

Educational Computing Association of WA (ECAWA)  
30/10/2009

Dear ECAWA member,

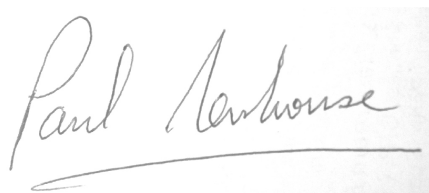
I am writing to you as a fellow member of ECAWA to share with you concerns I have for the immediate viability of the association. Currently, and in the near future, there are many opportunities for the association, including hosting a national conference in 2012.

Unfortunately over the past year or so, few have taken up roles on the committee so that increasingly we have not been able to capitalize on these opportunities. If more of us are not prepared to get involved in the committee or sub-committees then the association will not be able to play many of the roles it has in the past. For example, if over the next few months we don't have almost all committee positions filled then I fear we will need to inform the national group (Australian Council for Computers in Education) that we will not be able to host the national conference. If you see the roles of ECAWA as important for education in WA then please think about getting involved in some way, no matter how small. There are opportunities to take on limited, well-defined roles on the committee or sub-committees.

ECAWA is now well into its third decade, having during that time contributed in many significant ways to education in WA, nationally and internationally. It is a body representing a group of professionals who aim to promote the effective use of digital technologies in schools to improve learning opportunities for children. It is a volunteer organization requiring a level of altruism and philanthropy but there is satisfaction in using it as a vehicle to promote our valuable agenda.

ECAWA has opportunities to play important roles and to contribute significantly to improvements in education in Western Australia. Now is the time to be proactive, confident, taking the lead. Just as we are adept at adjusting to the escalating rate of change in the technology we use we need to prove to be as adept at leading change in our education systems. Individually this is near impossible, but as a diverse group of professionals with a passion for educating children and providing better opportunities for them, we can make a critical and huge difference if we work together. I hope that you will consider whether there is a role, no matter how small, that you can contribute to the association. Start by attending the AGM on the 4<sup>th</sup> December or contacting the current secretary, Lynley McKernan, to suggest what you can offer.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paul Newhouse". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line that serves as a separator.

Paul Newhouse  
(Tertiary Coordinator, ECAWA Committee)  
Email: p.newhouse@ecu.edu.au