongly connected to the VPS evaluation context. Having Kon and Eleanor on board helps the committee to remain relevant to the state government membership.

Meanwhile, Kathryn brings a student perspective and is also enthusiastic about the committee taking the opportunity to support the AES strategy around supporting emerging Indigenous evaluators.

We'd like to think the committee activities have contributed to the growth in the Victorian membership—we certainly take every opportunity to remind seminar participants to join the AES, if they haven't already done so. The seminars remain

Member networks

well attended with engaged audiences, and we trust that the quality of speakers and range of topics, encourages membership.

In general, we look forward to continuing to respond to members' needs, in terms of diversity of seminar offerings, and support and advice to members. The new make-up of the committee will see new perspectives and ideas which are very welcome.

The main project we have as a committee for 2018–2019 is the 'emerging Indigenous evaluators' project led by Kathryn Robb, in consultation with the Indigenous members of the AES board. Kathryn is looking at opportunities to socialise some of the recent research around Indigenous evaluation, including the Strengthening Evaluation Practices and Strategies (STEPS) in Indigenous settings in Australia and New Zealand and recent Lowitja and University of Melbourne report: 'An evaluation framework to improve Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health', and scoping out potential support for an Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisation Evaluation community of practice, looking at how other communities of practice have worked.

Committee members

Anne Crawford
Kon Jew-Chung (from 2/18)
Farida Fleming (to 12/17)
Kate Gilbert (to 12/17)
Stefan Kaufman (to 12/17)
Sarah Mason
Lee-Anne Molony (Convenor)
Ian Patrick
Emma Pritchard (to 12/17)
Kathryn Robb (from 11/17)
Anthea Rutter (to 12/17)
Kari Sann (to 12/17)
Eleanor Williams (from 2/18)

Western Australia (WA)

The seminar program has been the highlight of 2017–18 for the WA Branch. The content has been varied, from diving deep into specialist theory and expertise (Dr Gill Westhorp 'Representing the invisible: Realist program theory' in April 2018) to more relaxed panel discussions with input from different sectors ('Reflections on the AES International Evaluation Conference' in November 2017). Some formats have been formal presentations, rich with graphs and well-prepared research and content, such as Professor Paul Flatau's 'Outcomes reporting in WA—where we are and where we need to be' in November 2017 which attracted an audience of almost 50. Theo Nabban's detailed account of his experiences evaluating overseas was colourful and engaging ('Dealing with Complexity—Monitoring and evaluation experiences from the field' in May 2018), and with this seminar the WA branch trialled a post-seminar discussion group. In this small group, four people, most with extensive evaluation experience, were able to work through issues raised at the seminar in more detail and ask the presenter challenging questions.

The voice of Indigenous evaluators continues to be important and highly valued in the WA context, and has been identified by many (including several recent Indigenous seminar presenters and participants) as an area for more exploration. One seminar in August 2017 explored 'The Role of Evaluation in Supporting social change in Indigenous communities' and there will be an upcoming seminar later this year to extend thinking on the issue.

Overall, one significant highlight has been the broadening of activities to include more participatory events. For example, the use of panel discussions, with ample question time has proven to be very engaging for audiences and can break down the formality of presentations and barriers to learning and reflection. Also, panels allow organisers to seek candidates from other sectors and professions, which is an opportunity to hear different perspectives about evaluation, and also invite others into the evaluation space and enhance influence. One participant working

Member networks

in the health sector gave the feedback that they found engaging in the evaluation space to be full of learning, reflection and was a fresh experience and a positive 'safe space' to work through real problems they have encountered with research involving human subjects.

On a final note, we appreciate the ongoing support of the Auditor General in providing Albert Facey House, an accessible, central city venue that beautifully accommodates both small groups and large audiences.

In 2018–19 we aim to continue with informal discussion groups where appropriate, and continue supporting a varied seminar series that captures different interests and audiences. The organising committee also supports different ideas for models of small group engagement such as mentoring groups and/or book clubs for example

(to enhance relevance and professionalisation). We aim to discuss this at the next committee meeting. In 2018–19 we also aim to improve our promotion of events to ensure they reflect the actual content presented on the day.

Committee members

Heather Aquilina
Penny Cooke
Rick Cummings
Kylie Dalling
Kevin Dolman
Jess Folan
Christina Kadmos
Lisette Kaleveld
Dorothy Luck
Catherine Manly
Theo Nabben
Nolan Stephenson

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

Design & Evaluation Special Interest Group

The Design & Evaluation (D&E) SIG recognises the need for evaluators to be aware of and understand some of the emerging concepts, terms and approaches that may be of relevance to their work. This includes the increased interest in the field of 'design' and its application to programs, projects, services and policies. The SIG draws on a working definition of design as 'a purposeful and systematic process to create positive change'.

