

# THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING FOR THE 2017 CALENDAR YEAR

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VICTORIAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE TEACHING OF ENGLISH



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# 1 AGENDA

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## **Agenda of Annual General Meeting of the Victorian Association for the Teaching of English Incorporated**

The Annual General Meeting of VATE for the 2017 Calendar Year will be held:

**Date:** Wednesday 18 April 2018

**Pre-AGM Gathering:** Refreshments will be served between 5.00-5.45pm

**AGM:** Meeting will commence at 5.45pm

### **AGENDA**

#### **1. Welcome**

#### **2. Conferring of Life Membership to Jan May**

#### **3. Apologies and Tabling of Minutes of Previous Meeting:**

3.1 AGM: 26 April 2017

#### **4. Ordinary Business:**

Presentation of reports. At the conclusion of each presentation, a Motion will be put to the meeting to accept the report and voted on.

4.1 President's Report

4.2 Financial Report and Tabling of Audited Accounts

4.3 Appointment of VATE Auditor for 2018 calendar year

4.4 Committee Reports:

- 4.4.1 Curriculum and Assessment Committee Report

- 4.4.2 Finance and Risk Committee Report

- 4.4.3 Professional Learning and Research Committee Report

- 4.4.4 Publications and Communications Committee Report

4.5 AATE Report

#### **5. Resolution:**

It is resolved that the Rules of Association be amended in the following manner:

Existing Rule 49 be deleted and in lieu thereof there be substituted

#### **"49 Members and Officers of the Council**

(1) The VATE Council consists of (i) four Officers of the Association and (ii) six ordinary members."

### **MEETING PROCEDURES**

- Additional items of business cannot be considered at the AGM unless these have been lodged with Council before the meeting.

- Reports are tabled at the meeting and a vote for acceptance is taken.
- The Chairperson of the meeting (President/ Vice President) is not obliged to accept amendments to the reports as tabled.
- The VATE Rules of Association can be found [here](#).

**Please note:** VATE is unable to disclose information on issues where VATE is bound by confidentiality provisions. If VATE discusses these matters, it will be in breach of such agreements and potentially liable for adverse legal claims against it. VATE is unable to discuss issues concerning confidential communications with its legal advisors and, as such, is subject to legal professional privilege.

## 2 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Meeting type	VATE AGM
Date	26 April 2017
Time	5.30pm-6.45pm
Venue	VATE Conference Room 1/134-136 Cambridge Street Collingwood, 3066
Present	Alex Bacalja, Emily Frawley, Terry Hayes, Paul Martin, Mary Mason, Marjan Mossammaparast, Ida Sakkal, Rebekah Keenan Mount, Larissa McLean Davies, Kate Tehan, Ross Huggard, Jan May, Greg Houghton Marion White  <u>Staff</u> Kate Gillespie (ex-officio EEO), Marianna Oklander
Apologies	Tim Nolan
Members pledged proxy support to Terry Hayes	Catherine Beavis Brenton Doecke Meredith Maher Val Kent Mary Weaven Graham Parr

### Agenda

Item	Minutes	Motions
1. Welcome and Apologies		
2. Tabling of Minutes of Previous Meeting: 2.1 AGM: 27 April 2016		Motion: That the minutes of the previous meeting (27th April, 2016) be accepted  Proposed: Ross  Secunder: Terry  Carried by a show of hands
3. Ordinary Business: Presentation of reports. At the conclusion of each presentation, a		

<p>Motion will be put to the meeting to accept the report and voted on.</p>		
<p>3.1 President's Report</p>	<p>3.1 President's Report (Emily)</p> <p>-Emily commented on the contribution of the former President, and increased engagement with community.</p> <p>Comment from Marion White regarding contribution from the office.</p> <p>Comment from Ross regarding cultural entwinement and positive impact from partnerships.</p>	
<p>3.2 Financial Report and Tabling of Audited Accounts 3.3 Appointment of VATE Auditor for 2017 calendar year</p>	<p>3.2 Financial Report and 3.3 Appointment of VATE Auditor for 2017 Calendar year (Ross)</p> <p>Ross drew attention to items in Treasurer's Report, initiative of committees, the value of the business managers, impact of the Finance Committee, and difficult times ahead for organisations like VATE.</p> <p>-Comment from Mary regarding status of the website</p> <p>Response from Kate indicating the website will be available for testing in a few weeks.</p> <p>Terry indicated the need to changes to Rules of Association for next AGM.</p>	<p>Motion: That we thank and acknowledge Brenton Doecke for his stewardship.</p> <p>Proposed: Ross</p> <p>Seconded: Larissa:</p> <p>Carried by a show of hands</p> <p>Motion: That we accept the auditor's report</p> <p>Proposed: Ross</p> <p>Seconded: Mary</p> <p>Carried by a show of hands</p> <p>Motion: That we discontinue using Pitcher Partners as VATE auditors</p>

