

## **Australian Association for Professional and Applied Ethics**

Incorporated in New South Wales, ABN 37 191 313 308

### **Annual report, 2006-2007**

The Annual General Meeting for 2005-06 was held during the Annual Conference at the School of Philosophy in the University of New South Wales on 12 -14 June 2006, with attendees from universities around Australia and overseas. A small number of attendees came from the private & public sectors. This report covers activity for the year since then.

The aims of the Association include the fostering of community discussion, organisation of conferences and the development and distribution of publications.

#### **Fostering community discussion**

The Association's **website** and its **listserver** are key vehicles for this engagement with both the community of those involved in some way with the discussion of ethics (the ethics professionals) and the wider community of those who are engaged in practical and applied ethics but would not consider themselves as having a specific interest or expertise in the discipline. The initial upgrading of the website during 2005 and continuing in 2006 has provided a base on which further improvements and extensions have been built. There is now a wider range of ethics resources and information about the association available on the website. Suggestions and comments for enhancements are welcome.

Stephen Cohen has continued to administer and oversee both the website and listserver alongside his responsibility for the 2006 conference. His continued work in this area is invaluable to the Association and is once again acknowledged. Thank you, Stephen.

#### **Conferences**

The association's 14th annual conference is to be held in Melbourne from 27-29 June 2007 , at RMIT University, Dr Michael Segon is convening the conference with the assistance of a small committee, including Associate Professor Michael Schwartz also of RMIT University, Thank you both Michaels . Michael Segon has reported that they are receiving assistance from RMIT University, The Graduate School of Business and The Sustainability Institute at RMIT.

The AGM of the Association will be held during the conference.

#### **Publications**

Since the Sydney conference members have received

- a CD containing the refereed papers and abstracts from that conference
- An issue of the Association's official journal, *the Australian Journal of Professional and Applied Ethics* – Volume 8 no 1, which included selected papers from the Third ISBEE conference in Melbourne, 2004
- One issue of *the Australian Journal of Professional and Applied Ethics* – vol 8 no2, which included selected papers from the AAPAE's 12<sup>th</sup> annual conference in Adelaide
- One issue of *Res Publica* produced by the Centre for Applied Philosophy and Public Ethics (CAPPE),

The work of Andrew Alexandra as Editor of the *Australian Journal of Professional & Applied Ethics*, and of Rob Macklin at Charles Sturt University as editor of the selected publications from the 2005 conference is acknowledged with gratitude. There has not been any issues of the Association's newsletter, *Australian Ethics* since the 2006 conference. The AJPAE Journal issue on the 2006 conference will be available shortly

At the 2006 general meeting concern was expressed regarding the ongoing production problems at the *AJP*AE and the committee was empowered take a number of actions as a result. As noted above, two issues of the Journal have since been received by members. Efforts to clarify and formalise the commercial, financial and editorial relationship between the Association and the Journal are continuing, but there are, as yet, no formal agreements.

### **Membership**

So far in 2007 32 individual members and 1 corporate member have paid subscriptions. A new scheme was instituted this year in which new members could pay their conference attendance fees along with their membership. At the date of writing, the results of this scheme have not yet been tallied. Also not available at the date of writing is the final decision on a program to increase membership numbers. An oral report on these matters will be given at the AGM

There are 296 subscribers to the email list, a minor increase from the 294 of previous years.

### **Administration**

As in the previous year, the business of the committee was transacted by email although two teleconferences were held, both primarily devoted to organisational arrangements for the 2007 conference teleconference.

Kay Plummer as the Association's Treasurer has seen us through the implementation of the new arrangement for credit card payments of subscriptions, and the arrangements with the NSW Department of Consumer Affairs which have meant that the annual general meeting could be held at the conference. Thank you, Kay.

The assistance of Kay, and other members of the Committee, as well as the President Howard Harris, in preparing this report, is sincerely acknowledged.

Peter Bowden

Secretary,

20 June 2007