Acode

annual report 2008

2008 was an eventful and successful year for ACODE. Regular workshops continue to be well received and our new website was launched in November in conjunction with our contemporary ACODE hub.

I would like to acknowledge the hard work and achievements made on behalf of ACODE by the Executive. The Executive Committee members for 2008 were:

Gordon Suddaby	President (Massey University)
Professor Alan Farley	Acting President till March 2008 & Vice President (Deakin University)
A/Prof Helen Carter	Treasurer (University of Canberra)
Dr Stephen Marshall	Elected Member (Victoria University of Wellington)
Amgad Louka	Elected Member (RMIT)
Sarah Lambert	Co-opted Member (University of Wollongong)

In 2008 a special teleconference was held in December to initiate proceedings to hold the Learning Technologies Leadership Institute 2009. Convinced of the commitment and engagement of the ACODE Executive and ACODE members to holding the ACODE Institute 2009, Dr Jim Millar has agreed to lead this event.

special thanks to
sarah lambert

I would like to acknowledge Sarah's work and thank her for her great contribution over the past year.

She has been a key member of the team responsible for bringing the ACODE communications strategy to fruition with the launch of the new, redesigned ACODE website and Moodle communications hub.

Left: Sarah Lambert
Manager, eLearning Strategic Directions, CEDIR, University of Wollongong

acode
executive

Mr Gordon Suddaby, Director of CADeL (Centre for Academic Development and eLearning) at Massey University in Palmerston North New Zealand, was elected President of ACODE in March 2008. Having been on the ACODE Executive since 2004 he succeeds Professor Alan Smith, Executive Director, Division of Academic Information Services from the University of Southern Queensland.

First New Zealand President Gordon Suddaby welcomed by Acting President Alan Farley at ACODE 46 in Wollongong, March 2008.

australasian
secretariat

ACODE Executive Officer – Anita Clarke: Teaching and Learning Centre, University of Canberra

The ACODE secretariat made the transition from University of Southern Queensland and is now being hosted by University of Canberra until end of 2010. Associate Professor Helen Carter of the ACODE Executive oversees the role of the ACODE Secretariat. Anita Clarke was appointed as Executive Officer for ACODE and brings a wide range of skills and experience to the position. ACODE's thanks and appreciation go to Susan Brosnan who has performed this role since 2004. Over that period, great support was given when needed by Marisa Parker and Louise Williamson and ACODE thanks them for their contribution.

strategic priorities

As an organisation representing Australasian universities, ACODE's mission is to enhance policy and practice in open, distance, flexible and e-learning in Australasian higher education by:

- disseminating and sharing knowledge and expertise;
- supporting professional development and providing networking opportunities;
- investigating, developing and evaluating new approaches;
- advising and influencing key bodies in higher education; and
- promoting best practice.

A strategic planning intensive was held at RMIT in October 2008. Members contributed their thoughts and efforts both prior to and since this meeting and ACODE is updating its Strategic Plan for 2009-2011.

advocacy and alliance visits

ACODE continues to build working relationships with external organisations, including the Ministry of Education in New Zealand and Ako Aotearoa (the National Centre for Tertiary Teaching Excellence). Gordon Suddaby and Stephen Marshall met with Murray Brown from NZ Ministry of Education and in early August Gordon Suddaby and Alan Farley had productive visits with Evan Arthur of the Department Education Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR) and Richard Johnstone and Elizabeth McDonald of the Australian Learning and Teaching Council (ALTC).

submissions

An ACODE submission to the Bradley Review of Australian Higher Education was lodged in July.

eMaturity Model

Stephen Marshall and Geoff Mitchell are leading an ACODE funded project implementing the eMaturity Model in Australia. A QUT research assistant has been actively collecting data from the Australian pilot members and now also collecting from a NZ participant. Support material scoping information on furthering this eMaturity Model project is being explored with a view to submitting an application to ALTC in the next scheduled funding round. This would entail 6-8 ACODE member institutions signing up for part of this 2-3 year project.