Since its establishment and first SIG meeting at the AES conference in Perth in September 2016, the membership group has blossomed, with a LinkedIn group sitting at 123 members and a direct mailing list with 75 contacts. Following the 2017 AES conference, members of the SIG have been involved in designing and convening the 2018 AES conference 'Transformations'. This has been the main focus of the group, with its membership encouraged to submit proposals for the conference (many did) and to attend the conference to continue the conversation on D&E.

Group members

Jess Dart (Chair)
Matt Healey (Secretary)
Tom Hannon
Vanessa Hood
Katrina Middlin
Elizabeth (Liz) Smith

Member networks

Evaluation Capacity Building Special Interest Group

As previously reported, the chair was unable to significantly progress the Evaluation Capacity Building SIG in 2017–18 due to family and workload commitments, including significant internal changes in his organisation. This has included a concerted effort to improve Charles Sturt University's internal evaluation capacity across an entire Deputy Vice Chancellor level portfolio, as well as working across the higher education equity sector to do the same through forums including the Equity Practitioners in Higher Education Australasia and Students, Transitions, Achievement, Retention and Success. While this has not contributed directly to the SIG, it has allowed the chair to grow interest in the AES, with some participants in these workshops taking up AES memberships and planning on attending the 2017 and 2018 conferences.

In 2018/2019, the SIG chair is anticipating some changes in professional and family circumstances which will allow him to devote a more significant proportion of his time to growing the SIG. Following on from the 2017 conference meeting, he has approached Patricia Rogers and Duncan Rintoul to incorporate the SIG's activities into an already accepted online space, ideally the BetterEvaluation.org site. He will also seek to work with evaluation capacity building experts in growing the SIG. The chair will also seek to delegate the activities of the SIG to other members more effectively.

Realist Special Interest Group

Kevin Dolman is the new co-chair of the Realist SIG, as Andrew Hawkins stepped down from his role in April. However, Andrew will be assisting with the email list, as we have experienced some difficulties in ensuring that notices have been reaching all members. We apologise for the difficulties and expect that all members will soon begin to receive materials regularly. Planning is continuing for member activities for more advanced practitioners as well as those just getting into realist evaluation, and with an emphasis on praxis as well as theory. Two recent events were promoted—a free seminar by Gill Westhorp in Perth at the end of March on 'Representing the invisible: Realist program theory' and a week-long graduate unit offered in Darwin mid-year through Charles Darwin University that dealt with realist evaluation and realist review. A newsletter with updates on new realist evaluation resources, and containing calls for participation in two new SIG projects, will be sent out to SIG members shortly.

Group members

Emma Williams (Co-chair)

Kevin Dolman (Co-chair)

Member networks

AES LIFE MEMBERS AND FELLOWS

The AES Fellows are members who have made significant contributions to evaluation and the Society over a number of years. The Fellows have a special commitment to providing support for the development of members who are new to evaluation, and will continue to assist the Society in promoting evaluation knowledge and competence in the community wherever possible.

In 2016–17, three new Fellows were endorsed: Patricia Rogers and Anthea Rutter from Victoria and Scott Bayley from the Australian Capital Territory. It is particularly pleasing to recognise these longstanding members who have made significant contributions to professional learning in evaluation and to the growth of the Society. This brings the number of Fellows to 18, with an equal gender balance.

Fellows are expected to continue to contribute to the AES and the development of evaluation through activities such as membership on AES committees, conducting workshops, producing and reviewing articles for the *EJA*, and mentoring early career evaluators. In 2016–17, AES Fellows contributed in all these ways as well as conducting a session at the 2016 AES Conference in Perth on ethical issues in evaluation.

During 2016–17, the Fellows reviewed the nomination and appointment process in an effort to enhance access for deserving members and to ensure the process is practical, fair and ethical. As a result, several changes were made to the AES Fellows policy and procedures. Of particular interest, there is no longer a limit on the number of Fellows who can be endorsed in a single year, nominations only need to address a minimum of three criteria, nominators may approach the nominee for detailed information to support the nomination, and the Fellows assessment panel will notify nominators of unsuccessful nominations with feedback on why the nomination was unsuccessful.

