



ASSOCIATION FOR
ACADEMIC
LANGUAGE AND
LEARNING

Association for Academic Language and Learning (AALL) Incorporated

State, Territory and other National Executive Reports

November 2021

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Australian Capital Territory

Representatives

- **Lesley Cioccarelli**, AALL Social Media (Canberra Institute of Technology)
- **Gail Heinrich**, AALL Website Co-ordinator (University of Canberra)

Members

ACT has 18 members from:

- Australian Catholic University, Canberra
- ADFA, UNSW
- Australian National University
- The University of Canberra
- Canberra Institute of Technology
- Crawford School of Public Policy

Meetings

The AALL ACT Chapter held two meetings this year. We were fortunate to meet in person before the ACT lockdown at the University of Canberra on Friday 30th April, where we caught up on news from our local ALL centres and shared innovations from 2020. We met again, but online this time, on Tuesday 2nd November. We picked up the theme from the recent national forum on *Connect, Inspire, Share* and discussed “What do you want from AALL? And what could we be doing as an ACT chapter – locally and/or nationally?”.

We have decided to aim for bi-monthly meetings next year, with a mix of online and face to face. Members suggested topics for discussion for the meetings, and our local representatives/organisers will schedule themes for meetings based on these. There was also a suggestion of cross-institutional mentoring. Our members are generally happy with what they are currently getting through AALL nationally and in the ACT chapter.

Website

A great deal of work has gone into ensuring that the new AALL website is functional and up-to-date, with useful content and features, such as a newsfeed on the [AALL homepage](#), with easy ways to [join AALL](#) and [update membership information](#). The website continues to be a work in progress. Members are invited to explore key sections that we have been working on:

- [About our association](#) - AALL mission and goals, and links to the constitution, executive, history and ICALLD;
- [PD opportunities](#) - current professional development opportunities and links to recordings of previous events;
- [Events](#) - a calendar of upcoming and recent events;
- [Resources and publications](#) - links to JALL and key documents of interest to members; and
- [Grants](#) - notifications and advice on grant opportunities through AALL.

Gail Heinrich has coordinated the website, with assistance from Siri Barrett-Lennard and Lesley Cioccarelli.

Social Media

The **AALL Facebook Group** - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/AusAALL> - continues to be the main forum for communication between members across the country. It is used to share AALL news and events, plus anything else that might be of interest to AALL members. Group members can post and comment, so is a useful forum for discussion. We currently have 272 members on the group, but note that this is not cross-checked with the membership lists, as it is seen as a way for people to find AALL and encourage them to join.

The **AALL Twitter account** - <https://twitter.com/AusAALL> - now has 328 followers. It is used to share AALL news and events and also share through retweets, news and events from our ICALLD-affiliated associations around the world.

The **AALL YouTube channel**: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCYjq1AHotc5dBkA2qwDPCNQ> hosts recordings of the *Connect*, *Inspire*, *Share* sessions, and we plan to add more event recordings here in the future. We have also added playlists for other related events that have recordings (so far, ICALLD 2016 Symposium and the AALL Conference 2015).

Lesley Cioccarelli has managed AALL Social Media channels.

New South Wales

NSW Representatives

- **Rosemarie Fonseca**, AALL Meet the Author PD Events
- **Leighana Thornton**, AALL Public Officer, AALL Meet the Author PD Events (Australian Catholic University)

Additional Executive Members

- **Alex Barthel**, AALL Senior Counsel and AALL Assistant Treasurer

Members

NSW has 66 members from:

- Australian College of Physical Education
- Australian Catholic University
- Australian College of Applied Psychology
- Australian School of Accounting
- Charles Sturt University
- Macquarie University
- The University of Newcastle
- The University of Notre Dame, Sydney
- Southern Cross University
- The University of Sydney
- Torrens University
- University of New England
- University of NSW
- University of Wollongong
- University of Technology, Sydney
- Western Sydney University

Correspondence

The NSW state representatives surveyed the NSW membership at the end of 2020 to find out how the state chapter could best support them. As a result, a series of events called 'Meet the Author' (see below) was created to meet networking and professional development needs.

Correspondence from members was mainly requests for data which is now available on the ALL centre table.

Meet the Author PD Events

Although this series was a NSW initiative, because the events were held online, all members were encouraged to participate.

