

Australian Association for Environmental Education

Annual Report 2010/2011



Preface

The Australian Association for Environmental Education (AAEE) is the premier, national, professional association for those who identify themselves as working in the fields of environment or sustainability education.

The Association and its members are committed to working with others towards a sustainable future.

AAEE represents the broad environmental education community in national discussions and debates.

Through its representative roles on state and national committees, memberships and partnerships and its state-based Chapters, AAEE represents and advocates for the interests of environmental education and educators across Australia.

AAEE provides an important network, supporting its members with up-to-date research and policy information, access to resources, and regular workshops and conferences.

AAEE exists to provide a forum for professionals interested in Environmental Education (EE) to come together, network and share their knowledge and expertise. It also serves to represent the environmental education fraternity in national discussions and debates.

AAEE also includes Special Interest Groups for members: Teacher & Teacher Education; Early Childhood; and Early Career Researcher & Research Student.

The role of education is a critical tool in the path towards sustainability. Increasingly environmental education is playing a major role in, and across sectors including government, business, industry, the broader community, and in schools. AAEE exists to provide a network for this growing force of environmental educators. It aims to support this network through:

- growing professionally, providing a forum for sharing lessons and experiences
- providing a common voice to champion our cause in policy arena and to generate funding
- forging partnerships with organisations that have common aims to further build the profile and recognition of EE.

AAEE has professional links with similar associations in North America, New Zealand and Europe. The biennial, national conferences have an international perspective and our members represent AAEE at conferences both at home and overseas.

Membership is available in a range of categories with benefits including:

- professional development nationally and regionally via conferences, workshops and seminars
- member benefits with those organisations with which AAEE partners and/or holds memberships
- access to the latest Australian research in the Australian Journal of Environmental Education, sent free (full hard copy)
- networking opportunities
- up-to-date news about environmental education programs and events around the country through monthly e-bulletins and *ozEEnews* - our quarterly e-newsletter
- discounted registration at our biennial conference and substantial discounts on all AAEE publications;
- participation in Special Interest Group forums
- participation in State Chapters
- a voice to State and Federal governments about relevant issues.

Together, AAEE members provide a strong voice for EE across Australia and the world.

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Acknowledgements

Each section of the report has been contributed by the volunteers who are working within the network and their contributions are gratefully acknowledged.

Special thanks to all who contributed to the development of this year's Annual Report.

This report is available at www.aaee.org.au or by emailing admin@aaee.org.au

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1. AAEE HIGHLIGHTS OF 2010/2011

A few key achievements this year...

- The successful AAEE 16th Biennial Conference Canberra: LEADING CHANGE; living for one planet - 26th - 30th September 2010 at the ANU.
- The successful 6th World Environmental Education Congress in Brisbane 19th – 23rd July 2011.
- AJEE special WEEC edition
- Farewell to Sandy Eager, our Admin Coordinator of over 10 years. New Admin Coordinator brings change of address and more.
- The formation of Education for Sustainability Alliance.
- Continuing with advocacy for EfS in emerging national curriculum from ACARA.
- AJEE will be published by Australian Academic Press.
- MOU partnership with Environment Agency Abu Dhabi consolidated at WEEC.
- Chapters continue to network about activities, sharing at regular 2 monthly Liaison meetings, promoting AAEE in all sectors.
- Chapters benefit from membership reimbursements.
- Gift Tax Status set up for association.
- Website revision to provide more membership resources.
- AISTL project “Development of supporting documentation for the National Professional Standards for Teachers”.

2. STRUCTURE OF THE REPORT

Executive, Chapter and SIG activities are reported against Strategic Focus Areas for meeting our Goals. The report attempts to combine our national efforts across States and Territories, reflecting our connections and experiences as a volunteer organisation.

Reports from the Editor of the Australian Journal of Environmental Education are also included.

3. THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee (EC) of the 2010/2011 were largely all new members with only 3 of the previous staying on (*). The new executive committee was well represented across the chapters and included the following.

President	Jennifer Pearson	Western Australia
Vice President	Richard Smith	South Australia
Vice President	Maris Tebecis	Australian Capital Territory
Vice President	Cam Mackenzie	Queensland *
Treasurer	Ken Allen	Western Australia
Secretary	Bren Weatherstone	Australian Capital Territory
Committee Member	Sarah Houseman	Victoria
Committee Member	Sue Martin	New South Wales
Committee Member	Jenny Dudgeon	Tasmania *
Committee Member	Pearl Tassell	South Australia *
Committee Member	Vanessa Whelan	Australian Capital Territory
Committee Member	Amy Cutter-Mackenzie	Victoria

At the AGM in Canberra it was made clear that the resources of the association were stretched. The EC were unable to meet for the customary planning weekend of the last few years executives. Regular meetings augmented with out of session meetings via email, phone calls and Skype were employed to progress the work in a timely manner.

The Canberra conference was an ideal opportunity to hear from the memberships about where the association should focus its resources for the next two years. A series of workshops were conducted to refine the many ideas to a list of suggestions, which were then placed into a hierarchy through a voting process of all delegates on the last day. This ‘Council of Wisdom’ nominated 10 categories; the full set can be seen on the website, with the following three given the highest priority:

Curriculum	<p>AAEE should provide advice and advocacy for improved sustainability education, make explicit connection to place, experiential learning, critical & creative integration across:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early childhood • School education through the continued representations to ACARA • Tertiary institutions for various courses including the support of sustainability education as a mandatory component of all pre-service teacher training • Teacher in-service training in collaboration with the Institute of Teachers (including offering of courses as an RTO) • Urban and regional Australia through developing communities of sustainability learning bringing together education sectors, local and state government and community education. <p>Advocate for Sustainability National Curriculum adoption and resourced with PD and access for all teachers. That AAEE is promoted as most appropriate to supply PD for this.</p>
Youth	<p>Youth membership section be created to accommodate their needs, must increase this sector and can be facilitated with Face book to encourage interaction.</p> <p>Engaging young people in the secondary and tertiary sector – especially post K-7</p>
Advocacy Political	<p>Lobby – action for carbon tax at least make a statement of demand in the press release</p> <p>Continue advocacy in national curriculum – teacher training imbedded</p> <p>Curriculum lobbying – leads to teacher education PD/ teacher pre-service prep.</p>

This has been encapsulated in the work with the Education for Sustainability Alliance and over 8 months has arrived at a consolidated policy and timeline for action in partnership with Australian Youth for Climate Coalition, Environment Institute Australia and New Zealand, Australian Conservation Foundation, Australian Association of Environmental Education, National Tertiary Education Union, Australian Education Union, Independent Education Union.

This Alliance represents a very different group of organisation from the EfS groups we have traditionally worked with reinforcing that there are many groups who are passionate about this work. The work of the Australian Federation Of Societies For Studies Of Society And Environment (AFSSSE) and the National Educators Forum (NFE) have been important mechanisms to influence curriculum decision making over the years.

The EC has accomplished a range of work over the last 12 months. Please find information on these items in the Executive Activity section.

4. 2011AAEE EDUCATORS OF THE YEAR

Each year the Association recognises contributions made by our members in each chapter to the field of environmental education in Australia.

In the past the AAEE Australian Environmental Educator of the Year Award has been given

- 2007 Recipient - Frank Fisher, Victoria;
- 2008 Recipient - Richard Smith, South Australia;
- 2009 Recipient – Annie Beecroft, Tasmania; and
- 2009 Recipient - Jennifer Pearson, Western Australia.
- 2010 Recipient – Grahame Collier, New South Wales

This year the nominations are

- Victoria – Paul Dullard & Sue Lewis
- NSW – Rosemary Hadaway
- South Australia – Andy Coleman
- Queensland – Cam McKenzie
- Western Australia – Michael Burke
- Tasmania – Jenny Dudgeon

AAEE thanks the National Recognition Team, Sue Martin and Greg Hunt, along with all of the State and Chapter selection committee representatives.

