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17th July 2017

### **Minutes of 2017 Executive Meeting**

The ANZCA executive met on Tuesday 4th July, 7pm in the Seminar Room (S226), Level 2, Woolley Building (A20), University of Sydney.

Present: Chika Anyanwu, Diana Bossio, Janet Fulton, Gerard Goggin, Elizabeth Goode, Elizabeth Gray, Jonathon Hutchinson, Donald Matheson, Kerry McCallum, Phillip McIntyre (Chair), Colleen Mills, Marilyn Mitchell, Kyle Moore, David Nolan, Michelle Phillipov, Pita Shelford, Mary Simpson, Jolyon Sykes, Rowan Wilkin, Michele Willson.

Welcome (Chair, Phillip McIntyre). Apologies: Stephanie Brookes, Caryn Coatney, Terry Flew.

Confirmation of minutes of 2016 Executive meeting. Caitlin McGregor didn't attend.

Moved: Elizabeth Gray. Seconded Kerry McCallum. Accepted.

Business arising from the minutes. None.

**Report: President** (Phillip McIntyre). After acknowledging the first custodians of Sydney University's land, Phillip reported on the legal advice he obtained from his university regarding the failed conversion of the website. The matter was resolved in the NSW Small Claims Tribunal as mentioned in the secretary's report.

Phillip thanked the immediate past president Donald Matheson on the transfer, which was facilitated by a series of Skype meetings and Donald's written notes.

He next mentioned the need to increase membership by offering different membership for part-time lecturers and foreshadowed the possibility of amending the constitution.

Phillip thanked Diana Bossio for her efforts in social media and the post-grad reps for the pre-conference program. He commented on the high quality of the post-grad papers at this conference and acknowledged the efforts of the IAMCR representative, Chika Anyanwu as well as the ICA representative, Colleen Mills.

Both journals, *Communication Research and Practice (CRP)* and *Media Information Australia (MIA)* are going ahead under the new publishing arrangements with Taylor & Francis and Sage. We will call for expressions of interest for editing both journals.

Phillip thanked Bridget Griffin-Foley for organizing the new MIA board.

He also raised the matter of our membership of CHASS and foreshadowed further discussions regarding CHASS's lobbying role.

Phillip thanked Gerard and the entire team for organizing this conference.

Motion: The report be accepted. Moved Donald, seconded Colleen. Carried.

**5. Report: Secretary-treasurer**, including financial reports, budget and web-site report for 2016-17 (Jolyon Sykes). Jolyon reported that the auditor's report agreed with his bookkeeping with no discussion required for the first time in ten years.

Membership was 125, including life members and comps at the time the report was written but has now increased to 135 as people renew ahead of the conference.

People are using Paypal more and credit cards less, while EFT and cash receipts are sitting on 8%.

We ended the year with a surplus of \$8,884, mainly because of conference income. Expenditure was significantly less than budgeted, mainly because the invoice from Sage for publishing *MIA* didn't arrive until after the end of the financial year.

Motion: The auditor's report be accepted. Moved Janet, seconded Diana. Carried.

Motion: The auditor, Gorrell Long Robertson of Weston ACT, be reappointed.

Moved Chika, seconded Kerry. Carried.

Website: The ANZCA website is slowly returning to its original function as the main communication within the membership. The bulk e-mail facility, ANZCA-Announce, which has been out of action for over a year, now seems to be working as intended.

Jolyon has no rational explanation for this development and neither has our website host or the provider of the Mailster component.

The content management system (CMS) is still Joomla. As the president reported, the attempted conversion to Wordpress failed and, after getting legal advice, Jolyon approached the NSW Small Claims Tribunal and the conversion was terminated.

In the meantime, there had been a major upgrade to Joomla and to its various components, rendering the conversion unnecessary, in Jolyon's opinion. He obtained one more quote from a fourth supplier, \$4,290.00, which was about double the original price. He made further enquiries about whether Wordpress is superior to the new version of Joomla and was unable to obtain any clear guidance. He decided not to continue.

ANZCA Announce is now working properly and the problems with the availability and security of different forums for students, financial members and the executive are being resolved. The website is still not 100% reliable and occasionally does unexpected things, such as blocking members' access for no apparent reason, but this unreliability is now manageable.

Motion: That the 2016-17 website report be accepted. Moved David, seconded Kerry.

