



AUSTRALIAN

EVALUATION

SOCIETY



2018-19

ANNUAL REPORT

www.aes.asn.au

Our vision

- Quality evaluation that makes a difference

Our mission

- To strengthen and promote evaluation practice, theory and use

Our values

Our Code of Ethics guides the activities and behaviour of our members. In essence the guiding principle is that:

- When commissioning, conducting or reporting an evaluation, members should strive to uphold the ethical principles and associated procedures endorsed by the AES in the guidelines for the ethical conduct of evaluations.

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About us

The Australian Evaluation Society (AES) is a professional organisation for people involved in evaluation including evaluation practitioners, managers, teachers and students of evaluation, and other interested individuals.

It has over 1,000 members involved in all aspects of evaluation and performance measurement. The AES is governed by a Board of Directors and managed by a Chief Executive Officer and staff.

Our members represent diverse professional sectors and areas of evaluation practice and meet regularly through regional networks, special interest groups, discussion groups and an annual conference. The AES offers professional development through an annual international conference, a peer-reviewed evaluation journal, and regular workshops and seminars.

OBJECTS OF THE AES

- Establish and promote ethics and standards in evaluation practice
- Encourage advances in the theory and practice of evaluation
- Provide education and training related to evaluation
- Provide forums for networking, professional development and the discussion of ideas
- Increase understanding of evaluation and advocate for quality evaluation
- Be inclusive of Indigenous and all cultural perspectives
- Have governance systems that reflect and incorporate best practice
- Provide a forum that allows the diverse voices of the community to be heard, including those who commission the evaluations, those who carry them out and the evaluands
- Undertake other activities consistent with these aims.



About us

MEMBER BENEFITS

Recognition and support

Belonging to the longest established professional evaluation organisation in the region, with a network of over 1,000 practitioners, commissioners and academics involved in all aspects of evaluative enquiry and performance measurement.

Code of ethics

Members abide by the AES Code of Ethical Conduct, and are guided by and support the AES Guidelines for the Ethical Conduct of Evaluations.

Members are encouraged to rely on the Code when faced with situations that require them to balance competing ethical principles.

Professional learning opportunities

Opportunities are available to learn from leading local and international expert evaluators through the annual conferences and professional learning activities. Members keep up-to-date through AES publications, workshops, seminars, discussion groups and conferences.

Networking

Members make contacts with colleagues in evaluation by joining in regional group meetings and other activities for training, networking and discussion of current evaluation topics.

Publications

Online, member-only access to the *Evaluation Journal of Australasia (EJA)* and six SAGE Publishing titles, and the AES Guidelines for the Ethical Conduct of Evaluations.

Members' centre

Electronic access to information and resources for members only, including the latest issue of the *EJA*, issues of e-news, and access to the Directory of AES members.

AES Awards for Excellence in Evaluation

Members are eligible for nomination for the prestigious AES Awards for Excellence in Evaluation.

Consultants' directory

Members profile their evaluation services and consultancy through the online Consultants' directory and receive tender information made available to the AES.

Annual International Evaluation Conference

Evaluators stay in touch with the latest trends and issues in evaluation through the annual AES International Evaluation Conference, for which members receive advance notice and discount registration fees.

International links

Members are part of an international network of evaluation societies.

Corporate governance

How we are governed

The Australian Evaluation Society is a charity registered with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC). Since May 2015, the association has been a public company limited by guarantee after it transferred its registration as an association from the Australian Capital Territory. A Board of Directors provides overall governance and strategic direction for the organisation. The Board is legally responsible for governing the organisation. The Chief Executive Officer manages operations and has delegated responsibility for implementing the directions and decisions of the Board.

Accountability of the Board

The Board is accountable to the association's membership. All members of the Board must adhere to the requirements of the ACNC and the *Australian Corporations Act 2001*, as well as the provisions set out in the association's Constitution and Policies.

Appointment of the Board

Following adoption of the new Constitution at the Special General Meeting in February 2015 and subsequent re-incorporation from the 2015 Annual General Meeting, the Board consists of three named office bearers (President, Vice President, and Treasurer) and three ordinary Board members, all elected by the membership. The Board has the discretion to appoint up to three ordinary Board members, ensuring that at least two members of the Board are First Nations people and taking into account the overall mix of knowledge, skill and attributes of Board members.

Role of the Board

The Board is subject to the provisions of the *Australian Corporations Act 2001*, its obligations to the ACNC, and the AES Constitution. The Board may delegate certain powers to committees of members. All Board positions are unpaid.

Indemnity of the Board

The AES has directors' and officers' insurance and professional indemnity for all Board members.

Board and staff

Board members 2018–2019

President

Lyn Alderman (to September 2018)
John Stoney (from September 2018)

Vice President

Liz Smith (to September 2018)
Doyen Radcliffe (from September 2018)

Treasurer

Jess Dart

Ordinary Board members

Dan Borg (until November 2018)
Sharon Clarke
Susan Garner (from September 2018)
Sue Leahy
Kiri Parata
Doyen Radcliffe (until September 2018)
John Stoney (until September 2018)

Meeting attendance

Lyn Alderman	0 of 1
Dan Borg	1 of 2
Sharon Clarke	5 of 6
Jess Dart	6 of 6
Susan Garner	5 of 5
Sue Leahy	6 of 6
Kiri Parata	5 of 6
Doyen Radcliffe	4 of 6
Liz Smith	1 of 1
John Stoney	6 of 6

Staff

Chief Executive Officer

Bill Wallace

Membership & Events Officer

Michelle Wightwick

President: John Stoney

John Stoney's early career involved a decade in frontline juvenile justice and child protection work, before joining the Australian Public Service. An internal evaluation practitioner within the Australian Government for nearly 15 years he has responsibility for commissioning and project managing evaluations, supporting individual and organisational capability and capacity building, providing technical advice to policy and program managers and high-level advice on evaluation matters to senior officials.

Undertaking the Master of Evaluation at University of Melbourne led to being an online lecturer in the Master and Graduate Certificate programs. John is currently a Fellow at both University of Melbourne and Charles Darwin University, reflecting his interests in evaluation theory and praxis, evaluation capability and capacity building, evaluation use and strategic evaluation.

John's involvement in the AES commenced through regular attendance at conferences, evolved to membership of the AES Canberra Region Committee, AES Board and the aes17 Conference Committee. His primary roles in the AES are President and Chair of the Advocacy and Alliances Committee (AAC).

Vice President: Doyen Radcliffe

Doyen Radcliffe is a Yamatji Naaguja Wajarri man from the Mid West region of Western Australia. Doyen is a community-minded individual with a passion for empowering Indigenous communities to reach their real potential to improve quality of life, health, social and economic wellbeing and inclusion within Australian society.

Presently Doyen works as Regional Manager with the Indigenous Community Volunteers based in Perth, WA and was former Regional Manager for the Darwin office. Doyen oversees community development activities in WA and is working towards delivering global best practice community development works with First Nations communities. Doyen was a member of ICV Participatory Monitoring and Evaluation working

Board and staff

group to improve the way ICV works capturing impact and change in the communities it works with. In addition, Doyen worked with others to develop ICV's Community Development Framework that has been incorporated into their project management database and further developed as a tool to assist their Community Development Officers with their ongoing work.

The purpose of Doyen's appointment as Vice President is to strengthen and build Indigenous and non-Indigenous capacity in culturally safe evaluation theory, practice and use.

Treasurer: **Jess Dart**

Dr Jess Dart is the founder and CEO of Clear Horizon Consulting. Clear Horizon is a specialist evaluation company established in 2005 operating nationally and internationally with offices in Melbourne, Sydney, Canberra and Hobart. Clear Horizon works with clients from a very wide variety of sectors, both domestically and internationally, and at all levels of government.

Jess has been working in the evaluation space and has been a member of the AES for over 20 years. She holds a PhD in evaluation from the University of Melbourne. With regard to her evaluation practice, Jess has a passion for collaborative approaches and mixed methods and is always striving to ensure that evaluation leads to improved social, economic and environmental outcomes. Jess is also a highly in-demand facilitator and trainer, and leads many capacity building endeavours for government, not-for-profits and philanthropic organisations. Jess works across sectors but has a specialist background in international development and community development and the environment.

Jess has enjoyed the privilege of being the Treasurer on the current AES Board since September 2014. She brings to this role a solid knowledge of the evaluation industry and hard won experience of directorship. To complement her practical skills, Jess completed the Foundations of Directorship with the Australian Institute of Company Directors (including units in Governance for Directors; Finance for Directors; and Strategy and Risk for Directors).

President's report

As I've contemplated writing my report this year, a favourite song from my youth – Timbuk 3's 'The future's so bright' – has been playing in my head. While we as an organisation need to remain ever alert and adaptive in an always changing and sometimes challenging environment, by several metrics the AES is currently in a good space and there is a strong sense of optimism (hence the song coming to mind).

The leadership and due diligence of the current and previous Boards and Chief Executive Officer, the expertise and hard work of members, and the skills and high level of effort from our staff over the past decade has matured and is evident in a number of ways. During 2018–2019 we reached new organisational benchmarks of more than a thousand members and exceeded one million dollars income. Our workshop program produced as much profit as our annual conference. The development of work within each of the strategic priority domains has reached a point where we are now in a position to work effectively and collaboratively across domains. There has been significant member engagement in key processes such as constitutional change, Board elections and development of the 2019–2022 strategic priorities.

Key achievements and activities under each of our strategic domains included:

Cultural capacity

Under Doyen Radcliffe, Sharon Clarke and Kiri Parata's leadership, significant work by the Cultural Capacity and Diversity Committee resulted in the launch of our first Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) at our 2018 conference in Launceston. The RAP has already become a key resource to the AES and its members. Through the Conference Support Grants for Emerging Indigenous Evaluators, twelve practitioners joined us at the Launceston conference and in February 2019 Sharon Clarke, Kiri Parata and myself attended and represented AES at the Mā Te Rae, Indigenous Peoples Conference on Evaluation in Rotorua.



Professionalisation

Work continued stemming from the 'Pathways to professionalism' report. Sue Leahy led a members' consultation at the 2018 conference on key topics including evaluation standards, competencies and credentialing. A project has been commissioned to further develop the Professional Learning Competencies Framework in an evidence-based manner.

