



Presidents Report 2016-17

Overview

This last year has been a busy and productive one. It has been a year of strong focus. A focus on sustainability.

Building on the work of the 2015-16 Board, the aim of the 2016-17 Board has been to make the Association a financially sustainable one and I am proud to say that this has been achieved.

Through the streamlining of processes, continued collaboration with the Divisions, the successful insourcing the role of Membership co-ordinator and in no small part to the work of outgoing Treasurer, Michael Gavan the Association reports a profit of \$28,750 compared to a loss of \$11,578 in 2015-16. This performance has brought the Association's assets to \$144,169.

Over the past year we have also started work to ensure the operational model of the Association is sustainable. This is an Association run by volunteers. These volunteers are taking their lunchtimes, nights and weekends to support the Association. This is rewarding and valuable time but it is also precious. The Board recognises that there is scope to increase the impact of this time to the benefit of the Association and its members. In collaboration with the Divisions we have started exploring how this would best be realised. This work will be continued over the next year.

Structure of the Association

In 2016 ALLA Ltd and the Association divisions recommitted to their partnership with the signing of Memorandums of Understanding (MOU) between each division and the National body. These MOU's last three years (2016-2019).

The President and Vice President hold meetings to which all divisions are invited. These meetings are used to provide updates on recent and planned activities, sharing of ideas about CPD, provide support and advice to each other.

Trung Quach will continue these meetings during the 2017-2018 year.

Membership

Since 2014, the Association membership has reduced from 550 members to 476. A number of factors can be attributed for the smaller numbers of the association including reduction in roles, the past financial crisis. Whilst the final numbers for the 2017-18 membership won't be known until September it is not expected that these numbers will significantly increase. We are working to better understand

the membership and a survey will be distributed later this year. I strongly urge you all to participate in this survey.

Association Finances

The Association had a strong financial year and has reported a profit of \$28,750 compared to a loss of \$11,578 in 2015-16. The profit can be attributed in no small part to the profit from the 2016 Conference and the Membership Co-ordinator role.

We commenced the streamlining of the Association finances in the 2015-2016 with the reallocation of \$50,000 of funds from the journal to the Association. Over the 2017-18 the reallocation of the remaining funds from the Journal will be undertaken. This will work to reduce bank fees and is line with the overarching focus of the Association on streamlining processes.

For more detail on the reports, please refer to the Treasurer's report and Financials available at <http://www.alla.asn.au/membership/governance/annual-general-meeting/>

ALLA Fellowship - A new model

This year we introduced a new Fellowship model. Under the new model ALLA Ltd offers five \$1500 fellowships to help members attend international conferences.

This year we have awarded 3 Fellowships so far to:

- Margaret Hutchinson to attend the Canadian Association of Law Libraries Conference
- Lucy Brown to attend the 2017 British & Irish Association of Law Librarians (BIALL) Conference.
- Louise Langridge to attend the New Zealand Law Librarians Association conference.

No applications were received for the Fellowships to attend the American Association of Law Librarians (AALL) or the International Association of Law Librarians (IALL) conference.

ALLA Conference 2018

Planning is well underway for the ALLA 2018 Conference. Taking place on 2-4 May 2018 in Darwin.

The conference has been moved to earlier in the year so as to move it out of step with other conferences within the library and information services industry.

Sponsorship opportunities are still available however we do have commitments from the following organisations:

- Justis, platinum sponsor
- Gale, gold sponsor
- Timebase, silver sponsor and charge bar sponsor
- Wildy & Sons, silver sponsor
- Bloomsbury, bronze sponsor

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- First Software Solutions, bronze sponsor
- Hein Online, bronze sponsor
- Softlink, bronze sponsor

We hope to see you in Darwin for what will be a fantastic conference.

Continuing Professional Development

This year we had a number of fantastic events that were well attended. Webinar events over the past year have included:

- Expressing an opinion on social media
- Legal Analytics
- The trials of Justice Murphy
- Insights from the 2016 LexisNexis Legal and Regulatory Technology Review
- Train the Trainer on Lexis Advance
- State of the Legal Market
- Community, contributing, career - Using LinkedIn for law librarians

We also had Tweet Ups held as part of ALLA Connect.

Recordings have been made available for a number of events. Based on the usage statistics, these recordings have worked to almost double the number of members able to attend each event. Unfortunately due to technical difficulties the availability of recordings has not always been possible however we are working to ensure that this is more consistent.

Past webinars are available on the website at <http://www.alla.asn.au/membership/resources/webinars/>

ALLA Connect

As announced at the 2016-17 Annual General Meeting, this year we launched ALLA Connect. ALLA Connect is a program to provide members an opportunity to share ideas and discuss topics that they are passionate about across the nation. Participants connected via one-on-one and interest groups.

52 members registered for the program. It was the first program and there is definite room for improvement particularly around the choice platform used for group discussion. A request for feedback will be distributed to participants later this month.

On a personal note

I would like to thank the 2016-17 Board for all their work over the past year. I would also like to thank the Divisional committees and conference committee for their work over the past year. I look forward to continuing on the Board as Past President and continuing to work with incoming president, Trung Quach.

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