

# ACCE

## President's Report 2017



I thank the ACCE board for its support in maintaining our national professional organisation, representing the users of ICT in education in Australia, and in acting as the national voice for their state associations.

### Changes to the structure of ACCE

The transition process put into place by Tony Brandenburg when president, namely the appointment of president for a fixed, 2 year term, with the nominee serving one year as president-elect and one year after the presidential term as immediate past president is in its first iteration, with the retirement of Jason Zagami as immediate past president, the last year of my presidency and the election of Leanne Cameron of ICTENSW as president-elect at our March AGM.

### Board membership changes

In 2016-7 we farewelled Laura Barker (DLTV), Ken Price (TASsite) and Janet Cochrane (Qsite), and welcomed in their place Mel Cashen, Martin Chambers and Ben Paparoulas respectively. We also welcomed Therese Keane as Australian Computer Society (ACS) representative.

I offer great thanks to Jason Zagami for his invaluable assistance as immediate past president, and for his excellent work as editor of the Journal, Australian Educational Computing, which will continue under his stewardship with added material from each state group.

### Strategic Plan

This is an important move for ACCE. Combined with its corresponding operational plan, the strategic plan (publish?) is in constant development and should act as a lens through which all activities of the board are viewed.

It was within the spirit of the plan that ACCE engaged Julian Moore of the SMS group to take us through a one day workshop to look at partnering for effect and how we may derive funds to allow ACCE to better achieve its stated aims. I also attended a recent workshop where best practice for communications with corporates and the political sphere were discussed.

Adoption and fulfilment of this plan will be a gradual process, but significant headway has already been made in the form of several key partnerships.

Check out the plan in "about ACCE" on the website: [acce.edu.au](http://acce.edu.au)

### Conferences

ACCE2017 was hosted in Brisbane by Qsite and chaired by Janet Cochrane. Those attending rated it a huge success, reflecting the care that had been put into its organisation by Janet and her team.

ACCE 2018 is already in preparation by ICTENSW and its venue, Sydney, will act as an attractor in its own right.

We all know that large commercial conferences are a real and present danger to the biennial ACCE conferences and I would encourage all to attend the 2018 event. ICTENSW has focussed on championing their grassroots, teacher-led nature. together with a family appeal in the destination city of Sydney to make a real point of difference to commercial conferences.

### Digital Tech teacher Award

This latest award has been added to the existing Leader of the Year and Educator of the year awards.

In keeping with the significance of the Digital Technologies Curriculum, each state will nominate a member for this award, which will be assessed by an independent committee appointed by ACCE in the same manner as it currently assesses nominations for Leader of the Year and Educator of the Year. Details are available from your ACCE board member.

### Computer Education Group Liaison

The purpose of ACCE is well known to its members but not necessarily to the members of the state CEGs.

The President took up the challenge of awareness raising for ACCE and spoke at as many state based conferences as possible in 2016 and made the same offer for 2017 — something that this president will make available gratis for all state events, as long as travel and accommodation are covered.

Events attended were:

- ECAWA: Keynote and opening, showing relationship with ECAWA and value of ACCE
- EdTechSA: Closing Keynote and short presentation re value of ACCE
- DLTV, ICTENSW and InTEACT: short presentation re value of ACCE
- The major Qsite event was, of course, ACCE2016 where the president took the roles of opening and prize-giving, as well as hosting the President's reception, the cost of which was subsidised by the generous sponsorship of Adobe.

## Partnerships

There is a pressing need for long term partnerships that benefit ACCE financially and/or in building its presence.

ACCE has to offer something to the prospective partner to effectively “buy” with any sponsorship monies and this needs to be more than offering a mailing list.

Because of its representation, and its members, ACCE is in a unique position to advise on matters of the Australian Curriculum, and, via its member associations, offer trialling of software/procedures and so forth as well as offering general consultancy.

Partnerships raised in the past year include: The Australian Computer Society (ACS), ACEvents, Life Journey and Education Services Australia (ESA)

The relationship between ACCE and the ACS has been a healthy, yet informal one at national level for several years.

A memorandum of understanding is now in active development with the appointment of Therese Keane (who now heads the ACS education board) to the ACCE board and liaison with Allyn Radford of ACS.

### LifeJourney

Day of STEM is run by the US based corporate, LifeJourney. The president is a member of its advisory committee as have been some members of the ACCE board.

This partnership introduces ACCE and its member CEGs as significant players in the corporate environment where Lifejourney operates.



**Martin Levins**

President of The Australian Council for Computers in Education

Martin Levins has taught at all levels of education in Australia, finding inspiration in primary, secondary and tertiary education.

As part of the partnership agreement, ACCE is supplying two speakers to their upcoming launches; Therese Keane, at the Women in STEM launch on March 21, and the president who will speak at the Optus Cybersecurity launch in May.

At each of these launches, where major Australian companies will be in attendance, ACCE is placing the launch within an Australian Curriculum framework, adding legitimacy to the event.

This should build significant credibility for the organisation and generate a large network of corporate contacts with which we can work towards financial partnerships.

### ACEvents

Similarly, the partnership with ACEvents, who run Edutech and FutureSchools, is designed to move beyond the standard offer of a few free registrations, to having the president or his/her nominee address the full attendance to put the aims of the conference into curricular focus, again reinforcing the credibility of the organisation.

The company will also fund accommodation, registration and place the winner of the new Digital Technologies award as speaker at either of their major conferences in 2018

### Education Services Australia (ESA)

After initial scoping conversations with ESA, ACCE was funded to build a scope and sequence document for the new Australian Curriculum, Digital Technologies F-10.

He was a pioneer of internet use in K-12 schools in Australia. His small rural school was one of the first in Australia and the world to be connected to the internet.

Martin has helped nearly two generations of teachers and students through the huge cultural changes of the technological revolution.

Jason Zagami was appointed by ACCE to carry out this work. This is an excellent example of leadership display which will benefit teachers.

The document will be finished in June 2017 and a few months later, will be available from the ESA Digital Hub.

## Changes to capitation

ACCE’s charter is to represent educators who use ICT in the national context.

This includes curricular, funding and professional development issues.

With the advent of the Digital Technologies Curriculum, the work that ACCE does on your behalf is becoming more and more important.

Each state Computer Education Group pays a capitation to ACCE to help it represent you.

This capitation has been \$15.20 since 2008, with a discounted rate of \$14 applying from 2012. ACCE wants to deliver the best for its members for a reasonable cost and, at the same time, not burden the state CEGs.

To that end, and as forecast in the President’s letter to CEGs last year, 2017 will see an return to an undiscounted capitation of \$15.20, which will increase annually at a rate determined by the CPI from 2018.

## Priorities for 2017-8

I look forward to 2017-8 as a time of further development, engagement with corporate, political and curriculum spheres, and building our ongoing endeavours as a national body to coordinate and provide leadership on national issues for ICT in education.

Martin Levins, President 2017

He has enjoyed a wide readership as the education columnist for Australian MacWorld magazine and co-authored the seminal texts: “Bring Your Own Technology” (ACER press, 2012), and “BYOT: The Digital Evolution of Schooling (February, 2016).