AUQA

AUQA invited expressions of interest from ACODE regarding names of possible people to go onto the Auditors Register. As a result, both Gordon Suddaby and Stephen Marshall are now on the list as 'offshore representatives with an interest in eLearning'. Alan Farley has also received an invitation for inclusion as an Australian auditor on the register.

companion events and Netspot relationship

A Desire2Learn symposium facilitated by ascilite was held prior to ACODE 47 in Wellington was well received. NetSpot was associated with ACODE 48 and I would like to thank Allan Christie (Managing Director) and James Strong (Technical Director) for their support and sponsorship of the ACODE 48 Business Dinner/website launch as well as hosting our Moodle communications hub and website.

educause 2009

Amgad Louka is ACODE's representative on the Educause Australasia Conference 2009 organising committee. Educause 2009 'Innovation and Emerging Technologies' being held in Perth in May.

initiatives

JOINT CCA - CAUL, CAUDIT, and ACODE (CCA) EXECUTIVE

Collaborative links with CAUL and CAUDIT are guided by the MoU signed in late 2002. Joint CCA Executive meetings were held 7 July and 27 November 2008 in Brisbane. ACODE will chair the first 2009 joint CCA. CAUL and CAUDIT were enthusiastic about being able to attend the Wollongong workshop and very keen to continue the arrangement.

affiliate memberships

We welcomed DEANZ as an affiliate member in 2008. Bill Anderson has succeeded Sally Rawnsley as President and we look forward to continued collaboration in the future. Other affiliate members are (TAFE NSW) OTEN (Open Training and Education Network), Education.au, ODLAA (Open & Distance Learning Association of Australia), TAFE Queensland, Open Universities Australia and the College of Law in Sydney. We welcomed Michael Crock, General Manager of Open Universities Australia, who succeeds Ann Deden as their nominee member. A proposal to strengthen and formalise a closer relationship with Ascilite was resolved by the membership at the ACODE 47 Business Meeting.

new members

2008 membership remained stable with 43 Institutional Members. The University of Western Australia re-subscribed while Murdoch University discontinued its membership. Next year membership will increase to 44 with Monash rejoining 2009.

Current institutional membership of ACODE is on the web site under Membership at
http://acode.edu.au/membership.php.

retiring members

In acknowledging their contribution, ACODE wishes to thank and farewell retiring members Angela Bridgland (University of Melbourne), Adrian Lee (UNSW) and Bruce King (University of SA). Also to be thanked are Alan Smith of University of Southern Queensland and Rob Phillips of Murdoch University for their considerable service and contribution to ACODE.

with thanks

ACODE thanks Matt Hood (Victoria University) and Matt Bacon (University of Canberra) for their design and production assistance in the development of this annual report.

acode46

ACODE 46, a joint workshop with CAUL and CAUDIT, was held 27-28 March at University of Wollongong. The ACODE 46 topic of 'Exploring Open Source for e-Learning' presented case studies and sessions lead by Philip Uys (Charles Sturt University, Steve Swinsberg (University of New England), Bill Rosenberg (University of Canterbury) and Alan Farley (Deakin University and Australian representative on Blackboard Advisory Board). The Presidents of CAUDIT and ACODE wrapped up the workshop with insights, reflection and discussion regarding implications for institutions.

acode47

ACODE 47 was held 19-20 June at Victoria University of Wellington with the theme of 'institutional policies and frameworks supporting the effective use of technology for students, staff and the institution'.

Over 40 delegates from member institutions explored how institutional frameworks and policies can be used to support effective technology use as well as how the development of a supportive environment of policy, strategy and other resources can be stimulated at the level of the institutional leadership. Peter Coolbear of Ako Aotearoa gave an informal address to the Business Meeting on 'Fostering Tertiary Teaching Excellence'.

Above: Gordon Suddaby, President of ACODE, Andrew Higgins (Director of E-Learning at Auckland University of Technology), and Stephen Marshall (Acting Director, University Teaching Development Centre at Victoria University of Wellington and Convenor of ACODE 47)

Bottom: Peter Coolbear – Director of Ako Aotearoa

acode48

ACODE 48 was held 17-18 November at University of Canberra to explore Web 2.0 and discuss the challenges universities face to ensure quality outcomes in online learning in a transnational context.

This 'Emerging Technologies' workshop welcomed over 40 delegates representing 34 universities plus representatives from DEEWR, ALTC and affiliates from Education.au and TAFE.

Photographs from ACODE 48 workshops sessions.

2009 workshop program

ACODE 49 to be jointly hosted by Victoria University and the University of Melbourne on 18-19 March. With the theme 'Student expectation/experience using Web 2.0'

ACODE 50 to be held at The University of Queensland on 13-14 July. The 'Lost in Space' theme will provide insights on Teaching and Learning Spaces

ACODE 51 will be held at Edith Cowan University in 16-17 November with a topic of 'Online Assessment'.