Fellows Committee

Rick Cummings (Coordinator)
Anona Armstrong
Liz Smith
Zita Unger

Life members

Anona Armstrong
Ian Trotman

AES Fellows

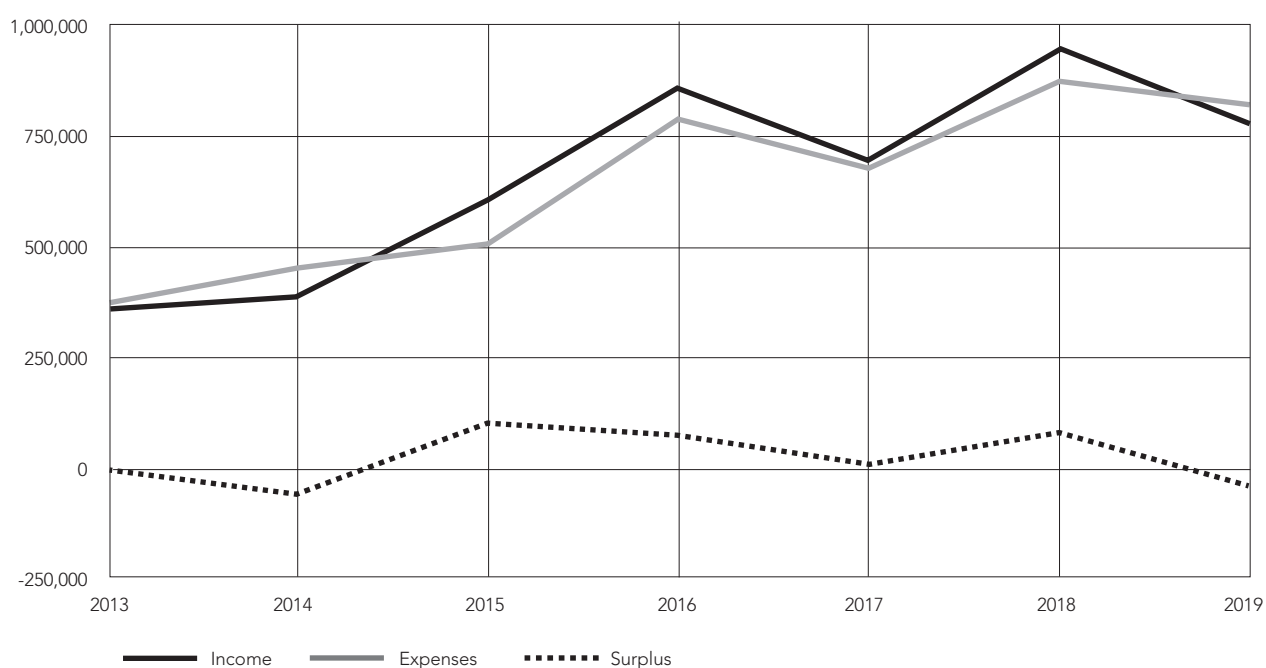
Anona Armstrong	Victoria, 2003
Scott Bayley	Aust. Capital Territory, 2016
Darrel Caulley	Victoria, 2005
Rick Cummings	Western Australia, 2013
Sue Funnell	New South Wales, 2003
Penny Hawkins	Wellington, 2009
Anne Markiewicz	Victoria, 2015
Chris Milne	New South Wales, 2003
Jenny Neale	Wellington, 2015
John Owen	Victoria, 2003
Patricia Rogers	Victoria, 2016
Anthea Rutter	Victoria, 2016
Colin Sharp	South Australia, 2003
Ralph Straton	Western Australia, 2004
Ian Trotman	Wellington, 2003
Zita Unger	Victoria, 2013
Yoland Wadsworth	Victoria, 2007
Jerome Winston	Victoria, 2004

Financial reports 2017–2018

Finance summary

	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2017/18 <i>projected</i>
INCOME						
Workshops	127,208	135,284	176,447	147,498	172,780	170,000
Conference income	103,619	293,482	521,623	361,286	593,572	435,500
Memberships	121,876	144,115	143,385	156,997	167,487	150,000
Publications	14,662	22,573	16,622	17,913	14,463	17,000
Other Income	20,594	9,564	416	267	197	1,600
Total Income	387,959	605,018	858,493	683,961	948,499	774,100
EXPENDITURE						
Workshops	60,115	83,151	101,665	88,076	111,626	110,400
Conference & projects		192,228	413,914	309,797	426,880	322,300
Strategic projects				20,000	1,326	51,500
Memberships	2,138	2,209	2,338	1,520	2,084	8,000
Publications	20,026	28,591	21,320	24,040	33,120	30,000
Other expenses	32,410	4,136	1,875	924	–	–
Administration & Governance	332,749	195,268	244,018	231,840	295,050	292,300
Total Expenditure	447,438	505,583	785,130	676,197	870,086	814,500
SURPLUS	–59,479	99,435	73,363	7,764	78,413	–40,400