		<p>Proposed: Ross</p> <p>Seconded: Greg</p> <p>Carried by a show of hands</p>
3.4.1 C & A Committee	<p>3.4.1 C &amp; A Committee (Paul)</p> <p>-Statement from Mary regarding possibility for policies to be developed.</p> <p>-Terry drew attention to AATE's new policies (Policies, discussion papers, position papers, statements from the President). Giving these a profile publicly for creating these.</p> <p>-Paul commented that this could be achieved by committees.</p> <p>-Ross noted tentacles of VATE spreading out. Making it connected and relevant to the community.</p> <p>-Kate.G recounted on feedback from members, they usually only make contact after we reach out. We can and should be proactive.</p> <p>-Emily commented that the website might allow this to happen.</p> <p>-Paul mentioned that the last committee took up issue of text-selection.</p> <p>-Larissa drew attention to John Yandell and Andy Goodwin event.</p>	
2.4.2: Finance Committee	2.4.2: Finance Committee (Ross)	



	<p>-It appears positive, we need to watch this space. Challenge to eliminate deficit over time.</p>	
<p>3.4.3: Professional Learning</p>	<p>3.4.3: Professional Learning (Mary)</p> <p>-Desire to extend 'regional' project. Costs relating to the project. Importance of sustainability.</p> <p>-Interrupting the narrative of VCAA.</p> <p>-Summary of PD/PL event. Positive numbers.</p> <p>-Issue of teachers in English classrooms without accreditation. A sub-committee will meet to look at this area in May.</p> <p>-Comment from Larissa regarding financial viability of some projects.</p> <p>-Emily commented on the personal connections associated with much of the projects, and how this can draw people into our organisation.</p> <p>-Terry commenting on VATE keeping its eyes open to follow where people are and maintaining the connections.</p> <p>-Kate commenting on maintaining the energy by getting new people on board and organisation succession planning.</p>	

<p>3.4.4: Publications and Communications Committee Report</p>	<p>Publications and Communications Committee (Terry)</p> <p>-Value of connecting to people via publications (including eNews)</p> <p>-Ross commenting on other companies no longer producing resources, and our work bringing in people to facilitate production of resources (especially practice exams group).</p>	
<p>3.5: AATE Report</p>	<p>3.5: AATE Report (Tim absent)</p> <p>-Kate.G speaking to issues with ACARA.</p> <p>-Mary commenting on difficulty of ACARA going into partnership with AATE.</p> <p>-Marion elaborating on this point, and value of AATE as an independent voice.</p> <p>-Ross commenting on context, and value of a dialogue.</p> <p>-Terry commenting on pros and cons of these relationships.</p> <p>-Kate.G commenting on value of having relationships but being clear of the different between the two.</p> <p>-Greg supporting this notion of having a relationship without compromising our work and our independence.</p> <p>-Larissa commenting on how AATE was being seen and the</p>	<p>Motion: That we recommend that AATE provide clarity regarding 'Terms of Reference' their engagement with ACARA</p> <p>Proposer: Larissa</p> <p>Secunder: Ross</p> <p>Passed by show of hands majority.</p>

	<p>lack perception that AATE was not being consulted.</p> <p>-Ross summarising AATE's exclusion from the discussion in order to be consulted.</p>	
Motion: That we accept the reports		<p>Motion: That we accept the reports</p> <p>Proposed: Kate.T</p> <p>Seconded: Jan</p> <p>Carried by a show of hands</p>
<p>4. Resolution: It is resolved that the Rules of Association be amended in the following manner:</p> <p>Existing Rule 47 be deleted and in lieu thereof there be substituted</p> <p>"47 Executive Committee (a) Management of the Association between Council meetings must be vested in an Executive Committee consisting of the Vice-President (who shall be Chairperson), President (ex officio), Secretary, Treasurer, and a senior employee (ex officio)"</p>	<p>Emily summarising the resolution.</p> <p>-Ross spoke in favour of the resolution, and the role of Executive.</p> <p>-Paul explained why the change is needed.</p> <p>-Terry described this change as a way for current Exec members to get out.</p> <p>-Greg commented on value of getting rid of Exec altogether.</p>	<p>Motion: Existing Rule 47 be deleted and in lieu thereof there be substituted</p> <p>"47 Executive Committee (a) Management of the Association between Council meetings must be vested in an Executive Committee consisting of the Vice-President (who shall be Chairperson), President (ex officio), Secretary, Treasurer, and a senior employee (ex officio)"</p> <p>Proposed: Marjan</p> <p>Seconded: Paul</p> <p>Carried by a show of hands</p>
Meeting ended: 6:45pm		

