

# ASLIA National Annual Report 2019/2020

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# Thanks to our 2019-2020 Media Sponsors





# Annual Report 2019/2020

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# **Chairperson's Report**

The last financial year has been a rollercoaster of adaptations for all of us including the ASLIA National and State Associations. Planning, which was well underway, for ASLIA's National Conference in September 2020 was reluctantly put on hold along with many planned face to face events in 2020 due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. It is hoped that by September 2021 we will be able to proceed with our initial plans to undertake the ANC in Newcastle, NSW. We extend our appreciation to Kylie Scott for her work in setting up the foundational work for the conference. Unfortunately, Kylie has stepped down from the role of ANC coordinator and we will be working on replacing this position in the latter half of 2020.



Julie Judd

In the face of the upheaval and restrictions during COVID-19, interpreters have adjusted the way they work and increased the volume of interpreting services available online, as well as participating actively in the online professional development offerings by ASLIA state associations. On behalf of our profession, I wish to thank all of you for your perseverance in such uncertain times.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank our interpreter agency partners for the work they have undertaken in such difficult times to ensure deaf people are provided with an opportunity to fulfil their citizenship.

ASLIA collaborated with our colleagues in NZ and the Oceania region at the beginning of the pandemic. We thank Della Goswell and Rachel McKee for their work in providing support to practitioners in our region who provide media interpreting. Della also facilitated several discussion sessions for practitioners in Australia which assisted with the unexpected foray into this domain. Our appreciation to Della for her willingness to contribute in this way as well as to Daniel Hately who supported this work behind the scenes.

ASLIA were successful in obtaining two project grants from NAATI as part of their Industry Development Fund. We are in the final stages of completing the first project - A video project which comprises of 12 information videos. Most are already available for viewing on our <u>website</u>. Thanks to the members who were involved in the creation of these resources. The second project is a training package educating both the Deaf and wider community on interpreting service provision. Andrew Broom was appointed as project manager and is in the process of putting the program together.

ASLIA has representation in a number of forums. This includes providing ACCAN with feedback on public documents regarding accessible communications, representation with Standards Australia for Interpreting and Translation – thanks to Susannah Macready (as an independent practitioner), and representation at the Centre of Excellence Deafblind Reference Group – thanks to Linda Warby.

After signing an MOU at the last AGM, ASLIA's partnership with Deaf Australia has been fruitful with a number of outcomes. In the early stages of the pandemic releasing a joint statement on Media interpreting provision, consulting on the development of the position statement on Media Interviews of Interpreters, and working with Interpreting agencies around the country on issues related to the provision of Auslan information to the Deaf community.

The continuation of the group PI/PL insurance offering - a valuable benefit of ASLIA membership - has kept our treasurer, Amy Blaylock, busy. We have been fortunate for the years of service from such a dedicated individual, who will be stepping down from the ASLIA Board at the upcoming AGM. Amy has been working with Rosalie Kassulke, Treasurer Assistant, to hand over tasks

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as part of her role in an effort to keep things uninterrupted for members until a new Treasurer is appointed. Thanks also to Amy, Rosalie and Kerrie Ann Viitala who reviewed and worked on a number of improvements to the financial processes this year that enables state associations to run more effectively.

The monthly Debrief has been expertly managed by De Brown and Danielle Ferndale and we are most appreciative for the work they have put into sourcing contributors. Thanks to those who have contributed articles to stimulate thought and learning amongst members.

State Associations and ASLIA National came together for a productive forum in February to discuss all the work we do in our state associations and at the national level.

ASLIA has been working diligently behind the scenes to undertake a number of activities that support you and your work. These include:

- The creation of a new webinar resource pertaining to the Linguistics of Auslan in partnership with Auslan Consultancy. The webinar can be purchased from our <u>website</u>.
- Preparing submissions for the Disability Royal Commission on Educational Interpreting and Legal interpreting.
- Supporting the inaugural Colin Allen Lecture
- Supporting Able Australia in their grant applications for the Centre of DeafBlind Excellence
- Continuing negotiations with industry to improve and develop standards for interpreting and technology, and emergency services access nationally
- Consulted and collaborated with NDIA and NAATI on issues affecting our industry
- Writing and endorsing <u>Policies and Procedures</u> to support our industry
- Conducting an annual survey of members

I wish to thank the Board and members from all over the country who have been so dedicated to the work of ASLIA. I especially wish to highlight the hard work of the executive Sheree Murray (Secretary), Amy Blaylock (Treasurer) and David McQuiggin (Vice Chairperson) together with Kerrie Christy (Educational Interpreters Sub-Committee). These individuals who have busy lives external to ASLIA have been an awesome team that often work late into the evening to keep the work of ASLIA ticking along so smoothly.

ASLIA is an association for members by members. In order to continue our work, we need your input. ASLIA have a number of subcommittees including:

- Website subcommittee,
- Mental Health Interest group
- Interpreting in Education subcommittee.

ASLIA are also in the initial planning stages of establishing a Deaf Interpreter/Translator subcommittee and would like to see the formulation of a Working Conditions subcommittee. If you are interested in joining, please email: <u>info@aslia.com.au</u>

ASLIA can only do what we do because of the willingness of members' contributions. I thank those of you who already are contributing in a number of ways and encourage the wider membership to consider giving back to our profession by volunteering your time to do what you can.

Most of all, I wish on behalf of the ASLIA Board to thank YOU - ASLIA members. We have a group of very passionate and dedicated people that make up our industry. Please continue to challenge and engage with us, YOUR association.

"Opportunities to find deeper powers within ourselves come when life seems most challenging" Joseph Campbell

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# **Board Directors for 2019-2020**

On behalf of our members, ASLIA gratefully acknowledges the contributions of the people that have served on the Board in the last financial year.

### **Executive Directors for 2019-2020**



Julie Judd CHAIRPERSON



David McQuiggin VICE CHAIRPERSON



Amy Blaylock TREASURER



Sheree Murray SECRETARY

# **State/Territory Board Directors for 2019-2020**

# VICTORIA



Michelle Ashley ASLIA VIC PRESIDENT



Julie Judd VIC REPRESENTATIVE

ACT



Sheree Murray ACT REPRESENTATIVE

# State/Territory Board Directors for 2019-2020 (continued)QUEENSLANDNEW SOUTH WALES



Duke Moolenaar ASLIA QLD PRESIDENT



David McQuiggin ASLIA NSW PRESIDENT



Della Bampton NSW REPRESENTATIVE August - April 2019

### WESTERN AUSTRALIA



Tahlicia Osei-Poku ASLIA WA PRESIDENT from August 2019



Adrian Chia ASLIA WA PRESIDENT until August 2019



Christy Filipich WA REPRESENTATIVE

## SOUTH AUSTRALIA



Amy Blaylock ASLIA SA PRESIDENT



De Brown SA REPRESENTATIVE until March 2020



Christabel Cresdee SA REPRESENTATIVE from March 2020

The Tasmania and Northern Territory Director positions were vacant for the 2019-2020 financial year.



