acode

**australasian council
on open, distance
and e-learning**

annual report **2012**

CONTENTS

FROM THE PRESIDENT

The strength of ACODE is in its workshops and business and networking meetings, which are attended by institutional representatives from Australia, New Zealand and the South Pacific. These activities facilitate the exchange of information, allow members to get updated on the latest educational trends and seed sector-wide projects. Most recently we've engaged in webinars to engage members with experts in the field, we've provided annotated bibliographies to facilitate research into key areas of development and we've trialled a professional rapporteur to write a formal report of one of our workshops.

AS A COUNCIL WE TAKE OUR RESPONSIBILITY TO PROVIDE LEADERSHIP TO THE SECTOR SERIOUSLY.

Providing our members with access to information on the latest trends is crucial. Our involvement with the Office for Learning and Teaching (OLT) funded National Networking Initiative Project will consolidate this for the future. ACODE continues its involvement with the New Media Consortium through contribution to Australian and New Zealand editions of the Horizon Reports of emerging educational technologies. *The Technology Outlook for Australian Tertiary Education 2012-2017* was published in 2012 and was the first in the Horizon series to identify a MOOC[1] as a technology to watch.

Internationally we have been more closely involved with the International Council for Distance Education (ICDE).

ACODE IS PRIVILEGED TO BE AN ASSOCIATE MEMBER OF THE ICDE.

We have contributed in several ways to this international council as a representative of the Australasian higher education sector in this area and will further develop this relationship in 2013.

In 2012 we have continued to develop our liaison role with key bodies across the sector. The Executive seconded Alan Arnold to be our formal liaison with CAUDIT. Following on from this we now have liaison officers for ascilite, Philip Uys and CADAD, Sue Stoney. As the ACODE President I was invited to the OLT symposium on the future of higher education in Australia and to the National Teaching Awards. It is good to see the acknowledgement of the leadership role of ACODE in the higher education sector.

Finally, I would like to say thank you to all those who have contributed to ACODE's continued success in 2012. There are many university staff who have contributed to the programs, projects and events that ACODE has facilitated and their work is greatly appreciated. I would also like to say thank you to all who support ACODE and participate in our activities, particularly our Secretariat based in Canberra, Karen Halley. Let me also acknowledge the work of our Treasurer Sarah Lambert who is stepping down from the role next year. I look forward to seeing ACODE go from strength to strength in the future.

Regards, Helen Carter

[1] Massively Open Online Course

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ACODE LEARNING TECHNOLOGIES LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE, 2013

ACODE's major leadership initiative, the ACODE Learning Technologies Leadership Institute is held every two years and preparation is well underway for 2013. Gordon Suddaby, our past president, has been appointed as the Director and Susan Brosnan from the University of Southern Queensland will provide executive support.

Professor Denise Kirkpatrick, a past President of ACODE, will be contributing her expertise to the Institute Faculty. Many past graduates of the Institute now hold more senior positions, such as Professor Mark Brown Director, Distance Education and Learning Futures Alliance at Massey University, and demonstrate the program's influence.

ACODE WORKSHOP 2012 SERIES

Each year ACODE runs a series of Workshops and related activities on key topics relevant to higher education. These meetings provide a forum to explore implementation issues associated with new flexible and online learning initiatives and offer opportunities to review institutional resources, practices and policies. One of the substantial benefits is that staff from other universities share newly developed resources and ideas, which can be used in all institutions, saving considerable development time.

The three workshops in 2012 were:

- The business case for academic development – does current evidence address all stakeholder priorities
- Mobile Learning
- Learning Analytics

Details and outcomes from these three workshops follows.

ACODE 58: The business case for academic development – does current evidence address all stakeholder priorities, University of Auckland, March 2012

The impact of educational / academic development work in universities has always been difficult to measure, so presenting a business case for the survival of specialist centres at national, institutional or faculty level is a challenge. While limited understanding of the value of this kind of work by decision makers is a frequently cited problem, the need to present more compelling evidence of the reasons for investing in these centres is a powerful and potentially empowering force. The ACODE 58 workshop provided a forum to debate this critical issue and gave an opportunity to share experience and strategies with lead practitioners from across Australasia.

CATHY GUNN FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF AUCKLAND ORGANISED AND LED THE WORKSHOP INVOLVING 38 ATTENDEES FROM 30 INSTITUTIONS.

A keynote presentation "Addressing the elephant in the room: the challenges for national and institutional academic development centres" was given by Professor Lorraine Stefani. A summary session was facilitated by Professor Paul Bacsich.

