



AGM MINUTES 2009

Meeting	Annual General Meeting of the Sixth National Conference of the Australian Screen Production Education And Research Association (ASPERA)
Date	10/7/09
Time	4 – 5.05 pm
Location	Hawke building, University of South Australia
Attendees	UTS, RMIT, Flinders, GFS, University Canberra, Swinburne, University of Newcastle, Murdoch, Uni SA, Curtin, Edith C, Bond, VCA, Deakin (13)
Apologies	not present - QUT, CSU, AFTRS, UWS, COFA (6)

Item	Discussion/Outcomes	Action
Welcome and apologies	1.1 Welcome by ASPERA President Leo Berkeley Apologies as above	
Previous minutes	2.1 Confirmation of the minutes from the 2008 AGM Minor amendments - Change the date to 2008 and to the 5 th annual conference <i>Moved: Pat Laughren</i> <i>Seconded: Ian Hutchison</i> <i>Carried unanimously</i>	Amendments to be made and minutes to be made available on ASPERA website
Business arising	3.1 Report on feasibility of CILECT membership 3.2 Update on ERA business - please refer to the presidents report below 3.3 Update on ongoing collaboration of ASPERA with the other peak bodies representing the Creative Arts - please refer to the presidents report below 3.4 The development of a set of rigorous proxies.	
Reports	4.1 President's report Since the 2008 Conference in Melbourne, ASPERA has been developing and consolidating several earlier initiatives and getting involved in a few new areas. In both the higher education sector and the screen production industry	

there are changing contexts that the association has been responding to. The main activities for ASPERA in the past year are outlined below.

- *Published conference papers*

Following the 2008 Conference, five papers that were delivered at the conference were submitted for peer review and subsequently published on the ASPERA website. This was the first time this formal publication process was undertaken by ASPERA, reflecting a greater academic focus at the conference. Published refereed conference papers currently receive funding from the government, which should contribute to the recognition of screen production research within the universities concerned.

- *Academy of the Creative Arts*

As ASPERA president, I was asked to join a steering committee for the establishment of an Academy of the Creative Arts. This process has been led by Su Baker from the University of Melbourne and has involved representatives from most of the other creative and performing arts disciplines. So far there have been three meetings of the steering committee. One involved two senior people from CHASS speaking with us. At another, John Byron, the executive director of the Academy of the Humanities, discussed strategies with the group. At this stage, setting up a Creative Arts section within the Academy of the Humanities looks to be a likely first step, with a separate Academy for our sector being the longer-term objective. An offshoot of this process has been the recognition that the creative and performing arts disciplines have many issues and concerns in common. There may be value in having a peak body for the sector that can advocate for our needs in a way that an Academy is not designed to do.

- *Peer Review of Screen Works*

The trial of ASPERA's peer review process for screen works was concluded in the second half of 2008. A second iteration of the process has commenced in 2009, with 10 works submitted. The process has been adjusted to better align with the ERA research evaluation initiative. In my view this is a valuable activity for the ASPERA community to undertake, both internally (in building a better shared understanding of screen production as research) and externally (in increasing the recognition of our screen production research with government and within the broader higher education sector).

- *ERA*

- Journal Rankings*

ASPERA made a detailed submission to the Journal Ranking consultation process in relation to the field of film, television and digital media (or what is known as FOR 2009 ASPERA President's Report Page 2 of 3 1902). This list was principally compiled by the AFI Research Collection at RMIT but some adjustments were made to highlight the journals that published the work of screen production academics.

- Creative Works*

The way the creative arts is being treated within the ERA process seems positive for ASPERA, although it is still too early to say how this will work in practice or be reflected in research funding. However, the recognition of creative arts as a valid research area in higher education and the process of evaluation being peer review (rather than citation analysis) is a victory for the overall creative arts sector. Various members of the executive lobbied within their universities and with members of the indicators development group for the creative arts that developed the system being used.

- *Screen Australia*

Screen Australia commenced operations on July 1, 2008. ASPERA made a submission to the development of Screen Australia's Statement of Intent (SOI) in September 2008. This can be downloaded from the ASPERA website at <http://www.aspera.org.au/node/10>.