Influence

The AES was engaged in the Independent Review of the Australian Public Service, with two submissions lodged on behalf of AES members and consultations undertaken with members at the 2018 conference.

Relevance

Throughout the year work has continued on a number of important strategic projects, with Susan Garner working with the Member Services and Engagement Committee. These have related to introducing and delivering webinars, mentoring and a blog initiative. The AES blog commenced publication in late 2018.

President's report

Organisational stability

For the first time we have exceeded one thousand members and one million dollars income.

These achievements are due to a number of factors including increased member retention, a successful 2018 conference in Launceston and a significant increase in delivery and take up of the workshop program. Following an extensive consultation process with members, our Constitution was changed in August 2018 to alter our geographical mandate to the states and territories of Australia, becoming the Australian Evaluation Society.

Looking ahead

Going forward we have our new 2019–2022 strategic priorities to guide us, supported by refreshed governance structures that seek to facilitate member engagement and contribution in a way that is both meaningful and sustainable for a membership increasingly task rich and time poor. Development of the new strategic priorities was

greatly enriched by the contribution of members. The Board and I are grateful for the level and depth of that engagement.

I would like to acknowledge the considerable work and contribution of Lyn Alderman, Liz Smith and Dan Borg who left the Board last year; as well as Jess Dart, Dan Borg and the 2018 Conference Committee for delivering a highly innovative and successful conference in Launceston. I am highly appreciative of the 2018–2019 Board, it has been a pleasure to be part of a cohesive team where members bring a broad range of skills, knowledge, insights and commitment to the table.

Lastly, I acknowledge and thank AES Chief Executive Officer Bill Wallace and our Membership & Events Officer Michelle Wightwick, whose hard work and commitment have been integral to our success this year.

John Stoney
President

Treasurer's report

This year we did substantially better than we anticipated – we made a surplus of \$75,483. This was against a forecast loss of \$40,400 which was anticipated due to our longstanding dependency on conference income and a smaller regional conference in Launceston.

We outperformed the budget by 290% (\$115,883) due to several key factors unrelated to the conference. Firstly, our learning program was very successful with a surplus of \$137,000 against a forecast surplus of \$59,000. Income from membership continues to increase (11%) showing a year on year trend. We now have more than

1,000 members. For the first time since 2010, surplus from the workshop program has exceeded the conference, thereby meeting one of our goals to reduce reliance on the conference surplus to maintain operations. Total income has exceeded \$1 million for the first time. At the same time we underspent on strategic projects – we spent just over half our \$50,000 budget (\$27,061).

The budget surplus confirms our analysis that we have capacity to invest in the organisation in next year's budget. Clearly AES is now in a favourable financial position and it is time to invest in the future of our association.

Treasurer's report

Results against budget

- Our profit for the year was \$115,883 over budget: we made a profit of \$75,483 against a forecast loss of \$40,400.
- Non-conference income was 57% (\$193,430) higher than budget. This was due to higher revenue from professional development and membership fees.
- Income from professional learning (workshops) was 90% (\$153,949) higher than forecast.
- Income from membership fee was 24% (\$36,474) higher than budget.
- Overall, operating expenditure was 12% (\$63,263) higher than budget mainly due to unbudgeted staffing expenses and higher than forecast workshop activity.
- Just over half the strategic projects budget was spent (\$27,061 of \$50,000).
- Surplus from the Launceston conference was \$100,677 against a forecast surplus of \$113,200.

Balance sheet analysis 2019 against 2018

- Cash balance has increased 9% (\$51,135) compared to last year.
- We are holding venue (and other) deposits for 2019 and 2020 conferences on the balance sheet (\$97,000).
- Total assets have increased by 12% (\$91,746) compared to last year.
- Total liabilities have increased 4% (\$16,263) compared to last year.
- Total equity has increased 20% (\$75,483). It is currently \$449,513 (June 2019) and was \$374,030 (June 2018).

Profit and loss – position compared to last year

- Operating income increased 49%, \$532,030 (June 2019) compared to \$356,255 (June 2018), due to a large increase in income from workshops and membership fees.
- Membership income (\$186,475) remains strong, up 24% on budget and 11% on last year.
- Operating expenditure increased by 26%, currently \$557,214 (June 2019) against \$443,207 (June 2018). This was mainly due to increased workshop activity and staff expenses compared to the same period last year.
- Overall profit decreased marginally year on year, \$75,483 (June 2019) against \$78,413 (June 2018).

Key budget items

We have budgeted \$100,000 expenditure for strategic projects to enable us to invest in the new strategic plan. Priorities for spending will be developed in consultation with strategic committees.

Looking forward

With a conference in Sydney this year, we are budgeting for a conference profit of \$133,100. Due to five continual years of surplus we have sufficient reserves to invest \$100,000 into our strategic goals – this is particularly important given we have a new strategic plan. Due to our pattern of not fully spending the strategic project budget in the last two years, this year we are taking a new approach and have contingencies in place to ensure we do spend effectively. We are committed to effectively leveraging the savings we made in the five years of surplus to ensure a solid future for the AES.

It's time to spend!

Jess Dart, PhD
Treasurer

The year's highlights

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

This year's AES International Evaluation Conference was held in one of Australia's oldest cities, Launceston, with its elegant colonial and Victorian architecture and century-old parks. The conference theme 'Transformations' asked the question: 'Our world is transforming at a dizzying rate – what does this mean for evaluation and, by extension, evaluators?'

Delegates arrived early with a record number of participants attending pre-conference workshops, as well as enjoying walks to the stunning Cataract Gorge. On the first night we were welcomed with cocktails, jazz and visual effects in the historic Penny Royal – as well as being well prepared with umbrellas in our conference bags!

On the first conference day we were given a warm Welcome to Country by Aunty Nola Hopper, a proud Tasmanian Aboriginal woman. Her Welcome set the scene for delegates to continue to acknowledge the traditional custodians and to pay respect to their elders throughout the conference program, as well as exploring how evaluation can be rooted in culture and done in ways that ensure cultural safety and respect.

Kate McKegg and Michael Quinn Patton's joint presentation set the tone and challenged us as an evaluation community to contribute to global 'blue marble' transformation. Michael spoke of interocular significance saying measuring transformation is not hard as 'it hits you between the eyes' like the caterpillar changing to a butterfly. However, the challenge lies in creating the transformation. Penny Hagen's keynote offered a reprieve for how we might make transformations at a local level. Penny spoke about the need to think and work differently to achieve transformative outcomes. She focused on place-based responses drawing on Indigenous knowledge and expertise and using design thinking to shift from programs to platforms. Penny challenged us share power, allow for failure, learning, and adaptation, and be committed for the long-term. Karol Olejniczak blew our minds with 'serious games' to find inspiration for addressing some of the key challenges of our

evaluation practice. Live in plenary we used real-time survey to explore the concepts of serious games. And, of course, as with all games, there was the opportunity to win prizes.

Sharon Gollan and Kathleen Stacey led the Friday keynote compelling us to see cultural safety as a vital lens through which any evaluator should approach their role in evaluating programs designed for, or inclusive of, Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Australians. This requires us as evaluators to think deeply and critically about power, inclusion and the relationship between them.

At the gala awards dinner in the historic Albert Hall our Vice President and First Nations Elder, Doyan Radcliff launched the AES Reflect Reconciliation Plan. Never did it seem more fitting, amidst the stunning beauty of Tasmania with its shocking colonial past. This is an important first step for the AES to support a process of healing.

The occasion also marked the announcement of the winners of the 2018 Awards for Excellence in Evaluation and the acceptance by Gill Westhorpe to become an AES Fellow. All this was followed by dancing to top hits from the 80s and beyond, accompanied by the great Tasmanian band Agent 99.

The Launceston conference challenged us with notions of transformation. The corridors of the Hotel Grand Chancellor were abuzz with ideas about how we can transform our practice to make a difference on a global scale, harness the power of co-design on a local level, take up the opportunities presented by gaming, and ensure cultural safety and respect. We also did a few things differently, with a round tables in the plenary, most significant cartoon reflection and lots of interactive sessions. The evaluation of the conference found it hit the mark, with 97% of respondents finding the conference to be valuable. Reflecting upon leaving the conference, 82% felt professionally satisfied and 74% felt inspired. (Thanks to Emily Mackay and Penny Smallwood for this year's evaluation.)

The year's highlights

Evaluation of aes18

Emily Mackay, a capstone student at the Centre for Program Evaluation, University of Melbourne led the evaluation of aes18 with Penny Smallwood. Our sincere thanks are extended to Emily and Penny for their sterling effort in providing insights into the outcomes of the conference, as well as areas for improvement.

We ended with the great debate, the topic this year was 'Evaluation as a profession will be replaced by artificial intelligence and we should all be looking for new jobs'. It was a close call, but the side on the negative won the day (phew!).

Conference sponsors

The generous support of our 2018 sponsors is acknowledged, including:

Gold sponsors

Australian Department of Social Services
Clear Horizon Consulting
ARTD Consultants
ACIL Allen Consulting
Urbis

Silver sponsors

Grosvenor Performance Group
MEERQAT Pty Ltd



Above
AES conference wisdom owl



Left
Recipients of the 2018
Indigenous conference
support grants

The year's highlights

AES AWARDS FOR EXCELLENCE IN EVALUATION

The AES Awards for Excellence in Evaluation are awarded annually and are designed to encourage and recognise outstanding contributions to the theory and practice of evaluation.

The 2018 awards were announced and celebrated on the evening of 19 September 2018 at the gala awards dinner, held in conjunction with the AES 2018 International Evaluation Conference in Launceston.