Minutes compiled by: Alexander Bacalja, Secretary



Date: 27/4/17

Minutes verified by: Emily Frawley, President



Date: 27/4/17

### **3 PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

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#### **Overview**

In 2017 VATE continued its work in its key areas of the strategic plan: Advocacy, Membership and Networking, Professional Learning and Research, Publications and Communications, Curriculum and Pedagogy and Ethical Governance. It was a strong year for VATE in terms of advocacy and media exposure, with the State Conference in particular drawing a lot of attention and healthy debate. VATE Council meetings benefitted from a reframing of meetings and processes, as well as the development and ratification of a Council handbook.

The VATE 2017 Council comprised of Emily Frawley (President), Ida Sakkal (Vice President), Alex Bacalja (Secretary), Ross Huggard (Treasurer), Kate Gillespie (EEO – ex officio), Terry Hayes, Tim Nolan, Annelise Balsamo, Rebekah Keenan Mount, Kate Tehan, Marjan Mossammaparast and Larissa McLean Davies. 2018 saw Tim Nolan, Marjan Mossammaparast and Larissa McLean Davies vacate their positions on Council. We offer our sincere thanks to them for their years of service and look forward to their continued contributions to VATE in other capacities.

#### **Office**

The VATE Council acknowledges the work and commitment of the VATE office staff in 2017: Kate Gillespie (Executive Education Officer); Marianna Oklander (Business Manager); Josephine Smith (Publications and Communications Officer); Linda Baron (Events and Membership Officer); Peter Batchelor (IT Officer); Kellie Heintz (Education Officer); Meredith Major (Administration Officer). We also thank the following for their support of the VATE office: Kieran May; Enza Farfalla; Lynne Bury; Russell Smith.

#### **Awards and Scholarships**

The following VATE individual members were awarded scholarships to attend the AATE/ALEA National Conference in Hobart: Louise Permezel, Ballarat Grammar School; Natalie Maher, Mount Clear College

The Ian Hansen/VATE Award was presented to Lena Pasqua for outstanding achievement in English Learning Area Studies at The University of Melbourne.

The Michael Hamerston/VATE Award was presented to Mia Robinson for outstanding achievement in English Curriculum studies at Victoria University.

The Margaret Gill/VATE Award was presented to Susan Hopkins for outstanding achievement in English Curriculum Studies at Monash University.

The Gillian Barnsley/VATE Award was awarded to Nick Harrison for outstanding achievement in English Curriculum Studies at Deakin University.

### **Strategic Partnerships**

The following schools were involved in the third and final year of the DET/SPP funded Community of Practice: Teaching reading project and the joint ALEA/VATE Best of Both Worlds project:

Community of Practice: Teaching reading

Caulfield Grammar School; Lavalla Catholic College; Maribyrnong Secondary College; Monivae College; Mount Clear College; Phoenix P-12 College; Sunbury Downs Secondary College; Warragul Regional College; Wellington High School; Williamstown High School.

Critical Friends involved in 2017 were David Lee, Mary Mason and Amanda McGraw.

Best of Both Worlds

Rutherglen Network; Dandenong Network.

Lynne Bury continued in her role as the ALEA/VATE Project Officer.

### **Partnerships**

VATE continued and developed its partnerships with the following organisations: Australian Centre for the Moving Image (ACMI); Australian Literacy Educators' Association (ALEA – Vic Branch); Australian Teachers of Media (ATOM); Melbourne Theatre Company (MTC); Melbourne Writers Festival, Schools' Program; Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Committee (VCAA).

### **Advocacy/Responses to Inquiries**

VATE Council [letter](#) to the VCAA re: the 2017 Literature examination (December 2017)

VATE Council surveyed the VATE membership re: the NAPLAN literacy tests.

Click [here](#) to download the media release.

Click [here](#) to download the full report.

VATE in the media: ['The intimidating experience greeting untrained English teachers'](#) **The Age** (September 2017)

VATE in the media: ['Too many 'depressing messages' in VCE books drives push for trigger warnings.'](#) **The Age** (April 2017)

VATE Council [letter](#) to the VCAA CEO and Board re: the VCE Literature sample examination (April 2017)

VATE Council [media release](#) re: the Community of Practice: Teaching reading (April 2017)

VATE in the media: [Women authors get equal space.](#) ArtsHub 2017 (February 2017)

VATE Council [letter](#) to the VCAA CEO and Board re the delayed release of the VCAA English, Literature and EAL examinations (February 2017)

Emily Frawley, President, April 2018

## **4 TREASURER'S REPORT**

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### **Overview**

In this, my first year as Treasurer of VATE, together with our new Business Manager, Marianna Oklander, I have sought to re-evaluate our financial situation, within a rapidly changing and decidedly challenging environment for subject associations, such as VATE. It also should be noted that, at last year's AGM, the recommendation both of VATE Council and the Finance Committee was made to appoint new auditors, at a much-reduced cost. Our new auditors, Kidmans Partners, have also approached our finances with a new critical eye, which has also ensured a reappraisal and identified areas worthy of re-evaluating.