ACODE 59: Mobile Learning, Swinburne University, Victoria, June 2012

This workshop focused on the process of developing a mobile learning strategy for a fictitious institution. The Gondwana University scenario had one major "big idea" to partner with the NBN to deliver a series of new, online community heath programs to regional and remote areas. And from this, a somewhat daunting number of institutional eLearning challenges emerged that would certainly keep their eLearning Director busy for some time.

Associate Professor Philip Uys, Director, Strategic Learning and Teaching Innovation from Charles Sturt University opened the workshop with a session on mobile learning in higher education. Philip gave an overview of sector issues for mobile learning, as well as a rationale for and cases of development of an institutional mobile learning strategy both here and overseas.

CATH MOORE FROM SWINBURNE UNIVERSITY CONVENED THE WORKSHOP WHICH WAS HELD AT THE LILYDALE CAMPUS AND ATTENDED BY 31 PARTICIPANTS FROM 27 INSTITUTIONS.

Professor Gilly Salmon facilitated a session on a framework to summarise and map the institutional responses and strategies for mobile learning raised during the workshop.

ACODE 60: Learning Analytics, Murdoch University, Perth, November 2012

The program was interesting and varied summarising learning analytics developments internationally and locally. The conference was introduced by Professor Bev Thiele, Pro Vice Chancellor Quality and Standards, of Murdoch University, who pointed out that the higher education community was now dealing with an increasingly tech-savvy generation of students, and that the way in which they engaged with and whether they were locking in to online learning tools was of primary importance.

> ROB PHILLIPS FROM MURDOCH UNIVERSITY FACILITATED THE WORKSHOP AT THE SOUTH STREET CAMPUS WITH 39 ATTENDEES FROM 27INSTITUTIONS.

Learning Analytics guru, Shane Dawson, was the main presenter, having just returned from work at the University of British Columbia. Case studies of Australian developments were presented from the University of Canberra, Central Queensland University, QUT, Murdoch University and Open Universities Australia.

ACODE WEBINARS

Last year we introduced pre-workshop webinars to introduce the workshop theme and to discuss and/or present issues of importance relating to the workshop. Webinars are a way in which we can add value to the workshops. As a precursor to ACODE 60 in Perth we held a webinar on the 25th October 2012 hosted by Rob Phillips and presented by George Siemens, Athabasca University, Canada. The webinar title was 'Learning Analytics: new insight or new buzzword?' George covered important international developments in Learning Analytics. There were 32 participants.

ACODE-funded Project: Sustaining eLearning Innovations

In 2011, ACODE funded a project exploring issues related to the sustainability of elearning innovations. As a result, a Research Study Report has been written by Cathy Gunn and Rhiannon Herrick (April 2012) and disseminated to ACODE member institutions. The final report is also available from the ACODE website.

The study explored issues of sustainability for learning innovations that begin as funded projects in Australasian universities and develop outside of an enterprise learning management system environment. The study identified ten recommendations regarding sustainability of learning innovations.

Technology Outlook > Australian Tertiary Education 2012-2017

ACODE continues to be involved with the development of the Horizon series of technology reports, through providing strong membership representation on their Australasian boards. *The Technology Outlook for Australian Tertiary Education 2012-2017* reflects a collaborative effort between the New Media Consortium and Griffith University.

The research underpinning the report makes use of the NMC's Delphi-based process for bringing groups of experts to a consensus viewpoint, in this case around the impact of emerging technologies on teaching, learning, research, and information management in Australian tertiary education over the next five years. That group of experts, known as the 2012 Horizon.au Advisory Board, is comprised of a body of knowledgeable individuals, all highly regarded in their fields; collectively the advisory board represents a range of diverse perspectives across the learning sector.

THETA 2013: The Higher Education Technology Agenda Conference

THETA is the new name for the CCA Educause Conference and continues as a joint initiative between ACODE, the Council of Australian University Librarians and the Council of Australian University Directors of Information Technology. The conference is scheduled to run in April 2013 with the theme of The Edge of the World. Thanks goes to Garry Williams, University of Tasmania and Melanie Fleming, University of New England for their contributions to the conference committee.

National Networking Initiative (NNI) Project

The National Networking Initiative (NNI) is a joint project with the Australasian Society for Computers in Learning inTertiary Education (ascilite). A key goal of the NNI is to work collaboratively with the kindred organisations of ACODE and ascilite such as HERDSA, CADAD and ODLAA to enable a cordinated, collaborative and integrated approach to enhancing and promoting the vision and goals established by ALTC.