Participants were asked to read and reflect on a selected article from a recent issue of the Journal of Academic Language and Learning before each event. Each event began with the author of that article briefly summarising their research. Participants were then put into state-based breakout rooms to network and discuss the implications of the research on their practice. Participants returned to the main room for a Q&A session.

Attendance, participation, participant feedback and author feedback were all encouraging. Reader numbers of the selected articles doubled as a result of the event.

Rosemarie Fonseka and Leighana Thornton organised Meet the Author PD Events. May Kocatepe, Alice Lee, Rhonda Siu, Lesley Cioccarelli, Gail Heinrich, Siri Barrett-Lennard and Steve Campitelli provided invaluable support and advice.

Three events were held in 2021. Information is available on our [Meet the Author webpage](#).

Public Officer

As Public Officer, Leighana Thornton has ensured legal reporting rights for AALL are met. She has been the central contact for the association, managing [contact us](#) queries, and organising access to shared executive documents.

Senior Counsel and Assistant Treasurer

Alex Barthel has helped to mentor and support executive members, and has contributed to working parties and other key executive functions this year, taking on the role of Assistant Treasurer, helping to review grant applications, assisting with AALL table updates and presentations, and leading the writing of [AALL history](#), a key resource for members interested in ALL developments in Australia.

Northern Territory

NT Representatives

Raelke Grimmer, AALL Conference Convenor (Charles Darwin University)

Andrew Pollard, AALL Conference Convenor (Charles Darwin University)

Members

NT has 7 members from:

- Charles Darwin University

Meetings

This year saw the restructure of the existing Language and Learning unit at Charles Darwin University and the appointment of a new team to support students in language and learning across both Higher Education and VET.

Raelke and Andy met with Kathrin Dixon, secretary of the NT branch of ATESOL to discuss opportunities for shared PD sessions between the NT branches of the two organisations.

Conference

Raelke, Andy and Nicola Rolls have also spent much time over the year working on organising the [15th Biennial AALL Conference: Diversity, Distance and Digitalisation](#). For the first time in the AALL's history, the conference is taking place completely online. It will feature four keynote speakers and an extensive program of presentations over three days (17-19 November).

Queensland

Representatives

- **Sally Ashton-Hay**, AALL Vice-President (Southern Cross University)
- **Shirley Brown**, AALL Memberships and New Members (Bond University)

Additional Executive Members

- **David Rowland**, JALL Editor and AALL Treasurer

Members

Queensland has 45 members from:

- Australian Catholic University
- ADFA
- AIPC
- Bond University
- Central Queensland University
- Griffith University
- James Cook University
- Queensland University of Technology
- Southern Cross University
- The University of Queensland
- University of Southern Queensland

Meetings

Unfortunately, we were unable to hold any Qld chapter meetings this year. We are hoping to hold an event in the first half of 2022.

Vice-President

AALL was pleased to host an International Consortium of Academic Language and Learning Developers (ICALLD) Symposium-over-time presentation on May 21, 2021 for members from Scotland, England, Canada, New Zealand and Australia. The presentation was entitled *Updating the AALL Australian University Register of ALL Centres/Units*.

This presentation arose from an AALL Grant project and provides a current snapshot of the ALL sector in Australia. Many members were interested in conducting a similar project in their own countries. The ICALLD presentation was given by Alex Barthel, Amanda Muller and Sally Ashton-Hay.

Grants

Grant applications requested \$19, 854.13 this year in Round 1 and Round 2. The projects proposed varied on topics and were generally of a high quality. It was positive to see the thoughtful consideration and variety of projects proposed this year and to have AALL on the forefront of interesting and relevant research in our field. A huge thanks to reviewers Kate Chanock, Alex Barthel, Shirley Brown, Siri Barrett-Lennard and Sally Ashton-Hay.

Memberships and New Members

As a new initiative this year, Shirley has been sending out a welcome letter to all new and renewing members. The idea was to introduce new members to what AALL has to offer and to remind existing members of the PD events available and channels of communication such as the FaceBook page and AALL website. We are hoping to encourage more ALL advisors to join AALL especially since we still have reduced membership fees.