### **Key areas of activity**

#### **VATE publications**

2017 was an exceptionally busy year for the development, production and sales of new VATE publications, arising directly out of new iterations of the English/EAL and Literature VCE Study Designs. As a result, our budgeted forecast of income from sales of \$24,050 (in 2016 the sales income figure was \$26,442) was considerably exceeded with income of \$31,679. However, as we look towards the future, such a healthy financial situation cannot be assumed to continue in the medium term.

#### **Exam production and sales**

Allied to these new VCE Study Designs, 2017 saw the preparation, production and sales of trial VCE English, EAL and Literature final exams. VATE alone produced a complete Literature exam. The introduction of Unit 3 exams was well-received. Increased sales overall, coupled with price increases ensured that the 2016 revenue of \$70,551 could increase significantly to a record \$113,737, and increase of approximately 16%.

#### **VATE bookshop**

Concern that VATE Bookshop sales needed to be increased led to a decision to take the bookshop stock to key VATE events in 2017. As a direct result, sales rose from the 2016 figure of \$55,615 to some \$76,512, indicating the wisdom of this action.



### **Event income**

Another area which saw considerable growth in 2017, as compared with 2016, was that of event income. This also directly benefitted from the advent of new VCE Study Designs, with many specialised VCE sessions and VCE Days, as well as the innovation of recording sales of Student Revision Day sessions. The income generated from other annual events including the Middle Year's Conference, Coordinators' Conference and Meet the Assessors, remained steady. The English Language Mini-Method again ran at a healthy profit of some \$14,877. Thus, the budgeted figure of event income of \$321,620 was well-exceeded by the actual figure of some \$424,701.

### **State Conference**

Our annual flagship State Conference, again held at Deakin University in December 2017, was highly successful and diverse in its offerings. Despite a healthy number of participants, the considerable income of \$183,595 was marginally lower than the budgeted figure by some \$4,905. The comparable 2016 State Conference income was \$192,852.

### **Rental income: Challenge of the conference room**

VATE Council, along with the Finance Committee, has been acutely aware of the inability, in the current climate, of the VATE Conference Room to generate the sort of income stream desired. Moreover, it has become increasingly apparent that it is no longer ideally suited for most VATE professional activities. Over the last 12 months, the services of several estate agents have been engaged in an attempt to lease out this space. So, whilst some \$13,850 income was budgeted for, the actual figure returned was a more modest \$4,580.

### **Future challenges**

VATE, like other subject associations, which are not-for-profit organisations, relies upon both external funding and grants, coupled with membership fees and revenue streams from events and publications. It should be noted that our Department of Education SPP triennial funding has been significantly reduced for the next triennium, from the previous \$108,900 per annum to some \$50,241 per year, a cut of almost 55% in such funding.

It should also be noted that some other subject associations are in serious debt situations which VATE, through careful stewardship, is happily not confronted.

Notwithstanding all the careful projections and analyses continually made by our Business Manager, VATE Council is continually aware that as a responsible organisation, we must minimise avoidable financial risks, especially at a time when the spirit of volunteerism is sorely under threat.

Our expenses are being carefully monitored and were in close alignment with the budgeted figure (only being \$1,889 above). The ongoing financial support for the very important and proactive work of VATE Committees is essential, but like all expenses, needs to be closely monitored through the utilisation of a program budgeting model

### **Acknowledgements**

Thanks must be extended both to our very careful and methodical Business Manager, Marianna Oklander. She has shown courage in posing some important questions of Council and has provided me, as Treasurer, with ever-reliable data, advice and support. In addition, in her role as Executive Education Officer, responsible for oversight of the complex organisation and office, Kate Gillespie has been a tireless supporter of my efforts for which I extend my sincere thanks. In addition, the stellar work of the VATE Publications and Communications Officer, Josephine Smith must be acknowledged. In a record year of new VATE publications and exams, she has worked strenuously and with her characteristically-calm efficiency to ensure both product and sales success. Finally, I must thank the support I have received from the President of VATE, Emily Frawley, and Council in undertaking the work I have sought to address.

