

President's Report

Annual General Meeting December 7, 2016



I am very pleased to provide this overview of the key activities and achievements for the period from July 2015. It has been an extremely busy and successful time for ACEN as it continues to grow and provide additional services to ACEN members

Key achievements during this period include

- Increased focus on the National WIL Strategy and enhanced collaboration with key partners of the strategy that continues to make a significant impact nationally and internationally
- Continued strong membership with 36 Australian universities in 2016 with 1420 registered members and over 1700 from Australia and overseas receiving the monthly newsletter currently
- Highly successful National Conference and Research Symposiums in Sydney in 2016
- Presentation of three Life Member Awards presented to Carol –Joy Patrick, Freny Tayebjee and Janice Orrell
- Establishing and awarding two inaugural Industry Awards to Bakehouse Studios and the Salvation Army, Eastern Division
- Growing State Chapters providing increased opportunities for networking and professional development for members
- Continuing support for research and scholarship activities for WIL in Australia.
- Supporting students through the Student scholarship scheme

The following gives brief overviews of main achievements during the period.

Advocacy

ACEN has been very proactive in advocating for WIL nationally over the last 12 months this has included submissions to an enquiry into "Innovation and Creativity: Workforce for the New Economy" conducted by the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Education and Employment, feedback on the Guidance Notes for WIL released by TEQSA and being invited to participate in workshops to inform the development of the International Education Policy .

Additional advocacy has been in collaboration with partners to the National WIL Strategy with the Office of the Chief Scientist and Department of Education and Training also joining the 5 original partners .ACEN Board members have been extremely active in a range of forums and committees providing expert advice and assisting in shaping the approaches and actions in the National WIL Strategy to ensure it addresses key challenges to WIL in Australia. The Strategy has precipitated significant interest and impact including a range of flow on requests and activities to ACEN including:

- Update to the Board of the World Association, WACE in both 2015 and 2016
- Further enquiries and discussions with Canadian Government officials
- Presentations in a range of forums including ACDICT Annual meeting, NAFEA Conference, WACE conference, University of Tasmania, Charles Darwin University and a range of conferences focused on STEM and Industry engagement, IEAA Conference and Industry forums
- Representation on the Council of Deans of Science WIL Project Advisory Group.

The ACEN Board continues to align key strategies for 2015/2016 with the National WIL Strategy in order to progress as quickly as possible some of the elements of the strategy. As a result a number of projects have been implemented / or are currently in development including:

- Development of a guide Third Party providers in collaboration with IEAA (completed)
- Provision of a suite of National webinars (ongoing)

- Development of a WIL Agreement template (in development)
- Development of a suite of case studies showcasing WIL practice for the website (in development)

Governance

Ensuring good corporate governance is a key concern and responsibility of ACEN's Board. To that end over the last year Mills Oakley Lawyers was retained to assist with revising the Constitution and to draft appropriate bylaws to simplify and clarify the management of state chapters. The revised constitution was passed at a general meeting in September 2016. A review of subcommittees, their terms of reference and membership was also undertaken during this period. The Board undertook a planning process to produce a strategic plan aligned to its vision and mission and regularly reviewed progress against that plan. Regular meetings between state Chairs aligns activities across the states and facilitates collaboration.

WIL Research and scholarship

Over this period the ACEN Board continued to support scholarship and research into WIL in Australia by awarding three ACEN Research Scholarships of \$10,000 for 2016. Additional activities include:

- Holding a Research Symposium for 60 delegates
- Commissioning a research project to identify resources for WIL students
- Supporting the development of the OLT funded WIL Good Practice Guide
- Ongoing support for consultation and dissemination of successful National OLT projects through the ACEN website, meetings and webinars
- Providing some financial support for the Asia Pacific Journal of Cooperative Education.

Student Scholarship Scheme

The ACEN Board continues to provide scholarships for students undertaking WIL in rural and remote areas. Outcomes of the scholarships continue to be analysed to inform ongoing improvements to the scheme. Inspiring stories and reflective pieces from scholarship recipients are shared with the ACEN community through the ACEN newsletter.

Global Engagement

ACEN's profile and role in WIL internationally has continued to grow over the period through:

- ACEN organised and co-chaired meetings of all national associations at WACE conferences in Victoria, Canada
- Attendance at the WACE Board in Victoria in June 2016
- Active involvement of ACEN Board members on the WACE International research committee.
- Joint projects and presentations with colleagues from the following associations: CAFCE Canada) VILNAR (Sweden) NZACE (New Zealand)

Professional Development

This year was the ACEN National Conference held at Macquarie University with a Research Symposium at University of Western Sydney. Both events were extremely well attended with good feedback. The 2016 National Conference was an excellent highly informative conference. Our sincere thanks to Theresa Seeto-Winchester and rest of the conference committee for all their hard work over an 18 month period and to Macquarie University for hosting it. Feedback will be analysed to assist with planning for the next conference in 2018. A special edition of the Asia Pacific Journal of Cooperative Education from selected papers will be released in 2017.