NNI Project Meeting at UTS in Sydney January 2012
The Network of Australasian Tertiary Associations or NATA has been developed from the National Networking Initiative Project, a 2-year ALTC-funded legacy project. The NATA's mission is to improve engagement and practice through network leadership. The collaborative project is led by ACODE and ascilite and includes CADAD, HERDSA, ODLAA, AARNet, Netspot and the Office of Learning and Teaching (OLT).

NNI Project Meeting at UTS in Sydney January 2012

ACODE LIAISONS

In 2012 the ACODE Executive made a conscious decision to strengthen its ties with key organisations through identifying a liaison representative:

- CAUDIT – Alan Arnold, University of Canberra
- Ascilite – Philip Uys, Charles Sturt University
- CADAD – Sue Stoney, Edith Cowan University

OER WORLD CONGRESS DECLARATION

The **2012 Paris OER Declaration** was formally adopted at the 2012 World Open Educational Resources (OER) Congress held at the UNESCO Headquarters in Paris from 20 – 22 June 2012.

This June, Ministers of Education, senior policy makers, expert practitioners, researchers and relevant stakeholders from around the world gathered for the 2012 World Open Educational Resources (OER) Congress at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris to pass the 2012 Paris OER Declaration. The Declaration marks a historic moment in the growing movement for Open Educational Resources and calls on governments worldwide to openly license publicly funded educational materials for public use.

www.unesco.org/new/en/communication-and-information/resources/news-and-in-focus-articles/in-focus-articles/2012/open-educational-resources-congress-passes-historic-declaration/

STANDING CONFERENCE OF PRESIDENTS (SCOP 2012)

Helen Carter, the ACODE President, accepted the invitation to attend the SCOP 2012 in Dubai on behalf of ACODE. The annual ICDE SCOP meeting is a unique opportunity for the leadership of higher education institutions engaged in open, distance and flexible learning to meet with peers from around the world. SCOP is highly regarded as an arena where senior management in higher education may share information and expertise, establish benchmarks, develop inter-institutional cooperation, and determine policy advocacy directions. Themed "Open and Distance Education (ODE): Barriers, Opportunities and Strategies Forward", SCOP 2012 was held at the Hamdan Bin Mohammed e-University in Dubai, UAE.

Belinda Tynan, Meg Benke, Vibreke Hoffman, Gard Tillestad and Q, ICDE Executive, Helen Carter

Helen was part of a panel discussion on strategies for building sustainable open and distance education. The Panel was chaired by Professor Mohammed Zairi, Chairman of the European Center for Best Practice Management and Assistant Chancellor for Strategy and Growth, HBMeU, UAE and other panel members included: Nicholas H. Allen, Provost Emeritus & Collegiate Professor, University of Maryland University College, USA, Alain Tait, Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Academic) , Open University UK and Mohamed Abu Maliq, Director, Open Learning Center (OLC), Al-Quds Open University.

As a result of participation in the conference, the following actions have resulted:

- A Meeting of Regional Associations and ICDE was held at SCOP and a commitment has been made to hold these more regularly, to which ACODE will now be invited.

- A possible arrangement to better promote the distance learning programs of ACODE member institutions is now under discussion as a result of a meeting with the CEO of StudyPortals, a European organisation.

- ACODE has continued its involvement with OERs by being part of a working group at SCOP 2012 on challenges and opportunities for OERs, chaired by Zeynep Varoglu, Programme Specialist, Communication and Information Sector, UNESCO.

- Helen took part in a SCOP Working Group on ODE Quality Frameworks. The EADTU have produced a book titled "Quality Assessment for E-learning: a Benchmarking Approach". The benchmarks are similar to the ACODE benchmarks, which are about to be reviewed. Helen has been invited to be part of an UNESCO Taskforce on Quality in e-Learning.

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ACODE SECRETARIAT
Essential to the provision of secretariat support is an Institution that is willing to host the Executive Officer. ACODE thanks the University of Canberra for their continued support of ACODE by hosting the Executive Officer.

We receive tremendous support from the host University as our Executive Officer ensures the smooth running of all of our activities. This year the Secretariat has also supported the National Networking Initiative Project.