Discussion: The current website is an improvement on the earlier version. The website seems to show up in internet searches but is really just a basic access point. Social media is our main publicity vehicle. It was suggested that the website could look much cleaner if it lost some of its functions, such as conference papers, etc. This suggestion was not supported. Converting the CMS to Wordpress is still on the agenda. Wordpress should be easier to update than Joomla, provided that other functions such as the archive of conference papers is not compromised.

Action: Diana and Jonathon will investigate.

The slowness of access to the site is probably an issue with our providers. We should find an alternative host provider. Action: Jolyon will raise the issue with them.

We need to look into the possibility of putting the conference paper archive into the National Library but it does not seem to fit into Pandora at first sight. Carried.

2016 conference final report: (Janet Fulton). The conference report is on the website. There were 151 attending. Liz Goode and Caitlin McGregor organized the postgraduate pre-conference session. The final surplus was over \$13,000 and there were a number of publications, including *CRP*, *MIA* and *Global Media Australia*. Gerard might like to follow up *GMA* for this conference. *Platform* published a special ANZCA 2016 edition organized by Elizabeth Goode and Caitlin McGregor. Cambridge Scholars Publishing put out a hardback book, *Creating Space in the Fifth Estate*, edited by Janet

and Phillip. Of the 44 refereed papers, ten are on the website because the others were published elsewhere and conference proceedings have a lower ranking. Discussion: Some universities have dropped the requirement to publish conference proceedings completely because of changes to ERA. Perhaps ANZCA should do likewise. Other universities will only fund people to attend if a refereed paper is published. Some conferences are now publishing fully reviewed extended abstracts rather than full papers and it was suggested that ANZCA does the same. There is an issue of self-plagiarism if a paper appears in full twice and publishing extended abstracts avoids that. It gives people the peer-reviewed output and the published paper – a win-win outcome. The Emerald publishing platform is being used for this (see <http://www.emeraldinsight.com/>). It was suggested that 1,000 words is a less daunting wordage for extended abstracts, rather than 1,500. We could run both models, publishing full papers and 1,000 word abstracts, and see which gains support. We also have a requirement that prize-winners have refereed papers and this might have to be amended to include abstracts. If conference publishing is removed completely, we might disadvantage people without the opportunity to publish full papers. Submitting to a conference is more accessible than to a journal. An alternative might be to have an accelerated process of criticism and workshopping before acceptance. Publishing in the same year as the conference funding is also an issue with some universities. The meeting thanked Phillip and Janet for the 2016 conference. The 2016 conference report was accepted.

2017 Conference Preliminary Report: (Gerard Goggin and Kyle Moore). Gerard will provide a preliminary written report for the website. Kyle reported that the postgraduate event today ran smoothly, apart from a minor wi-fi meltdown. There were about fifty people there and the topics were well-received with lots of discussion. Gerard thanked Kyle and Elizabeth, as well as the conference organizer Fuchsia Sellars.

The final figures have yet to be determined but there were about 240 abstracts. Gerard feels that the multiple streams could have been better organized, perhaps by extending an extra day. There will be a plenary session on indigenous media, which included five or six practitioners. There will be a final plenary session on Friday, followed by the Henry Mayer lecture, included in ANZCA for the first time. The number of registrations is still short of Diana's 300 but has been boosted by the plenaries, for example, the children's plenary.

The everyone pays rule has been maintained and Gerard cautiously expects to break even at least. There are 55 papers under review with feedback due back in early August and publication before the end of the year. The deadlines for *CRP* should be manageable and a special issue of *MIA* has been proposed. *Platform* will also be publishing some postgraduate papers.

Software: There were issues with Easy Chair, the conference management platform and the suggestion is to look at an alternative such as Conftool. The experience at Newcastle was that the platform had to be set up correctly and be in place from the very beginning. Trying to retro-fit it later was a mistake. The conference handbook could be updated but it's an ongoing issue. Gerard added that he paid \$800 for the full version and there was no support or manual. Conftool is used by researchers and purchasing it might be something for ANZCA to consider. This issue needs further investigation and perhaps make an investment in future conferences.

Registration fees and options: The organizers had to keep explaining that the policy is that everyone pays and perhaps we need a formal agreement with the host institution in future. This would make it easier to invoice for any conference surplus without having to go through a claim process.