Income, expenses and surplus 2013–2019



Financial statements

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2018

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STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2018

	Note	2018	2017
		\$	\$
Revenue		948,499	683,961
Depreciation and Amortisation		308	924
Other Expenses		869,778	675,273
Profit before Income Tax	3	78,413	7,764
Total Comprehensive Income		78,413	7,764

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2018

	2018	2017
	\$	\$
Revenue		
Publications Sales	14,463	17,913
Professional Fees		
– Workshops Income	172,780	147,498
– Conferences Income	593,572	361,286
– Membership Fees	167,487	156,997
Interest Received		
– Interest Received - Bank account	197	267
	948,499	683,961
Expenditure		
Administration & Governance	294,742	231,840
Cost of Publications	33,120	24,040
Depreciation	308	924
Membership Services	2,084	1,520
Special Projects (incl Conferences and Support Grants)	428,206	309,797
Workshops	111,626	108,076
	870,086	676,197
Profit before Income Tax	78,413	7,764

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 2018

	Note	2018	2017
		\$	\$
Current Assets			
Cash and Cash Equivalents		561,711	594,000
Trade and Other Receivables		65,282	21,635
Other Current Assets		111,842	73,876
Total Current Assets		738,835	689,511
Non-Current Assets			
Property, Plant and Equipment	7	154	462
Intangible Assets	8	11,560	6,560
Total Non-Current Assets		11,714	7,022
TOTAL ASSETS		750,549	696,533
Current Liabilities			
Trade and Other Payables	9	60,237	71,545
Provisions	10	7,623	7,790
Prepaid Income		308,659	321,581
Total Current Liabilities		376,519	400,916
TOTAL LIABILITIES		376,519	400,916
NET ASSETS		374,030	295,617
Equity			
Retained Profits		374,030	295,617
TOTAL EQUITY		374,030	295,617

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2018

	2018	2017
	\$	\$
Retained Earnings		
Balance at 1 July 2017	295,617	287,853
Profit Attributable to Members	78,413	7,764
Balance at 30 June 2018	374,030	295,617

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.

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2018

	Note	2018	2017
		\$	\$
Cash Flow from Operating Activities			
Receipts from Customers		866,689	698,703
Payments to Suppliers and Employees		(899,175)	(582,558)
Interest Received		197	267
Net Cash Outflow from Operating Activities	6	(32,289)	116,412
Net Decrease in Cash Held		(32,289)	116,412
Cash and Cash Equivalents as at 1 July 2017		594,000	477,588
Cash and Cash Equivalent as at 30 June 2018		561,711	594,000

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2018

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.

(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 and specific criteria relating to the type of revenue as noted below, has been satisfied.

Revenue is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable and is presented net of returns, discounts and rebates

Sale of Goods

Revenue from the sale of goods is recognised at the point of delivery as this corresponds to the transfer of significant risks and rewards of ownership of the goods and the cessation of all involvement in those goods.

Interest Revenue

Interest is recognised using the effective interest method.

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 one 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)

Revenue, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of goods and services tax (GST), except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO).

Receivables and payable are stated inclusive of GST.

Cash flows in the statement of cash flows are included on a gross basis and the GST component of cash flows arising from investing and financing activities which is recoverable from, or payable to, the taxation authority is classified as operating cash flows.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2018**

	2018	2017
	\$	\$
3. PROFIT		
Expenses		
Depreciation and Amortisation Expenses	308	924
Other Expenses	869,778	675,273
	870,086	676,197
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	308	924
Net Expenses Resulting from Movement in Provisions	308	924
5. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS		
Cash at Bank	482,895	515,381
Anz V2 Bank Account	78,816	78,619
	561,711	594,000
Reconciliation of Cash		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	561,711	594,000
	561,711	594,000
6. CASH FLOW INFORMATION		
Reconciliation of Cash Flow from Operations with Profit after Income Tax		
Profit after Income Tax	78,413	7,764
Adjustments for Non-Cash Components in Profit		
Depreciation	308	924
Changes in Assets and Liabilities		
Increase in Trade and Other Receivables	(88,041)	7,919
Decrease in Trade and Other Receivables	(22,802)	103,273
Decrease in Provisions	(167)	(3,468)
Net Cash Decrease in Cash Held	(32,289)	116,412