2018–2019 Awards and Recognition Working Group members

April Bennett
Dana Cross
Rick Cummings
Wei Leng Kwok (Co-chair)
David McDonald
Ian Patrick (Co-chair)
Mathea Roorda
Carol Vale (from mid 2018)

2018 AES Awards for Excellence in Evaluation



Jess Dart, recipient of the 2018 Outstanding Contribution to Evaluation Award

Outstanding Contribution to Evaluation Award

Dr Jess Dart

Evaluation Study or Project Award

Queensland Government Office of the Commonwealth Games, Department of Innovation, Tourism Industry Development, and the Commonwealth Games; and the evaluation team of Mark Douglas, Robert Grimshaw, Nicolette Pavlovski, Sean Conway, Kelly Reynolds, Joanne Ryan and Meghan Purcell – for the Evaluation and Monitoring Framework for the Embracing 2018 Legacy Program

Indigenous Evaluation Award

Gill Potaka-Osborne and Lynley Cvitanovic of Whakauae Research for Māori Health and Development; Maaki Tuatini and Roberta Williams of Te Oranganui Trust; and Raetihi Pah – for the Te Puawai O Te Ahi Kaa Evaluation

The year's highlights

EVALUATION JOURNAL OF AUSTRALASIA (EJA)

The *Evaluation Journal of Australasia* continues to develop as the flagship of the AES and to help achieve our aim to advance the theory and practice of evaluation. The journal has published six issues with SAGE Publishing to date. During the previous calendar year (2018), the total number of PDF and HTML downloads from the journal platform was 9,924 (accessed 6 August 2019 at <https://journals.sagepub.com/metrics/evj>).

With an increase in diversity of both authors and audience the journal continues to be a repository to exchange ideas, information, resources, policy and practices. The availability of SAGE Almetrics is invaluable for mapping future development. Growing social media, Twitter and Almetric profiles expand the *EJA* profile. For example, an article tweeted in Issue 18.1 reached nearly 55,000 followers. Since shifting to SAGE, by October 2018 a total of 7,986 unique visitors had accessed the journal's website with readers from 153 countries.

In our goal to support 'new to publishing' evaluation professionals, the editorial team have adopted a supportive mentoring approach. This approach influences the resources that have been developed to assist both authors and peer reviewers to build capacity and better understand the writing and review processes. This approach is reflected in the journal's high acceptance rate (83% at October 2018). Authors often acknowledge the benefits of this approach in their feedback on final submission.

A key achievement since moving to SAGE is the forthcoming Values special issue. The enthusiasm surrounding this special issue on Values has attracted strong international and Australian interest resulting in two forthcoming issues for the *EJA* (19.4 and 20.1). This success augurs well for other AES Special Interest Groups to further share and build knowledge development.

Another key development relates to applying for a journal index ranking and this development dovetails from the *EJA*'s inclusion into Scopus (3 July 2018). The Emerging Sources Citation Index

(ESCI) is a citation index produced since 2015 by Thomson Reuters, and now by Clarivate Analytics. When the *EJA* is indexed in the ESCI it will be discoverable via the Web of Science with an identical indexing process to any other indexed journal, with full citation counts and author information.

Looking ahead

Tightening publishing processes, capacity building and developing resources will be key goals for the editorial team. This includes further development of the *EJA* toolkit (resources) such as production mapping, annual calendar, templates for regular AES communications, a communication strategy, and TOR for Advisory Board.

The 2019/20 calendar will coordinate SAGE timelines and processes, AES head office governance, and editorial responsibilities. The editorial team will continue to work in a collaborative model with a rotational lead editor role for each issue. Each editor will focus on specific key area/s, e.g. communications, quality improvement, features. A key goal is to promote the journal more strategically within the AES membership. A communication strategy will include quarterly call for papers, biannual call for reviewers and Ros Hurworth Prize promotion via a range of social media platforms.

ScholarOne system communications templates will be re-developed (i.e. auto responses, call for abstracts, peer reviewers). To further enhance the quality of the journal reviewer guidelines and guidelines for authors will be developed and refined. We will also focus on new referencing standards and strategies to increase journal citations. Editors will also engage with mentoring from SAGE focussing on strategy, international best practice guidance and editorial goal setting.

Editors

Dr Liz Gould (2016–present)

Dr Carol Quadrelli (2016–present)

Dr Bronwyn Rossingh (2016–present)

Strategy and committees

The AES strategic priorities from July 2016 to June 2019 include five strategic objectives: cultural capacity; influence; relevance; professionalisation; and organisational stability. To support the strategy the AES has five committees: Cultural Capacity and Diversity; Finance and Audit; Learning and Professional Practice; Advocacy and Alliances; and Member Services and Engagement.

CULTURAL CAPACITY

Strengthen and build Indigenous and non-Indigenous capacity in culturally safe evaluation theory, practice and use

The Cultural Capacity and Diversity Committee has maintained its energy and momentum to further commit to strengthening and building Indigenous and non-Indigenous capacity in culturally safe evaluation theory, practice and use.

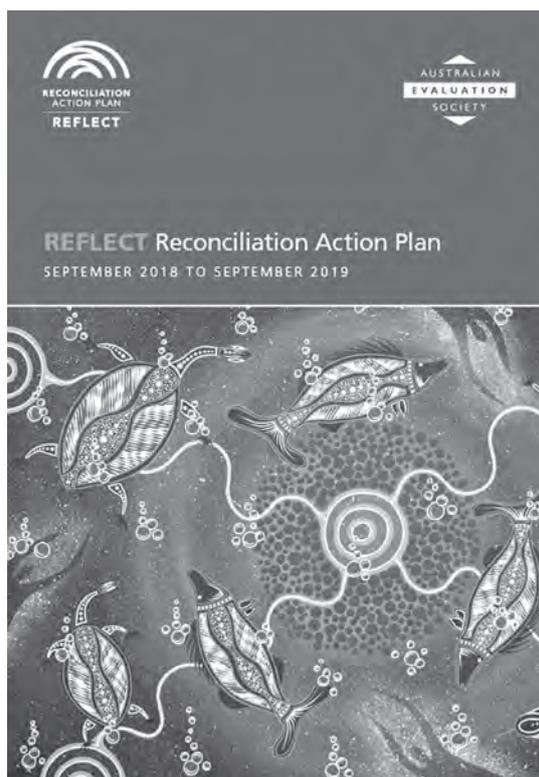
We also acknowledge that to achieve our goals, the pathway we travel will take time to build up the foundations so we can grow more Indigenous evaluators and increase the interest in evaluation in our communities.

As one of the working groups, we continued to work closely with the AES Board and its members to achieve our strategic priorities for the last twelve months.

The Respect Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) was drafted and sent to Reconciliation Australia for feedback. This was nerve-racking while time passed and the conference was approaching. Luckily feedback was received, a few tweaks to the plan and it was confirmed that we could go ahead. Thank you very much Doyen for your leadership in this project.

The artwork for the RAP was supplied by The Torch in Melbourne. They provide support to Indigenous offenders and ex-offenders in Victoria through art, cultural and arts vocational programs. We would also like to acknowledge Kevin Dolman who developed a term of reference for the commissioning process.

Prior to the 2018 AES International Evaluation Conference held in Launceston, Tasmania, a two day workshop called 'Cultural respect and safety, engaging respectfully with Aboriginal Australians' was facilitated by Kathleen Stacey and Sharon Gollan. This will continue for new Board members and regional member network committees.



The AES received 20 applications for the Conference Support Grants for Emerging Indigenous Evaluators to attend the 2018 annual conference in Launceston. The Assessing Committee was able to support twelve Indigenous participants to attend the conference: eight Indigenous Australians, two Māori and two from Papua New Guinea.

From Australia:

Tammy Abbott, Lisa Warner, Emma Walke, Lila Charmaine Busch, Liz Wren, Nicole Tujague, Kim Robertson, Carol Manfong

From New Zealand:

Dinah Min Vette, Kahiwa Sebina

From Papua New Guinea:

Doreen Mandari, Junior Muke

Strategy and committees

From 7–9 February 2019, John Stoney, Kiri Parata and Sharon Clarke had an opportunity to attend the Mā Te Rae, Indigenous Peoples Conference on Evaluation which was held at Te Papaiouru Marae, Ohinemutu, Rotorua, Aotearoa (New Zealand). This conference was attended by Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples from around the world. From the beginning to the end cultural protocols were followed and the Elders were the nucleus of the conference by sharing stories and giving feedback on the conference proceedings every day. Their presence and wisdom was electrifying.

All of the presenters and papers were exceptional to listen to and hear what was being said – there were plenty of thought provoking ideas.

This also gave everyone the opportunity to network with fellow evaluators from around the world, including members of EvalIndigenous – a network of Indigenous evaluators from around the world.

The hospitality, friendship and entertainment given to us will never be forgotten.

We would like to acknowledge and thank Carol Vale and Tofa Ramanial for volunteering to be part of the Cultural Capacity and Diversity Committee in 2018. Their expertise and experience in evaluation was greatly appreciated. Unfortunately due to work commitments, they were only able to stay with us for a short time.

Thank you to all of the Cultural Capacity and Diversity Committee for their continued commitment to achieve our goals in evaluation.

We would like to thank the AES Board and its members for their continued support and inclusiveness.

Committee members

Sharon Clarke

Kevin Dolman

Kiri Parata

Doyen Radcliffe

Tofa Ramanlal (until December)

Carol Vale (until December)

INFLUENCE

Promote the use of evaluation and evaluative thinking by agencies and organisations

This year was effectively bookended by two separate submissions to the Independent Review of the Australian Public Service, both of which were developed by the Advocacy and Alliance Committee (AAC) Government Engagement Working Group (GEWG). In between, the AAC undertook a consultation session with members at the Launceston Conference and contributed to the development of the 2019–2022 strategic priorities.

The APS Review Panel membership was tasked with setting out an ambitious transformation program and to guide and drive future public sector reforms. The AES responded to a call for public submissions in July 2018, calling for investments in better systems; increased levels of evidentiary (research, evaluation, data) and performance literacy amongst APS staff; institutional infrastructure; and encouraging a culture of performance management.

The release of the review's 'Priorities for change' and associated documentation in March 2019 confirmed the review was seriously considering the role and contribution of evaluation in a reformed APS. A second AES submission in June 2019 provided a number of practical options for how key priorities could be achieved. These included:

- senior leadership enabling an authorising environment for performance (including evaluation)
- institutionalising evaluation through introducing a whole of Australian Government centralised function operating collaboratively with centralised evaluation functions within individual departments
- pursuing the concept of introducing an APS Academy to build public sector capability
- leveraging existing research/work in the evaluation sector (and others) about professional competencies to inform the development of a professions model; and

Strategy and committees

→ developing capability and capacity around culturally safe and appropriate policy, design and performance (including evaluation) practices.

This submission was informed by over 25 contributors. In addition to the GEWG membership (drawn from AAC, Canberra region and AES fellow members) it benefited from informal meetings and consultations with a group of internal APS evaluation practitioners and some senior APS officers, input from academics and advice from the Cultural Capacity and Diversity Committee, for which the AAC is most grateful.