Ross Huggard, Treasurer, April 2018

## **5 CURRICULUM AND ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE REPORT**

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### **VATE Strategic Plan 2016-2018**

The Curriculum and Assessment Committee's responsibilities vis-à-vis the Strategic Plan relate to the following items:

- Promotion and advancement of the work of English teachers, being a strong advocate for them and the English curriculum with government, government agencies and relevant stakeholders;
- Providing access to historical documentation relating to VCE English curriculum and pedagogy;
- Increasing opportunities to connect membership with scholarly articles;
- Initiating opportunities for engagement with and discussion of issues related to English curriculum.

### **Committee Report in response to VATE's Strategic and Operational Plan**

- A sub-group of the committee has continued work on the historical development of the original VCE English Study Design. Five key participants in the development of this Study Design have taken part in lengthy interviews, each of which has been transcribed. Plans have been put together to conduct at least five more interviews throughout 2018 with the first draft of the project report (to be added to as work progresses) due to be completed for VATE's website by the end of the year. Acknowledgements go to Terry Hayes for heading up this project along with Brenton Doecke and Meredith Maher.
- The committee organised a curriculum forum for members during Term 3 of 2017. The forum explored the impact of whole-of-school 'big picture' priorities on English curriculum and classroom practice. Presenters from all three school sectors spoke about their schools' priorities and the experience of English teachers working in such environments. Our audience came from schools across Melbourne. Plans are being discussed as to how we can support country schools being able to take part in these after-school events in the future.
- The committee also organised a forum on text selection as the committee's contribution to the 2017 State Conference. This event brought students from Government, Catholic and Independent schools together to discuss and answer questions about their experiences studying texts in English classrooms across their school lives. The session was convened by three members of the

committee and attended by over ninety teachers. Particular acknowledgements go to Rebekah Keenan Mount and Marjan Mossammaparast.

- Committee members took an active part in a symposium organised by committee member, Alex Bacalja at the Melbourne Graduate School of Education in December 2017 on the subject of support for pre-service teachers. Follow-up on this symposium is planned; this is to include an edition of *Idiom* to be prepared throughout 2018. Once again, acknowledgements go to Alex for his work in planning this event and gaining participation from a wide and rich source of players in this field.
- In February and March 2018, partly in response to difficulties in attracting people to attend committee meetings, the committee changed its approach to tackling its 2018 priorities. It decided to adopt a 'project-based approach' and held a public meeting in March around the theme of 'What's Happening in English Curriculum Beyond My School Gate?'. At this meeting, the committee established its projects for 2018 with VATE's Strategic Plan priorities in mind. The four projects include:
  1. The continuation of the VCE History Study Design project;
  2. Participation in an analysis/review of texts set for study in the senior English curriculum between 1990-2019;
  3. A paper to be prepared and written for the committee by two members of Professional Learning and Research Committee based on that committee's 2017 Community of Practice: Teaching reading.
  4. A project headed up by two committee members looking into how schools are using assessment (especially formative) in their teaching and learning planning and practices.

### **Acknowledgements**

I would like to give particular thanks to Marjan Mossammaparast (co-convener of the committee), Rebekah Keenan Mount, Alex Bacalja, Terry Hayes, and Hugh Gundlach and all members of the VATE office.

Paul Martin, co-convener, Curriculum and Assessment Committee, April 2018

## 6 PROFESSIONAL LEARNING AND RESEARCH COMMITTEE REPORT

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### Membership of the Committee

Terry Hayes, Stella Louca, Mary Mason (co-convenor), Amanda McGraw, Lucinda McKnight (resigned during 2017), Larissa McLean Davies, Graham Parr, Ida Sakkal (co-convenor), Kate Gillespie (Executive Education Officer), Helen Woodford.

We have made considerable progress this year.

1. The Professional Learning and Research Committee supported the third year of the Reading project taking on another Critical Friend, David Lee, and working with ten schools. This culminated in an issue of *Idiom* at the end of the year with contributions from all the schools over the three years. The leaders of the group were successful in gaining \$120000 from SPP funding for a further three years and so the program is extended and will look at pedagogical models in the classroom to enhance reading.
2. The Professional Learning and Research Committee embarked on an investigation of what kind of support VATE could offer teachers who taught out of area. These teachers had neither disciplinary or current experience teaching English. Another investigation explored the kinds of knowledge which they needed. VATE sent a questionnaire to member schools to find out how many schools were affected. Thirty per cent of respondent schools were in this situation, some having many English teachers without accreditation. A small subcommittee considered the kind of course which could be offered and this is now being written to be offered in Semester 2, 2018. VATE is seeking funding and also hope to have university accreditation for the course.
3. The Professional Learning and Research Committee developed a number of innovative VCE professional learning days in 2017 as well as a grammar program over two sessions. These were successful and will be built on in 2018.
4. VATE did not offer the grant for research in 2017 but hope that in 2018 it will be offered.
5. The Professional Learning and Research Committee decided to have fewer meetings in 2018 and run the committee as an umbrella committee for working parties. These include the Reading Group, the EAL Group (formed at the end of 2017), the Research group, the Teaching out of Area focus, and the VCE Voice PD and other PDs.

