



## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2011

### ACEN NATIONAL DIRECTOR'S REPORT

This report outlines ACEN's activities and achievements over the period June 2010 to December 2010. ACEN's continued to grow significantly over this period. Major activities included:

#### National Conference 2010 Perth

The National Conference in Perth was held at Curtin University in October 2010 with over 200 attendees from a range of institutions including 34 universities, TAFE's, overseas ( UK , New Zealand and Canada ) and industry. The comprehensive program included 125 refereed papers, 18 non refereed papers, 18 postcards and 7 workshops as well as keynote addresses from Professor Mantz Yorke (UK) Mary Hicks (ACCI) and Peter Tyree (BHERT). Evaluations were overwhelming positive with 98.1 % satisfied or very satisfied overall. A comprehensive report will be utilised in planning for the 2012 Conference to be held in Geelong.

#### WIL Scholarship and Research:

ACEN continued to actively support Australian research into WIL by organising a Research Symposium in association with the 2010 ACEN National Conference in Perth. The symposium's aim was to identify WIL scholarship and research priorities for Australia. ACEN's focus was to develop from those priorities a strategic plan for WIL scholarship and research, forge research partnerships and develop coordinated collaborative, multi-institutional initiatives. The Research Symposium was organised by Rick Cummings, held at Murdoch University and supported by the ALTC. The Symposium was very well attended and the feedback from participants very positive. Outcomes of the symposium included key research priorities documented and an invitation to collaborate with the ALTC to develop National Projects for 2011. Members of the National Executive visited Sydney in December 2010 to discuss these priorities and commenced development of a proposal for ALTC consideration in early 2011.

Links to International research activities was further enhanced by attendance at the Perth Research Symposium by Maureen Drysdale, a co-convenor of the International research symposium held in association with the WACE World Conferences. ACEN has now committed to hold research symposiums with all future national conferences with the next one to be held in Melbourne before the ACEN National Conference in 2012.

#### Major Initiatives

##### National Portal Project:

This project, led by Victoria University entered a major development and consultation phase. A prototype of the National WIL Portal was demonstrated at various forums including to tertiary institutions at the ACEN National Conference and to Australian employers at the AAGE (Australian Association of Graduate Employers) National Conference. Feedback was positive and suggestions were utilised to further enhance the functionality of the final Portal design. This project continues to be supported by a two tier advisory structure including representatives from all ACEN state chapters and key major industry and professional associations in Australia.



### **WIL Leadership Project**

An application for an ATC grant to develop a framework to support and enhance WIL leadership in Australia is continuing to be prepared and will be submitted in 2011.

### **WIL National and International Associations**

ACEN continued to be active in fostering links to WIL national and international associations. ACEN maintains active communication the New Zealand Association (NZACE) through Matthew Campbell's membership of both ACEN and NZACE executives. ACEN further enhanced collaboration between the associations by inviting a member of NZACE to attend the National Conference in Perth. Involvement with WACE was also enhanced though an invitation to participate on the WACE World conference 2011 Organising Committee and an invitation to co chair the National Association meeting that will precede the World Conference in June 2011 with the Canadian Association (CAFCE).

### **Industry and Professional Associations**

ACEN continues to forge strong links to key industry, professional and community peak bodies representing key stakeholders and partners in Work Integrated Learning We are very grateful to Mary Hicks ACCI, Peter Tyree (BHERT) and Ben Reeves (AAGE) for their contributions to the National Conference. The Australian Industry Group, Australian Association of Graduate Employers, TAFE Directors Australia, Universities Australia and Australian Computer Association Foundation are also on the National WIL Portal Advisory Group and are providing invaluable advice to the project

### **ACEN Membership and Services**

ACEN continues to experience strong growth with State Chapters active in enhancing dialogue and exchanges with members on key topics through meetings, workshops and forums. Regular ACEN newsletters to ACEN members are the key communication with members providing national and international WIL updates, articles and information about events

The National Executive continues to work hard to advocate effectively for WIL and provide a range of support and services to members. In response to this growth and the current range of activities the National Executive is seeking to appoint an administrator in early 2011 to support the expansion of activities and provide a streamlined service

I would like to thank all members of the current ACEN National Executive for their continuing support and enormous contribution to ACEN activities during 2010. I would like to particularly thank Matthew Campbell for his contribution as Treasurer, David Jorgensen as Secretary and Cait Ryan for her work on the website and newsletter. I would like to say a very special thanks to Jim Elliott for organising the National Conference in Perth so brilliantly Thanks also to Rick Cummings for his organisation of the 2010 research Symposium and contribution as a member of the National executive

I would also like to thank the State Chairs for their contribution to ACEN; Sonia Ferns, Verity Kingsmill, Dineli Mather, Freny Tayebjee and Deborah Peach. I would like to also like to welcome members elected at the 2010 AGM to the National Executive: Lisa Westcott, Heather Smigiel, Brett Van Heekeren and Keri Moore



**AUSTRALIAN COLLABORATIVE  
EDUCATION NETWORK**

**NATIONAL EXECUTIVE MEMBERS**

Ms Judie Kay	National Director and External Engagement
Assoc Prof David Jorgensen	Secretary and Scholarship
Mr Matthew Campbell,	Treasurer
Ms Freny Tayebjee	NSW/ACT Chair and Membership & Linkages
Ms Verity Kingsmill,	SA/NT Chair
Dr Deborah Peach,	QLD Chair and Professional Development
Ms Cait Ryan	Marketing and Communication
Ms Dineli Mather	VIC Chair
Ms Sonia Ferns	WA Chair
Mr Brett Van Heekeren	
Lisa Westcott	
Assoc Professor Heather Smigiel	
Ms Keri Moore	