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# **ASLIA NSW & ACT Report**

David McQuiggin

### Excellence

Excellence through professional development is a priority for ASLIA NSW/ACT as it supports our members continue to not only be competent in their profession, but also excel in it. Actively pursuing professional development ensures that knowledge and skills stay relevant and up to date. It also allows our members to be more aware of changing trends and directions in an industry. Throughout this year we have provided a plethora of opportunities:









### **2019 -07 Christmas in July** Presented by Brendan McQuiggin & Nicole Clark

**2019-07 Tax Essentials** *Presented by ATO Partner with the Deaf Society* 

**2019-08 Queering the Terp** *Presented by David (ASLIA) Partner with Deaf Rainbow* 

**2019-09 Auslan – English** Presented by: Maree Madden Partner with Sweeney Interpreting

**2019-10 I feel Yuck about that job** *Presented by Rachel McKee Partner with the Deaf Society* 

**2019-11 Ethics in the Regional Space** *Presented by David (ASLIA) Partner with the Deaf Society* 

**2019-12 AGM & End of Year Party** *Partner with Sweeney Interpreting, the Deaf Society and Auslan Services* 

**2020.02.08 - Exploring Deaf Muslim Identity** *Presented by David (ASLIA) and LMA Partner with Sweeney Interpreting* 

### Sustainable

Sustainability is a strong focus for us all within ASLIA NSW/ACT ensuring we focus on meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future economics for the maintenance of the association.

To support this, we have completed a deep dive of our finances with a view to improve our financial investments and reduce administrative costs to the association.

And further to this we have clarified our roles and responsibilities to ensure smooth and clear information for new committee members.

### Presence

Having a strong and professional presence is a crucial component of our work within ASLIA NSW/ ACT. In fact, making and maintaining a strong online presence has been the priority for us. As we believe this to be one of the most important aspects of our success, as this is how we can improve and reach our goals to be the most reliable, excellent, and sought after support within our industry and this is keep everyone informed. To support this, we have dedicated people working on our Facebook content which has been ramped up with huge engagement. And not to forget our Famous long lasting Fab Five that we do regularly to keep our members informed on all things NSW/ACT.

Further presence is working within our member base to tackle issues that you want us to be involved in and to know about. To do this we at ASLIA NSW/ACT continue to advocate and consult on the NAATI Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) and with Multicultural NSW (consisting of a variety of Language Services, Emergency Services and Educational Institutes). Additionally, we have been leading discussions in other areas more widely, such as:

### Meeting with Disability Commissioner - Ben Gauntlett

Together with the ASLIA National Chairperson, we informed him some of the concerns within our industry:

- Interpreter provision in the public and private hospital systems
- Credentials for Educational Interpreters
- National supply and demand issues for interpreters
- Access to interpreting for those over 65
- The Disability Discrimination Act and its limitations

We look forward to working with him on future activities in the commission.

### 2019-11 Sydney Health Care Interpreting Service

Sydney Health Care Interpreting Service were keen to consult with members of the Interpreting community to discuss strategies and solutions relating to Interpreting issues such as supply/ demand, client preference, Professional development and remuneration.

ASLIA NSW/ACT worked hard to gather our audience and we all came together to discuss issues and barriers within the HCIS. We also ensured that all LGA's were included such as WSHCIS, NHCIS, SWSHCIS etc. A great meeting that certainly does need more follow up.

### Collaborative

After the exciting announcement that NSW/ACT will be hosting ANC 2020, ASLIA NSW/ACT kicked it up a gear and have been working in collaboration with the ANC 2020 Convenor to secure a venue, discuss gala night ideas and work out collaboration and partnership strategies with our wonderful Deaf Community to ensure the success of this event! Sadly, due to COVID19 all these plans came to a halt.

We have continued our valuable partnership with two local interpreting agencies, Sweeney Interpreting and the Deaf Society, and jointly provided a number of professional development opportunities over the year. We look forward to more opportunities to collaborate in the future and thank them for their ongoing support of ASLIA NSW/ACT. Further to this our annual partnership with Auslan Services for the ASLIA NSW/ACT end of year party. Such mutual alliances reveal the true nature of our profession, with values like collegiality and solidarity underpinning all our efforts. We will continue nurturing these partnerships to ensure the best possible outcomes for all our members.



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# **ASLIA Queensland Report**

### Duke Moolenaar

### Excellence:

In the last financial year ASLIA Qld has focused on member engagement through our social events and book clubs. All PDs offered are interpreted where requested, or presented in Auslan and all locations are wheel chair accessible and in central locations. When COVID-19 hit we worked quickly to move what we could online and continued our member engagement via check-in events twice a month.

In regards to communication, our primary sources of communicating with members are via Mailchimp and Social media. We have worked on our social media presence ensuring content is posted regularly, Auslan videos where possible are posted containing information on our PDs and we respond to member queries as promptly as possible, acknowledging that we are all volunteers.



### Presence

Presence within our membership was achieved through our face to face social events that brought together our Qld interpreting community and interpreting students. All our attending committee members wore their ASLIA Qld branded shirts and our proposed PD calendar was on display.

Our presence on Social media has also increased sitting at 1,156 page likes with an average post reach of 711 people and engagement of 699.

Zane Hema (Secretary) and Duke Moolenaar (President) attended each NAATI RAC meeting and from these meetings ASLIA Qld was approached to provide a review on several key documents including the Language Services Strategic Review – Nov 2019.

On completion of said reviews here is some feedback we received

"Thank you for your contribution to the debate. ASLIAQ have clearly given these documents considerable thought. I plan to refer your feedback to the RAC, QAIWG, Dr Peter Bristow and NAATI Management." - Jim Duncan – NAATI.

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Understanding the impact of COVID-19 on our physical presence we have sought to ensure we maintain a level of online presence through these times via Zoom and Social media interaction. An unexpected consequence being the increase in presence interstate.

### Collaborative

As mentioned in the section above we have representation from ASLIA Qld attending the NAATI RAC Meetings and working on reviews of key documentation.

ASLIA Qld established a collaboration and relationship with Auslan Connections / Deaf Services as the largest employer of interpreters in QLD. They expressed an interest in sponsoring and have sponsored a number of PDs in 2020. We extended this relationship in providing a forum for ASLIA members and Auslan Connections to discuss the gaps or concerns within the Qld industry and to explore how ASLIA Qld and Auslan Connections can work together to address the membership's concerns.

ASLIA Qld continues to work with other stakeholders including the ACE Interpreter Training Program ACT, DCCQ and Sunnybank Theatre Group.

#### Sustainable

At the start of the year our Committee reconvened after a long Christmas break for our annual PD Planning meeting to plan the next 6 to 8 months of PD. This is also a valuable time for the committee to work together; see each other face to face and set out what will be expected of us for the coming year.

We identified burnout in the Exec team early in the year. To combat this and to provide some succession planning, we divided our committee into portfolios where each Exec position has committee members allocated to them to assist with their tasks e.g. the Secretary will delegate tasks such as minute taking in meetings, set up of zoom meetings, mail chimp etc. This will provide the broader committee with skills to be able to further their involvement with ASLIA. We are trialling this structure with our next PD – Medical Interpreting in the Era of COVID.