Two more issues will be addressed in the final report: Firstly, can sponsorship be formalized and, secondly, better access to the admin and social media accounts

*Communication Research and Practice Report* (Terry Flew): Terry's report has been available on the website and the comment was made that it is very comprehensive. Terry is standing down as editor and our call for expressions of interest in the position has had no response. People may be deterred by the long list of responsibilities but we should make the call again at the AGM. MIA is in the same position. Colleen gave an expression of "tertiary interest" but is deterred by her experience of the Taylor and Francis website. She would need assurances that the website will be working smoothly before she went any further. Others agreed that the journal has an exciting future but that the website is a major obstacle. It was decided to communicate this problem to the publisher.

It was agreed that the *CRP* report justified our decision to go ahead with the journal. The effort put into getting good contributors and reviewers has also been rewarded. Motion: that the *CRP* report be accepted. Carried.

Taylor and Francis has suggested that the special issue, 2(3), edited by Colleen Mills and François Cooren, be issued as part of the Special Issues as Books program. As well as excellent publicity, ANZCA would receive a 3% royalty on sales.

Motion: that T&F's proposal to issue *CRP* 2(3) as a book be supported. Moved Jolyon, seconded Diana. Carried.

*Media Information Australia* report (Rowan Wilkin, verbal): MIA has gone through a renewal process and now has a new editorial advisory group. The maximum length of article has been increased from 5,000 words to 8,000. The themed section will follow as soon as practicable. Rowan thanked ANZCA for ongoing support, the interim committee led by Bridget Griffin Foley, other members of the committee, particularly Gerard, and Brett Hutchins who is the new chair. After an intense year, Rowan has decided to step down a year ahead of time. He described the back-end of the Sage website as clunky but not as unworkable as the Taylor and Francis version. Communication was exemplary, even during an upgrade. Sage's production process is taking about a month. Themed issues are now locked in until May 2020 but the August issues are reserved for ANZCA. MIA has received about 150 manuscripts from 2016 to date and the acceptance rate is tracking around 54%. In 2016, the average time from submission to first decision was 38 days but is now getting longer because of the difficulty of getting referees. The website makes it possible to rate referees by timeliness and quality but Rowan is not distributing this information. Getting referees seems to be a general problem. The possibility was raised of putting the ANZCA News column on the Facebook page. There appears to be no obstacles to doing this. There were over 43,000 full-text downloads in 2016 and 31,500 in 2017 to date, which is very encouraging. The pre-Sage archive is also being accessed and downloaded. Rowan will check as to copyright ownership of these articles. Topics related to social media dominated the list of most-downloaded articles. Rowan agreed that ANZCA call for expressions of interest in the editor's position. Motion: that the *MIA* report be accepted. Moved Donald, seconded Kerry. Carried.

Social media report (Diana Bossio, verbal): The two Facebook pages, have been merged. The ANZCA Conference page had the most members so we kept that one and moved the ANZCA page. The Facebook webpage is a little confusing but it probably doesn't concern most Facebook and Twitter users. Diana has been trying to put a media student on each semester but it is difficult because of the lack of content apart from around conference time. Some students have asked members for profiles and some have provided them. Postgrads need more prominence on the Facebook page. Facebook is easier to administer if there is one person doing it rather than changing that person with each conference. Diana is that person and will include conference organizers year-by-year, starting with Elizabeth Gray. The You-tube channel has been started, hoping there will be more content from this conference. Any advice will be welcome. Motion: that the social media report be accepted. Moved Jonathon, seconded Gerard. Carried.

IAMCR report (Chika Anyanwu, verbal). The suggestion was made last year to have an annual ANZCA presence at IAMCR. It did not eventuate in 2017 because there are no ANZCA members going this year (Cartagena, Colombia from 16th to 20th July). It would be good publicity for us if we could do it. Chika is chair of IAMCR's Committee for Academic Life, which is conducting a global survey of academic life. This is important because some people are having difficulties. In Leicester, for example, there was no-one from Turkey because of a ban on academic travel. Chika proposed that ANZCA be part of the survey. This could be done through ANZCA-Announce because institutions would not be identified. IAMCR next year will be in USA and it would be good to organize an ANZCA panel if a few of our members are going. Once the call for panels is issued, Chika will circulate it to the exec. Motion: That the IAMCR report be accepted. Carried.

