

Australian Association for Professional and Applied Ethics

Incorporated in New South Wales, ABN 37 191 313 308

Annual report, 2005-2006

The Annual General Meeting for 2005 was held during the annual conference at the City West campus of the University of South Australia Sydney in September 2005, and this report covers activity for the eight months 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 engaged 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 has provided a base on which further improvements and extensions have been built and 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.

At the 2005 conference initial discussions regarding the formation of an interest group concerned with the armed forces, police and society took place, and at this conference there is a workshop on military ethics.

Conferences

The association's 12th annual **conference** was held in Adelaide from 28-30 September 2005 and a report from conference convenor Assoc Prof Chris Provis was included in *Australian Ethics*. Due in part to the assistance received from the School of Management at UniSA a small surplus was made and contributed to the Association's funds.

Publications

In the eight months since the Adelaide conference members have received

- three issues of the Association's official journal, *the Australian Journal of Professional and Applied Ethics* – vol6 no2, and both issues of volume 7. Volume 6 no2 included selected papers from the Hawkesbury conference.
- issues of *Res Publica* produced by the Centre for Applied Philosophy and Public Ethics (CAPPE),
- a CD containing the refereed papers from the Adelaide conference
- two issues of the Association's newsletter, *Australian Ethics*.

The work of Andrew Alexandra as Editor of the *Australian Journal of Professional & Applied Ethics*, of Rob Macklin at Charles Sturt University as editor of the selected publications from the 2005 conference which will appear in a subsequent issue of the *AJPAE* and Ian Richards as editor of *Australian Ethics* is acknowledged with gratitude.

At the 2005 general meeting concern was expressed regarding the ongoing production problems at the *AJPAE* and the committee was empowered take a number of actions as a result. As noted above, three issues of the Journal have since been received by members. It was agreed by the committee that the *AJPAE* would be the vehicle for the publication of selected papers from the

2005 conference. The editor reports that the next issue is at the printer and the selection of articles for the subsequent issue, which will contain papers from the 2005 conference, is complete. The Journal is, he reports, now receiving a steady supply of articles, including quality articles from overseas. 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

Membership for 2005 stood at 53 individual members and 3 corporate members. So far in 2006 28 individual members and 1 institutional member have paid subscriptions. There are 294 subscribers to the email list, an increase of 15 on last year.

Administration

As in the previous year, the business of the committee was transacted by email rather than by 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 and not in September in such a way that this did not affect the subscription year arrangements. Thank you, Kay.

HR Harris

Secretary, 9 Jun 2006