# **ASLIA South Australia Report**

### Amy Blaylock

### Excellence

ASLIA SA were more successful in providing PD to our members over the last year, despite the challenges faces by COVID19 which included the postponement of three events. Our 2019 AGM was preceded by a 'Professional conversations for professional behaviours' workshop, facilitated by Debbie Kennewell. We welcomed 11 members and 5 potential members into a range of discussions about our ethical decision-making processes. A sweet and savoury afternoon tea finished the day. Debra Swann and co-presenter Kate Frost brought 51 ticket sales and 44 attendees online and in person to their 'Domestic violence in the Deaf community' presentation in June. Through the MOU we signed with the presenters, 50% of ticket sales were donated to Deaf Survivors of Domestic Violence Australia. The footage will now be developed into a webinar for other members to purchase via the ASLIA Shop.

### Collaborative

We connected the Department for Education with the ASLIA Educational Interpreters subcommittee chair for information on pay rates, and challenges for schools in employing educational interpreters.





Thanks to our relationship with Deaf Can Do, Debbie Kennewell kindly provided her PD in August 2019 pro-bono, and we also received in-kind support for the Domestic Violence PD in June 2020. Due to perceived conflicts of interest, we did not offer a committee member for the Can Do Group's Deaf Directions Roundtable, but we were also unable to secure a non-committee member to represent ASLIA SA.

In June, Christabel and Maddi provided an online presentation to 12 of the Diploma of Interpreting students studying at TAFE SA. They covered ASLIA, being a new interpreter, and some tips to consider when qualified.

Pip Cody has kindly agreed to be the SA representative on the ASLIA Interpreter Working Conditions sub-committee which is yet to convene, and Amber Venner will be an additional reference point.

### Presence

Membership numbers overall were the highest they have been since ASLIA SA re-formed in 2010. We were extremely pleased that three of our newly certified interpreters joined ASLIA SA in early 2020. In order to provide more opportunities to meet outside formal learning events, the committee planned a number of social events over the year. A small group of members gathered for a dinner in January to welcome in the new year, and eight members including one from Victoria and one from WA joined our 'Bring your gin!' online social gathering in May once restrictions were well and truly in place.

### Sustainability

The committee moved to meeting by Zoom on the last Sunday of every month and embraced WhatsApp to stay in touch and on track with tasks between meetings. It has been lovely seeing committee members work to their strengths – Maddi in the role of our e-secretary as well as bringing an early career perspective to our work, Christabel in her re-organisation of our association records in Dropbox as well as managing the Facebook account, Heather with her networking prowess, Stan for his persistence in keeping the financial side of things going, and all of the committee in working through difficult conversations and challenging situations to try and keep the objects of ASLIA SA at the forefront. Our committee found the 'all states' meeting in February very valuable, and implemented several strategies that have worked well in other states.

We were sad that De Brown stepped down from the committee in March - she has been a very valuable asset to ASLIA SA for many years, supporting us through executive roles as well as enriching and strengthening our work with her experience and perspectives. ASLIA is very fortunate to have her as a co-editor on The Debrief. Christabel stepped up as De's replacement for the second Board Director from SA for ASLIA in May.

Unfortunately in a small state with a small membership base, the sustainability of an association is always at risk, and ASLIA SA is no exception. We have tried multiple strategies for gaining insight into what our members want ASLIA SA to provide, and to succession plan within the committee, but we have little resilience to cope with change. I, Amy Blaylock, will be stepping down as Chairperson at the AGM, after 11 years on the Committee, most of that in the Treasurer role. It has been a wonderful opportunity to give back to the interpreting community, and support the association at the state and national level, and I'd like to thank all of the committee members with whom I've served with over that time. I'm very grateful for your dedication to the profession and the Deaf community.

# **ASLIA Victoria Report**

# Michelle Ashley



The 2019-2020 membership year saw some exciting changes to ASLIA Victoria/Tasmania, starting with an unofficial name and brand change. At the 2019 AGM in Hobart, a member suggested this change. The name and brand, while not legally changed, is reflected across all of our communications and digital platforms. In addition to a new look, we also found a new home. For over a decade ASLIA Victoria/Tasmania has enjoyed in-kind support from Vicdeaf in the use of an office space and storage at their premises. In December 2019 the committee, with assistance



from some deaf community members, enjoyed a working bee to clean out the office, digitize most of our items and move to our new home at the John Pierce Centre (JPC), another significant organization that services the deaf community in Melbourne. JPC is now the default venue for all ASLIA Victoria/Tasmania events, including committee meetings, workshops and social events. Thank you to Christine Elder and Carmel Phillips for welcoming us with such open arms, and to Brent Phillips and previously Marc Curtis, who generously hosted us at Vicdeaf.

Despite the disruptions to 2020, ASLIA Victoria has continued to engage with the membership through e-communications, face to face events and workshops hosted via ASLIA Live! These include:

AUGUST 2019 Deaf Interpreter NAATI preparation day w/ Patti Levitzke-Gray	<b>SEPTEMBER 2019</b> Spring School, Hobart w/ Della Goswell	OCTOBER 2019 Reflective Practice groups w/ Dr Maree Madden
<b>NOVEMBER 2019</b> <i>Team Interpreting</i> <i>w/ Kirri Dangerfield</i>	<b>FEBRUARY 2020</b> Interpreter Stories 2	MAY 2020 "You Can't Ask That" for Early Career Interpreters
JUNE 2020 Interpreter Stories 3		·

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2020 has seen our whole lives transition to the online space – work, social and family lives. ASLIA Victoria/ Tasmania has also made changes to how we manage some of our programs and activities. Our well stocked library has now moved its antiquated "borrowing book" to the ASLIA website. We have engaged with the current RMIT Diploma of Interpreting cohort via a Zoom quiz session. And a member is continuing to produce a suite of brand-new webinars presented by International academics and interpreter trainers. The mentoring program which is also facilitated online, has seen 14 successful matches in this membership year.

We are thankful to the organisations who have supported our activities this past membership year: Auslan Connections, DeafconnectEd, Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology, Auslan Stage Left, Echo Interpreting and Auslan Services. We are also delighted to be continuing our collaboration with Victorian Deaf Education Institute who have appointed a Project Manager to develop best practice guidelines and professional development opportunities for Educational Interpreters working in school settings.

Congratulations to Kelly North who was the recipient of the John Michael Lovett Bursary which will go towards her Macquarie University studies. Thank you to the endless support from ASLIA Life Members Meredith Bartlett, Sandra Leane and Paul Hueston in navigating constitutional issues, and to the delightful ASLIA Victoria/ Tasmania committee: Teale Nicholls (Vice President), Alex Notsis (Secretary), Kerrie-ann Viitala (acting Treasurer), Melinda Mindum, Laura Quinnell, Julia Murphy, Glenda Judd, Brenda McKinty, Amber Richardson, Wendy Bailey, Kiki Opdenberg and Kirri Dangerfield. Having moved away from Victoria in 2019, this has been my last term as President. I will be stepping down at the AGM on 5th September 2020. My last thanks is to the Victorian and Tasmanian membership for their support of the committee's activities and for being such conscientious and engaged colleagues. ASLIA Victoria has a long, rich history and I am thankful, and proud, to have been a part of it.