In addition to the State based events, ACEN offered to ACEN members a series of webinars on a range of topics which continue to be well supported. This demonstrates both the growth in WIL across the country and the continued need for professional development for WIL professional and academic staff which ACEN will continue to address.

In 2016 ACEN, in collaboration with WIL Associations in three other countries New Zealand (NZACE) Sweden (VILNAR) and Canada (CAFCE) offered for the second time an online Global Perspectives in WIL focused on WIL learning theory. ACEN members were again the largest group of participants. A second module on industry Engagement is in development for delivery in 2017

State Chapter Reports

The following reports outline the key activities of the ACEN State chapters during the period

ACEN SA / NT

With a changeover of Chair for the SA/NT chapter and the resignation of the previous very active Chair, 2016 has been a stocktake year for SA/NT. There is a small chapter group with representation from the three universities in SA and the focus of the future is to grow then engagement in ACEN in SA and NT.

An ACEN Work Integrated Learning and International seminar was held in February 2016 at Adelaide University with good attendance. Several members attended the ACEN 2016 national conference and ACEN was invited to present at an International Student Employability Forum run by the International Education Association of Australia in May 2016 in Adelaide.

ACEN SA/NT are planning two to three seminars/workshops in 2017.

Esther May
Chair SA/NT
November 2016

ACEN WA

ACEN WA continues its collaboration with the Chamber of Commerce WA and holds quarterly meetings at their offices and liaises with them on relevant industry events which may be of interest to the Chapter and its members. CCIWA actively promote ACEN at events, such as the recent conference for Human Resource Management practitioners held in East Perth. The collaboration with HERDSA continues and was further developed as the Chapter conducted a workshop on capacity building for industry partnerships at the HERDSA conference held in Perth in July.

The Chapter is keen to contribute to and be involved in WIL at a national and international level. The WA Chapter Committee have been active in their attendance of relevant events with the Nominee to Board and Chapter Chair both presenting at the WACE Research Symposium in Victoria, Canada; facilitating groups at the ACEN Research Symposium and presenting at the national ACEN conference held in Sydney in September. Another Chapter Committee member also attended the pre-conference workshops and national ACEN conference this year. There has also been attendance at other relevant events relevant to WIL, such as the NAGCAS and e-Portfolio conferences.

The Chapter continues to work together, and with other relevant bodies, to identify strategies and initiatives to improve WIL for students across the State. Given the shift in mandating WIL across universities, there is much discussion at meetings (and a focus for our 2017 events) on how to manage this through innovative models of WIL, beyond traditional placements. This year, UWA joined as an institutional member which was welcomed by the Committee.

Two events were organised by the Chapter this year.

- Seminar by Franzisca Trede: Enhancing workplace learning through mobile technology (23 March 2016). This attracted a number of academics and practitioners from across the WA universities whom trialled a set of mobile resources for learning in the professional setting.
- Workshop at HERDSA Conference (6 July 2016): Capacity building for industry partners: designing resources to support industry engagement in WIL. The workshop in July further developed the ongoing

collaboration between ACEN WA and HERDSA. The Chapter plans to develop this further in 2017 with an event to be held later in the year.

We look forward to another year of strengthening collaboration among the member universities to help drive ACEN's mission and goals and to improve the experience of our students.

Denise Jackson
Chair ACEN WA Chapter
November, 2016

ACEN VIC / TAS

A big thank-you to branch members who served during the past year: Rachael Baron, Chris Gonsalvez, Rachael Hains-Wesson, Sonja Kiernan, Annette Marlow, Joanne Mathews, Kelly McDermott, Lisa Milne, Leoni Russell and Carolyn Scott, and a special note of appreciation for the contributions made by Carolyn and Lisa who have sadly resigned from the committee. We are fortunate in being able to welcome Kelly and Chris on board.

Thanks also to Sheree Keech, colleague of Annette Marlow, who generously produced the flyers for our workshops; and to the universities who hosted our workshops (Latrobe, Monash, RMIT and Victoria).

We have had a successful year, attracting between 25 to 50 members to our 2016 workshops and have received valuable and positive feedback on them. Most workshop presenters represented a range of universities and offered the following topics:

1. Scaffolding WIL
2. Authentic Assessments
3. Online WIL Evaluation Tool (by Annette Marlow and Cassandra Saunders, University of Tasmania, based on ACEN-sponsored research)
4. Follow-up to Online WIL Evaluation Too (requested by members)
5. HERDSA-ACEN *Rekindled* Conference which saw nine presentations from the 2016 ACEN conference presented in this collaborative forum: Vanita Amin (RMIT); Rachael Baron and Ruth Delagas (Latrobe); Lea Campbell and Katherine Beaumont (Melbourne); Friederika Kaider (Deakin) and Rachael Hains-Wesson (Swinburne); Judie Kay (RMIT); Sonja Kiernan (Victoria); Lisa Milne and Ella Mathews (Victoria); Leoni Russell (RMIT) and Rowena Scott (RMIT).

