



Chair's Report to NZAIA AGM 2016

After a tumultuous 2015, this year has seen NZAIA continue to consolidate its activities, underpinned by more secure administrative arrangements. With a revitalised website, the development of social media resources, increasing use of facilities such as Google Docs, Mailchimp, etc., our costs have gone down, and hopefully our activities have a higher profile. Those activities have grown this year thanks to the efforts of a number of people, especially those in the core group.

The 2014 conference in Wellington was different from our usual meeting, being a one-day meeting to reflect on impact assessment in New Zealand, in memory of Jamie Newell. It proved to be a fitting memorial, and the chance to take stock of IA in this country was itself hugely valuable. Evaluations of the conference indicated that participants felt the same too. I'd like to thank the core group conference organising team for their efforts in mounting that event.

This year has seen a growth in our activities in two particular areas: submissions, and the newsletter. The latter has been relaunched in electronic form and has seen greater attention to the overall purpose of the newsletter, and to the need to provide diverse content, with an emphasis on content that engages students and early career professionals. I'd like to thank Gilly Stewart in particular for driving the fresh approach, but also Katherine Russell and Ben Payne for their efforts in generating content and producing the newsletters.

The growth in submissions was a result of the core group decision early in the year to lift the NZAIA profile as a champion for IA in this country. Accordingly we have looked for opportunities to fly the IA flag wherever it is relevant, and whenever the opportunity arises: discussion papers, proposed legislation, draft guidance documents, etc. Many of the core groups, and several members of NZAIA outside the core group, have contributed to this effort: too many to list, but they know who they are. This is an activity we need to maintain, so when an invitation goes out to the membership to be involved, do get in touch or post their comments directly on the relevant Google Docs site (access instructions on our Submission page of the website when we have processes running). It is not possible for the core group to scan all the possible submission opportunities, so we urge members to alert us to such opportunities.

Other things to note:

- Our application to be accepted back onto the Charities Register (unfortunately lapsed due to communication problems following Jamie's death last year) is pending.

- We renewed our MoU with the IAIA this year, and have all but renewed our MoU with EIANZ (just needs signatures). I'd like to thank James Baines for acting as our liaison with EIANZ, and especially their Special Interest Section on IA. Hopefully we will be working more closely with them next year over the EIANZ conference in New Zealand.

Many thanks to this year's core group for their sterling work all year: having a larger group, with newer members, has really helped with sharing work and lifting energy levels. As Chair I'd especially like to thank Christine for her work as Secretary, and Katherine Russell, not only for conference administration but for her excellent support within the core group of IT, social media, and contribution to newsletter production. I will also be looking forward to working closely with Ben Payne, as he steps fully into the Treasurer role in coming months now that his PhD has been successfully completed and awarded. Well done Dr Ben! To that end, there is a short addendum to this report, regarding financial matters.

Richard Morgan

6th Dec 2016

Finances (on behalf of Ben Payne, Treasurer)

The financial statement for 2015 was posted on the website in July this year, but does still need AGM approval before being uploaded to the Companies Office website. It shows that essentially we had a neutral year in 2015, especially with the smaller, one-day conference. Hopefully we will receive a small boost from the 2016 conference, although we largely aim to break even.