Journal

David Rowland has managed the [Journal of Academic Language and Learning](#) (JALL), leading an editorial team that also included Kate Chanock, Andrew Johnson, Tim Moore, Brownyn James, Alexandra Marrugo, Averil Grieve, and until partway through the year, Cally Guerin. This year, ten articles, one reflection and one letter have been published, with several other papers under review. More information is available in the Journal News report on the AGM webpage on the [AALL website](#).

Treasurer

David Rowland has been the Treasurer this year, assisted by Alex Barthel and Siri Barrett-Lennard as co-signatories to the account. David has ensured that the Association continues to be in a very healthy position financially, which has made it possible to extend reduced membership rates introduced last year to support members struggling financially with the impacts of coronavirus, as well as to support a range of grants this year, and upcoming website updates and enhancements.

South Australia

Representatives

- **Rebekah Clarkson** (University of South Australia)
- **Kirstin Marks** (University of South Australia)

Members

SA has 12 members from:

- The University of Adelaide
- Flinders University
- The International Hotel Management College
- The University of South Australia

Meetings

A catch up of SA-AALL is planned to coincide with the conference, and will take the form of an in-person conference dinner!

Tasmania

Representatives

- **Amelia Dowe**, AALL Secretary (University of Tasmania)

Members

Tasmania has 3 members from:

- The University of Tasmania

Meetings

This year there have been no meetings held in Tasmania. This was partly due to low member numbers in the state, and partly due to restructuring of the academic language and learning area. We hope to build interest in the association over the next year, and to increase membership if possible.

Secretary

Amelia stepped into the role of Secretary in December 2020 to fill a mid-term vacancy. The role has involved preparing and circulating meeting agendas, taking and sharing meeting notes, and assisting with the election process.

Victoria

Representatives

- **Elena Verezub**, AALL Connect. Inspire. Share. PD Events (Swinburne University of Technology)
- **Steve Campitelli**, AALL Connect. Inspire. Share. PD Events (University of Melbourne)

Additional Executive Members

- **Kate Chanock**, AALL Senior Counsel

Members

Victoria has 46 members from:

- Australian Catholic University
- Asia Pacific International College
- CDU
- CQU
- Crown College Institute of HE
- Deakin University
- Federation University
- La Trobe University
- Monash University
- Swinburne University of Technology
- The University of Melbourne
- Victoria University

Meetings

Victoria did not host any state meetings this year, something we will look to rectify in 2022 as life returns to something resembling normal.

Connect. Inspire. Share. PD Events

Steve Campitelli and Elena Verezub organised and facilitated 4 more sessions of Connect Inspire Share PD series, now in its second 'season'.

Our first event saw Prof. John Munro presenting on 'The multiple ways of knowing: A framework for fostering effective academic learning and for unpacking learning difficulties'. Event 2 was Dr Charles Seigny presenting on "Re-imagining, re-inventing and challenging traditional assessment approaches – an academic's perspective." The 3rd CIS was Dr Fiona Burrows talking about "Connecting through conversation: Creating a sense of belonging for new pathways students and establishing a university culture where pastoral care is everyone's business."

Finally, we had AALL President Siri Barrett-Lennard leading a workshop discussion on "Making the most of your AALL membership – opportunities to develop your practice, engage in collaborative research, build a professional profile, publish and network with other academic language and learning professionals locally, nationally and internationally."

The series is generally well-attended with numbers ranging from 20 to 50; it is well regarded and those that attend find it valuable making inter-institution connections. We intend to run a 3rd season in 2022. Recordings and slides are available on the [AALL Connect. Inspire. Share. webpage.](#)

Western Australia

Representatives

- **Siri Barrett-Lennard**, AALL President (UWA)
- **Miriam Sullivan** (Edith Cowan University)

Members

WA-AALL has 35 members from:

- Curtin University
- Edith Cowan University
- Murdoch University
- The University of Notre Dame
- The University of Western Australia

Meetings

On the 29th of October we ran an event 'Encouraging Students to Use Learning Support' where Tracy Ware from ECU led a discussion on her research into how institutional factors encourage or discourage students from engaging with support. The event was well attended both in person and by members from other parts of Australia on the livestream.

President

Siri Barrett-Lennard has served as AALL President in 2020-2021. Please see her President's Report on the AALL AGM webpage for highlights of initiatives and trends under her leadership, and to learn more about AALL Executive member achievements. Also included in the President's Report are lists of incoming and completing Executive teams.