The 2011 Award will be presented at the 2011AGM held at North Sydney Boys School, we look forward to congratulating the recipient of this award and acknowledging all the worthy nominees.

5. AAEE MEMBERSHIP

AAEE Members fell into the following membership categories at 30 June each year:

Category	Number of Members			
	2008	2009	2010	2011
Individual	273	338	286	270
Concession	24	26	29	40
Family	4	5	5	2
School/Small NGO	106	79	66	73
Corporate	64	56	55	40
Life	29	26	27	31
International	10	18	9	11
Journal Subscription only	58	60	60	50
TOTAL	558	590	537	517

The membership breakdown by Chapter for all membership categories, including subscriptions, is:

State	2008	2009	2010	2011
ACT	15	28	24	37
NSW	152	141	143	144
NT	20	51	15	13
Queensland	67	76	62	74
SA	46	44	37	32
Tasmania	18	12	7	10
Victoria	119	122	138	95
WA	53	38	42	51
International	10	18	10	11
TOTAL	500	530	478	467
Journal	58	60	60	50
TOTAL including AJEE subscriptions	558	590	538	517

6. EXECUTIVE ACTIVITY

The following details are provided under the key focus areas as identified in the AAEE Strategic Plan and linked to the organisational objectives identified in our constitution. Each chapter is asked to report in the same way so that a collective story can be presented.

National Executive Committee

Focus Area	Report
<p>Communications</p>	<p>Australian Journal of EE Thanks to Dr Amy Cutter-Mackenzie for facilitating the move of the AJEE to be published by Australian Academic Press. This will result in the journal being promoted to a wider audience of academics and professionals with the aim to raise the standing of the journal. This promotion will enhance the work of AAEE on the international arena. Members will still receive the journal as part of their membership.</p> <p>AJEE Special Issue: The “ness” of Environmental Education Volume 27(1), 2011 was a special issue for WEEC. Everyone who attended WEEC received an electronic version and members will be able to access this online.</p> <p>ozEEnews: This important newsletter is to undergo a revamp to better provide a platform for members to share stories, evaluation of activities, emerging researchers’ work as well as the usual short stories. The EC values the publishing of works that may not qualify for AJEE. Members will be asked to nominate to be on the Editorial Committee to support the two Editors.</p> <p>E-Bulletin: This effective and useful tool is well received and members are encouraged to send in items to the Admin Coordinator.</p> <p>Advertising: The EC have agreed on a rate for advertising in the ozEEnews and E-Bulletin with special membership rates available.</p> <p>AAEE Communication Tools: A brochure was created, thanks Maris Tebecis (ACT) and Amy Krupa (WA) ready for WEEC. An electronic copy is available on the website and chapters can request this from the Admin Co-ordinator. A printed generic business card is available for members.</p> <p>Website: The website is continuing to undergo changes as members identify needs and Jo Kelly (QLD) will be the coordinator for this.</p>
<p>Partnerships</p>	<p>A review of all MOU’s to reaffirm intentions, practical operational considerations and opportunities to strength the connections was carried out by Richard Smith.</p> <p>AAEE and Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs)</p> <p>Report to AAEE AGM 27 September 2011</p> <p>1. At the time the present executive took office in September 2010 MoUs were on file with the following organisations and carrying the indicated signing dates and period to renewal/renewal date: North American Association for EE (NAAEE); 05/2006; annually Australian Water Association (AWA) through Water Education Network (WEN); 08/2005; annually Marine Education Society of Australasia (MESA); 10/2006; annually Centre for Environmental Education [India](CEE); 11/2005; annually Victorian Association for Environmental Education (VAEE); 01/2007; when deemed necessary (the VAEE/AAEE ‘partnership’ is defined by a Deed of Alliance which sets out the conditions under which AAEE designates VAEE as the AAEE state Chapter in Victoria. A different MoU is being negotiated between AAEE and VAEE towards VAEE’s convening of the AAEE biennial national conference in 2012).</p> <p>2. MoUs were also under consideration for the following organisations:</p>

Focus Area	Report
	<p>New Zealand Association for Environmental Education (NZAEE) with possibilities also indicated for MoUs with environmental education organisations in Denmark, Austria, UK, Switzerland, Hungary, Abu Dhabi and with the Australian Youth Climate Coalition (AYCC).</p> <p>3. To date the following steps have been taken:</p> <p>3.1 the terms of reference of ‘existing’ (in inverted commas because all, according to the signing dates recorded, were overdue for renewal) MoUs have been compiled in a comparative table allowing the Executive to decide what conditions it wishes to pursue as and when the MoUs are renewed/re-negotiated. That discussion is continuing.</p> <p>3.2 an MoU has been concluded with Environment Agency – Abu Dhabi (EAD) and is appended for information.</p> <p>3.3 AAEE is a member of the Education for Sustainability Alliance, Environment Institute Australia and New Zealand, Australian Conservation Foundation, National Tertiary Education Union, Australian Education Union, Independent Education Union.</p> <p>4. Discussions by earlier executives have suggested that the following are the kinds of conditions that might be pursued. Member contributions to that discussion are welcome.</p> <p>Generic Commitments – apply to all MOU partners Shaded suggestions probably apply only to associations/groups within Australasia</p> <p><u>Communication and Promotion</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Exchange annual calendar of events, including meetings, conferences, timing for distribution of journals and newsletters and deadlines for information input. ▪ Share information and provide opportunities to distribute information to each other’s networks through cross-promotions in newsletters and other communication channels. ▪ Establish a reciprocal arrangement where relevant activities of each association/network are given space in newsletters or journals. ▪ Establish links to each other’s websites. Include a statement about the ‘commitment to work together’ and a copy of the MOU. ▪ Co-promote each association/network at relevant conferences, i.e. brochure in conference satchel. ▪ Advertise each other’s publications, merchandise. <p><u>Conference Support</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Provide planning advice and professional input for conferences where requested. ▪ Establish effective communication to avoid duplication of conference themes, speakers and dates. i.e. ensure keynote speakers, themes and general content are different. ▪ Consider running future conferences either as joint events or “back-to-back”. ▪ Would allow the offer of a discount for one larger conference. ▪ Could share the administrative costs by having one registration form. ▪ Each association aim to present at least one paper at the other’s conferences. ▪ Undertake promotion to respective membership lists for marketing of conferences, seminars and workshops. ▪ Provide free registration for President or nominee to each other’s conferences.

Focus Area	Report
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Members access conference and workshop registrations at the membership rates. <p><u>Joint Activities</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Seek opportunities to hold joint conferences, meetings, events and networking opportunities. ▪ Investigate opportunities for cooperative Federal Government Grant applications for joint projects. ▪ Where appropriate, convene joint meetings or small workshops that meet the needs of both organisations. ▪ Investigate opportunities for joint professional development and training. <p>5. The new executive will need to decide, among other things: 5.1 which associations/organisations it wishes to establish/renew MoUs with. 5.2 to what specific purposes that benefit applies to members of AAEE. 5.3 for what lengths of time/with what renewal dates. 5.4 within what sub-committee structure that will be able to ensure that MoUs are properly re/negotiated, and that the partnership intentions/benefits they embody are disseminated and supported.</p>
<p>Advocacy & Lobbying</p>	<p>The EC has focused its capacity on responding to the timeline of the National Curriculum.</p> <p>ESA Alliance: This started in November/December of 2011 with joint visits by AAEE & AYCC representatives to state Education Departments. Consolidating the ESA Alliance with regular bimonthly meetings of the Committee. Ahri Tallon met with Federal Minister Garrett to advocate for AuSSI as part of the Alliance work.</p> <p>ACARA: The Teacher & Teacher Educator SIG, with new leader David Butler worked with the EC to put a submission for the Cross Curriculum add. Chapters and Members were also encouraged to submit via the online system</p> <p>SEWPAC: The restructuring of this Federal Department has seen the demise of the support that AAEE has enjoyed over the years. The position of the National Action Plan and support for AuSSI is at risk and the EC has responded with letters of concern to this Department.</p>
<p>Member Services</p>	<p>New Administration Coordinator: In June of this year, Sandy Eager moved to a new role in her local community and tendered her resignation after over 10 years as AAEE Admin Coordinator. Many of you have come to appreciate the timely support that Sandy provided for all our members. The previous executives have all come to appreciate her commitment to the task of administration. We thank Sandy most sincerely for all her work. At WEEC any AAEE member that visited the AAEE table signed a Thank You card which was sent to Sandy with a \$200 gift voucher for the Happy Frog, her favourite organic shop.</p> <p>Advertisements for a new Admin Coordinator were sent out via the networks and Kate Elder joined the team in late July. Kate has agreed to work for 20 hours a week for 2 months to ensure that the transition is as seamless as possible. She has kept the E-Bulletin operating and sent out invoices for membership which meant an upgrade of the MYOB system. Kate brings a wealth of Administration experience to the role and everyone has made her feel extremely welcome.</p> <p>Brian Foreman Scholarship: A special scholarship was promoted for WEEC</p>