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# ASLIA Western Australia Report Tahlicia Osei-Poku

ASLIA (WA) has seen a successful year by remaining both financially strong and relevant in our local community. We have also endured unprecedented events with Coronavirus impacting both our state members and the inner workings of the WA committee. Despite this impact, we have provided many professional development opportunities - face-to-face and online - that has supported the solidarity and professional wellbeing of our members.

A focus of our energy has been on the broad issue of supply and demand and the quality standards of interpreter provision. We have therefore increased our engagement with stakeholders concerning interpreter training and certification by visiting student cohorts and meeting with WA NAATI representatives. We have also aimed to offer transparency about our movements and events through our social media presence to reach as many current and potential members as well as the Deaf community.

### Summary of Events

We held a wide variety of events that showcased local talent and International professionals. Due to the impact of COVID-19, from March the committee worked hard to convert all our planned events to online platforms to maintain a high provision of professional development and networking opportunities. We humbly thank our members, State and National, for supporting our WA events and providing solidarity to each other.

A snapshot of our events:

- ASLIA (WA) AGM 2019 (August)
- Interpersonal Communication (October)
- Holey Moley Social Night (December)
- Mental Health and Child Protection settings (January)
- Memory Skills (February)
- Social Night via Zoom (April)
- ASLIA (WA) Quiz night Online (May)
- Cross Border National Coffee Chat online (May June)
- ASLIA (WA) Essential Business Tips for Freelancers Online (June)
- Certified Interpreter online forum

### Summary of Fundraising

The Treasurer's report provides the financial information regarding expenditure and fundraising. ASLIA WA continues to grow stronger financially with the aim of providing increased professional development offerings and social opportunities.

- Late 2019 we were successful in gaining a grant from Lottery West to purchase certain technology items. This grant was expended in October 2019 in the purchase of laptops, tablet devices and subsidiary items to support the executive functions and stabilise succession processes.
- October 2019, ASLIA (WA) held a stall in support of a Deaf community event and to engage with the wider community with our raffle raising \$153 for WAFDC.

#### Summary of meetings attended by committee

The committee planned a strategic planning weekend and successfully prepared a year's worth of professional development activities and established specific elements for improvement. This



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planning weekend was supported by some committee members and invitations were extended to sub-committee members, providing well rounded perspectives.

Prior to COVID-19, committee members attended NAATI Regional Advisory Committee meetings, however in March this year the meetings were put on hold and have not yet resumed. Committee members also support the Access Plus (formerly WA Deaf Society) Centenary committee and Deaf Community Centre Committee.

ASLIA monthly State committee and National Board meetings have been well supported with little cancellations. The President and Secretary were involved in extra duties within ASLIA National to support members nationally during COVID-19 relating to COVID-19, media interpreting position statement and member well-being.

Committee Members are also representatives on other ASLIA committees such as Interpreting in Educational Settings sub-committee, as well as being active in the wider interpreting community with involvement on the AUSIT In-Touch Magazine editorial committee and Professionals Australia advisory group. Committee members have also attended NDIS training sessions, NAATI Briefings and a NWDP event (2019). The committee have completed presentations at SSENS to educational interpreters, Cert IV Auslan Students and Diploma of Interpreting Students in promotion of ASLIA services and events.

### Acknowledgements

We are truly appreciative of the high commitment ASLIA (WA) committee members have shown despite unprecedented events and family obligations. ASLIA (WA) exists because of its members who step forward to fill positions and maintain a sustainable peak body branch.

It has been an extraordinary year with unexpected occurrences impacting every aspect of our lives. However, ASLIA (WA) have successfully remained on track to increase the quality and quantity of events. We continue to represent our community in ways we feel are both professionally and culturally relevant, being satisfied with the high level of engagements with members and stakeholders.

At the 2019 AGM, ASLIA (WA) announced a new position, the Student Representative position. This was filled by Sophie Dunham and she provided invaluable insights and liaised with student cohorts successfully. We sincerely thank Sophie for her efforts. Despite needing to resign from the committee earlier this year, Georgia Sullivan-Brown also provided valuable contributions during her time on the committee.

A big expression of thanks to Cara Smith, Corey Piestrzeniewicz and Trish Townsend for answering the call earlier this year, to join the committee and provide their collective expertise in support of ASLIA (WA) members. Corey and Trish are renewing their commitment by continuing as committee members for 2020-2021. A special thanks to Karen Boocock and Cara Smith for being valued members and assisting to steer ASLIA (WA) in improving services and visibility to members. We wish you the best of luck in your future endeavours. We excitedly welcome Karlene Quijano and Danielle Pritchard to the committee. We are delighted to have fresh ideas and perspectives to ASLIA (WA).

On a personal note, I wholeheartedly thank our members for supporting the events that our committee spend hours to plan and prepare in aim of a seamless experience. I look forward to continuing to be a part of this successful peak body and witnessing the outstanding work ASLIA (WA) continue to provide in service of Interpreters and the Deaf community alike.

# ANC 2020/21 Report

# David McQuiggin

ASLIA National along with the local Branch ASLIA NSW/ACT were super excited to be bringing the next ASLIA National Conference to our members.

Registrations opened up in February 2020, and this included some exciting details of events.

- Friday Day: Workshop's
- Friday Night: Welcome, ASLIA AGM & JW Flynn Oration
- Saturday & Sunday: Conference Proper
- With the Inaugural Auslan Teachers conference happening in parallel on Sunday
- Saturday Night: Gala Dinner
- Monday: Interpreter Trainers Network Symposium (ITNS)

### Friday Workshops

In line with the conference theme our Organising Committee agreed that 'Opening Up Diverse Communities' was an appropriate platform for this ANC – the communities we focussed on being Indigenous, LGBTQIA+, Muslim & Deafblind.

### Auslan Teachers

### Inaugural Auslan Teachers Conference

For the first time ASLIA would be working together with Auslan teachers and Melbourne Polytechnic (as a sponsor) to provide a parallel stream of workshops for our Auslan teaching colleagues.

The aim of this one-day conference was to:

- provide Auslan teachers across Australia with the opportunity to discuss Auslan teaching as a profession, including research and teaching practice
- build a national network of Auslan teachers as a community of practice

### Sponsorship

ASLIA feel privileged to have been supported by the following sponsorship opportunities with many already providing their funds towards the event:

- Conference Partner
- Keynote (1)
- NAATI Deaf Can:Do
- Interpreters
   Auslan Services
- Saturday Gala Dinner
   Deaf Services
- Saturday Gala Dinner Dear Service
- Friday Welcome Reception
  Conference App
  Access Plus, WA Deaf Society
  Auslan Connections
- Conference AppVolunteers
- Sweeney Interpreting
- Welcome to Country Jody Barney, Deaf Indigenous Community Consultancy
- Conference Session
- Jody Barney, Deaf Indigenous Community Consulta NABS

### Venue

A unanimous vote confirmed our host city would be Newcastle, NSW.