ICA report (Colleen Mills): The 2018 ICA conference will be in Prague. Colleen said that, because the ICA reviewing process is very thorough, people submitting to a conference will get valuable feedback. She reported that the ANZCA panel this year in San Diego, Reconfiguring Reality, went well, despite a small audience, with four submissions. Colleen is looking to be more creative in Prague and is looking for suggestions. One suggestion is to run the session as a debate, or to bring in people from ICA to engage with us. We did not succeed in our bid to have a joint ICA-ANZCA 2018 conference. Colleen was not privy to any of the discussion but, when she spoke to a board member, she was told we did not meet the criteria. It was disappointing because it would have been a beneficial collaboration. The suggestion is that we ask the ICA to have a panel at our 2018 conference. Colleen is now on the Internationalization committee and is concentrating on preventing a US colonization. Non-US membership of ICA is approaching 50%. We could copy some of ICA's sessions, such as Show and Display where people have a chance to talk, or Fast'n'furious sessions where people are given about five minutes to talk about their programs. In terms of outreach, Colleen has made good links with the South African Communication Association.

Motion: That the ICA report be accepted. Moved Phillip, seconded Janet. Carried.

Postgraduate and early career researchers report (Kyle Moore and Liz Goode): Kyle confirmed that today's event went well with fifty people attending. Liz agreed, and said that the event encouraged postgrads to participate in the conference and engage with ANZCA. It also encourages postgrads to publish out of the conference. She has

spoken to Diana about postgrads posting profiles on the ANZCA Facebook page. In the past, there have been postgrad panels and workshops and these should continue. She will be conducting a survey of postgrads to find out what they are consider ANZCA could provide. Liz is aware of the low numbers of postgrad members and we need to be more proactive in encouraging new members. The wording on the membership page of the website needs to be changed to include all postgrads. After some discussion, this change was agreed. (As the constitution does not differentiate between full-time and part-time students, no amendment is necessary. The change has been done).

The possibility of not providing printed copies of journals to student members was discussed and rejected because the journal publishers regard the distribution of print copies to all members to be an important part of our publishing agreements. It was decided to revisit the issue, with financial modelling, when the current agreements are due to expire.

Motion: That the postgrad report accepted. Moved Jolyon, seconded Phillip. Carried.

WA representative report (Michele Willson, WACCM): Michelle's report has been available on the website. WACCM is a regional group within ANZCA and is working well. It hosted a one-day symposium in February which was about giving and receiving feedback. The panel discussion and the presentations drew very positive comments. There will be another event in September with the theme, Gender and the Everyday.

Motion: That the WA report accepted. Moved Jolyon, seconded Phillip. Carried.

Queensland representative report (Marilyn Mitchell): Marilyn confirmed that the 2020 ICA conference will be on the Gold Coast on 21st to 25th May. ICA has suggested that the ANZCA conference be held on the two days prior, hosted by Bond University. This would maximize the opportunity for people to attend both and participants would only have to travel once. Our conference would be reduced but people would still have the opportunity to publish papers. ANZCA would be in competition with ICA's themed preconference events. While only having to travel once is attractive, there might be too much competition from the other preconferences. While the international participation would be good, many locals would be unable to attend because of teaching commitments. If we leave it as is, some will go to ICA, some to ANZCA, and some to both. We need to be sensitive to our members' expectation that ANZCA will be five days in July, not three days in May. It was suggested that ANZCA 2020 be held at the usual date and Marilyn will ask ICA about running a preconference. It was agreed to seek feedback at the AGM.

Motion: That the Queensland report be accepted. Carried.

Conference handbook update. Janet said that the handbook has been updated for 2016 and is available in the exec area of the website: <http://www.anzca.net/exec-meetings/2017/documents-and-policies.html>. It will be updated again after this conference.

The Anne Dunn, President's service, Christopher Newell, and Grant Noble awards are in hand and will be announced later in the conference.

Conference planning for 2018 (Elizabeth Gray): A consortium of NZ universities will host the 2018 conference and the host will be the University of Auckland in the centre of the city. Flyers have been printed and will be distributed at the AGM. The proposal and contract have been available in the exec area of the website. They only need signing and will facilitate the process of passing any surplus funds back to ANZCA.

Motion: That the 2018 conference be hosted by the University of Auckland as per the

agreement. Moved Jolyon, seconded Rowan. Carried. Kerry to sign the agreement as Public Officer. Her home address is also ANZCA's registered address.

Conference planning for 2019: The World Journalism Education Congress will start on 9th July 2019 in Paris so, ideally, we should finish our conference before then.