Focus Area	Report
	<p>and Nel Smit from Tasmania was able to receive support to travel to Brisbane. An auction held at WEEC dinner ensured that this scholarship will be available for the 2012 Conference in Melbourne.</p>  <p>Sue Martin, Jennifer Pearson, Nel Smit and Greg Hunt.</p> <p>Chapter Membership Reimbursement: A commitment from the new EC was to instigate a program of reimbursements of overdue memberships for fees for Chapters. To date the Tasmanian, ACT, SA and VAAEE have all been reimbursed for the 2007-2011 period. NSW has been reimbursed up to 2009 and WA will follow once WEEC financial position has been clarified. QLD has yet to present their invoices. This reimbursement is at the nominated 10% Chapters were asked to agree to in 2007. The EC will review this situation in the next financial year with a strong suggestion that the original 20% be reinstated if possible. It's important that Chapters have some direct financial capacity to grow their groups.</p> <p>Grants to Voluntary Environmental, Sustainability and Heritage Organizations: An application was submitted by Jennifer & Bren for funds to cover Admin Coordination for 5 days a week, funds for teleconferences and travel for EC to meet once a year. If successful this will provide more support for Chapter admin support and time to track grant opportunities for projects.</p> <p>Arab Gateway:Free resources from the AFSSSE alliance. Chapters will be able to facilitate workshops for members and their community to receive this resource.</p> <p>NZAAE Reciprocal Conference Delegate: The MOU with NZAAE means that two members from AAEE are granted free delegate places at their conference in January 2012. After expressions of interest were called, with specific criteria for applicants, Coral Pepper (WA) and Dean Turner (NSW) were the recipients. WE look forward to the recounts in the ozEEnews.</p> <p>Future Conferences: At the AGM in 2010 VAAEE proposed to host the 2012 Biennial AAEE Conference in Melbourne. An MOU with the VAAEE and AAEE has secured the protocol for mutual support and membership benefits. The conference will be held on 1st – 3rd October 2012.</p> <p>The EC has also secured an understanding from the Tasmania Chapter that they will hold the 2014 Biennial Conference in Hobart.</p> <p>Conference Table: A new initiative to ensure that any conference that AAEE is involved with has the Admin Coordinator, EC and Chapter representatives manning the table to speak about AAEE, hand out brochures and secure membership has been instituted. AJEE back copies will also be offered at</p>

Focus Area	Report
	<p>discount rates. Chapters are encouraged to showcase their activities by supply posters or other information. This occurred at WEEC which was seen as worthwhile and will now be entered into the Association Handbook for future events.</p>  <p>10% Discount to NRM Conference: The following conference has been endorsed by AAEE and members can receive 10% discount on application. <i>Tools & Methods for Monitoring & Evaluating in NRM: Frameworks, on-ground methodologies & new opportunities</i>, 29th & 30th November 2011, Citigate Central, Sydney.</p>
<p>Professional Development</p>	<p>LEADING CHANGE; living for one planet - the AAEE 16th Biennial Conference was held in Canberra 26th-30th September 2010 at the ANU. The Conference brought 340 delegates together to share successful EfS initiatives and programs which addressed barriers to achieving ecological sustainability. This involved learning to make decisions that integrate the long term future of the economy, the natural environment and the well-being of all communities.</p> <p>Plenary events included a youth panel comprising Ahri Tallon, Sue-Lin Wong and Charlotte Wood, and keynotes including Tim Flannery, Clive Hamilton, Ursula Rakova, Richard Baker, John Smyth and Rod Quantok. The conference dinner was held at Old Parliament House with David Lindenmayer as the speaker.</p> <p>The National Australian Association for Environment Education 2010 Conference was successful in its aim to deliver opportunities for the formal education sector (pre-schools; government and non-government primary and secondary schools; and post-school institutions such as universities and TAFE), health professionals, business and industry to discuss and examine strategies to build the capacity to acquire skills for achieving a sustainable future.</p> <p>The National EC thanks the members of the ACT Chapter for their organisational efforts over the two years of planning for this very successful event.</p> <p>Publication of a refereed journal featuring papers presented at the conference is available at: http://www.aaee.org.au/wp-content/uploads2/2009/01/AAEE_2010_Conference_JournalB.pdf Thanks to Jennifer Pearson and the editorial committee for their efforts in preparing the edition. These papers represent a sample of the broad range of</p>

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	<p>issues and high standard of research that was evident in the conference program.</p> <p>WEEC wows the world! Jo Ferreira and Cam Mackenzie</p> <p>AEE was proud host of the 6th World Environmental Education Congress 2011 (WEEC) in Brisbane in July 2011. The Congress offered environmental and sustainability educators from around the world the opportunity to come together to <i>Explore, Experience and Educate</i>. More than 750 delegates from over 50 countries, plus 250 teachers and students, came together to reflect, discuss and build effective local, regional and global networks.</p>  <p><i>Fatima Benyaich (WEEC2013 organiser), Jo Ferreira, Mario Salamone (WEEC Secretariat), Cam Mackenzie</i></p> <p>With previous WEECs in Portugal, Brazil, Italy, South Africa and Canada, it was time to bring the environmental and sustainability educators of the world to the Asia-Pacific to showcase the excellent work being done by environmental educators in the region. The response from delegates has been overwhelmingly positive, with 84.6% of the 253 respondents to the final evaluation rating the Congress a good/excellent experience. Our international delegates, not surprisingly!, loved Australia as this comment shows: "Brisbane is superb; Australians are nice people".</p> <p>Our overall goal with the Congress was for delegates to have been exposed to new ideas, to have their ideas challenged and advanced, to strengthen old and make new connections, and to be inspired to continue our good work as environmental educators. We are confident that we have managed to achieve this, given comments such as: "I had a brilliant time at the Congress and have come away more motivated and engaged" and "I had an amazing time and loved every minute of it. Lost my voice from talking and grew incoherent with mental activity going off in all directions. All of this is positive!".</p> <p>The program was structured around 9 key themes, kicked off each day by keynotes talking about the science of climate change, an Asia-Pacific perspective on climate change, and a youth perspective on climate change. The keynotes were followed by respondents from the EE field who reflected on what the keynote addresses meant for us as environmental educators. The delegates were impressed with the wide variety of formats to choose from - paper presentations, hands-on workshops, symposiums, posters, exhibitions, roundtable sessions and fieldtrips, in addition to a parallel programme with</p>

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Queensland's Environmental Education Centres which consisted of a number of sessions both indoors and outdoors and a young reporters program. The roundtable format received the most positive comments as delegates felt they provided a great opportunity for discussion. As is to be expected with a Congress of this size, some delegates reported feeling overwhelmed by the choice on offer – and disappointed that they couldn't go to everything they wanted to. As is also to be expected, some people loved all the keynotes, some people hated them all; some people loved the 'practical' papers and hated the 'theoretical' papers and visa versa – our only consolation is that the vast majority of comments were very positive!