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 2018**

	2018	2017
	\$	\$
7. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT		
Plant and Equipment		
Office Furniture & Equipment	7,104	7,104
Less Accumulated Depreciation & Impairment	6,950	6,642
	154	462
Total Plant and Equipment	154	462
Total Property, Plant and Equipment	154	462
8. INTANGIBLE ASSETS		
Non-Current		
Formation Expenses	11,560	6,560
Website Development	12,020	12,020
Less Accumulated Impairment	12,020	12,020
Total Intangible Assets	11,560	6,560
9. TRADE AND OTHER PAYABLES		
Current		
Sundry Creditors	5,438	4,427
Trade Creditors	2,540	25,426
Anz Visa Card	14,351	5,204
Payg Tax Withholding accrued	7,748	4,900
Provision for GST	30,160	31,588
	60,237	71,545
Total Trade and Other Payables	60,237	71,545
10. PROVISIONS		
Current		
Provision for Annual Leave	7,623	7,790
	7,623	7,790

11. STATUTORY INFORMATION

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

Auditor's Independence Declaration

The lead auditor's independence declaration in accordance with section 307C of the Corporations Act 2001, for the year ended 30 June 2018 has been received and is included with the financial statements.

The committee members present their report on the association for the financial year ended 30 June 2018.

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 Jane Dart
Elizabeth Smith
Sharon Clarke
Doyen Radcliffe
John Stoney
Dan Borg
Kiri Parata
Sue Leahy

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 \$78,413.

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



Gwendolyn Alderman



Jessica Jane Dart

Dated 29 August 2018

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. Presents fairly the financial position of Australasian Evaluation Society Ltd. as at 30 June 2018 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:



Gwendolyn Alderman



Jessica Dart

Dated 29 August 2018

**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 2018, and the income statement for the year then ended, a summary of significant accounting policies, other explanatory notes and the additional information contained in the detailed profit and loss. The specific purpose for which the special purpose financial statements have been prepared is set out in the notes to the accounts.

The Responsibility of the Committee of Management

The Committee of Management of Australasian Evaluation Society Ltd. is solely responsible for the information contained in the special purpose financial statements, the reliability, accuracy and completeness of the information and for the determination that the basis of accounting used is appropriate to meet their needs 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.

We have applied professional expertise in accounting and financial reporting to compile these financial statements on the basis of accounting described in the notes to the financial statements. We have complied with the relevant ethical requirements of APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants.

Assurance Disclaimer

Since a compilation engagement is not an assurance engagement, we are not required to verify the reliability, accuracy or completeness of the information provided to us by management to compile these financial statements. Accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion or a review conclusion on these financial statements.

The special purpose financial statements were compiled for the benefit of the Committee of Management who is responsible for the reliability, accuracy and completeness of the information used to compile them. We do not accept responsibility for the contents of the special purpose financial statements.

V P Cannizzaro & Co

Fellow Certified Practising Accountant and Chartered Tax Advisor
Ground Floor, 19-21 Argyle Place South Carlton Victoria 3053



Vito Cannizzaro
15 August 2018

Auditor's report

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bpr
audit

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

TO THE MEMBERS OF AUSTRALASIAN EVALUATION SOCIETY LTD

Opinion

We have audited the financial report of Australasian Evaluation Society Ltd (the Entity), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2018, the statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies and managements' assertion statement.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report gives a true and fair view of the financial position of the Entity as at 30 June 2018, and of its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with the financial reporting requirements of the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report section of our report. We are independent of the Entity in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

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

Emphasis of Matter – Basis of Accounting

We draw attention to Note 1 to the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared to assist Australasian Evaluation Society Ltd to meet the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Report

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with the financial reporting requirements of the applicable legislation and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of a financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, management is responsible for assessing the Entity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters relating to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Entity or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Entity's financial reporting process.



LIABILITY LIMITED BY A SCHEME
APPROVED UNDER PROFESSIONAL
STANDARDS LEGISLATION

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit 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.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Entity's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Entity to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

BPR Audit Pty Ltd

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



Bernie Rohan
Director

Dated: *29th August 2018*

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

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ACN 606 044 624