



President's report 2021-2022
For the Annual General Meeting of ASLIA (WA)
Sunday 28 August 2022, 11:00am
Herdsman Lake Tavern

Auslan: <https://youtu.be/wsDk7nBkcPs>

ASLIA (WA) has had a year of success and solidarity. Coronavirus continued to impact our lives, professionally and personally, and created uncertainty over many of our face-to-face events during 2021 and 2022. Despite this, we have continued to provide professional development and networking opportunities, both face-to-face and online to support the professional wellbeing of our members.

Summary of Events

We held a wide variety of events that showcased local and interstate talent.

A snapshot of our events:

- ASLIA (WA) AGM (August 2021) – We invited valued member Alana Weikart to tell us about their experiences, reflections and thoughts on interpreting.
- ANC Trivia Night (September 2021-online) – As ANC was held online for the first time, we organised a social trivia night for members to have some fun and games and socialise in lieu of the usual ANC gala dinner.
- CPI Online Mental Health Interpreting Forum (September 2021-online) – This forum brought CPI practitioners together from around the country to discuss mental health interpreting case studies.
- Cross Border Chat (October 2021-online) – We continued to hold cross border chats so interpreters around Australia could meet up and chat about anything and everything.
- NAATI CPI Test Preparation Workshop (October 2021) – Helping to prepare candidates for their CPI NAATI test.
- CI Online Conference Interpreting Forum (October 2021-online) – This forum brought CI practitioners together from around the country to discuss conference interpreting case studies.
- NAATI CI Test Preparation Workshop (November 2021) – Helping to prepare members for their CI NAATI test.
- CPI Online Educational Interpreting Forum (November 2021-online) – This forum discussed educational interpreting case studies with CPI interpreters around Australia.

- Mexican Fiesta (December 2021) – Our end of year social with tacos and margaritas!
- Cross Border Chat (December 2021-online) Our final meetup for 2021 for members to catch up.
- Back to Basics (January 2022) Starting the year with a refresher on demand control schema, OHS and vicarious trauma, and all those other practicalities of the job.
- Online Designated Interpreting Forum (February 2022-online) This year we combined our online forums for any credential to discuss case studies on various topics. Our first one started with designated interpreting.
- Early Career Interpreters (March 2022-online) A PD about the logistics and practicalities of starting out as an interpreter.
- Ethics Quiz Party (April 2022-online) A way to make ethics fun!
- Online Health Interpreting Forum (May 2022-online) Discussing health interpreting case studies.
- Bowling (May 2022) a fun social event that unmasked some competitive natures and rivalry!
- Tax Tips with the ATO (July 2022-online) An expert from the ATO took us through
- Cross Border Chat (July 2022-online) Another opportunity for members around the country to get together, play games and chat.
- Online Legal Interpreting Forum (August 2022-online) Discussing legal interpreting case studies.

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.

Summary of meetings and partnerships

ASLIA (WA) have monthly committee meetings, as well as responsibilities with other states and the National Board.

The committee held our annual planning weekend last November and successfully prepared a year's worth of professional development activities and established specific elements for improvement. The planning weekend will be held again this coming November to plan for 2023 and we will be sending out a short survey to help us with that planning in the next couple of months.

WA Committee Members are also representatives on other ASLIA committees such as Interpreting in Educational Settings sub-committee, Website committee, and Interpreter Trainer Network.

We continued to have a presence at NAATI Regional Advisory Committee meetings, and have been working with NAATI WA, AUSIT WA, WAITI and Professionals Australia to ensure Auslan and Deaf Interpreter representation within the WA Translation and Interpreting industry. ASLIA (WA) provide regular feedback to OMI on issues such as the impacts of

Covid-19 for Auslan and Deaf Interpreters, supply-demand concerns, market disorder, and interpreter awareness training.

Our biggest partnership and project is with WAAD, with the continuation of the 'Auslan: Now and Then' exhibition taking place at Boola Bardip in just a couple of weeks. Last year was very successful, and this year will be even better with an extra day set aside for school visits. The exhibition cabinet within the foyer will showcase Auslan: Now and Then materials for the entire month of September. As you can imagine, continuing to curate an exhibition on the history of the Deaf Community and use of Auslan in WA is a huge project to undertake and we thank everyone who has contributed to the exhibition so far.

Acknowledgements

I want to thank the ASLIA (WA) committee for their commitment, dedication, ideas, encouragement, and especially their humour. ASLIA (WA) exists because members volunteer their time and energy to support the organisation and its members, which flows on to the interpreting industry and the Deaf Community. Without people to put up their hands and take on roles and responsibilities in the committee, none of the events listed above would take place.

We have three committee members leaving us this year. First off, a huge thank you to Trish Townsend for taking on the Secretary role for the last 2 years. I know what an enormous task that role can be and Trish has filled it with tact and grace. Corey Piestrzeniewicz also leaves us after two years assisting our treasurer, to focus on her studies and we wish her the best of luck! And lastly Tahlicia Osei-Poku is stepping down after 4 years, including a term as our past President and another as Social Media guru. Tahlicia has also been behind much of our recent reinvigoration since reforming in less than 10 years ago and will be sorely missed.

Many thanks to our members for supporting the events that your committee work hard to prepare for you. I look forward to another outstanding year of ASLIA (WA) representing our community in leading and promoting sign language interpreting in Western Australia.

Christy Filipich
President
ASLIA (WA)