- *CRC*

Mary O'Kane conducted a review of the Cooperative Research Centres (CRC) Program as part of a broader review of the national innovation system. I attended a speech she gave in Canberra to discuss the outcomes of her review in relation to the Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences. A significant aspect of this review is that it has recommended that a new criteria of 'public good' be applied to CRCs beyond their traditional focus on commercialising research, and that there should be a greater number of CRCs with a humanities focus. During this speech, she suggested a CRC in 'innovation in Australian film & television' would be one of several ideas that suited the new focus she was proposing for the CRC system. I also attended a briefing by the Department for Innovation, Industry, Science and Research on the launch of the CRC round in late 2008 immediately following the review. I believe this is a longer term opportunity for the screen production research sector that is worth developing further. For further information see: <http://minister.innovation.gov.au/Carr/Pages/REVIEWOFCOOPERATIVERESARCHCENTRESPROGRAM.aspx>

- *CHASS Strategic Planning*

I attended a two day event in Canberra, which was called by CHASS to conduct a strategic review of its performance. CHASS is the Council for the Humanities, Arts & Social Sciences and has been existence since 2004, lobbying for greater recognition for the Humanities, Arts & Social Sciences (HASS) sector with government, industry and the higher education system. CHASS has 130 members, of which ASPERA is one. Given the four years since CHASS commenced and the change of government in late 2007, the event was designed as a strategic planning workshop, where the CHASS board could get feedback from members about the direction of the organisation. There was plenty of discussion about the fact that CHASS has such a wide range of members to represent that perhaps it can't reflect everyone's interests effectively. The counter argument, which I believe has some merit, is that there is value in size when it comes to lobbying the federal government. There was strong *2009 ASPERA President's Report Page 3 of 3* feedback that CHASS's main focus should remain advocacy but also discussion about its membership services, particularly for smaller members (such as ASPERA).

- *ALTC Project*

Dr. Josko Petkovic, from Murdoch University, has led a team of six ASPERA member institutions in a successful application for funding from the Australian Learning and Teaching Council (formerly the Carrick Institute). The title of the research project is 'Assessing Graduate Screen Production Outputs in Nineteen Australian Film Schools'. This is a major project that will be undertaken over a period of two years and with funding in excess of \$200,000. The aim of the project is to statistically test the operation of ASPERA's peer review assessment system on creative works completed by students attending 19 ASPERA film schools. ASPERA members from Murdoch University, VCA, UTS, Griffith University, RMIT and Flinders

University are coordinating the trial process with the ASPERA member institutions in each state while liaising with DEEWR and CILECT (the International Association of Film And Television Schools).

• *International Links*

The major development in this area is Tony Downmunt being invited to attend the 2009 Conference, using funding from the ALTC project referred to above.

• *Executive meetings*

Four meetings of the ASPERA executive have been held in the past twelve months, all by phone conference. We have found this to be a productive and cost-effective way for the executive to regularly discuss ASPERA business and keep projects moving in between conferences. Minutes from the meetings are available at: <http://www.aspera.org.au/node/10>.

• *Conclusion*

It is clear that ASPERA's existence is valuable for our discipline. As President over the past twelve months, it has been apparent to me that we get a seat at many tables because we are perceived as a genuinely representative peak body. Our small annual budget constrains us in a number of areas but I believe there is great benefit in us remaining as active and cohesive as possible. I would like to thank my colleagues on the executive in the past year for their willingness to contribute to both the discussions that were held and the work that needed to be done. I would also like to thank all the ASPERA members who contributed as reviewers to our two peer review processes.

*Prepared by Leo Berkeley
July 2009*

Moved: Gillian Leahy
Seconded: Michael Sergi
Carried unanimously

4.2 Secretary's report

There is little to report beyond that that has already been mentioned in Leo's President's report.

- The executive continued to meet regularly and the minutes of the meetings are available for viewing on the ASPERA web site.
- I have continued to manage the various ASPERA email mailing lists and remind members that we welcome any new mailing list members at any time. I encourage people to forward the list information to other people in their departments.
- Leo and I have been co-ordinating the second iteration of the ASPERA Screenworks Peer Review and are very grateful for all those who have participated.
- ERA journal rankings. After the 2008 conference I sent through the Journal Ranking suggestions to all ASPERA members as co-ordinated via the AFI library. There was some deviation from our suggestions in the final rankings but no more than other disciplines from what I can work out.
- The issue of incorporation raised in my 2008 report has been resolved and we are still registered with the NSW Office of Fair Trading. My thanks to Nick Oughton for working with me on that issue.