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE 2012

	2012	2011
Revenue	**$**	**$**
Learning Technologies Leadership Institute	0	89,950
ACODE Membership Fees	158,533	109,745
Interest	0	0
Bendigo Bank - Cheque Account	2,069	3,152
Bendigo Bank - Institution Account	948	1,924
Reimbursements Received	12,913	1,937
	174,463	**206,708**
Expenditure		
Accountancy Fees	0	1,360
Advertising	228	2,286
Auditor's Remuneration	0	
Audit & review of financial reports	2,500	4,705
Bank Charges	182	217
Conference Fees	13,972	44,315
Consultants LTLI	0	27,907
Depreciation	558	166
Insurance	2,009	2,177
Presentations & Gifts	0	4,099
Printing, Postage & Stationery	1,098	2,196
Research Costs	0	15,774
Service Fees - Executive Officer	82,000	82,000
Teleconferencing	0	2,513
Travelling Expenses	25,539	26,854
Web Site Maintenance	6,035	278
Workshop Expenses	326	675
	134,448	**217,522**
Loss before Income Tax	40,015	-10,814

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements. These financial statements should be read in conjunction with the attached.

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CURRENT ACODE MEMBERS & REPRESENTATIVES

	Institutional Nominee	Alternate Nominee
Auckland University of Technology	Mr Mark Northover	Dr Stanley Frielick
Australian Catholic University	Dr Veronica Hendriks	Mr Andrew Hill
Australian National University	Ms Beth Beckman	Dr Peter Evans
Bond University	Dr Shelley Kinash	Mr Ron Kordyban
Central Queensland University	Prof Rob Reed	Ms Nona Muldoon
Charles Darwin University	Prof Deborah West	Ass Prof Martin Carroll
Charles Sturt University	Dr Philip Uys	Ass Prof Marian Tulloch
Curtin University	Dr Tony Herrington	
Deakin University	Prof Beverley Oliver PVC (Learning Futures)	Dale Holt
Edith Cowan University	Prof Susan Stoney	Ms Trish Popov
Flinders University of South Australia	Ass Prof David Green	Prof Andrew Parkin
Griffith University	Mr Kevin Ashford-Rowe	Ms Di Selzer
James Cook University	Ms Heather Gordon	
La Trobe University	Dr Ric Canale	Dr Kay Souter
Lincoln University	Ms Sue Clemes	
Macquarie University	Ass Prof Helen Carter	Mr Andrew Burrell
Massey University	Ass Prof Mark Brown	Dr Duncan O'Hara
Monash University	Ms Alison Whitley	
Murdoch University	Ass Prof Rob Phillips	Dr Rick Cummings
Open Universities Australia	Dr Darien Rossiter	Mr Amgad Louka
Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology (RMIT)	Dr Garry Allan	Mr Rob van den Akker
Southern Cross University	Prof Janet Taylor	Dr Diane Newton
Swinburne University	Ms Catherine Moore	

	Institutional Nominee	Alternate Nominee
University of Adelaide	Prof Denise Kirkpatrick	
University of Auckland	Prof Lorraine Stefani	Dr Cathy Gunn
University of Ballarat	Ass Prof Neil Trivett	Ass Prof Lorraine Bennett
University of Canberra	Prof Gerlese Akerlind	Dr Alan Arnold
University of Canterbury	Dr Herbert Thomas	Mr Gregor Ronald
University of Melbourne	Ass Prof Deborah Jones	Mr Gregor Kennedy
University of New England	Prof Michael Crock	Ms Melanie Fleming
University of New South Wales	Mr Patrick Stoddart	Dr Stephen Marshall
University of Newcastle	Prof Carol Miles	
University of Otago	Ms Jenny McDonald	Mr Emerson Pratt
University of Queensland	Ass Prof Trish Andrews	Ms Deidre Seeto
University of South Australia	Prof Margaret Hicks	
University of Southern Queensland	Dr Michael Sankey	Mr Eric Robertson
University of Sydney	Mr Colin Lowe	Ms Liz Devonshire
University of Tasmania	Dr Gary Williams	Mr Gerry Kregor
University of Technology, Sydney	Prof Shirley Alexander	Ass Prof Jo McKenzie
University of the South Pacific - Fiji	Dr Theresa Koroivualono	
University of the Sunshine Coast	Ms Maxine Mitchell	Dr Margaret Barnes
University of Waikato	Mr Nigel Robertson	
University of Western Australia	Dr Shannon Johnston	Ms Yvonne Button
University of Western Sydney	Ass Prof Janne Malfroy	Dr Carol Russell
University of Wollongong	Ms Sarah Lambert	Dr Christine Brown
Victoria University	Dr Lisa Germany	Mr John Supple
University of Wellington	Dr Stephen Marshall	