Looking ahead, the AAC will first contribute to the finalisation of the 2019–2022 strategic priorities and its associated operational plan for 2019–2020. Key priorities are expected to be ongoing engagement with AES members to understand their issues and needs, ongoing engagement and development of relationships with key stakeholders and seeking to advocate where appropriate on issues relevant to members and the sector. The latter will include monitoring the release of the final report from the APS review and engaging in any Australian Government response.

Committee members

Luke Condon
Penelope Cooke
Alexandra Ellinson (Secretary)
Tracie-Lee Little
Diane McDonald
Margaret MacDonald
Tim Renwick
Duncan Rintoul
David Roberts
John Stoney (Chair)
Helen Watts

RELEVANCE

Strengthen the value proposition of AES membership

The past year was one of transitions for the relevance domain. Board members, Liz Smith and Dan Borg, stepped down from their role of jointly leading the domain, and were replaced by incoming Board member Susan Garner. Susan and the Membership Services & Engagement (MSE) Committee contributed to the development of the new AES strategy.

During the year, working groups continued to work on developing webinar, mentoring and blog programs. At the 2018 annual conference, the Webinar Working Group shared their learnings and activities and sought member feedback on the value of a suggested webinar tool. The Mentoring Working Group identified two possible mentoring models and proposed piloting a less formal facilitated online group mentoring model. The work of the Webinar and Mentoring Working Groups was placed on hold whilst the Board consulted with members to gauge priorities.

The Blog Working Group published the first AES blog early in August 2018. Since then almost 20 blogs written by members have been published on a range of topics. A highlight has been the 'Meet the fellows' series of blogs featuring interviews conducted by Anthea Rutter. A range of blogs will be published during the next year.

We thank Liz Smith and Dan Borg for their hard work and expertise leading the MSE during the past couple of years. We look forward to building on their hard work as the relevance domain transforms itself into organisational vitality!

Committee members

Eve Barboza
Dan Borg (Co-chair until November 2018)
Sheryl Boniface
Joanna Farmer
Susan Garner (Chair from March 2019)
Matt Healey
Jade Maloney
Lesley Petersen
Kahiwa Sebire
Kara Scally-Irvine
Liz Smith (Co-chair until September 2018)
Eunice Sotelo

Strategy and committees

PROFESSIONALISATION

Strengthen the capacity and professionalism of the evaluation sector

In March 2018 the AES Board responded to the Pathways to Advance Professionalisation report (the Pathways report) which it commissioned to explore options for strengthening the professionalism of the evaluation sector. The Board endorsed the report's recommendation to better focus our existing activities and build on in considering moving toward a system of voluntary credentialing. The Board also noted the need to consult with members on key professionalisation priorities.

The Learning and Professional Practice Committee (LPP) led two consultation forums at the 2018 AES International Evaluation Conference, gathering input from 25–30 participants at each on key topics of standards, competencies and credentialing. This showed that:

- Around 70% of participants were aware of the Pathways report, but only a quarter were aware of its findings.
- Around 70% of participants were aware of the AES Professional Learning Competency Framework, and members suggested it could be made more useful in practice, for example by using assessment guides.
- There were generally low levels of knowledge and/or use of evaluation standards.
- Between 30%–40% of participants wanted to move toward a system of voluntary credentialing as soon as possible, and similar proportions supported this direction but did not see it as urgent.
- Participants were keen to be involved in further discussion around professionalisation through surveys, regional meetings, webinars or conferences.

Following the conference, the LPP recommend the AES prioritise further development of the competency framework as a foundational resource underpinning further steps toward professionalisation, e.g. as the basis for self and peer assessment and to guide professional pathways and journeys. The Board approved strategic funds to commence a research project involving researchers and members to develop the AES competency framework in an evidence-based way. The project aligns to work within the Centre for Program Evaluation and internationally on the development of evaluation competencies. The project is underway and the LPP will report to members on progress at the 2019 AES International Evaluation Conference in Sydney.

The LPP also outlined other potential priorities which it sought members' feedback on through the recent strategic planning process. This has provided a clear direction for us to work toward over the coming year, including developing and trialing a mentoring scheme.

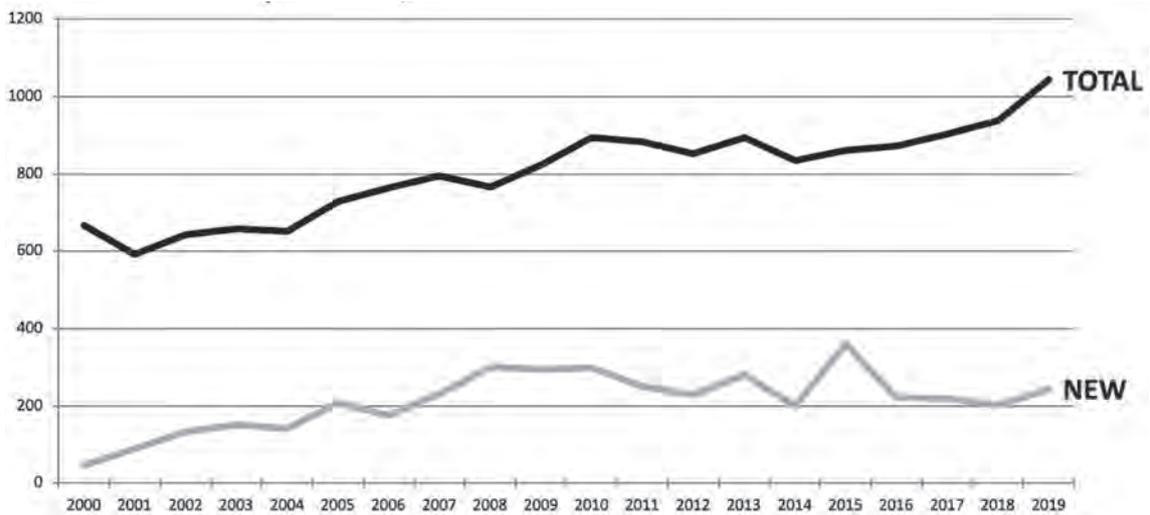
Committee members

Amy Gullickson
Sue Leahy (Chair)
Delyth Lloyd
David Roberts
David Turner

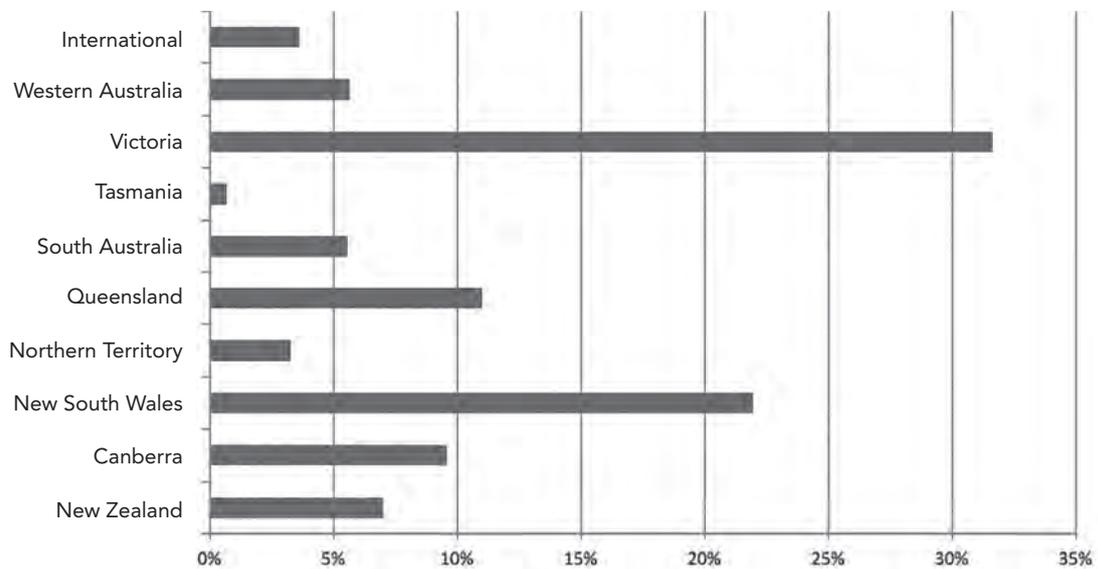
Member networks

MEMBERSHIP TRENDS

AES membership numbers, 2000–2019



Membership by region, 30 June 2019



Member networks

REGIONAL NETWORKS

Aotearoa New Zealand

The New Zealand network's activities this past year focused on two key areas. Continuing to provide a program of free seminars, including three held jointly with ANZEA, as well as working with our new AES President John Stoney to kick-off his term with some excellent trans-Tasman engagement, with future focused discussions on New Zealand based AES members and what represents value to us. A real highlight this past year was the Christmas presentation from past AES President Penny Hawkins. Hosted jointly with ANZEA Penny shared her insights about evaluation in a 'disunited' Kingdom, reflecting on her three-year stint as Head of Evaluation at the UK Department for International Development. She suggested that those in our part of the world are often leading practice in the field, but we don't always recognise the value we bring the discipline globally. She encouraged us to more proactively recognise and seek out the value our antipodean world view brings to the profession of evaluation.

This year we welcomed one new member, Maria Nissanka, but also said goodbye to two others who resigned after long service to the committee – Sally Faisander and Mathea Roorda – who will be known to many! Very sadly, we also said goodbye to Jenny Neale, AES Fellow, ex AES President, and long serving committee member who passed away suddenly in June. Her loss has been felt greatly in the New Zealand and Australian evaluation community.

Looking ahead, we hope to expand our committee to ensure we are sustainable and have fresh ideas and energy to plan and continue to contribute in a broader sense in helping the AES identify and deliver value to its geographically dispersed members. The committee will be planning a calendar of events, and is keen to learn more about some of the formats tested at the 2019 annual conference 'Evaluation un-boxed' to see what we could bring across to our members.