Delegates leaving their thoughts on the chalkboard

We also had very positive reactions to our eco-responsibility efforts which meant that the eco-responsibility policy the Organising Committee developed in the early planning stages –which guided our decisions at every step from sustainable purchasing, 100% vegetarian catering, an award for the most eco-responsible booth, to offsetting the event's carbon footprint, was noted as innovative and was appreciated: "I loved the fact that the conference itself was sustainable"; "Appreciate the work and planning that went into the conference and the hard work to try and keep it as carbon neutral as possible"; and "Glad you walked the talk".



Delegates doing a meet-and-greet with some local wildlife

We also tried to make good use of social media sites (Twitter, Ning, Facebook and Flickr) before, during and after the Congress. There were only really two

Focus Area	Report
	<p>people on the committee who were up to speed though, with the rest of us being Luddites! While there was minimal use of the Ning, Twitter and Facebook were well used – including on the final day when we managed to have a live tweet feed intermingled with Congress photos from Flickr. Post-congress activity has continued on both the Facebook site and a new Twitter hashtag has been set up by a delegate for the next congress in Morocco in 2013 - #weec13</p> <p>Finally, two quotes to sum up people’s experiences: "Well organised and great support on hand to answer queries. Varied and inspiring learning opportunities, and options for participation in outdoor activities. Networking was facilitated by sufficient and ambient breaks. And I suppose you're hearing this a lot – the food was outstanding!"; and “Great for networking, great to hear from educators all over the world, great to be surrounded by like-minded people. The conference and those that attended created a buzzing, creative space for new ideas and partnerships to grow”.</p>  <p><i>The Young Reporters hard at work interviewing keynote speaker Emeretta Cross</i></p> <p>National Professional Development Initiative for Sustainability Educators (NPDISE) was launched with some workshops occurring in Sydney but most chapters were unable to successfully facilitate workshops. The model has undergone a review and will be rebadged and relaunched in the near future. This is an important initiative of the last executive and will continue to be supported by the new EC.</p> <p>National Professional Standards for Teachers (AISTL) Project: “Development of supporting documentation for the National Professional Standards for Teachers”. Syd Smith completed the application and we were awarded a \$20 000 package to develop exemplars for EfS with the proposed timeline as 2012 start. This will mean a team of writers to develop video exemplar for EfS so we will be calling for expressions of interest towards the end of the year.</p>
<p>Governance</p>	<p>As the EC began its task of understanding the many aspects of the Association and responding to matters outstanding, the following governance issues were identified and dealt with. Bren Weatherstone leads this section.</p> <p>NSW Environmental Trust Grant: Lead Environmental Community Groups, grant secured for by the previous executive for the Canberra Conference had been amended without notice and had not been acquitted in a</p>

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	<p>timely fashion. Jennifer was able to work with the department to clarify the position of the Association's communications with the department and arrive at an agreement that the \$10 000 grant would not have to be repaid. There will be conditions imposed on any future grants to the National Executive of AAEE.</p> <p>Deductable Gift Recipient (DGR) : Information was secured from SEWPAC that in 2007 this status was granted and the Association only needed to open a dedicated bank account. The letter showed the main bank account of the association so correspondence with the NAB bank by Jennifer secured a new account. Members can begin to donate money to AAEE and receive a tax benefit.</p> <p>Signatories on Bank Accounts: All signatories from the past 10 years have been successfully deleted from the accounts.</p> <p>Annual Returns: The incorporation of the association requires Annual Returns to be lodged each year to notify election of executive members, audited financial statements and the annual report. Cam found supporting financial documents to bring previously outstanding reports up to date.</p> <p>Executive Committee Meetings: These have occurred regularly as required and minutes have been circulated to State and Territory Chapter Liaison Officers to ensure that Chapters are aware of the decision making occurring.</p> <p>Chapter Liaison Meetings: These have occurred every 2 months since October 2010 and have been very well attended.</p> <p>Minutes to Members: Members are always able to ask for minutes of meetings but the EC would like to make these available to members via the website when we can generate a password secure page.</p>

7. CHAPTER ACTIVITY

State/Territory Chapters report activity against the focus areas and organisational objectives as presented in the AAEE Constitution. They are presented in alphabetical order.

Australian Capital Territory – Vanessa Whelan & Bren Weatherstone

Focus Area	Report
<p>Communications</p>	<p>Involving the Community in setting the direction and designing the Conference. The conference was built on the directions that arose out of a planning weekend at an ACT outdoor education school centre. People from the ACT & NSW public service, local government and community programs and ENGOS were consulted about what issues should be addressed and what strategies could be best employed to come to grips with appropriate themes to explore strategies for providing effective leadership to bring about one planet living.</p>
	<p>The ACT Chapter is a Member Organisation of several umbrella ENGOS notably the Conservation Council of ACT and Region which provides a meeting space and hosts the chapter by providing office space, a computer and a dedicated landline for our project staff. Access to extensive networks for publicity is a valued asset greatly amplifying the outreach capacity of our small organisation.</p>

<p>Partnerships</p>	<p>The ACT Chapter partnered with AuSSI ACT in co-presenting events such as the 2011 <i>Spotlight on Education for Sustainability Resources</i> for ACT teachers featuring the resources available from 19 local groups. Representatives from local environment education and EfS groups such as catchment groups, Switched On Schools, energy efficiency experts, environmental law experts, Indigenous Education, National Botanic Gardens Education were provided with access to local schools as well as enjoying meeting up with each other.</p>
<p>Advocacy and Lobbying</p>	<p>Committee members were constantly on the lookout for sponsorship opportunities to support the conference, and although this did not yield the results we were aiming for (financial), we raised the profile of AAEE in the minds of those who were approached for money and in-kind support as we made our case for being a great cause to support. For instance, CIT, UofC and ANU staff and students became aware of the aims and activities of our Association as did other parts of the government and the local ENGO landscape. ACT Members had a stall in Orientation Week which attracted attention and enlisted some volunteers who left their contact details with us.</p>
<p>Members Services</p>	<p>Social events which encouraged ACT Chapter Members to meet and mix with other community groups were advertised and held regularly. Progress markers for the AAEE Conference were celebrated as we proceeded through the development of themes, strands and concepts underlying the scaffolding of the conference structure.</p> <p>Members were encouraged to participate at all stages of conference planning. People came on board even in the final days of last minute preparation.</p>
<p>Professional Development</p>	<p>Opportunities for Professional Development. The National AAEE 2010 Conference was successful in its aim to deliver opportunities for the formal education sector (pre-schools; government and non-government primary and secondary schools; and post-school institutions such as universities and TAFE), health professionals, business and industry to discuss and examine strategies to build capacity to acquire skills for achieving a sustainable future.</p>
<p>Governance</p>	<p>Effective decision making through minuted meetings and reporting was maintained throughout the period leading up to and after the 2010 National Conference. Grant funding was supervised and monitored in order to facilitate effective outcomes from expenditure leading to accurate and reliable acquittal. Responsibility was shared by giving Members discrete tasks to work on and report back on to the main conference committee for discussion and approval.</p>
<p>Other Comments</p>	<p>Youth engagement</p> <p>58 people under 25 were registered for the conference, an increase of 300% from the previous National Conference. An ACT Government grant of \$20,000 allowed the conference to engage 16 to 25 year olds from throughout Australia. The youth participated in plenary sessions and presentations while also attended an interactive program of Youth Workshops aiming to develop unique and valuable skills, such as leadership for sustainability, learning through nature, goal-setting, and engaging with personal core values.</p>