	<p><u>Moved:</u> Leon Marvel <u>Seconded:</u> Michael Sergie <i>Carried unanimously</i></p>	
	<p>4.3 Treasurer's report (See Appendix A: ASPERA Income and Expenditure Summary 2008-2009)</p> <p>Balance \$14,902.67 Will end up with 17 & 18 members for the 2009/2010 period.</p> <p>Raising the fees - Write a letter about what ASPERA does and our successes to help those institutions who may have trouble arguing for an increase in fees annual per year and for this money to be set aside to specifically hire research or administration assistants to co-ordinate resources in the development of standardised tools for use by all ASPERA members.</p> <p><u>Moved:</u> Tim Thomas <u>Seconded:</u> Susan Kerrigan <i>Carried unanimously</i></p>	Nick to organise letter.
	<p>4.4 Vice-president's report</p> <p>No report tabled</p> <p>Putting on the conference in collaboration with Uni SA, biggest success getting Ruth Harley and ABC to attend, thereby extending industry links and awareness of ASPERA.</p> <p><i>Carried unanimously</i></p>	
General Business	<p>5.1 Review of the Constitution</p> <p><i>Conference location</i></p> <p>The executive has discussed the limitations for both individuals and the association of the role of vice president being tied to the conference location. As it currently stands the individual is required to commit at least two continuous years to the executive and subsequently may limit the willingness of people to commit hosting the conference. The ASPERA executive propose the following amendments to the constitution.</p> <p>Motion 1: It is proposed that the role of the Vice President does not automatically require the hosting of the conference and that Section 14 (clause 1) be changed to read "Each year the Vice President succeeds the President".</p> <p><u>Moved:</u> Alison Wotherspoon <u>Seconded:</u> Jenny Stokes <i>Carried unanimously</i></p> <p>Motion 2: It is proposed to that 3 new clauses be inserted into the constitution ensuring that the location of the following year's conference is decided at the AGM plus that where possible the location continues to be rotated around the country and, that the host if not already an executive member be co-opted to the executive for the duration of that year. These clauses will be placed in section 14 (clauses 7 & 8 & 9)</p> <p>"14.7 - Each year the AGM decide the venue and convener of the next Annual conference and where possible this location is to be rotated amongst</p>	Clauses to be updated in constitution

	<p>participating institutions and amongst states and territories.”</p> <p>“14.8 - In the event that the conference convener is not already a member of the ASPERA executive they will be co-opted as an ordinary member for that year”.</p> <p>“14.9 - Where possible that the role of Vice President rotates throughout the states and territories”.</p> <p><u>Moved:</u> James Verdon <u>Seconded:</u> Susan Kerrigan <i>Carried unanimously</i></p> <p><i>Advisory Council</i></p> <p>Motion 3: “That outgoing President Leo Berkeley is nominated to join the ASPERA Advisory Council thereby continue the existing precedent of past presidents moving onto the Advisory Council.”</p> <p><u>Moved:</u> Josko Petkovic <u>Seconded:</u> Micheal Sergi <i>Carried unanimously</i></p> <p>Motion 4: The constitution will be amended to include the following “Changes to the constitution require one month notice in writing & sent to the membership and it must be voted upon by members at the AGM.”</p> <p><u>Moved:</u> Gillian Leahy <u>Seconded:</u> Michael Sergi <i>Carried unanimously</i></p>	
	<p>5.2 Election of the executive for 2009-2010</p> <p>The former Vice President Alison Wotherspoon became President. Elections were held for the positions of Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and two Other Members.</p> <p>The new Executive elected on nomination as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • President – Alison Wotherspoon FLINDERS UNIVERSITY • Vice President – Rachel Wilson RMIT • Secretary – Jenny Stokes UNIVERSITY of SOUTH AUSTRALIA • Treasurer – Nick Oughton GRIFFITH FILM SCHOOL • Two Other Members - Mick Broderick MURDOCH UNIVERSITY, Susan Kerrigan - UNIVERSITY OF NEWCASTLE 	