### ANC Website

Completed and live: https://aslia.com.au/anc-2020/

### **Organising Committee**

Huge appreciation to those who opted in to be part of the magic behind the scenes

Kylie and Karen Bontempo
David and Kylie
Breda Carty
Nicole Petley
Sherrie Beaver
Bec O'Brien
Linda Warby
Alex Jones
Brendan McQuiggin

### **ANC2020** postponed

The world turned a little upside down and in April the ANC 2020 Organising Committee and the ASLIA Board regretfully advised that the ASLIA National Conference 2020 would be postponed.

This decision was made with our primary concerns for the health and well-being of all involved and our careful consideration of the recommendations from the World Health Organization and the directives issued by the Australian Government.

The same theme will continue - Strength in Diversity and we hope you are able to join us for the rescheduled conference ANC 2021 held 10 - 13 September 2021.



# Hope you can join us for ANC2021, **Strength in Diversity** planned for 10 - 13 September 2021 in Newcastle!

# **WASLI Oceania Report**

# Joneti Rokotuibau

This report provides information about the work carried out by Sign Language Interpreters organization in the Oceania Region, regarding the countries activities during the pandemic, challenges occurred and the support given. This report will pay attention to the work that I carried out as a regional representative and highlight the development in the Kiribati and Solomon Islands. Furthermore this report will comment on the prospects of the Region and make recommendations for our betterment.

### Oceania Regional Representative 2019-2020 Report

I was introduced to Ms Ikumi Kawamata, Program Officer for Nippon Foundation during the WFD Congress in Paris on the 22 July, 2019 by Krishneer Sen the WFD Oceania President. I had shared my vision and the need to train Sign Language Interpreters throughout the Oceania Region. She gave me her business card and asked if I could contact her when reaching Fiji. I did upon arrival and she gave me the green light to organize a working group consisting of SLIAF members, WFD Oceania president and the Fiji Association of the Deaf representative.

The working group invited Dr. Anne Cheryl Armstrong the Associate Dean, Research, Innovation & Internationalization at the Faculty of Arts, Law and Education, with Mrs Susan Sela the head of the College of Arts & Humanities Pacific Technical and Further Education (AA/diploma programs), Mrs Merelesita Qeleni the Assistant Lecturer School of Education at the University of the South Pacific and the Fiji Association of the Deaf president. The agenda was on the Pathway to establishing a sign language course at University of the South Pacific. The discussions backdrop was the need to prepare the Senate Documents which consists of Program Proposal including the learning Outcomes and the Courses. I contacted Dr Rachel McKee the Associate Professor, School of Linguistics and Applied Language Studies Victoria University of Wellington and Dr George Major the Programme Leader, NZSL-English Interpreting and Deaf Studies, Auckland University of Technology. Both their support was tremendous; Dr Rachel McKee made contacted with Professor Felix Sze and Professor Gladys Tang of China University Hong Kong to use their program proposal.

We have had many meetings on Skype and continued with emails; professional networks have been established with CUHK (Felix & Gland), VUW (Rachel/David) have sent information about their SL teacher training programmes, and George has sent information about the interpreter training programme at AUT in NZ. The decision about what suits Fiji best should be made within Fiji – by FAD and SLIAF. Both CUHK, VUW and AUT are happy to advise and support the delivery.

Interpreter training we suggested

- Scope: Focus on Fiji SLIAF first, and extend to region later. This will allow establishment
  of programme content and delivery mode, teaching capacity, developing teaching and
  learning resources tailored to one language and local context.
- Cohort size: 12-14 would be ideal.
- Entry requirements: Check if USP has entry requirements for candidates enrolling in different levels.
- Delivery mode: Include full-time and part-time delivery options in proposal to allow flexibility of delivery later.
- Budget: Felix offered to share experience from CUHK with me on budget for a regional or residential type program
- Equipment (ideal list): (i) classroom with data projector and space for group work. (ii) access to a computer lab with web-cams for self-recording; (iii) soundproof headphones so students can do voicing practice in the same lab together; (iv) simple video editing software; (v) license to a video-based file management app such as Go React for students to access and submit practice and assessment tasks in SL; (v) a recording /studio space would be ideal (likely shared or existing).

### Social Networking Platforms

I had created a close Facebook page that I used to communicate with most members of the Oceania region during the COVID-19 pandemic. We use this to get to know everyone, share information, upload pictures, shared challenges and give feedback and support. I had asked all board members to create organizational email addresses so that information is directly reaching everyone. I had the opportunity to zoom with Della Goswell and Angela Murray to discuss the feeding of deaf interpreters in the news setting. I had shared with our deaf leaders the importance of signing separate information to update the Deaf community on the press releases, the News, such as practice of health hygiene, curfew hours, social distancing etc. during the Covid-19 pandemic in Fiji.

### Reports from countries in the Oceania region

### New Zealand (SLIANZ)

New Zealand responded early to the Covid-19 crisis and closed its borders in March. A system of alert levels was announced and we moved rapidly from social distancing measures to a complete 'lockdown': apart from essential trips for grocery shopping or health visits, everyone needed to stay at home. The lockdown lasted for just over a month.

Throughout the crisis, there have been daily media briefings by the Prime Minister, the Director-General of Health and other ministers and government officials. From the outset, interpreters were provided. At first they stood on the same stage, close to the speakers, to be within the camera frame, but later they moved further away and the broadcasts are now frame-withinframe. The briefings are livestreamed. Deaf Aotearoa was instrumental in organising a separate TV channel broadcast where the main screen showed the interpreters, and the speakers were placed in a smaller frame. A team of 6 interpreters worked on rotation. We are very grateful to ASLIA, especially Julie Judd, for inviting NZ media interpreters to a workshop about this work and providing ongoing support and communication channels for media interpreters in Oceania.

Deaf Aotearoa and SLIANZ issued a joint press release about negative comments and mocking of interpreters on social media. This got widespread attention, and strong public support was expressed afterwards, including acknowledgment of the interpreting team by our Prime Minister. SLIANZ, Deaf Aotearoa, the NZ Video Interpreting Service, and the main sign language interpreting agencies worked closely together to share information about the status of interpreters as essential workers, the wearing of PPE, and interpreters working online. Two SLIANZ members ran successful workshops for interpreters on how to use Zoom, and a working group created some guidelines for clients on the use of Zoom with Deaf participants and interpreters. The guidelines are now available on the SLIANZ website. SLIANZ also prepared a video to explain to the Deaf community what interpreters were doing to keep each other safe.

Sadly, the SLIANZ Conference planned for June had to be cancelled. Instead, we have shifted to online professional development, including a workshop on <u>stress-and trauma-informed care</u> which is freely available on our website. This year we will run our AGM online and this will include elections for a new committee.

New Zealand has returned to alert level 1, which means that apart from border restrictions and quarantine procedures, we are more or less back to 'normal'. We are very grateful that there has been no new community transmission and that we had a long period of zero active cases in New Zealand. It's a very different picture elsewhere in the world, and our thoughts are with our colleagues overseas.

### Fiji Islands (SLIAF)

Fiji Islands is using interpreters in two TV stations for the evening News and Deaf Interpreters in the government press statement during COVID-19. The Ministry of Education uses WALESI platform where sign language Interpreters interpret all educational television programs for our children during this pandemic. Social media has been a great way for our Deaf community and Interpreters to provide feedback and maintain communication.