	<p>Since the conference many of the young Canberra delegates have been actively involved in environmental education initiatives in their homes, school and workplaces. Such projects have included starting and/or reinvigorating environment groups at schools, getting involved with established youth organisations such as the Australian Youth Climate Coalition, and supporting youth leadership for sustainability through the Youth Leading Australia congresses.</p> <p>Proceeds from LEADING CHANGE living for one planet were dedicated to furthering the aims of AAEE through setting up projects and activities that would involve young people making decisions on how to bring about effective leadership to inspire respect for the Earth and each other.</p> <p>Planning is currently underway for how to best allocate this funding in 2011 and 2012, with young people's involvement integral in this decision-making.</p>
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New South Wales Chapter: Convenor Mark Caddey

Focus Area	Report
Communications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The new website www.aaeensw.org.au went live in December 2010. ▪ The NSW Executive communicates information regularly to state members via email ▪ AAEE NSW volunteers manned a stall at the Ryde TAFE Environmental Expo
Partnerships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ AAEE NSW is now a member group of the Nature Conservation Council of NSW
Advocacy and Lobbying	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Sustainability Education in NSW Future Directions - practitioner survey has now closed. Next step is for Office of Environment and Heritage to put together a directions paper from the information gathered so far. Mark Caddey, Grahame Collier and Sue Martin are continuing to follow this up with the State Govt. Mel to advise Richard/Jen if a letter from the National Exec to the NSW Government would be helpful, and if so, at what point in the process. ▪ Mid Rivers Group of Environmental Educators (MRGEE) sponsored Curryfest 2011 in Woolgoolga, undertaking an environmental audit of the event. A 3 bin system the event attracted around 11,000 people ▪ The Association is working with the AYCC on a range of activities including Australian Curriculum and advocacy with students. AYCC attended 'Students Using Sustainable Strategies' at Lismore and included benefits of AAEE membership.
Members Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NSW Environmental Educator of the Year Awards were presented at the 2010 National Conference at Canberra • The award recipients were: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ NSW Environmental Educator of the Year - Rosemary Hadaway ○ Formal Education – Ian Judd and highly commended - Richard Ingham ○ Agency Educator – Sue Martin and highly commended - Sonya Tirtajaya ○ Community Education Award – Ken Rubeli <p>NSW Project Officer Kate Heyward relinquished the position in May 2011. The Executive advertised for a replacement and Jem Hansen has been appointed to this position. The role provides administrative management for the state chapter. Funding for this position was provided by the NSW</p>

	Environmental Trust and continues until 2012.
Professional Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AAEE NSW and the Office of Environment and Heritage are negotiating the management of the Professional learning EfS 'Hub'. NSW AAEE has nominated Kate Kilgour to be the Hub project Officer. The project will be managed by an Advisory Group. www.efsllearninghub.net.au/ NSW Conference. 26 & 27 September 2011, North Sydney Boys High School. The annual conference is being presented by AAEE NSW, North Sydney Council and North Sydney Boys High Schools See http://www.nsweec.com/ AAEE NSW executives were represented on the WEEC 2011 committee in the area of eco responsibility NSW AAEE travelling scholarship will be progressed in 2011/12
Governance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The NSW Executive Committee meets quarterly to implement the current NSW AAEE strategic plan. NSW AAEE produces an annual treasurers report. The NSW AAEE Executive has 12 months remaining in the committee positions.
DESD Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The current AAEE NSW strategic plan was developed to guide the NSW membership in the second half of the Decade for Environmental Sustainable Development.
Other Comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AAEE NSW will progress a Deed of Alliance with the National body (similar to VAEE) in 2011/12

Northern Territory Chapter: Pending

Queensland Chapter: Convenor Jo Kelly

Focus Area	Report
Communications	AAEE QLD has continued to regularly link QLD members to sustainability news, professional development opportunities, events and new initiatives through an e-newsletter. In addition, the Chapter trialled the use of a blog, and has since established a successful site at aaeeqld.blogspot.com . We have also endeavoured to ensure National office is aware of any particular events in QLD ensuring they are profiled in the national e-news and ozEEnews. All members are invited to attend QLD chapter member meetings and events.
Partnerships	QLD continues to develop partnerships with local organizations in order to share resources and further grow the membership of AAEE. We actively seek partnering opportunities that enhance the vision and mission of AAEE. In the past year these partnerships have included the Kedron Brook Teacher's Association and Green Cross Australia. A number of organizations have become members of AAEE including Wild Mountains, Wild Mob and Ocean Life Education. Key partnerships were formed to enable the WEEC congress to be held and will be reported separately.
Advocacy and Lobbying	Cam Mackenzie, Jo Ferreira, Noeleen Rowntree, Hilary Macleod and a large number of other Queensland Chapter members effectively raised the profile of AAEE and advocated for EE during the planning and delivery of WEEC 2011.

<p>Members Services</p>	<p>QLD members were surveyed regarding their preferred services, role and structure for the Chapter. The response noted our services should focus upon:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing information on environmental education in Qld • Professional development in environmental education <p>And whilst members noted the need for face to face meetings their preferences for receiving information was:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Directly via email • Increasingly through web based resources eg Blogs; google
<p>Professional Development</p>	<p>The QLD chapter's focus for PD was on the development of WEEC 2011 and the Environmental Expo held on the 30th March. WEEC will be covered in an additional report. Congratulations to Mary Ann Pattison and the team who provided an excellent Expo, attended by over 100 participants, with a large number of workshops.</p>
<p>Governance</p>	<p>The QLD Chapter continues to meet regularly and is supported by two co-convenors, Ms Miranda Mason and Ms Jo Kelly. Cam Mackenzie is on the National Executive as A/Vice President. Queensland has consistently participated within National Executive and Liaison Meetings through representation by one of these three individuals. Chapter members have been kept informed by their representatives via email/blog and Chapter meetings. The Queensland Chapter nominated a Queensland Member for the AAEE Environmental Educator of the year award and has been represented on the panel called by the Recognition Committee.</p>

South Australia Chapter: Convenor Clair Butler - Pending

Tasmania Chapter: Convenor Jenny Dudgeon - Pending

Victoria Chapter: Convenor Sarah Houseman - Pending

Western Australia Chapter: Convenor Jennifer Pearson

Focus Area	Report
<p>Communications</p>	<p>WA Chapter Email network - Regularly forward information through network about a range of PD offered from other organisations that are relevant to members.</p> <p>Professional Teaching Council of WA calendar is updated biannually with events and activities of the WA Chapter. This calendar is distributed across all the professional educators associations.</p> <p>Environmental Educators Network, email once a month which is managed by DEC on behalf of AAEE WA Chapter, to advertise upcoming events for a range of EE providers across the state.</p> <p>Environmental Education and Communication Award Category - WA Chapter was the Finalist in the Western Australian Environment Awards 2010, which was on 6th November. This recognition raised our profile across every EE sector in WA.</p>
<p>Partnerships</p>	<p>Perth Zoo, continued involvement with them for meetings and joint events.</p>

City of Canning, The utilisation of the Canning River Eco Education Centre as a home base for AAEE (WA); allowing periodic membership meetings, minor storage and use of the Centre as a postal address at no cost. The collaboration in developing and supporting two major projects, see below.

YOUth LEADing Australia – Congress, 23rd – 25th November 2010

This was held at Edith Cowan University facilities by Jennifer Pearson in collaboration with YOUth LEADing committee where two primary schools came together for a three day program. The schools were Coolbinia Primary School and St Pauls Primary School. Participation from Millennium Kids, Australian Youth for Climate Change provided input and ideas for the workshops.