We would like to acknowledge the support of all the members of the committee and the office for their work during the year.

Mary Mason and Ida Sakkal, co-conveners, Professional Learning and Research Committee, April 2018

## 7 PUBLICATIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT

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The work of the Publications and Communications Committee relies heavily on members of the VATE community to ensure that VATE members are provided with an abundant array of resources and communications to ensure they are able to access the full range of programs VATE offers and feel supported in their various roles as English educators.

As well, the continuing vibrancy of the VCE English, Literature and English Language online networks suggests that the VATE member community, itself, has been very proactive in sharing advice, resources, and teaching ideas.

VATE thanks all members who have made contributions to its communication and publication 'arms', and in particular to the following:

- Josephine Smith, VATE's Publications and Communications Officer, who has been a driving force and the linchpin in ensuring both the timely production and the quality of all VATE resources, publications and communications;
- Members of the committee: Annelise Balsamo (Melbourne Rudolf Steiner School), Monica Caillard (Loreto College), Kristian Radford (Copperfield College), Jan May (Firbank College), Tim Nolan (co-convener – Albert Park College);
- Jan May for her prodigious resourcefulness in sussing-out and sharing a range of resources in actiVATE. Many members have commented favourably on this online communication which has a specific focus on teaching resources for the English classroom, providing suggestions for assessment, activities and texts;
- Contributing editors, Annelise Balsamo and Monica Caillard (Idiom Vol 53 No 2, 'Literary Perspectives') and Mary Mason and Amanda McGraw (Idiom Vol 53 No 3, 'Reading as an imaginative act', focusing on the VATE Community of Practice: Reading Project);
- Marion White for her work as Editor for VATE Inside Stories and Literature Perspectives. The individual contributors to these publications are listed in the attached document, along with contributors to the VATE sample VCE examination papers.

Throughout the year the committee continued to produce a range of online communications and publications in a regular and timely manner. These included: eBulletins, eNEWS, actiVATE and Idiom. The committee has been conscious of the need not to overwhelm members with an 'excess'

of communication, and to utilise other avenues of communication, for example, the VATE Facebook page and Twitter account which helps build VATE's profile in the wider educational community.

The committee, through the VATE Office, also began negotiations with writer/teacher Sian Evans to produce a text on literary perspectives to assist English teachers with navigating this new and challenging component of the VCE Literature course.

With regard to the VATE Bookshop, careful consideration was given to the selection and purchase of relevant titles to support the teaching of English in line with the Victorian curriculum, especially at VCE level. This was confirmed by healthy sales at the VCE Englishes Days in February, at the State Conference in December, and throughout the year with visitors to the bookshop and phone/email orders. A smaller VATE bookshop was also taken to the Coordinators Conference and the Middle Years Conference – interest in the bookshop and book sales at these events underlined the importance of taking advantage of these opportunities throughout the year to promote the bookshop and what it has to offer. Sales of VATE's publications as instant downloads via the online store were also healthy in 2017, demonstrating that VATE members and the general public are clearly more familiar and comfortable with purchasing PDF resources in this manner. In 2017, VATE added two new exams to the suite of sample VCE examination papers (Unit 3 English and Unit 3 English Language PDF), and redeveloped the Literature, English, and EAL exams in line with the new Study Design and exam specifications. Sales of VATE's sample exams were also very good in 2017, reinforcing VATE's reputation as a reliable publisher of quality resources. Overall, VATE made a profit in 2017 from the bookshop and publications.

Terry Hayes, co-convener, Publications and Communications Committee, April 2018

<b>2017 VATE Sample VCE Exams</b>	
Unit 3 English (new)	Exam editors: Faye Crossman (retired) and Marion White (retired)  Section C writer: Emma Catchpole (Wellington Secondary College)
Unit 3 English Language (New)	Writer: Kirsten Fox (outgoing English Language Chief Assessor)  Editor: Louisa Willoughby (Monash University)