For Deaf students in Tertiary Education, courses are now delivered online to students in the two main universities and interpreters continue to attend online zoom classes and work with deaf students from home. Some challenges: a deaf interpreter being vilified while interpreting during a press conference in the early stages before the lockdown came into effect.

Coping with new terms associated with this pandemic - the Deaf community was very supportive in the formulation of signs for new words. Another challenge is how to work effectively with Deaf interpreters. Deaf interpreters have not been trained and neither have the Hearing interpreters been trained on how to feed the Deaf interpreter. The Deaf community surprisingly have questioned the use of Deaf individuals to interpret in media settings. It is becoming a challenge now with the state of the economy due to the pandemic to continue using Deaf interpreters. Some organizations have expressed concern at the extra cost incurred for Deaf interpreters to be included. Talks are ongoing concerning the decision around the use of Deaf interpreters after the pandemic lockdown period.

### Samoa (SASLI)

I have been communicating with Talele Auvaa Taulagi the president of Samoa Association of Sign Language Interpreters and Sophia Auro Leota a SASLI member. Samoa Association of Sign Language Interpreters was established in February, 2018 by a group of 10 interpreters who are working full time at Senese private organization that provides services to the Deaf community. They were registered on the 6th of June 2019 as an Incorporated Organization in Samoa with a total of 30 members working at different Government Ministries and Non-Government Organization. SASLI is working in partnership with Deaf Association of Samoa (DAS) to ensure that the Deaf community in Samoa have equal access to information. They also are working in partnership with some of the Government Ministries to provide interpreting service for Media, Government workshops, Ministry of Justice, Hospital etc. SASLI has achieved a big milestone in 2019 when the opportunity opened to "Interpret for the first time in the Samoa National Independence Day at the Opening Ceremony and also the Opening and Closing of the Pacific Games in July 2019."

Not many people are aware of the importance of sign language to our deaf community so when Interpreting for a panel discussion or TV news or advertisements people are always admiring and asking lots of questions like how long you have been interpreting. Some just look in disgust and feel that interpreters are taking up space and that having them is a burden. There is a great need for awareness programs and positive attitude and towards promoting sign language for the sake of the Deaf community. Some challenges shared by SASLI are; Most of the time the scripts aren't available for us except for ads by the Ministry of Women. The Ministry of Women makes sure to send over their scripts beforehand. Challenges are inevitable and interpreters are having to face hurdles but it has been paying off. Slowly people are becoming more aware and accepting of having sign language interpreters included in public platforms.

### Papua New Guinea (PNGSLIA)

I have been corresponding with Roselyn Joseph the President of Papua New Guinea Sign Language Interpreters Association who has updated me with this report. Zane Hema introduced us during his visit to PNG to conduct training to the PNGSLIA members on the 1st October, 2019. There are 33 interpreters in PNG 32 hearing and 1 deaf. Eighteen interpreters were trained by Zane and certified. Currently in Port Moresby the National Broadcasting Corporation has booked 5 interpreters during the COVID-19 press conference and the 6pm News. The State Of Emergency announcements are being recorded and interpreted after 6pm news. There were criticism comments and tiktok video made that upset the assigned interpreter, but challenges like these make one stronger and more confident. Receiving support from community, PNGSLIA, PNGDA, the Deaf community and other interpreters internationally really helped at the time.

### Kiribati

In contact with the Kiribati Deaf Association President lotebwa Toaua and two Sign Language Interpreters Juana Totene and Terengantaak lotebwa, the discussion was around how I can support the Interpreters. Hence, I encouraged them to establish their Sign Language Interpreters Committee. The Sign Language Interpreters Committee has just recently established on the 6th of June, 2020. They are working on putting together a Constitution and I have requested ASLIA and SLIANZ rep for support.

#### **Solomon Islands**

In the Solomon Islands I am currently in contact with Stella Damutalau and Anna Sasa and with the President of Solomon Islands Association of the Deaf. There has been ongoing discussions on establishing the Solomon Interpreters Committee. There are 9 interpreters in the Solomon Islands of which 4 are teachers at the San Isidro Care Center, 3 are teachers in Special Development Center and 2 work for the Solomon Islands Deaf Association. Stella Damutalau has reported on interpreting in the Solomon Islands Deaf Association this year during meetings, trainings, data collections for the deaf and the Prime Ministers weekly address during the COVID-19 state of emergency. SIDA is working on establishing the Sign Language Interpreters, public criticism, mocking and being told that they are not qualified to interpret for the deaf. I have been encouraging them and they are receiving support from their colleagues and family members to continue despite the criticism.

There is still a lot of work to be done in the Oceania Regions and support is needed to provide counsel on how they can address various issues. It is encouraging to see the establishment of Interpreters Committee around the region. Support may be needed for the relevant documentations to be drawn up so that these committees can become associations and become members to WASLI.

There is also a dire need for ongoing PD as the training course for Interpreters is still in progress. The greatest need is around understanding the difference between spoken and sign language and how to make their signs visual for the wider Deaf community to understand. With new networks and collaboration established between me and the countries in the region, it is my hope that come the next Oceania conference, more countries will be able to attend. Thanks to ASLIA and SLIANZ for supporting training through the Region and to me as the Oceania Regional Representative.

I believe that the 4 years of my services with WASLI will be an exciting journey full of new discoveries on what God has placed on my path serving the Oceania Region.

# Mental Health Advisory Group Bernie Chapman

Despite this very unusual year that we all have experienced, the ASLIA Mental Health Advisory group continued to operate as an informal network of interpreters and researchers who have an interest in mental health interpreting. Rather than engage in regular meetings we communicate via email on an 'as needed' basis.

The areas we established as our priority in 2019 have been addressed during 2020 as follows:

- **Pre-assignment concerns** we dismissed the idea of skills identification template and this area of interpreter consistency and appropriateness is still yet to be addressed.
- **During the assignment concerns** some of these areas would make excellent PD topics and our advisory group is keen to support state associations in this regard.
- Resources for interpreters a dedicated page on ASLIA's website has been set up which is populated with a range of resources. <u>https://aslia.com.au/resources/mental-health-interpreting</u>
- Interpreter wellbeing an Interpreter Self Care kit has been developed by the Qld Deafness and Mental Health Statewide Consultation service and can be found on the ASLIA website. We would like to thank the service for their work in developing this kit. https://aslia.com.au/wp-content/uploads/Interpreter-self-care-kit-2020-v-2.pdf

The advisory group is willing to support a mental health specific professional development opportunity each year during World Mental Health Week in October. With the COVID lockdowns and uncertainty that has prevailed, good mental health of our members and consumers is paramount. In the meantime, we encourage interpreters to continue to upskill by utilising the resources so far made available on the ASLIA website. We will be sourcing top quality resources to upload regularly and if you have any excellent resources to share please feel free to email to the ASLIA secretary (secretary@aslia.com.au) and mark it - Att: Mental Health Advisory group.

Likewise, during World Mental Health week, we are willing to support The DeBrief regarding the publishing of a blog relating to mental health.

The ASLIA mentoring program is also a good way for interpreters improve their practice and our group strongly encourages interpreters to find a mentor with a focus on supporting interpreters in mental Health interpreting. Log into the members area of the website to access the mentoring program.