Catchments Corridors and Coasts (CCC) 13th – 15th January included, Red Hill Waste Management Facility; Wooraloo Brook LCDC; Shire of Mundaring; Perth Hills Forest Centre, Kanyana Rehabilitation, Perth Zoo Greening Australia WA; Millennium Kids; South East Regional Centre for Urban Landcare (SERCUL); Swan River Trust; Phosphorus Action Group; Canning River Eco Education Centre, Ribbons of Blue; Water Corporation Waterwise Schools Program; Aboriginal Heritage Unit; Environmental Technology Centre; The Department of Fisheries' Naturaliste Marine Discovery Centre and the Western Australian Fisheries and Marine Research Laboratories; Padbury SHS Marine Studies; Nearer to Nature, Coast Care; Australian Sustainable Schools Initiative.

The City of Cockburn provided two scholarships for Cockburn school teachers to attend. Lotterywest provided a grant for 10 delegates from community groups to attend.

This was coordinated by Catherine Baudains, Elaine Lewis, Amy Krupa, Michael Burke, Dot Hepburn, Vicky Hartill, Claire Gaskin, Jennifer Pearson,

Geography Earth Environmental Science (GEES) Yr 10 Forum day 14th

April 2011, included Perth Zoo, Science Teachers Association of Western Australia, Earth Science Western Australia, Curtin University, CSIRO Labs SciTech, UWA, Western Australian Museum, DEC, Air watch, Greening Australia WA, Geography Association of WA. Over 450 students from 10 schools attended. This was coordinated by Lyndsay Fairclough, Perth Zoo and Jennifer Pearson.

Earth Day Expo – Monday 16th May 2011. This event moved to the Canning River Eco Education Centre with 414 children attending from 7 schools. There were 17 different presentations provided that engage the children in activities like clay making, reptiles, water quality, birds of prey, bird identification, macro invertebrates, water security and much more. The initial feedback from the schools was very positive.

This was coordinated by Hayley Bullimore, CREEC & AAEEWA and Jennifer Pearson.

Little Green Steps – An application was submitted to Lotterywest for 12 months funding for a trial of this program in three local councils.

Complimentary funding was offered from Malcolm McCusker to operate a trial in the Eastern Goldfields district. Partnerships are forming with the City of Canning, City of Armadale, City of Gosnells, the Kalgoorlie Boulder Urban Landcare Group and the South East Regional Community Urban Landcare (metro). Coordinating committee is Jennifer Pearson, Anne Pettit, Elaine Lewis, Kelsie Prabawa-Sear with support from SERCUL.

	<p>National Science Week ‘YOUth Sound of Science’ Community Fair on 21st August included National Science Week Committee, City of Canning, Canning Eco Education Centre, SERCUL, DEC Indigenous Heritage Section, Canning River Volunteers, Edith Cowan University Student Volunteers, Murdoch University Volunteers, SciTech, Keep Australia Beautiful, Perth Zoo. Coordinated by Elaine Lewis, Amy Krupa, Hayley Bullimore, Kirsty Rowland and Jennifer Pearson.</p> <p>Turtle Watch – April 2011-March 2012. This project provides camera surveillance of three oblong turtle nesting sites in the Perth metropolitan area (Herdsman Lake, Canning River & Bibra Lake) to determine predator/s impacting on the survival of turtle nests. Monthly <i>Turtle Watch</i> e-bulletins are distributed to all stakeholders informing progress and dates of education events. Project involves Cockburn Wetlands Centre, Canning River Eco Education Centre, Herdsman Lake Wildlife Centre, Murdoch University, University of WA and Lotterywest. Coordinated by Elaine Lewis with links to many WA Chapter members, check out details on www.aaeewa.org.au</p> <p>AuSSI WA committee – we are represented on the committee.</p>
<p>Advocacy and Lobbying</p>	<p>WA DET Meetings – Jennifer Pearson and Basha Stasak from Australian Youth for Climate Change, held a meetings with Department of Education and Training Senior Policy Advisors about National Curriculum development.</p> <p>WA Curriculum Change - Responded to request for information from Labour Party, Ben Wyatt about Curriculum Development in Western Australia.</p> <p>Little Green Steps - Meetings with City of Canning, City of Gosnells and City of Armadale about Little Green Steps program. Meetings with Royalties for Region body in March 2011 funding about our organization and possible funding opportunities.</p>
<p>Members Services</p>	<p>WEEC attendance - CCC organizing group were part funded to attend WEEC to present about CCC, Amy Krupa, Elaine Lewis and Vicky Hartill, from surplus funds to the value of \$500 each. The provision of two scholarships valued at \$750 each for members to attend WEEC from the CCC budget. Barbara Sing from Derby presented about the Toad Busting work with her Bushranger Cadets and Anne Jennings from Broome with a paper about <i>Sustainability education: local communities in real partnerships with local schools</i>. One scholarship valued at \$500 from the Mini Conference in October 2010, after the Canberra Conference. Jessica Lyle is a Masters student at Edith Cowan University South West Campus in Bunbury.</p> <p>Professional Teaching Council of WA – Nominate a member for their annual awards, Michael Burke from Fisheries Department.</p> <p>AAEE Environmental Educator of the Year – Nominate a member for the annual award, Michael Burke from Fisheries Department</p>
<p>Professional Development</p>	<p>Catchments Corridors Coasts, 19th – 21st January 2011, three day PD for teachers, pre-service teachers, industry, local and state Gov personnel.</p> <p>Mini Conference – Monday 29th October 2010 – where members who had presented at the Canberra Conference presented to the broader community of WA EE providers. The Keynote speaker was Professor Carmen Lawrence and over 60 people attended. This was coordinated by Catherine Baudains,</p>

	Elaine Lewis, Amy Krupa, Jennifer Pearson, Dot Hepburn.
Governance	<p>Meetings - Conducted regular monthly meetings on the 3rd Thursday of each month at the Perth Zoo Education Centre. Guest speakers on occasions.</p> <p>Incorporation - Completed incorporation of WA Chapter to comply with state requirements to facilitate grant submissions.</p> <p>Financial - Registered for GST in October 2010.</p>

Western Australia Chapter: South West Group - Sandra Wooltorton

Focus Area	Report
Communications	<p>AAEESW meets monthly on Sunday evenings for a meeting followed by dinner. Minutes are distributed afterwards.</p> <p>This year's annual report is the first since the death of Richard Jeffreys. Richard was the chairperson of AAEESW for many years, and was a key person in the proposal, inception and early years of such outstanding projects as the Energy Challenge project. He was a teacher at Bunbury Cathedral Grammar School for many years, and after leaving he committed himself to education about, and take-up of renewable energy technologies and organic living. He is sadly missed by AAEESW, and he leaves a legacy of inspiration to other members who volunteered with him over the years.</p>
Partnerships	<p>AAEESW has a number of active partnerships in place, which are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The <i>Energy Challenge</i> project which has been operating for nearly seven years. The partnership now comprises five schools, a university, AAEE, Geographe Green – a sustainable technologies small business, and BHP Billiton-Worsley Alumina. The objective is for participating schools to reduce their energy consumption by 20% over five years. Two schools met their targets and the remainder are close. Each school is also in the process of transitioning towards sustainability through holistic across-the-board sustainability education programs. The project is now revisiting its charter, mission and goals to determine future activities. Website: www.energychallenge.org.au b) The Transition Bunbury project has a linked website: www.transitionbunbury.org.au This project now has three subsidiary project groups (Bunbury Urban Growers (BUG), Bunbury Bicycle User Group (BBUG) and Teachers for Transition (T4T). The project also has a number of connected organisations and has recently been officially acknowledged by the City of Bunbury (unanimously). Last year the project ran two sustainability festivals – one run by student teachers at ECU Bunbury and a bigger one for the community on a Saturday, and the website now exhibits a number of small student projects done for the project. Last year the two projects were finalists in the WA Environment Award (which the AAEEWA branch won!). We have an application for an award in this year as well, and the project is going very well.
Advocacy and Lobbying	<p>One member (Chris Gibbs) represents our interests on the Bunbury Environment and Sustainability Advisory Committee (BESAC) which is a sub-committee of the Bunbury City Council, Through Chris and in other local forums members constantly advocate for such things as reduced energy consumption, sustainable transport options including bikeways, funds and support for EE in schools, and a sustainability transition program for Bunbury.</p>

