

Australian Assn for Professional and Applied Ethics

Annual report, 2000-2001

The Annual General Meeting for 2000 was held during the annual conference in Brisbane in early July 2000, and this AGM is being held in late September 2001. There are, therefore, almost 15 months to cover.

The committee continued to discuss initiatives for the Association which would strengthen membership and increase its national stature, and the committee has devoted further time to consideration of these. One of the proposals considered in the previous year – meetings of specific professional groups in association with the conference – has come to fruition, with a religion and ethics group meeting this year. The arrangement of the 2002 conference, with the Friday sessions having distinct themes and involving practitioners as well as academics is in line with the committee's desire to extend the reach and usefulness of the Association.

The Association has maintained a web-page [at <http://www.arts.unsw.edu.au/aapae/>] and an email discussion list aapae-l, and the Association extends its thanks to Assoc Prof Stephen Cohen who maintains both of these. The web page continues to provide a resource to members and others, as does the list, which has proved an effective way of maintaining contact with people who are interested in professional and applied ethics but are not (yet) members of AAPAE.

The AAPAE newsletter *Australian Ethics* is distributed to members, and during the year members were asked if they would prefer to receive the Newsletter in electronic form rather than hard copy. A small number of members opted for email delivery. During the year Steve Curry assumed the editorship of the newsletter from Meg Herbert, who served for many years in this capacity. We thank her for her work, and welcome Steve. *Australian Ethics* is one of the suite of publications provided to members.

The Association is incorporated under the Associations Incorporation Act of New South Wales and the committee has taken care to ensure that we comply with the requirements of our incorporation. The association has an Australian Business Number or ABN, and for the period 1 Jul 2000 to 30 Jun 2001 was registered for the GST. This proved to be an unnecessary requirement (as the AAPAE makes few purchases which contain GST) and the Association is no longer registered for the GST. The ABN remains valid. During the year Ms Kay Buckley has been Public Officer of the Association.

Despite the belief expressed in last year's report that the relationship between the Association and the publisher of the Australian Journal of Practical and Applied Ethics had been clarified, the topic continued to occupy much of the committee time over the past year. Since January we have received 3 issues of the AJPAE under the editorship of Andrew Alexandra.

Ms Meg Herbert, who has been a member of the committee since the AAPAE's inception in 1995 resigned from the committee as a consequence of a series of operations, and need to cut down her level of activity for a while. The Chairman wrote at the time to thank her for her work on the Committee.

Since it was elected at the Annual General Meeting the committee has met on 8 occasions, one in Brisbane during the conference, 6 times by teleconference and once in Adelaide immediately prior to the 20021 conference. Ms Kay Buckley assumed the duties of Treasurer in October, in addition to her role as Public Officer. Following comment at the 2000 AGM regarding the absence of Queensland representation on the Committee, Dr John Harrison was invited to join the Committee, but the committee noted that this should not be taken to imply that 'topping up' was seen as the normal procedure.

HR Harris
Secretary
26 Sep 2001