Committee members

April Bennett
Sally Faisander
Jenny Neale
Maria Nissanka
Elizabeth Poppelwell
Jacqualine Rean
Mathea Roorda
Kara Scally-Irvine (Convenor)
Sunita Singh
Liz Smith
David Turner

Vale Jenny Neale



Jenny Neale, AES Fellow, ex AES President, and long serving Aotearoa New Zealand committee member passed away suddenly in June

Member networks

Canberra

During 2018–2019, the Canberra Committee sought opportunities to influence the performance culture of the Australian Public Service (APS), and continued to host a warm and engaging community of practice.

In 2018–2019, members of the Canberra Committee took a lead role in drafting the two AES submissions to the Independent Inquiry into the APS. The AES welcomed the review panel's positive response to the first AES submission. The AES took up the review panel's invitation to submit a supplementary submission addressing issues raised by the panel. Both submissions are available online. Canberra region members also met with senior officials to discuss issues further.

In November 2018, the Canberra Committee partnered with the APS Evaluation Community of Practice to host a facilitated session on developing the performance culture of governments. This fast paced, highly engaged session was attended by over 30 participants from a wide variety of agencies. Participants critically engaged with the arguments in Morton and Cook's prize-winning article, 'Evaluators and the enhanced Commonwealth Performance and Framework'. The majority of participants were not aware of the paper prior to attending the workshop. An immediate outcome of the activity was raising awareness of the Commonwealth Department of Finance's vision that the Australian evaluation community has a significant role to play in improving the culture of performance in the Australian Government.

The Canberra Committee organised six fee-paying workshops over the twelve-month period:

- 'Using policy logic conversations to build policy, program and evaluation capability' (July 2018)
- 'An introduction to qualitative research methods' (November 2018)
- 'Introduction to evaluation' (November 2018)
- 'Performance story reporting' (February 2019)
- 'A gentle introduction to statistics' (March 2019)

- 'Designing and implementing a monitoring and evaluation system' (April 2019)

A highlight was the four day intensive workshop 'Designing and implementing a monitoring evaluation system' facilitated by Anne Markiewicz and Ian Patrick. Participants were highly engaged and the training was enriched by the variety of perspectives offered by First Nations and non-Indigenous peoples, and by the variety of experience offered by people working in government, non-government organisations and the university sector. Some participants travelled from Papua New Guinea, Vanuatu, New Zealand and the Northern Territory to engage in the training.

Another highlight was the way AES members who had pursued graduate studies in evaluation generously shared their expertise by conducting free lunch time 'brown bag' seminars. The Canberra Committee thanks Fiona Kotvojs for sharing her insights on evaluating capacity development (July 2018) and Graham Smith for sharing his insights about improving performance information (May 2019).

Looking ahead, the Canberra Committee will continue to seek out opportunities to improve the culture of performance in the APS through advocacy and capacity building activities. Building on the welcoming culture of the Canberra region, the committee is trialling new formats to engage and support members. The committee is hosting a cosy networking event in July, and is trialling an evening reading and dinner club, tentatively entitled 'Reading Eleanor Chelimsky at the Polish Club'.

Committee members

Frances Byers (Convenor)
Gina De Pretto
Julie Elliot
Susan Garner (previous Co-convenor)
Kim Grey
Trisha Grey
Lakshman Gunaratnam
Stephen Horn
Tanya Porter
Adam Rowland
John Stoney
Roberta Thorne

Member networks

New South Wales (NSW)

The year's achievements include the committee hitting its second-year stride with the fresh make-up of the group continuing to bring new ideas and ways of working. This is especially evident in our approach to delivering a free events program that facilitates the AES professionalisation and relevance priorities. Our contribution is in our content, which has brought emerging topics such as 'evaluation and machine learning' and 'outcomes budgeting' to our members. Through our commitment to make all our sessions interactive, people have a chance to ask questions, share learning and debate ideas.

This year also marked the introduction of live, digital evaluation of our free events using Mentimeter. We have asked the same set of questions each time. Our results show that over the six events for the year, the majority of respondents found the sessions engaging, pitched just right and of benefit overall.

We believe this free program has also contributed to the AES influence and organisational stability priorities, for example by:

- Building external relationships with NSW AES – in partnership with the NSW NGO research forum and its members we delivered the free event 'Evaluation on a shoestring' doubling our reach and participation on the day.
- Sharing seminar content beyond those who attend face-to-face by using a range of blogs and forums.
- Creating opportunities for NSW people to connect to the AES – our 'unconference' event ahead of the 2019 AES International Evaluation Conference connected participants to the conference through a forum for people to discuss what's important to support the ongoing relevance of evaluation.

A key action has been to strengthen our support of the AES cultural capacity priority. Under the AES Reconciliation Action Plan pillars of respect, relationships, opportunities and governance we aim to ensure that the acknowledgement of country is a meaningful start to events. However, we are aiming to do more. Looking ahead, we will commit to including an event(s) on Indigenous evaluation issues, developed with Indigenous collaboration.

Overall, we believe that during 2018–2019 NSW has strengthened the relevance and value proposition that we offer to members and potential members.

On a final note, we have continued to enjoy access to the Australian Human Rights Commission's venue for committee events and business and would like to thank them for another year of support.

Committee members

George Argyrous
Ben Barnes
Jen Davis (Convenor)
Florent Gomez
Linda Klien
Greg Masters
Jade Maloney
Ruth McCausland
Sarah Meikle
Bryony Mika
Kath Vaughn
Keren Winterford

Member networks

Northern Territory (NT)

The NT's Sunset Seminar Series was a popular feature on our program throughout the year. These events provided an opportunity for skills development in a relaxed and accessible setting and were also very conducive to networking. New members made connections with the branch while hearing about how to develop interpersonal skills for evaluation and foster evaluation literacy with Alison Rogers, by sharing what was learnt at the 2018 AES International Evaluation Conference and while discussing the results of a survey of NT AES members about their professional development needs.

The branch also provided a series of interactive one-hour sessions on evaluation to local organisations. The NT Nutrition and Physical Activity Unit and the Health Promotion department invited the AES to provide introductory sessions on how evaluation could be incorporated within their programs and how the building of evaluation capacity could be supported. Over 60 people attended and the convenors of the AES used this opportunity to promote the association, upcoming networking events and the annual conference.

Our mutually beneficial partnership with the Menzies School of Health continued throughout the year. Cross-promoting events, sharing resources and expertise and exchanging logistical support meant the partnership continued to offer benefits for both organisations. Menzies played a key role in supporting Darwin's workshop on 'Value for money and rubrics', presented by Julian King and Kate McKegg. The one-day AES workshop formed part of the planning and implementation of a Menzies project and therefore contributed to building the evaluation capacity of the NT beyond just the workshop.

Value for money and rubrics was a strong theme in this year's professional development program. The workshop was facilitated by Nea Harrison who also presented a seminar titled 'An evaluative approach to assessing value for money'. The interactive session guided participants through the process of setting criteria and standards to guide program evaluation and value for money

assessment. We briefly looked at how rubrics have been used for evaluating complex social programs, and how they can be used with or without economic approaches to assess value for money. We then worked through the process of developing a rubric.

Another highlight was a seminar presented by Gillian Gorham titled 'Evaluating the cost of dialysis services'. This seminar considered 'place' in the cost-effective delivery of dialysis services in the NT and shared the results of an investigation into the financial impact of proximity to treatment facilities and cost-effective models for people from remote areas. There was an opportunity to discuss the methodology used and the applicability for other cost-effective evaluations. As a result of this seminar and the promotion of the event throughout the health department's networks, Gill Gorham was invited to present the results of the evaluation directly to the NT Minister for Health.

Committee members

Nea Harrison
Alison Rogers (Co-convenor)
Cat Street (Co-convenor)

Queensland

The 2018–2019 financial year saw the Queensland Committee providing a multitude of educational and networking opportunities for members and non-members. The committee provided nine free lunchtime seminars, which were attended by 255 participants. Presenters included Carol Vale (Murawin), Buthaina Haroon Al Kindi (QUT), Dr Lyn Alderman (The Evaluators Collective), Kate E Williams and Donna Berthelsen (QUT), Robert Grimshaw (QLD Government), Dr Lewê Atkinson (Haines Centre for Strategic Management), Dr Rebecca Duell (YMCA), Sarah Stamp (QLD Family and Child Commission) and Natasha Doherty (Deloitte Access Economics).

In addition to our popular seminars, the committee, supported by our national office, co-hosted the AES/AMSRS Joint Symposium on 8 November 2018, titled 'Engage, empathise and empower! Using behavioural insights to understand the decision maker'. The symposium was attended by

Member networks

over 80 delegates with the venue kindly donated by Griffith University Southbank Campus.

In 2018–2019 the Queensland Committee promoted and hosted three well received specialist workshops organised by the AES national office. These included: 'Facilitation skills for evaluators' (25 February 2019) by Dr Lewis Atkinson; 'Practical evaluation capacity building (18 March 2019) by Vanessa Hood and Duncan Rintoul, Rooftop Social; and 'Designing and implementing a monitoring and evaluation system' (13–16 May 2019) by Anne Markiewicz and Ian Patrick.

The editors of our bi-monthly Queensland newsletter circulated newsletters to approximately 120 members and 400 non-members. The committee also hosted an Evaluation Interest Facebook group, periodic Conversation Group meetings and contributed to a Slack Community of Practice targeting solo evaluators and internal evaluators working for NGOs.

The Queensland Regional Network Committee has responded with enthusiasm to hosting the 2020 AES International Evaluation Conference in Brisbane. The conference committee is made up of seven regional committee members with two new members joining the conference committee to provide additional academic and cultural advice. An EOI for new committee members was recently circulated with assistance from the national office and through local events. We are anticipating approximately five new people to join the regional committee at our next committee meeting (31 July 2019) to help support our ongoing education program and networking events through to the end of 2020.

The AMSRS–AES Symposium 2019 will take place on 27 November 2019 at the Ship Inn, Griffith University Southbank with the theme 'Social isolation – repurposing for profit'. Additionally, we anticipate scheduling one to two workshops to take us through to the end of 2019.

In recognition of the efforts required to ensure the 2020 AES International Evaluation Conference in Brisbane will be a success, the committee has decided to alter our usual annual schedule of events in 2020. We propose reducing the number of lunchtime seminars from ten to five and to postpone the annual AES–AMSRS Joint Symposium in 2020.