	<p>5.3 2010 Conference</p> <p>Motion 5: As a result of the 2010 ASPERA ALTC Project Assessing Graduate Output in Nineteen Australian Film Schools conference scheduled for Sydney it is proposed that the 2010 ASPERA conference also be held in Sydney. UTS has volunteered to host the 2010 and it is proposed that the 2009/2010 executive work with Josko Petkovic on determining a mutually beneficial time for the each component.</p> <p><u>Moved:</u> Rachel Wilson <u>Seconded:</u> Jill Holt <i>Carried unanimously</i></p> <p>Motion 6: ASPERA membership authorise the executive to extend a letter of thanks and Tony Dowmunt to Dr Ruth Harley Chief Executive Officer of Screen Australia for attending and participating in the 2009 conference and to communicate willingness to participate in committees and working parties where relevant.</p> <p><u>Moved:</u> Rachel Wilson <u>Seconded:</u> Leo Berkeley <i>Carried unanimously</i></p> <p>Motion 7: The meeting would like to thank Flinders University and University of South Australia (and in particular Jenny and Alison) for hosting the 2009 conference.</p> <p><u>Moved:</u> Rachel Wilson <u>Seconded:</u> Nick Oughton <i>Carried unanimously</i></p>	<p>Gillian Leahy to liaise with Josko, then organise conference with support from the Exec.</p> <p>Alison to draft and send the letter in her role as Pres.</p>
	<p>5.4 Working Parties</p> <p>There was considerable discussion surrounding the re-establishment of a series of working parties. The aim is to ensure consistency and establish national standards in the key areas that affect us all. People were asked to indicate their interest in being involved. The areas discussed parties include;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Music Copyright and Rights Management</i> - Alison Wotherspoon (Flinders) & Rachel Wilson (RMIT) • <i>Ethics</i> - Ron Elliot (Curtin) and George, Leo Berkeley (RMIT), Pat Langhren (Griffith) • <i>OH&S</i> - Susan Kerrigan (Newcastle), Jill Holt (Swinburne), Gillian Leahy (UTS), Nick Oughton (Griffith) • <i>Assessment</i> - Josko Petkovic (Murdoch), Gillian Leahy (UTS) <p>Motion 8: The ASPERA membership authorise the executive to co-ordinate the establishment of a series of committee's and/or working parties in the following areas; Music & Rights management issues; OH&S; Ethics Guidelines for Screen Production and Assessment Standards. These committees will begin work on developing a series of standardised tools and templates that will eventually be available for use by all ASPERA members.</p> <p><u>Moved:</u> Susan Kerrigan <u>Seconded:</u> Leo Berkeley <i>Carried unanimously</i></p>	<p>Parties to meet throughout the year to progress issues</p>
<p>Date,</p>	<p>Executive board will continue to meet throughout 2009/2010.</p>	

time & location of next meeting	The next AGM will be at the 2010 conference at UTS.	
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Appendix A

ASPERA Income and Expenditure Summary 2008-2009

Date	Details	Income	Ref	Expense	Chq No	Balance
3/07/2008	Brought forward from previous year 2007-2008	0		0		9832.77
9/07/2008	Murdoch membership for 2008-09	500	11239	0		500
22/07/2008	Edith Cowan Uni membership for 2008-09	500	1130509	0		500
22/07/2008	UTS membership for 2008-09	500	5124318	0		500
12/08/2008	Swinburn membership for 2008-09	500		0		500
12/08/2008	Uni Canberra membership for 2008-09	500		0		500
15/08/2009	Postage	0		16.2	24	-16.2
22/09/2008	RMIT Conference 2008 costs accrued	0		4000	23	-4000
2/10/2008	Leo Berkeley. Expenses for HASS Conference	0		311	25	-311
29/01/2009	Griffith Uni Teleconference fees	0		139.53	26	-139.53
24/03/2009	RMIT, Teleconference fee 24/2/09	0	473214	238.37	27	-238.37
2/04/2009	Bond Uni membership for 2009-10	500	41481	0		500
16/04/2009	Uni Melbourne (VCA) membership for 2009-010	500	442960	0		500
23/04/2009	RMIT membership for 2009-10	500	147003	0		500
24/04/2009	Griffith Uni membership for 2009-10	500	778497	0		500
19/05/2009	Flinders Uni membership for 2009-10	500	1027335	0		500
20/05/2009	UTS membership for 2009-10	500	5154136	0		500
20/05/2009	Uni of Newcastle membership for 2009-10	500	ASPERA-00	0		500
20/05/2009	Curtin Uni membership for 2009-10	500	90740	0		500
28/05/2009	Macquarie Uni membership for 2009-10	500	98209	0		500
1/06/2009	Gillian Leahy conference Dinner	75		0		75
3/06/2009	Uni SA membership for 2009-10	500	244100	0		500
9/06/2009	UNSW (Cofa) membership for 2009-10	500	192196	0		500
19/06/2009	RMIT Conference dinner x 3	225		0		225
22/06/2009	Griffith Uni Conference dinner x 2	150	797743	0		150

23/06/2009	Sue Kerrigan (Newcastle) conference dinner x 1	75		0		75
26/06/2009	RMIT Conference delegates fees	250	153917	0		250
30/06/2009	Edith Cowan membership for 2009-10	500		0		500
30/06/2009	Swinburn membership for 2009-10	500		0		500
		0		0		0
Totals		9775		4705.1		0
Balance in Acc at 30/6/09						\$ 14,902.67

Notes on the Accounts

- Note 1 Teleconference costs amounted to \$717.44 during 2008-09. (\$339.57 outstanding)
- Note 2 Budget estimate for conference 2009: \$6000
- Note 3 Total membership for 2008-09:15
- Note 4 Total members paid up at 30/6/09 for 2009-10: 13
- Note 5 Outstanding 2009-10 membership fees to be received (4): \$2000