Thank you to the ASLIA Board for your patience and energy and we look forward to continuing to support members who wish to improve their skill set in the vital area of mental health interpreting.

# **Education Subcommittee**

# Kerrie Christie

The educational subcommittee have undertaken a range of activities and been through a number of changes as outlined below.

- Danielle Pritchard (WA) joined the subcommittee in November 2019.
- Kerrie Christie (chair, NSW), resigned from the subcommittee in June 2020.
- A number of recommendations made to the ASLIA EC were approved, with action underway, including:
  - Sourcing articles, other resources and links to useful reference materials for Els, which will be placed on the website a DropBox repository has been set up for sharing of resources for review and moderation by subcommittee members;
  - Developing PowerPoint presentations which can be used by Els who are asked to, or would like to share some deaf awareness and interpreter role information to with staff at their schools - these are under review by subcommittee members so they can be adapted for use in different settings and age groups;
  - Investigating pay scales across states this information has been sourced for most states / territories;
  - Liaising with ASLIA re giving greater prominence in the mentor program page to Els so they are more available to those working as Els it was decided that this already falls under the ASLIA Vic program, but mention could be made on the El web-page to direct members to this.
  - Setting up provision of support to ASLIA members working as EIs via website and education\_chair email address for debrief, requests for advice etc.
- November 2019 Kerrie represented ASLIA at a meeting between NSWDET, Kyle Miers and Nick Craig to discuss their next Disability Strategy 5-year plan. Although discussions that took place at the meeting are confidential, the meeting was productive in that it gave NSWDET representatives of the characteristics and needs of deaf learners, with a commitment to meeting again and continuing to work together in the future. Unfortunately Covid-19 seems to have delayed this process.
- December 2019 A submission was prepared for the Disability Royal Commission, specifically addressing the area of educational interpreting for school students.
- December 2020 A document containing guidelines for employing Els was prepared and provided to SA education department following a request from Amy Blaylock.
- May 2020 Robyn Dean IIRS some of the sub-committee members attended an online PD on working remotely as an EI to coincide with the rapid change to work environments due to COVID-19. Participant notes from the course were compiled and made available to all members and can also be made available on the website.

Plans for the next 12 months:

- Continue working on the recommendations, as outlined above now that an EI section has been established on the ASLIA website, the sub-committee will be able to populate this with articles and resources as appropriate;
- Decide on resources etc. that will be made available to members v non-members.

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• Continue looking into strategies to encourage unqualified EIs to gain qualifications and become ASLIA members, using the website as part of this strategy.

Thankyou, Kerrie Christie (former chair, on behalf of the EI subcommittee)

# **Financial Report**

### Amy Blaylock

### Memberships

Total memberships for 2019-2020 were 512, well exceeding last membership year's 449. The membership types were as follows: 97 Associate members, 383 Ordinary members (hold NAATI accreditation, certification or recognition), 16 Corporate members and 16 Honorary Life Members. One of the Corporate memberships was as in-kind support for Deaf Australia in recognition of ASLIA's MOU with the association.

Of the 2018-2019 members 82% renewed in 2019-2020, compared with a 75% renewal rate for the previous membership year. There will be some natural attrition due to life changes, moves to different careers or countries, and retirement, but an increase in the percentage of renewals is encouraging, and provides ASLIA with evidence of the value members place on ASLIA membership.



#### Insurance

The 12-month ASLIA Professional Indemnity and Public Liability Insurance Group Policy started 31 Aug 2019. The questionnaire has been incorporated into the registration process to reduce the administration of the scheme, and this year a pro-rata rate was offered, which has encouraged members to join the policy throughout the policy period. At the time of writing, there are 139 members in the policy, compared with 105 members in 2018-2019. I am pleased that the numbers of members joining the policy has grown, and that the group policy structure means ASLIA can continue to offer members working in freelance situations a heavily discounted premium compared to seeking individual cover.

### Financial procedures and governance

Following on from consultations with, and recommendations from, the 2018-2019 auditor, state treasurers, especially Kerrie Ann Viitala, ASLIA Board Directors, and the Treasurer Assistant Rosalie Kassulke, the following improvements have been made to the financial procedures and governance:

- ASLIA's accounts transitioned from Quickbooks Online to Xero to allow for greater flexibility in defining cost centres (these have all been aligned to the National Accounting Standards), reconciliation and reporting
- Plug-in added to the ASLIA shop which allows for automatic import of sales to Xero, reducing manual reconciliation of accounts
- Grant drawdown reports created to assist in tracking, decision-making and reporting on current grants to the ASLIA Executive and Board
- Rosalie Kassulke and Sheree Murray added as signatories and internet banking transactors for all ASLIA accounts
- Copies of invoices payable stored on the Google Drive in the month they are paid, for ease of audit
- An Aged Receivables procedure was created, and this report is provided with the financial reports monthly to the Board
- The Board is provided monthly with the Budget vs. Actual report for ASLIA, which also guides financial decisions by the Executive
- Separate reporting prepared for the ASLIA National Conference
- A Financial Memorandum of Understanding with state associations has been created to:
  - clarify the financial relationship between ASLIA and state ASLIA associations
  - document the responsibilities that ASLIA has in providing the state associations with reporting that will allow them to reflect the true financial activity of their association
  - document the processes that ASLIA and state ASLIA associations will follow in working with each other to execute the MOU.

At the time of writing, this financial MOU exists with all state associations except ASLIA QLD.

- In developing the financial MOU, reviewed all states' constitutions for financial clause alignment and provided feedback on clauses requiring amendment
- 'Sale of product' fee changed to 'Fees and charges' in Xero, as it is not associated with a cost of sale, but is for bank transaction fee recoupment.

Some items that have not been resolved include:

- At point of sale, splitting membership fee contributions between ASLIA and the member's resident ASLIA association, and directly paying into the state association's bank account for PD and webinar sales. Stripe can only be connected to a single bank account, so this split is not currently possible with the existing system.
- Lack of adequate training provided to NAB branch staff has resulted in errors with paperwork and log ins, long delays in adding signatories to new or existing bank accounts, and poor service when trying to have issues fixed.
- ASLIA, as a professional organisation for members, doesn't currently fulfill any of the charitable purposes required by the ACNC to register as a charitable organisation as recommended by the auditor.

### STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 30 JUNE 2020

- Mignetonia	NOTE	2020 \$	2019 \$
ASSETS			
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash & Cash Equivalents	3	13 <b>2,</b> 943	96,483
Trade & Other Receivables	4	7,365	-
Prepayments	5	10,150	-
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		150,458	96,483
TOTAL ASSETS		150,458	96,483
LIABILITIES			
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Trade & Other Payables	6	18,888	18,977
Income in Advance	7	51,991	21,199
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES		70,879	40,176
TOTAL LIABILITES		70,879	40,176
NET ASSETS		79,580	56,307
MEMBERS' FUNDS			
Retained Earnings	8	79,580	56,307
TOTAL MEMBERS' FUNDS		79,580	56,307

### INCOME STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2020

	2020	2019
	\$	\$
INCOME		
Advertising	3,300	-
ASLIA Group Insurance Policy by Members	32,627	23,239
Donations Received	200	-
Fees & Charges	2,438	-
Grants Received	31,825	9,845
Interest Received	50	198
Membership Fees	45,767	24,183
Registration Fee - ANC	-	70,123
Sale of PD Tickets	666	-
Sales	-	6,128
Sponsorships	<del>_</del>	22,255
Sundry Income	-	280
	116,872	156,251
EXPENSES		
Audit Fees	1,100	-
Bank Charges & Stripe Costs	2,780	2,738
Board & Governance Expenses	252	1,000
Consultancy Fees	20,014	-
Data Processing & Computer Charges	527	2,019
Donations & Gifts Paid	600	544
Event Expenses	2,002	83,415
Fees, Licences & Permits	-	172
Insurance	32,632	25,167
Interpreting Costs	1,084	-
Meeting Expenses	141	-
Printing & Stationery	-	604
Staff Training & Amenities	80	-
Subscriptions	440	373
Sundry Expenses	324	251
Superannuation Expenses	909	1,562
Travel Costs	1,893	4,455
Video Conference Costs	490	-
Website Hosting & Development	18,761	5,253
Wages & Salaries	9,570	14,573
	93,599	142,126
Net Profit (Loss) for the Year	23,273	14,125

Vision - To lead and promote sign language interpreting across Australia

### AUSTRALIAN SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETERS' ASSOCIATION INC. ABN: 90 014 641 341

### CASH FLOW STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2020

		2020	2019
	NOTE	\$	\$
CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Receipts from Operations		161,448	183,154
Payments to Suppliers and Employees		(124,938)	(159,347)
Interest Received		50	198
Net Cash provided by (used in) operating activites		36,460	24,005
Net Increase (Decrease) in Cash Held		36,460	24,005
Cash at Beginning of Financial Year		96,483	72,478
Cash at End of Financial Year		132,943	96,483

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2020

The financial statements cover the business of the Austalian Sign Language Interpreters' Association Incorparated and have been prepared to meet the needs of the stakeholders.

Comparatives are consistent with prior years, unless otherwise stated.

#### NOTE 1. BASIS OF PREPARATION

The association is non-reporting since there are unlikely to be any users who would rely on the general purpose financial statements.

The special purpose financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the significant accounting policies described below and do not comply with any Australian Accounting Standards unless otherwise stated.

The financial statements have been prepared on an accruals basis and are based on historical costs modified, where applicable, by the measurement at fair value of selected non-current assets, financial assets and financial liabilities.

Significant accounting policies adopted in the preparation of these financial statements are presented below and are consistent with prior reporting periods unless otherwise stated.

#### NOTE 2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

#### **Impairment of Non-Financial Assets**

At the end of each reporting period the association determines whether there is evidence of an impairment indicator for non-financial assets.

Where this indicator exists and regardless of goodwill, indefinite life intangible assets and intangible assets not yet available for use, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated.

Where assets do not operate independantly of other assets, the recoverable amount of the relevant cash-generating unit (CGU) is estimated.

The recoverable amount of an asset or CGU is the higher of the fair value less costs of disposal and the value in use. Value in use is the present value of the future cash flows expected to be derived from an asset or CGU.

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2020

Where the recoverable amount is less than the carrying amount, an impairment loss is recognised in profit or loss.

Reversal indicators are considered in subsequent periods for all assets which have suffered an impairment loss except for goodwill.

#### **Cash & Cash Equivalents**

Cash and cash equivalents comprises cash on hand, demand deposits and short-term investments which are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and which are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

#### **Revenue & Other Income**

Revenue is recognised when the association is entitled to it.

All revenue is stated net of the amount of goods and services tax (GST) if applicable.

Revenue from the sale of goods is recognised at the point of delivery as this corrosponds to the transfer fo significant risks and rewards of ownership fo the goods and the cessation of all involvement in those goods.

Other income is recognised on an accrual basis when the association is entitled to it.

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2020

	2020	2019
	\$	\$
NOTE 3. CASH & CASH EQUIVALENTS		
NAB Cash Maximiser Account	51,821	64,621
NAB COF Account	13,652	13,589
NAB ASLIA Shop Account	21,092	-
NAB ASLIA TAS Account	1,862	2,988
NAB Business Debit Card Account	87	252
NAB Everyday Account	43,184	13,813
NAB Legacy Account	1,245	1,220
	132,943	96,483
NOTE 4. TRADE & OTHER RECEIVABLES		
Trade Debtors	7,365	-
NOTE 5. PREPAYMENTS		
ANC 2021 Conference	10,150	
NOTE 6. TRADE & OTHER PAYABLES		
Trade Creditors	1,366	
PAYG Withholding Payable	640	1,114
Superannuation Payable	24	67
ASLIA Legacy Funds Held	1,345	1,220
ASLIA TAS Held	1,862	2,988
COF Funds Held	13,652	13,589
	18,888	18,977

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2020

	2020 \$	2019 \$
NOTE 7. INCOME IN ADVANCE		
Membership Fees in Advance	9,920	8,851
Grants Received in Advance	12,866	9,690
PD Costs in Advance (States)	3,941	2,658
ANC 2021 Conference Registration Fees	9,265	-
ANC 2021 Conference Sponsorship Funds	16,000	-
	51,991	21,199
NOTE 8. RETAINED EARNINGS		
Retained Earnings at the beginning of the year	56,307	42,182
Net profit (loss) for the financial year	23,273	14,125
Retained Earnings at the end of the year	79,580	56,307

#### **INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT**

#### TO THE MEMBERS OF AUSTRALIAN SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETERS' ASSOCIATION INC.

#### **Report on the Financial Report**

We have audited the accompanying financial report of the Australian Sign Language Interpreters' Association Inc. which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2020, the income statement and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information, 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 in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards (including Australian Accounting Interpretations) and Associations Incorporated Act (MSW) 2009, and for such internal controls as committee determines is necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

#### Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Those standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves preforming procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The precedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, 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 association'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 association'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.

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

#### **Audit Opinion**

In our opinion, the financial report presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Australian Sign Language Interpreters' Association Inc. as at 30 June 2020 and it's financial performance and it's cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and Associations Incorparation Act (NSW) 2009.

Steven James Norris Fellow of Institute of Public Accountants Membership No. 173022

Dated this 24th day of August 2020

### Donations

Within the ASLIA Shop there are three options for donations – general donations which ASLIA can determine how the funds will be invested, the Creating Opportunities Fund and the Legacy Fund. ASLIA received a generous single \$200 donation over the financial year.

The *Creating Opportunities Fund* supports interpreters — and by extension, their Deaf communities — from developing countries, or countries developing their interpreter profession, in the Oceania region. With no active fundraising taking place this year, the fund holds \$13651.66 at the end of June 2020. There was one donation of \$25 from a member, and a small amount of interest received each month. There is still no COF sub-committee, so we will continue to take guidance from the WASLI Oceania representative on the use of COF funds in the region.

The *Legacy Fund*, an interpreter mentoring bursary, held \$1245 at the end of June 2020. No members applied to the fund this year, so we will need to increase promotion to the membership, in addition to the static page on the web site.