Units 3-4 EAL	Section A: Anne Height (Ivanhoe Grammar) Section B: Hayley Harrison (on leave) Section C: Mark Dooley (Belmont High School)
Units 3-4 English	Exam Working Party: Amy Haywood (Penleigh and Essendon Grammar School), Ross Huggard (Cranbourne Secondary College), Dora Kourambas (Camberwell High School), Jan May (Firbank Grammar School), David Moore (Parade College), Anthony Quirk (Penleigh and Essendon Grammar School), Cameron Sayers (St Leonard's College), Germana Tendelli (Ivanhoe Girls' Grammar), Alice White (Wantirna College), Marion White  Section C writer: Anthony Quirk
Units 3-4 English Language	Writer: Kirsten Fox Editor: Louisa Willoughby
Units 3-4 Literature	Exam editors: Heather Maunder (Swinburne Secondary College) and Margaret Saltau (Sirius College)
<b>2018 Inside Stories</b>	Editor: Marion White
	Writers: Joseph Crofts (Penleigh and Essendon Grammar School), Rachel Kafka (Leibler Yavneh), Karen Lynch (Kew High School), Jan May (Firbank Grammar School), Margaret Saltau (Ave Maria College), Warren Whitney (Belmont High School), Marion White.
<b>2018 Literature Perspectives:</b>	Editor: Marion White
	Writers: Annelise Balsamo (Melbourne Rudolf Steiner School), Heather Maunder (Swinburne Secondary College), Karen Lynch (Kew high School), Meredith Maher (Literature Chief Assessor), Margaret Saltau (Ave Maria College), Briony Schroor (Nossal High School), Sara Taylor (retired), Sam Weir (Santa Maria College), Warren Whitney (Belmont High School)

## 8 AATE REPORT

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### **Introduction**

I have been in the position of AATE Delegate since February 2018, following the departure of the former AATE delegate, Tim Nolan, from Council. I want to begin by thanking Tim for his contribution to this role and for his assistance in preparing this report.

Over the past twelve months, AATE has continued its steady work in placing itself at the forefront of professional associations in the country. Involvement with ACARA and AITSL has seen some pleasing advocacy taking place between the organisations. Furthermore, AATE's interest in building strong relationships with other bodies was evident in the current and former President's attendance at NZATE in July, 2017.

AATE has also developed a Social Media Policy, which endorses some AATE Council members to act as administrators.

Recent appointments to AATE include a new President, Erika Boas, taking over from Wendy Cody, a new editor of English in Australia, Larissa McLean Davies replacing Anita Jetnikoff, and a new research officer, Honorary Professorial Fellow Phillip Mead.

AATE is pursuing a strong publications agenda for 2018-2019, including a range of materials for Reading Australia and units of work for Magabala Books. Planning has begun for a new series, similar to the Interface series, which will be rolled out over 2 years.

There are ongoing discussions regarding AATE's organisation of a touring presenter for October, 2018. This would be funded by interested ETAs and a partnership with AATE in terms of advertising and being a 'national tour' program. There are also moves to shift from a registered association in the ACT to national registration with ASIC as a company limited by guarantee. The implications of this for members will need to be considered.

### **AATE Council Composition (as of 1 April 2018)**

President: Erika Boas

Treasurer: Phil Page

Editor, English in Australia: Larissa McLean Davies

Commissioning Editor: Trish Dowsett

Research Officer: Phillip Mead  
ACTATE Delegate: Cara Shipp  
ETANSW: Susan Gazis  
ETANT: John Oakman  
ETAQ: Fiona Laing  
ETAWA: Claire Jones  
SAETA: Alison Robertson  
TATE: Emma Jenkins  
VATE: Alex Bacalja

### **Financial Report**

At the time of writing, AATE's financial situation is strong.

In 2016 AATE recorded an overall operating profit of \$29,057 (6.7% of our gross profit) compared to 2015/16's operating profit of \$25,001 (6.4% of that year's gross profit).

For the 2016/17 year AATE budgeted for a profit of \$2,524, despite anticipating additional preliminary expenditure on the English House repairs.

The organisation has an inventory of \$74k. Including the property, we have total assets of approx. \$958k and equity of \$814k.

### **Hobart National Conference 2017**

Conference theme: Cutting Edge: Margin to mainstream

Location: Wrest Point Convention Centre. Sandy Bay Rd, Sandy Bay, Hobart.

Final profit, \$178,197

1,134 conference attendees (Total FTE: 905)

Delegates by state

ACT: 98; NSW: 175; NT: 12; QLD: 107; SA: 62; TAS: 454 (including 96 shared registrations, 18 student volunteers and 8 adult volunteers); VIC: 127; WA: 61

Delegates by sector

All sectors: 36; Consultants/Others: 13; Early Years: 86; Exhibitors: 54; Invited speakers: 14;

Middle Years: 47; Primary: 424; Secondary: 389; Tertiary: 71.