In addition to preparing for and hosting the annual conference, a focus for the Queensland Committee in 2019–2020 is to stretch our activities beyond Brisbane. Whilst we currently make seminar slides available to those who register and audio record seminars hoping to have these uploaded onto the AES website, our regional Queensland members are missing out. With support from the national office and the Board, AES Queensland would like to investigate better ways to engage our regional members. One strategy we would like to explore is to live link or video record our free seminars.

Committee members

Buthaina Al Kindi
Lewê Atkinson
Nancy Bamaga
Kylie Brosnan
Natasha Doherty
Rebecca Duell
Jo Durham
Robert Grimshaw
Cherie Lamb
Zhan Patterson
Carol Quadrelli
Maria Raciti
Sarah Renals
Brent Turner
Rhianon Vichta
Peter Weston
Pauline Zardo

Member networks

South Australia (SA)

In this financial year the South Australian Committee held six seminars and ran the first successful local workshop in several years. This strategy has contributed to an increase in our membership.

The seminar program targeted member priorities that were identified by a survey of members. This has ensured the program of events remains relevant to member needs.

The committee held a panel discussion with senior government evaluators to discuss barriers to embedding evaluation within government in usual business. There is now an evaluation committee of practice within government. This was developing prior to our panel discussion, however the discussion with government evaluators provided additional impetus to get the community of practice off the ground. Currently it includes staff from several state departments.

We have moved to digital meetings as a strategy to increase participation in committee meetings. Our meetings are now being held every six weeks instead of bi-monthly and participation has stabilized.

The planned focus for the South Australian Committee in 2019–2020 is based on feedback from members about their priorities and interests:

- a greater mix of panel sessions and individual presenters
- cultural capacity initiatives.

The remainder of the 2019 program has been designed to address the first priority, and a seminar to focus on cultural capacity has been organised for the first six months of 2020.

Committee members

John Fargher
Ruth Fernandez
Michelle Jones
John Pilla
Jessica Stevens
Patricia von Baumgarten

Victoria

The key focus of the Victorian Committee is an annual program of monthly seminars and small sub-committee projects supporting the AES strategy. The committee meets bi-monthly February to October (five times per year).

The committee welcomed three new members in November. It now consists of three members from NGOs, two from state government and four consultants. Areas represented are health, Indigenous, international development and government.

During 2018–2019 we have actively touched base with all new Victorian AES members to welcome them, answer questions and encourage their attendance at the monthly seminars.

So far in 2019 six seminars have been provided, one each month since February, with a diverse set of speakers on a wide range of topics. All seminars have been well attended and seminar registrations continue to rise, with over 90 registrations for the most recent (July) seminar. Four further seminars are scheduled for 2019.

Kathryn Robb (Djirra) continues to actively progress our 'Emerging Indigenous evaluators' project, including looking at ways of creating a safe space and lowering barriers to inclusion of Indigenous evaluators in Victorian-based AES activities.

Our 'business as usual' role continues to support AES workshops delivered in Victoria, and planning and implementation of future workshops and other professional development activities.

The Victorian Committee enjoyed having the opportunity to provide feedback to the AES Reconciliation Action Plan and the new AES strategy 2019–2022.

Committee members

Hayden Collins
Anne Crawford
Kon Jew-Chung
Lee-Anne Molony (Convenor)
Ian Patrick
Stuart Raetz
Kathryn Robb
Charlie Tulloch
Eleanor Williams

Member networks

Western Australia (WA)

This year's highlight has been AES working alongside the Institute of Public Administration Australia (IPAA) to create a new Australian Evaluation Award for Best Practice in Public Sector Evaluation. This award was offered as part of the IPAA Awards 2019 (presented in June 2019) and represents the first time WA has an award to recognise excellence in evaluation. Long-time AES Committee member Professor Rick Cummings was instrumental in making this award happen, as well as the AES national team who supported the award.

One outcome of the award was there were more nominations than expected (six nominations from five different organisations) and the judges were impressed by the very high quality of the evaluations submitted. WA often sees itself as being far from the cutting edge in terms of opportunities to implement sophisticated evaluations, so this award opportunity was a nice recognition that we do have some evaluation capacity in this State to showcase. Also the award provides an opportunity for the AES to link in directly with people who are nominated for the award.

Another achievement is growing interest in the seminar series. For the last two seminars there have been enquiries from potential participants in regional WA. For one seminar we tried using Zoom video conferencing to offer regional participants the chance to join us. Unfortunately this did not go well as currently we do not have the skills or resources to use it successfully every time. We may consider making an audio recording for distribution, the committee will continue to discuss this.

John Owen was invited to deliver a workshop on 'Evaluative thinking'. This went well with 28 attendees, showing there is an appetite in WA for more gritty topics and training. We will look for more opportunities to bring expertise to WA.

Looking ahead, we are considering ways to mentor evaluation capacity in regional WA. One group of Aboriginal organisations are seeking to build their evaluation capacity so they can implement evaluations themselves; we are looking for ways to support them. Resources are not available, but it may be a project the WA Committee could consider.

Another aim discussed at committee meetings is to engage the not-for-profit sector more. We have begun to work on this by promoting the seminars through the WA Council on Social Services.

The committee is enjoying developing the seminar series which is led by Theo Nabben who is expert at pulling together the most interesting topics and people. We hope to continue with topics and panels that are interesting to AES members.

Committee members

Christina Kadmos
Heather Aquilina
Penny Cooke
Rick Cummings
Kylie Dalling
Kevin Dolman
Jess Folan
Glen Hornby
Lisette Kaleveld
Catherine Manly
Prathip Manuel
Dorothy Luck
Theo Nabben
Nolan Stephenson
David Wake

Member networks

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

Design & Evaluation Special Interest Group

Committee meetings have been difficult to schedule, yet considerable activity has occurred.

The two day event 'Design and evaluation for impact: working together to drive social innovation' held in late July in Melbourne raised a very high level of interest and may be worth repeating. Almost 100 people attended the second 'converge' day. Pre-converge workshops sold out, with over 30 participants in both Penny Hagen's and Jess Dart's workshops.

The 2019 AES International Evaluation Conference in Sydney will have design-related sessions: Dr Ingrid Burkett's keynote presentation; a conference session on big data; and an Ignite session on augmented, mixed and virtual reality in evaluation – all encouraged by the Design & Evaluation Special Interest Group.

There has been an increasing interest by members in the concepts of design and evaluation – 131 members in the LinkedIn group and 175 on the mailing list.

We intend to hold the next Design & Evaluation Special Interest Group meeting during the annual conference in September to consider possible activities for next year.

The AES Board needs to continue incorporating design elements into the offerings of AES. Clearly our members and potential new members are interested in this area of evaluation.

Group members

Jess Dart (Chair), Matt Healey (Secretary), Tom Hannon, Vanessa Hood, Katrina Middlin, Elizabeth (Liz) Smith

Realist Special Interest Group

The SIG remained quiet due to health issues of the co-convenors (both are scheduled to return to full activity in September). Nevertheless, initial consultations commenced in order to refine a plan to address members' interests.

A key issue to be resolved is the rationale and role of a regional SIG on realist evaluation, and the value it can add to resources available internationally through the RAMESES group. As initial discussions produced mixed results on this topic, a brief paper with options for member engagement will be released in August, together with a newsletter updating members on international developments and resources.

Group members

Emma Williams (Co-chair), Kevin Dolman (Co-chair)

Member networks

Emerging Evaluators for Social Justice

In 2018–2019, the Emerging Evaluators for Social Justice SIG has had two meetings, centred around the themes of justice, power and inclusion/exclusion within the broad fields of evaluation and social change.

We have been fortunate to have expert speakers, including: Yonus Dare from the Asylum Seeker Resource Centre; Skye Bullen, from Clear Horizon; and Dr Zuleika Arashiro from the Brotherhood of St Laurence to guide these conversations. They have presented provocative reflections and questions, encouraging members to have brave, robust and important conversations about their own practice, the practice of their organisations, and the practice of the evaluation sector in Australia more broadly.

It has been articulated repeatedly that surfacing our assumptions and challenging our current ways of working as evaluation professionals is welcome and overdue. The relevance of these conversations for AES members is clear. No longer are members of our community identifying as objective and removed from the work that we undertake; the human connection and the inherent and important biases that follow, have a role to play and require further exploration.

These conversations have also provided an opportunity to strengthen the individual and collective cultural capacity of the group. While Australia is a proud multicultural country, layers of exclusion and marginalisation are exacerbated by the current structures which place concentrated power in the hands of a white, educated elite. Our conversations have explored the ways in which the AES can strengthen Indigenous and non-Indigenous capacity, first by ensuring that our spaces are culturally safe and inclusive. This includes diverse representation in leadership and on panels for AES events. One of our members said:

'I hadn't realised that there were people who looked like me in evaluation until I came to this meeting. I doubted whether I would be comfortable here... whether I would have any useful experience to share... but I feel more confident knowing that other people have struggled, that they've faced the same exclusion, but they're still here'.

Our next big step is to consider how we can influence thinking by agencies, organisations and the broader AES regarding the key themes being raised by our members. We are committed to producing blogs and thought pieces and providing recommendations to the AES about how we can continue to strengthen our community.

Group members

Nikki Bartlett, Liz Bloom, Manila Chakma, Katherine Chalk, Rachel Chapin, Edgar Daly, Rebecca Duell, Paul Emerson, Zoe Enticott, Elizabeth Fomukong, Mickey Kovari, Pychimong Marma, Helen Moriaty, Christine Nunn, Georgina Roberts, Katie Ronson, Eva Sarr, Eunice Sotelo, Simon To, Emily Verstege, Nicole Waru

Member networks

AES LIFE MEMBERS AND FELLOWS

The AES Fellows are members who have made significant contributions to evaluation and the association over a number of years. Fellows have a special commitment to providing support for the development of members who are new to evaluation and will continue to assist the association in promoting evaluation knowledge and competence in the community wherever possible.

A new AES Fellow

In 2018–2019, Dr Gill Westhorp was endorsed at the AES conference in Launceston as the 19th fellow, and the first from Tasmania. Welcome Gill!



AES Fellow
Gill Westhorp

Fellows are expected to continue contributing to the AES and the development of evaluation through activities such as membership on AES committees, conducting workshops, producing and reviewing articles for the *EJA*, and mentoring early career evaluators.

In 2018–2019, fellows conducted more than ten AES professional development workshops across the country on a range of topics, including monitoring and evaluation, program logic, and evaluative thinking. In addition, several fellows presented workshops and presentations on similar topics at overseas evaluation conferences.