	<p>Chris Gibbs is an extremely active CoastCare WA facilitator who convenes local projects such as 'Friends of the Maidens' in planting and brushing dunes. He regularly talks to school and university groups, as well as members of the public.</p> <p>Local issues constantly take members' attention in relation to EE requirements such as the Shale Gas proposal in Margaret River and the ongoing issues around water extraction from Yarragadee. We are well represented in groups attending to these issues.</p>
Members Services	We support members through the <i>Energy Challenge's</i> website and <i>Transition Bunbury's</i> website, and upon request we often respond with particular projects as required.
Professional Development	<p>We do much PD:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Through the <i>Energy Challenge</i> project. The project supports schools where requested with student projects and other direct support as required. b) Through the <i>Transition Bunbury</i> project. This includes a series of 6 public lecture series convened in semester 2, 2010 on climate change and a Transition Bunbury series in 2011 which is currently in progress. c) At our monthly meetings, where we have had speakers such as Richard Picket (DoW regional hydrologist), Stuart Ashbil and Helene Fisher (deep ecologists/teachers), David Biggins (holistic scientist); Lucy Nankervis (Water Corp EEer); Ashley Ramsay (DoW scientist and small film maker). d) At local festivals, such as the Bull and Barrell in Dardanup, Capel Fest and Sustainable Living in Dalyellup (where we had/will have a table or were represented). e) We run occasional PD sessions; for example: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. A tour of Beenup Mine restoration, the lower Blackwood and Scott River was very capably organised and led by George and Margaret Mardon. b. A Leschenault Estuary tour is being organised by George Mardon, a local advocate for the estuary.
Governance	We have a mail secretary and a meetings secretary, a chairperson and finance officer. 'Elections' are held annually. Meetings are held monthly.
DESD Activities	As above: we are holding a <i>Transition Bunbury</i> public presentation series including such topics as energy futures, deep sea litter, connections to place. A local EE calendar of all EE activities by the various local groups is being hosted by SWCC, Chris Gibbs' workplace. This will be greatly appreciated by all local groups.
Other Comments	Our on-ground membership is increasing. Membership of AAEE is not compulsory since we have our own fund supply, nonetheless it is regularly promoted.

8. SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS ACTIVITY

SIGs have been established to help members develop particular interests and share information and resources specific to that topic. SIGs currently in operation are:

- Early Childhood;
- Teachers and Teacher Education;&
- Emerging Researcher;

These groups are a vital support to the EC in reflecting on discrete areas that require considered responses to policy, curriculum development and political lobbying for members.

Early Childhood SIG: Sue Elliott

Focus Area	Report/Comments/Dot Points (link to goals where possible)
Communications	Promotion of the association including the EC SIG has continued through professional development and informal contacts. The ozEE newsletters in 2010-11 included an EC SIG article when possible to inform AAEE about the EC sector.
Partnerships	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Julie Davis has been instrumental in developing and maintaining international partnerships. In particular the second Transnational Dialogues in EC EfS was held in Brisbane in July 2011 with twenty participants (ten from Aust/NZ), they discussed and planned research and publications in EC EfS. Also the WEEC included a very successful EC Strand which Julie led and many contributed to. • In February 2011 a second study tour organised by the Japanese Ecosystem Conservation Society visited Melbourne and Sydney to view education for sustainability in early childhood services. A number of EC SIG members were involved and the tour was again a success. • ECA continues to be a partner in promoting EfS. Tracy Young was recognised by ECA in 2010 with an award for her work in sustainability and their next conference in Perth, 3-6 October, 2012 has sustainability as a theme. • A partnership between five local governments in Victoria has just been successful in obtaining SV funding to develop EfS across all EC services. The AAEE EC SIG supported this application and members will be involved in the longer term. • Julie Gaul and Deb Watson at NSW ECEEN are continuing to build partnerships with local government through EC EfS programs and an evaluative report of previous programs has now been completed. • The three state based groups EEEEC, NSW ECEEN and QECSN are seeking to strengthen partnerships and a national name is being sought. The intention is to create an alliance to ensure that future lobbying has a stronger united voice.
Advocacy and Lobbying	<p>Group members continue to lobby for early childhood EfS at local and national levels.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trialling of a draft National Quality Standard for EC has created an opportunity for lobbying as the draft contains little reference to EfS. Sue Elliott made a presentation to advisors involved in trialling the NQS and many members have sent submissions to the NQS consultation. • Julie Gaul and Deb Watson at NSW ECEEN received funding late 2010 to develop a tool for sustainably interpreting the new NQS and the AAEE EC SIG membership is actively supporting this project. • In 2010 NESN approved establishment of an EC sub group to provide support for a national EC AuSSi, discussion is ongoing. Tracy Young at Swinburne University and Jane Liefman at Sustainability Victoria have been moving this forward.
Members Services	Members continue to receive emailed newsletters on a quarterly basis, EC SIG news No 28 was sent in June 2011 and on-going update emails of relevant events and information.
Professional Development	The EC SIG does not have direct responsibility for professional development, but a number of members are significantly involved in this area both at in-service and pre-service levels with local government, individual early

	<p>childhood services/organisations and tertiary institutions. For example, in 2010/2011 Julie Gaul and Deb Watson continued training with NSW local governments while Sue Elliott presented lectures for Steppingstones EC Services, North Coast TAFE, City of Boroondara and the KPV Gowrie Conference. Stephanie Ralton presented at the Early Childhood Management Services conference and Julie Davis at an NZ EC conference. In both 2010 and 2011 EEEEC in Victoria has hosted one-day EfS conferences for about 100 participants. In May 2011 Creche and Kinder QLD hosted a conference with a sustainability theme and similarly in November 2011, NSW Community Childcare will host a sustainability themed conference.</p>
Governance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The member list is due for updating and the group membership is currently 51. • Reports have been provided at AAEE liaison meetings when possible. • The two-yearly action plan process has lapsed due to lack of time.
Other Comments	<p>The current level of activity in EC EfS is unprecedented and change is a constant in EC nationally just now. The items noted in this report are only part of the story in EC EfS, there are many members working in many ways to make it happen.</p> <p>Many thanks to all the EC SIG members for their contributions and to the AAEE Council and administrative staff for their support.</p>

Teacher and Teacher Education Special Interest Group - Sandra Wooltorton

This group is now being led by David Butler, as of August 2011.