Filling of nominated positions (ICA Liaison, Treasurer, Secretary, and Webmaestro). Jolyon read out the elected, invited and co-opted positions from the agenda:

President, Gerard Goggin, organizer of the 2017 conference (elected at 2016 AGM)

Vice President, organizer of the 2018 conference, (Elizabeth Gray)

Vice President Elect, organizer of the 2019 conference (to be elected)

Immediate Past President, Phillip McIntyre, (elected at 2014 AGM)

Co-opted or invited positions

Public Officer, Kerry McCallum

Secretary-treasurer and web wrangler, Jolyon Sykes

IAMCR Liaison, Chika Anyanwu

ICA conference liaison, Colleen Mills

Conference guide co-ordinator, Janet Fulton

CRP rep, Terry Flew

MIA rep, Rowan Wilkin

Elected Regional Reps to be decided at the AGM

ACT reps (one: Scott Rickard, assumed continuing)

NSW reps (two: Janet Fulton and Jonathon Hutchinson, assumed continuing)

Victoria reps (two: David Nolan and Stephanie Brookes, assumed continuing)

Qld rep (two: Caryn Coatney and Marilyn Mitchell, assumed continuing)

SA rep (Sal Humphreys, assumed continuing)

WA reps (one: Michele Willson, assumed continuing,)

Tasmania reps (one: Michelle Phillipov, assumed continuing)

NZ reps (four: Elizabeth Gray, Colleen Mills, Mary Simpson and one vacancy)

Australian Postgrad reps (two: Elizabeth Goode, Kyle Moore, assumed continuing)

New Zealand Postgrad reps (one: Pita Shelford, assumed continuing)

Other business: Sessional and casual academics: precarious work and ANZCA (Phillip McIntyre and Gerard Goggin) Phillip's discussion paper has been available on the website. He said that there is an awareness of two tiers of academic, the precariat and the elite. A group, Contract and Sessional Academics (<http://www.unicasual.org.au/>), is campaigning on behalf of academics and he suggested that ANZCA assist by adding another category of membership, as we have done with part-time students. Gerard added that the ICA has a category, Exceptional (or Special) Membership, which allows for discounted membership and conference rates. 2:28:30 Once we offer discounted rates to some applicants, we may be obliged to make that opportunity available to all who may be interested. How can this be done and what will be the effect on our financial viability. There is also the issue of legitimizing those two tiers merely by discussing and allowing for them. The problem for IAMCR is worse as many academics cannot join or attend conferences for financial reasons. There are two aspects: Firstly, to include these members and, secondly, to campaign on their behalf. The suggestion was made to liaise with the NTEIU on this issue. We also need to decide on the discount membership and conference rate for these members. The suggestion was made that the appropriate rate is 50% of the full time rate. Again, we need to increase full-time membership numbers in order to fund

these discounts. One source of additional funds could be institutional membership but membership entitlements need to be defined. They could include a number of individuals with part-time and sessional employment. Some have been on sessional contracts for years, which is illegal, but institutional membership could enable them to have ANZCA membership. We need to produce a working paper on this suggestion and how it might work. We could use the argument that creating these sessional positions is degrading the academy and that becomes our concern. Institutional membership would allow several people to participate in ANZCA with no cost to them. We need to have an exec meeting, concentrating on constitutional and membership issues as soon as practicable. It was agreed that a small working group, Chika, Gerard and Phillip, produce a working paper for circulation to the executive. We may need to do some research on the extent of casualization in our sector. The example of the University of Canberra where every new lecturer is put on a seven-year contract. Kerry recommended Caroline Fisher, Scott Rickard and Glenn Fuller as possible contributors to the working paper.

Other business: We seem to be moving into serious times and we need to have a debate around organizing our social action role so that we don't wait for people to come to us. We look for places where we can use our voice effectively in the public debate. One option would be to liaise more closely with the NTEIU but organizations like ours world-wide should be speaking into spaces with the evidence to support our point of view. This is more political action than outreach. We are members of (2:42:30) CHASS, which should be lobbying on our behalf. We do need to advocate more around issues such as casualization. For example, we didn't discuss making a submission to the Senate inquiry into public interest journalism but we probably should have. Other organizations, such as JERAA, and individuals did make submissions. It was agreed that we ask the AGM for expressions of interest in a strategic plan to increase our advocacy and presence in public debates.

The death of Denis McQuail on 25th June was noted.

The next meeting will be held in Auckland in conjunction with the 2018 conference.