### **Perth National Conference 2018**

Conference theme: The Art of English: language, literature, literacy.

Venue: Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre

Dates: Sunday 8th July – Wednesday 11 July 2018

International speakers: Dominic Wyse (Donald Graves Address) UK – primary; Debra Myhill UK – primary and secondary; Terry Locke NZ – secondary; Nell Duke US – primary; Allison Skerrett US – secondary; Recorded interview with Aiden Chambers (free of charge)

Confirmed national speakers:

Kim Scott (Conference opening); Rod Quinn (Garth Boomer address); Robyn Ewing; Larissa McLean Davies; Judith Rivalland; Jackie French (AISWA Sponsored); Ambelin Kwaymullina; Mem Fox; Chris Walsh (Plenary); Jo and Claire Jones (Pre-conference); Diane Wolfer (Pre-conference).

### **Melbourne National Conference 2019**

Conference theme: TBC 'The Power of story, the Politics of voice: In search of our Place'

Venue: TBC (Possibilities include: Deakin University, Burwood, Melbourne University, Monash University, City Venues)

Dates: 30 November – 2 December, 2019

International speakers and National speakers:

TBC.

### **Advocacy with AITSL**

Wendy welcomed Lisa Rodgers, AITSL CEO, and Clinton Milroy, Acting Manager – Quality Teaching and thanked them for coming.

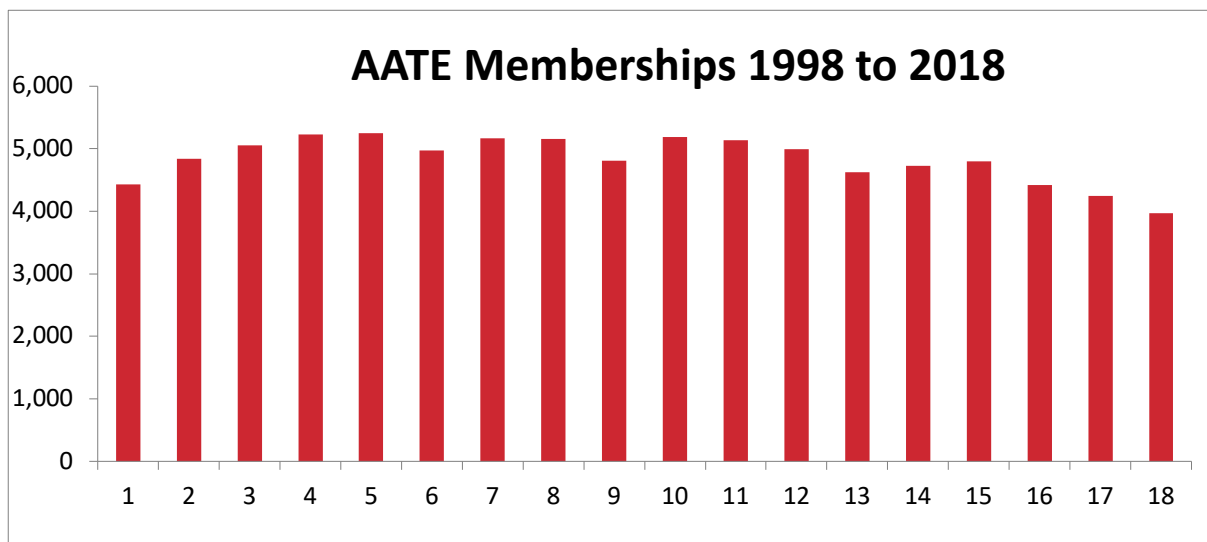
Discussion took place around several points forwarded to AITSL prior to the meeting. These included:

- AATE's interest in the early career teacher space, as demonstrated by AATE's work with the Artful English Teacher.
- The opportunity for research with AITSL to support English faculty leadership – using Lead Teacher and Highly Accomplished Teacher Standard Descriptors to guide this work.
- Australian Government's 'Review to Achieve Educational Excellence in Australian Schools'.
- The complexities and expense of developing online learning.

### Publications and Resources

- **Artful English Teacher re-print** – 1,000 copies (the publication received a commendation at the Copyright Agency Educational Publishing awards)
- **Reading Australia** – Copyright Agency will be commissioning 20 new teaching resources for the next 2 years, 10 primary and 10 secondary. NSW will do 3, AATE will do 7.
- **Magabala Books** – Units should be finished in the next couple of months, ahead of schedule.
- **Garret podcast project** – The initial 4 units are being worked on at the moment, then there will be another 12 which will be distributed across the various ETAs.
- **Red Room Poetry project** – teacher activities to be launched at the conference in July.

### AATE Membership Trends



Alex Bacalja, AATE Delegate, April 2018