Focus Area	Report
Communications	<p>This is a SIG, which uses a Yahoo website and network list to maintain communications. The character of the communication is that it tends to be irregular in that there will be bursts of contributions to the list when particular issues are being discussed, interspersed with periods of quiet. Regularity tends to follow teacher and academic semesters, so that busy periods for both groups at school and university, tend to be quiet times in communication – so early to mid semesters tend to be busy times for TTE-SIG activity.</p>
Partnerships	<p>A range of smaller informal networks formed in 2007/8 and 2008/9 but have been less functional in 2010 and 2011, in response to individuals keen to respond to current National Curriculum activities and other national EE concerns. David Butler is currently undertaking to collate members' views of sustainability in the national curriculum, including the Sustainability Cross-Curricular Priority and the Geography Shaping paper.</p>
Advocacy and Lobbying	<p>Various individuals have maintained lobbying of ACARA in relation to sustainability in the national curriculum, such as Linda Zibell. However little has transpired across the list in relation to advocacy or lobbying.</p>
Members Services	<p>The convenor made several attempts to start up conversations however many of these received no comments at all. It is likely that the problem is that people who do not receive regular emails (but choose instead to access the group by visiting the website) stop visiting regularly when there is not regular communication, making the problem circular.</p>

Professional Development	In a sense, this is the total occupation of the group in sharing new information and updating ourselves in relation to policies and current political activities in sustainability education. Little happened this year however
Governance	The TTE-SIG tended to be participatory, with Sandra Woollorton as the facilitator. At the AAEE national conference, a large group of AAEE-TTE-SIG members (over 30) met, a proposed a suggestion to renew the website and access. That is, move from being a yahoo group to a pass-worded website access. The idea is that members would be invited to submit a half page form with information about themselves and their background, possibly including a photo, so that others would immediately be able to view others backgrounds/workplaces and suggest contact for local or other small internet based projects. This is still outstanding. It will be helped by having a new facilitator as Sandra Woollorton has simply not had time to oversee this innovation.
DESD Activities	Not conducted.
Other Comments	Unfortunately, this group has not functioned very well this year and it is hoped that David Butler will burst onto the website full of energy and new ideas for progressive change. Thanks David! ☺

Emerging Researcher SIG: Kate Thompson and Rebecca Miles

Time commitments and changing roles have slowed the development of this SIG.

9. FINANCIAL REPORT

**AUSTRALIAN ASSOCIATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL
EDUCATION**

FINANCIAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

30 JUNE 2011



1.

AUSTRALIAN ASSOCIATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

COMMITTEE'S REPORT

Your committee members submit the financial report of the Australian Association for Environmental Education for the financial year ended 30 June 2011.

Committee Members

The names of Committee Members throughout the year and at the date of this report are:

R Smith	V Whelan	C Mackenzie	A Cutter-Mackenzie
M Tebecis	S Houseman	J Dudgeon	P Tassell
J Pearson	S Martin	K Allen	B Weatherstone

Principle Activities

Principle activities of the Association during the financial year were to foster Environmental Education for a sustainable future.

Significant Changes

No significant change in the nature of these activities occurred during the year.

Operating Result

The surplus/(deficit) amounted to (\$31 666.36).

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Members of the Committee.

President: Dr Jennifer Pearson



Treasurer: Mr Ken Allen



Dated this 2nd day of September 2011.

2.

AUSTRALIAN ASSOCIATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2011

	<u>2011</u>	<u>2010</u>
<u>INCOME</u>		
Grant & Partnership Income	50594.18	10000.00
Memberships	43657.62	27629.15
Publications	8799.39	12829.21
Interest Received	37.59	565.59
Sundry Income	1099.00	848.55
Conferences & Workshops	20926.69	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	125114.47	51872.50
 <u>EXPENDITURE</u>		
Administration Services	23280.00	24792.00
Audit Fees	1220.00	1100.00
Bank Fees	860.49	817.23
Conference Expenses	48763.64	21000.00
Conferences & Workshops	-	72.73
Consultant Fees	-	160.00
Depreciation	452.00	452.00
Insurance	440.91	436.36
Memberships & Subscriptions	281.82	240.91
Minor Equipment	-	170.91
Postage, Printing & Stationery	349.20	1079.09
Professional Development Project	1000.00	-
Publications and Publicity	14931.75	20823.22
Sundry Expenses	120.91	164.83
Telephone	1747.39	2241.33
Travel & Accommodation	-	1916.52
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	93448.11	75467.13
 <u>NET SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR YEAR</u>		
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$31666.36	\$(23594.63)

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

3.

AUSTRALIAN ASSOCIATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION
ASSETS AND LIABILITIES STATEMENT
AS AT 30 JUNE 2011

	<u>2011</u>	<u>2010</u>
<u>CURRENT ASSETS</u>		
Cash at Bank (Note 2)	46430.95	15715.13
Accounts Receivable	901.00	-
GST Control Account	5943.39	5441.85
	53275.34	21156.98
<u>FIXED ASSETS</u> (Note 3)	156.23	608.23
<u>TOTAL ASSETS</u>	\$53431.57	\$21765.21
<u>NET ASSETS</u>	\$53431.57	\$21765.21
<u>MEMBERS FUNDS</u>		
Balance at 1 July 2010	21765.21	45359.84
Net Surplus/(Deficit) for Year	31666.36	(23594.63)
<u>TOTAL MEMBERS FUNDS</u>	\$53431.57	\$21765.21

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements

4.

AUSTRALIAN ASSOCIATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION
NOTES TO AND FORMING PART OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2011

1. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

This financial report is a special purpose financial report prepared in order to satisfy the financial reporting requirement of the Associations Incorporated Act (ACT). The committee has determined that the association is not a reporting entity.

The report is also prepared on an accruals basis and is based on historical costs and does not take into account changing money values or, except where specifically stated, current valuations of non-current assets.

The following significant accounting policies, which are consistent with the previous period unless otherwise stated, have been adopted in the preparation of this financial report.

(a) Fixed Assets - Depreciation

Depreciation is charged on all fixed assets and is brought to account over the estimated economic lives of all assets.

(b) Comparative Figures

Comparative figures, where necessary, have been reclassified in order to comply with the presentation adopted in the figures reported for the current financial year.

(c) Income Tax

The Association is exempted from tax under section 50-10 of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997.

2. CASH AT BANK

	<u>2011</u>	<u>2010</u>
NAB Cheque Account	46430.95	15715.13
	\$46430.95	\$15715.13

3. FIXED ASSETS

Office Furniture & Equipment – At Cost	1807.23	1807.23
Less Accumulated Depreciation	1651.00	1199.00
	\$156.23	\$608.23

5.

AUSTRALIAN ASSOCIATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

STATEMENT BY MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

The committee has 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 1 to the financial statements.

In the opinion of the committee the financial report as set out on pages 1 to 4:

1. Presents a true and fair view of the financial position of Australian Association for Environmental Education as at 30 June 2011 and its performance for the year ended of that date.
2. At the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that Australian Association for Environmental Education will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

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

President



Treasurer



Dated this 2nd day of September 2011.

6.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF
AUSTRALIAN ASSOCIATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

Report on the Financial Report

We have audited the accompanying financial report, being a special purpose financial report, of Australian Association for Environmental Education which comprises the balance sheet as at 30 June 2011, and the income statement, a summary of significant accounting policies, other explanatory notes and the statement by members of the committee.

Committee's Responsibility for the Financial Report

The committee of the association is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report and have determined that the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements, which form part of the financial report, are consistent with the financial reporting requirements of the Associations Incorporation Act (ACT) and are appropriate to meet the needs of the members. The committee's responsibilities also include establishing and maintaining internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on our audit. No opinion is expressed as to whether the accounting policies used, as described in Note 1, are appropriate to meet the needs of the members. We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. These Auditing Standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial report 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. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the committee, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

7.

The financial report has been prepared for distribution to members for the purpose of fulfilling the committee's financial reporting under the Associations Incorporation Act (ACT). We disclaim any assumption of responsibility for any reliance on this report or on the financial report to which it relates to any person other than the members, or for any purpose other than that for which it was prepared.

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

Independence

In conducting our audit, we have complied with the independence requirements of Australian professional ethical pronouncements.

Qualification

It is not practical for the Service to maintain an effective system of internal control to determine that all monies received in cash were recorded, until their initial entry into the accounting records. Accordingly, our audit was limited to amounts recorded.

Qualified Auditor's Opinion

In our opinion, except for the effects of such adjustments, if any, as might have been determined to be necessary had the limitation discussed in the qualification paragraph not existed, the financial report of Australian Association for Environmental Education presents fairly, in all material respects the financial position of Australian Association for Environmental Education as of 30 June 2010 and of its financial performance for the year then ended in accordance with the accounting policies described in Note 1 to the financial statements.



HAYWARDS CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

PETER GESCH – PARTNER

2 SEPTEMBER 2011
BRISBANE