The Board has engaged a fellow, Anthea Rutter, to undertake projects for the AES, including assisting with the consultation process on constitutional changes related to the geographical scope of the AES and the consultation process on the new strategic directions for the AES.

With support from the Board, Anthea has also undertaken gathering short biographies of the fellows for dissemination to the membership. These biographies are appearing as 'Meet the fellows' instalments in the AES blog section of the website at regular intervals.

An unintended outcome of these interviews is a clear desire by the fellows to be more involved in the activities of the AES. As a result, a conversation has commenced between the fellows and the Board on improving the communication process and identifying activities in which the fellows can contribute to the deliberations and activities of the Board. The results of these discussions will be disseminated to the fellows after each Board meeting.

Fellows Committee

Anona Armstrong
Rick Cummings (Coordinator)
Zita Unger

Life members

Anona Armstrong
Ian Trotman

AES Fellows

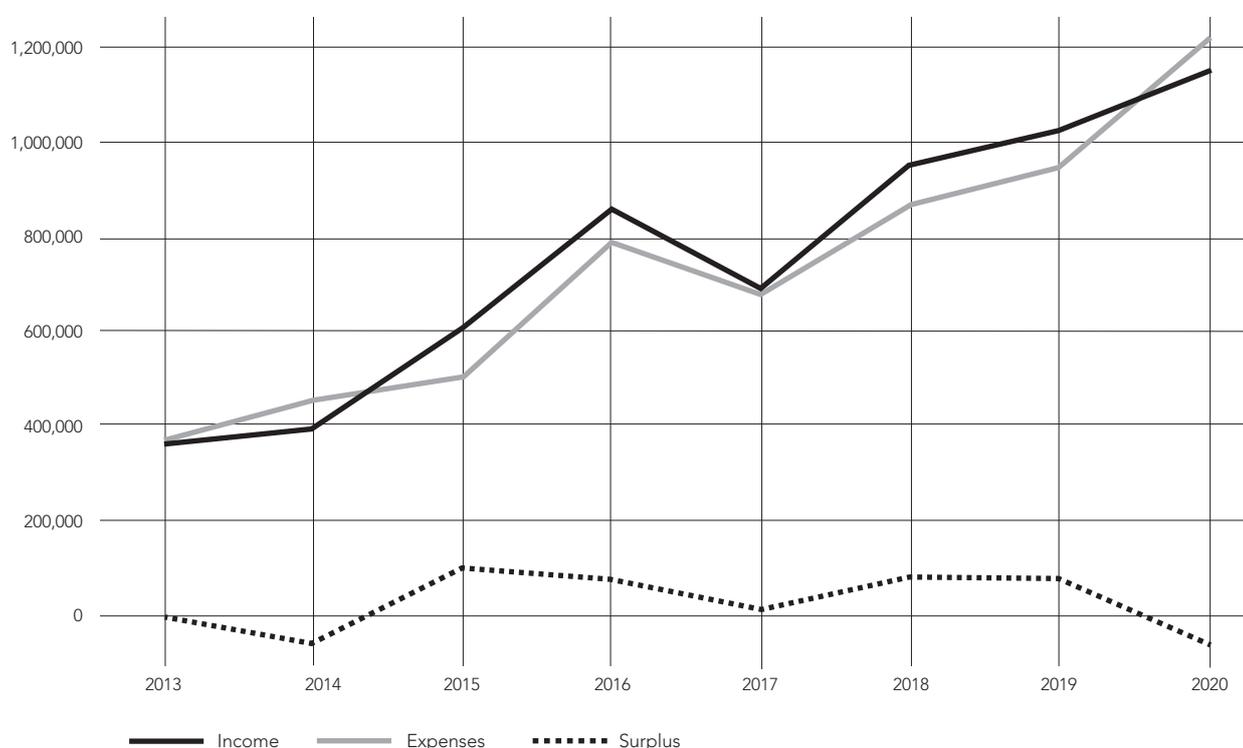
Anona Armstrong	Victoria, 2003
Scott Bayley	Aust. Capital Territory, 2016
Darrel Caulley	Victoria, 2005
Rick Cummings	Western Australia, 2013
Sue Funnell	New South Wales, 2003
Penny Hawkins	Wellington, 2009
Anne Markiewicz	Victoria, 2015
Chris Milne	New South Wales, 2003
Jenny Neale	Wellington, 2015
John Owen	Victoria, 2003
Patricia Rogers	Victoria, 2016
Anthea Rutter	Victoria, 2016
Colin Sharp	South Australia, 2003
Ralph Straton	Western Australia, 2004
Ian Trotman	Wellington, 2003
Zita Unger	Victoria, 2013
Yoland Wadsworth	Victoria, 2007
Gill Westhorp	Tasmania, 2018
Jerome Winston	Victoria, 2004

Financial reports 2018–2019

Finance summary

	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20 Budget
INCOME							
Prof development	127,208	135,284	176,447	147,498	172,780	324,542	260,000
Conference income	103,619	293,482	521,623	361,286	593,572	488,755	684,000
Memberships	121,876	144,115	143,385	156,997	167,487	186,475	180,000
Publications	14,662	22,573	16,622	17,913	14,463	20,814	23,700
Other Income	20,594	9,564	416	267	197	197	1,600
Total Income	387,959	605,018	858,493	683,961	948,499	1,020,783	1,149,300
EXPENDITURE							
Prof development	60,115	83,151	101,665	88,076	111,626	186,757	156,000
Conference/projects		192,228	413,914	309,797	426,880	388,087	550,900
Strategic projects				20,000	1,326	28,516	100,000
Memberships	2,138	2,209	2,338	1,520	2,084	3,169	16,000
Publications, inc EJA	20,026	28,591	21,320	24,040	33,120	30,734	31,000
Other expenses	32,410	4,136	1,875	924	–		
SUB-TOTAL	114,689	310,315	541,113	444,357	576,036	637,263	853,900
Admin/Governance	332,749	195,268	244,018	231,840	295,050	308,037	358,300
Total Expenditure	447,438	505,583	785,130	676,197	870,086	945,300	1,212,200
SURPLUS	–59,479	99,435	73,363	7,764	78,413	75,483	–62,900

Income, expenses and surplus 2013–2020



Financial statements

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019

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**STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019**

	Note	2019	2018
		\$	\$
Revenue		1,020,783	948,499
Depreciation and Amortisation		1,635	308
Other Expenses		943,665	869,778
Profit before Income Tax	3	75,483	78,413
Total Comprehensive Income		75,483	78,413

**INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019**

	2019	2018
	\$	\$
Revenue		
Publications Sales	20,814	14,463
Workshops Income	324,542	172,780
Conferences Income	488,755	593,572
Membership Fees	186,475	167,487
Interest Received		
– Interest Received - Bank account	197	197
	1,020,783	948,499
Expenditure		
Administration & Governance	306,402	294,742
Cost of Publications	30,734	33,120
Depreciation	1,635	308
Membership Services	3,169	2,084
Special Projects (incl Conferences and Support Grants)	416,603	428,206
Workshops	186,757	111,626
	945,300	870,086
Profit before Income Tax	75,483	78,413

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements. These financial statements have not been subject to audit or review and should be read in conjunction with the attached Compilation Report.

**ASSETS AND LIABILITIES STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019**

	Note	2019	2018
		\$	\$
Current Assets			
Cash and Cash Equivalents		612,846	561,711
Trade and Other Receivables		35,760	65,282
Other Current Assets		175,914	111,842
Total Current Assets		824,520	738,835
Non-Current Assets			
Property, Plant and Equipment	7	6,215	154
Intangible Assets	8	11,560	11,560
Total Non-Current Assets		17,775	11,714
TOTAL ASSETS		842,295	750,549
Current Liabilities			
Trade and Other Payables	9	98,343	60,237
Provisions	10	19,805	7,623
Prepaid Income		274,634	308,659
Total Current Liabilities		392,782	376,519
TOTAL LIABILITIES		392,782	376,519
NET ASSETS		449,513	374,030
Equity			
Retained Profits		449,513	374,030
TOTAL EQUITY		449,513	374,030

**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019**

	2019	2018
	\$	\$
Retained Earnings		
Balance at 1 July 2018	374,030	295,617
Profit Attributable to Members	75,483	78,413
Balance at 30 June 2019	449,513	374,030

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements. These financial statements have not been subject to audit or review and should be read in conjunction with the attached Compilation Report.

**STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019**

	Note	2019	2018
		\$	\$
Cash Flow from Operating Activities			
Receipts from Customers		986,629	866,689
Payments to Suppliers and Employees		(935,691)	(899,175)
Interest Received		197	197
Net Cash Outflow from Operating Activities	6	51,135	(32,289)
Net Decrease in Cash Held		51,135	(32,289)
Cash and Cash Equivalents as at 1 July 2018		561,711	594,000
Cash and Cash Equivalent as at 30 June 2019		612,846	561,711

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019**

The financial statements cover Australian Evaluation Society Limited as an individual entity. Australian Evaluation Society Limited is incorporated under *Corporations Act 2001* and report under *Australian Charities and not for profits Commission Act 2012* ('the Act').

Comparatives are consistent with prior years, unless otherwise stated.

1. Basis of Preparation

In the opinion of the Board of directors, the Association is not a reporting entity since there are unlikely to exist users of the financial report who are not able to command the preparation of reports tailored so as to satisfy specifically all of their information needs. These special purpose financial statements have been prepared to meet the reporting requirements of the Act.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the recognition and measurement requirements of the Australian Accounting Standards and Accounting Interpretations, and the disclosure requirements of AASB 101 Presentation of Financial Statements, AASB 107 Statement of Cash Flows, AASB 108 Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors and AASB 1054 Australian Additional Disclosures.

The financial statements have been prepared on an accruals basis and are based on historical costs modified, where applicable, by the measurement

at fair value of selected non-current assets, financial assets and financial liabilities.

Significant accounting policies adopted in the preparation of these financial statements are presented below and are consistent with prior reporting periods unless otherwise stated.

2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

(a) Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprises cash on hand, demand deposits and short term investments which are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and which are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

(b) Provisions

Provisions are recognised when the association has a legal or constructive obligation, as a result of past events, for which it is probable that an outflow of economic benefits will result and that outflow can be reliably measured.