Several initiatives resulted from the committee's work including:

- A Special Interest Group session at the ACEN conference
- Surveying members on workshop topics
- Development of a brief guide for workshop presenters
- Development of a Certificate of Appreciation for workshop presenters (in process)

Friederika Kaider
Chair, ACEN Vic-Tas Chapter
December, 2016`

ACT/NSW

2016 has been a big year for NSW with the successful hosting of the ACEN Annual Conference and Research Symposium at Macquarie University and Western Sydney University. A record number of attendees and sponsors kept the NSW state chapter busy throughout most of the year in contributing to the sub-committees in the planning, lead up and delivery of these important ACEN events. Earlier in the year, the state chapter hosted a workshop by Professor Franziska Trede, 'Enhancing Workplace Learning Through Mobile Technology'. This workshop was well received and provided an opportunity for stimulating discussion around the changes in learning technology to support WIL.

This year the chapter also launched a state based newsletter with the purpose of facilitating and increasing intra-state and NSW/ACT institutional communication and collaboration; connecting with ACEN NSW/ACT members for the purpose of increasing their sense of belonging to the chapter and participation in NSW/ACT events; and also to facilitate the scholarship of WIL and raise profiles of chapter members through the dissemination of research from NSW/ACT. The newsletter will be distributed quarterly. Contributions are welcome, please email WIL@newcastle.edu.au. Finally, a huge congratulations to Freny Tayebjee, former NSW/ACT Chapter Chair for being nominated and successfully receiving an ACEN lifetime achievement award at the conference!

Sarah Fletcher
Chair, NSW/ACT Chapter
November 2016

ACEN Q

This year has been an active one for many of our members. Two of our committee, Karen Robinson and Greg Reddan, presented papers at the 2nd WACE Research Symposium in Vancouver in June, while another, Faith Valencia-Forrester, presented as part of a group submission at the ACEN Conference in Sydney in August. A highlight of the year was the awarding of Life Membership of ACEN to Carol-joy Patrick in recognition of her status as a founder of ACEN and for her "significant service and contribution to Work Integrated Learning (WIL) in Australia and ... internationally in areas of practice, pedagogy or research" (ACEN, 2016).

The 2015 AGM saw the election of three new members to the committee. Two more joined early in the New Year and so 2016 has been about rebuilding for the Queensland chapter and of planning for future growth and events. First of those events, "Exploring Global WIL: International WIL Experiences", planned originally for late October, had to be rescheduled due to a clash with a similar but non-ACEN workshop. The rescheduled ACEN event will now be held on 6 April, 2017 at Griffith University's South Bank campus, and will bring together practitioners, industry, government and students from across Queensland and beyond to share their overseas WIL experiences and to discuss best practices.

Other activities have included reaching out to regional universities to encourage collaboration in research in WIL, as well as in learning and teaching practice development. Of particular interest has been the drive to embed 'employability' into curricular and TEQSA's activities around the development of quality assurance guidelines for domestic and international internships. These topics will form the basis of professional development activities in the year ahead."

Alan Blackman:
Chair ACEN Q, Chapter
November 2016

ACEN Board

Once again I would like to thank all members of the current ACEN Board for their continuing support and contribution to ACEN activities during this period. I would like to particularly thank Michael Whelan for his contribution as Treasurer and Alan Blackman for undertaking the role of Secretary during this period.

Many thanks to the State Chairs for their contribution over the period; Denise Jackson, Esther May, Friederika Kaider, Sarah Fletcher and Alan Blackman as well as general Board members, Sonia Ferns, Jude Smith, Michael Whelan, Annabelle Willox, Wayne Fallon, Rachael Hains-Wesson, and John McPhee.

I would also especially like to thank John McPhee and Michael Whelan, both retiring at this AGM, for their significant contribution at both State and National levels. Both Michael and John will continue to be involved at State level in Queensland and Victoria.

During this period Ceri Macleod resigned from the Board and Esther May joined as Chair ACEN SA/ NT At this AGM we welcome Denise Jackson of Edith Cowan University and Franziska Trede, Charles Sturt University. We look forward to their contribution to ACEN.

Many thanks again to our administrator Don MacDowall who continues to provide the ACEN Board and ACEN members with, as always, exceptional organisational and administrative support over this period.

ACEN Board as at AGM 2016

Name	Portfolio
Ms Judie Kay, RMIT University	President and Advocacy and Chair Industry Engagements
Dr Wayne Fallon, Western Sydney University	NSW/ACT Representative, Student Scholarships
Prof Esther May	SA/NT Representative, Communication and Membership
Assoc Prof Alan Blackman, Griffith University	Company Secretary and Qld Representative, Finance and Audit
Ms Sonia Ferns, Curtin University	Chair, Student Scholarships and WA Representative
Dr Rachael Hains-Wesson, Swinburne University	Vic/Tas Representative
Mrs Jude Smith, Queensland University of Technology	Chair, Research, Scholarship and Professional Learning
Dr Michael Whelan, Southern Cross University	Chair of Finance and Audit
Dr Annabelle Willox, The University of Queensland	Finance and Audit
John McPhee, Swinburne University of Technology	Communication and Membership