(c) Employee Benefits

Provision is made for the association's liability for employee benefits arising from services rendered by employees to the end of the reporting period. Employee benefits that are expected to be wholly settled within one year have been measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liability is settled.

(d) Property, Plant and Equipment

Each class of property, plant and equipment is carried at cost or fair value less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation and impairment of losses.

Property, plant and equipment, excluding freehold land, is depreciated on a straight line basis over the assets useful life to the Association, commencing when the asset is ready for use.

The Depreciation rates used for each class of depreciable assets are:

Office Equipment	66.60 %
Website Costs	33.30 %
Art Paintings	5.00%

(e) Income Tax

The Association is exempt from income tax under Division 50 of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997.

(f) Revenue and Other Income

Revenue is recognised when the amount of the revenue can be measured reliably, it is probable that economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the Association and specific criteria relating to the type of revenue as noted below, has been satisfied.

Sale of Goods

Revenue from the sale of goods is recognised at the point of delivery as this corresponds to the transfer of significant risks and rewards of ownership of the goods and the cessation of all involvement in those goods.

Interest Revenue

Interest is recognised using the effective interest method.

Membership Subscriptions

Membership fees are payable annually in advance and are due on the Anniversary of the month of joining. Membership fees are treated as income when the subscription is received except when the membership exceeds one year. Income received in respect of memberships exceeding one year are carried forward as income in advance (current liability) and recognised in the subsequent period. Fees received from new members whose membership has not been approved prior to year-end are brought to account as income in advance (current liability) and carried forward to the year in which the membership is approved.

Conference and seminar income expenditure

Events income and expenditure are recognised in the year that the event is held. Events income and expenditure which is received or expended prior to year-end, but which relates to an event to be held after year end, is recognised as income in advance (current liability) and conference expenses prepaid (current or non-current asset) and is carried forward to the year in which the event is held.

Where conference administration is outsourced, income received and expenditure incurred by the conference organiser prior to year-end, but which relates to a conference to be held after year end, have not been recognised.

(g) Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Revenue, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of goods and services tax (GST), except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO).

Receivables and payable are stated inclusive of GST.

Cash flows in the statement of cash flows are included on a gross basis and the GST component of cash flows arising from investing and financing activities which is recoverable from, or payable to, the taxation authority is classified as operating cash flows.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019**

	2019	2018
	\$	\$
3. PROFIT		
Expenses		
Depreciation and Amortisation Expenses	1,635	308
Other Expenses	943,665	869,778
	945,300	870,086
4. PROFIT FOR THE YEAR		
Profit before income tax expense from continuing operations includes the following specific expenses:		
Charging as Expense		
Movements in Provisions		
Depreciation		
– Depreciation of Property Plant and Equipment	1,635	308
Net Expenses Resulting from Movement in Provisions	1,635	308
5. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS		
Cash at Bank	533,833	482,895
Anz V2 Bank Account	79,013	78,816
	612,846	561,711
Reconciliation of Cash		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	612,846	561,711
	612,846	561,711
6. CASH FLOW INFORMATION		
Reconciliation of Cash Flow from Operations with Profit after Income Tax		
Profit after Income Tax	75,483	78,413
Adjustments for Non-Cash Components in Profit		
Depreciation	1,635	308
Changes in Assets and Liabilities		
Increase in Trade and Other Receivables	(75,551)	(88,041)
Decrease in Trade and Other Receivables	38,106	(22,802)
Decrease in Provisions	11,462	(167)
Net Cash Decrease in Cash Held	51,135	(32,289)

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements. These financial statements have not been subject to audit or review and should be read in conjunction with the attached Compilation Report.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2019**

	2019	2018
	\$	\$
7. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT		
Plant and Equipment		
Office Furniture & Equipment	12,300	7,104
Less Accumulated Depreciation & Impairment	8,472	6,950
	3,828	154
Art Collection	2,500	–
Less Accumulated Depreciation & Impairment	113	–
	2,387	–
Total Plant and Equipment	6,215	154
Total Property, Plant and Equipment	6,215	154
8. INTANGIBLE ASSETS		
Non-Current		
Formation Expenses	11,560	11,560
Website Development	12,020	12,020
Less Accumulated Impairment Losses	12,020	12,020
Total Intangible Assets	11,560	11,560
9. TRADE AND OTHER PAYABLES		
Current		
Sundry Creditors	5,489	5,438
Trade Creditors	47,172	2,540
Anz Visa Card	7,091	14,351
Payg Tax Withholding accrued	7,838	7,748
Provision for GST	30,753	30,160
	98,343	60,237
Total Trade and Other Payables	98,343	60,237
10. PROVISIONS		
Current		
Provision for Annual Leave	8,117	7,623
Provision for Long Service Leave	11,688	–
	19,805	7,623

11. STATUTORY INFORMATION

The registered office of the association is:
Australian Evaluation Society Ltd., Level 4, 100 Leicester Street Carlton Vic. 3053

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements. These financial statements have not been subject to audit or review and should be read in conjunction with the attached Compilation Report.

AUSTRALIAN EVALUATION SOCIETY LIMITED BOARD OF DIRECTORS REPORT

Auditor's Independence Declaration

The lead auditor's independence declaration in accordance with section 307C of the Corporations Act 2001, for the year ended 30 June 2019 has been received and is included with the financial statements.

The Board of Directors present their report on the association for the financial year ended 30 June 2019.

Committee Members

The names of each person who has been a committee member during the year and to the date of this report are:

John Stoney
Jessica Jane Dart
Doyen Radcliffe
Sharon Clarke
Kiri Parata
Sue Leahy
Susan Garner

Principal Activities

The principal activities of the association during the financial year were:
Promote Ethics and Standards in evaluation practice in Australia and New Zealand
Advancing Social or Public Welfare

Significant Changes

No significant changes in the nature of the association's activity occurred during the financial year.

Operating Result

The profit of the association after providing for income tax amounted to \$75,483.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Board of Directors.



John Stoney



Jessica Jane Dart

AUSTRALIAN EVALUATION SOCIETY LIMITED STATEMENT BY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board of Directors have determined that the association is not a reporting entity and that this special purpose financial report should be prepared in accordance with the accounting policies outlined in Note 2 to the financial statements.

In the opinion of the Board of Directors the financial statements:

1. Presents fairly the financial position of Australian Evaluation Society Limited as at 30 June 2019 and its performance for the year ended on that date.
2. At the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that Australian Evaluation Society Limited will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

This statement is made in accordance with a resolution of the Board of Directors and is signed for and on behalf of the Board of Directors by:



President: John Stoney



Treasurer: Jessica Dart

Dated 30 August 2019

Australian Evaluation Society Limited
Compilation Report To Australian Evaluation Society Limited

We have compiled the accompanying special purpose financial statements of Australian Evaluation Society Limited, which comprise the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2019, and the income statement for the year then ended, a summary of significant accounting policies, other explanatory notes and the additional information contained in the detailed profit and loss. The specific purpose for which the special purpose financial statements have been prepared is set out in the notes to the accounts.

The Responsibility of the Board of Directors

The Board of Directors of Australian Evaluation Society Limited is solely responsible for the information contained in the special purpose financial statements, the reliability, accuracy and completeness of the information and for the determination that the basis of accounting used is appropriate to meet their needs and for the purpose that the financial statements were prepared.

Our Responsibility

On the basis of information provided by the Board of Directors, we have compiled the accompanying special purpose financial statements in accordance with the basis of accounting and APES 315: Compilation of Financial Information.

We have applied professional expertise in accounting and financial reporting to compile these financial statements on the basis of accounting described in the notes to the financial statements. We have complied with the relevant ethical requirements of APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants.

Assurance Disclaimer

Since a compilation engagement is not an assurance engagement, we are not required to verify the reliability, accuracy or completeness of the information provided to us by management to compile these financial statements. Accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion or a review conclusion on these financial statements.

The special purpose financial statements were compiled for the benefit of the Board of Directors who are responsible for the reliability, accuracy and completeness of the information used to compile them. We do not accept responsibility for the contents of the special purpose financial statements.

V P Cannizzaro & Co

Fellow Certified Practising Accountants & Chartered Tax Advisor
Ground Floor, 19-21 Argyle Place South Carlton Victoria 3053



Vito Cannizzaro
27 August 2019

Auditor's report

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

TO THE MEMBERS OF AUSTRALIAN EVALUATION SOCIETY LTD

Opinion

We have audited the financial report of Australian Evaluation Society Ltd (the Entity), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2019, the statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies and managements' assertion statement.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report gives a true and fair view of the financial position of the Entity as at 30 June 2019, and of its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with the financial reporting requirements of the Australian Charities and not for profits Commission Act 2012.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report section of our report. We are independent of the Entity in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Emphasis of Matter – Basis of Accounting

We draw attention to Note 1 to the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared to assist Australian Evaluation Society Ltd to meet the requirements of the Australian Charities and not for profits Commission Act 2012. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Report

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with the financial reporting requirements of the applicable legislation and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of a financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, management is responsible for assessing the Entity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters relating to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Entity or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Entity's financial reporting process.



LIABILITY LIMITED BY A SCHEME
APPROVED UNDER PROFESSIONAL
STANDARDS LEGISLATION

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Entity's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Entity's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Entity to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.



BPR Audit Pty Ltd
(Authorised Audit Company)
Reg. No. 311673

Suite 16, 333 Canterbury Road
CANTERBURY VIC 3126



Bernie Rohan
Director

Dated: *30th August 2019*

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**AUDITOR'S INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION
UNDER SECTION 307C OF THE CORPORATIONS ACT 2001
TO THE DIRECTORS OF
AUSTRALIAN EVALUATION SOCIETY LTD**

I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, during the year ended 30 June 2019, there have been:

- a. no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements as set out in the Corporations Act 2001 in relation to the audit; and
- b. no contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

BPR Audit Pty Ltd

BPR Audit Pty Ltd
(Authorised Audit Company)
Reg. No. 311873

Suite 16, 333 Canterbury Road
CANTERBURY VIC 3126

Bernie Rohan
Director

Dated: *30th August 2019*



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Australian Evaluation Society Ltd
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100 Leicester Street, Carlton VIC 3053

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