

# Chairperson's Report 2017 – 2018

This report is presented for consideration at the NSW Division Annual General Meeting – 25th October 2018.

## 1. Division Committee

There are currently 10 members of the committee.

At present the committee is structured as follows:

Jeff Parnell	Chairperson
Angus Leslie	Vice-Chairperson
Laura Keen	Secretary, Minutes Secretary (Maternity Leave)
Rodney Stevens	Treasurer
Matthew Harrison	Technical Subcommittee
Paul Maddock	Technical Meetings/Awards
Mattia Tabacchi	Technical Meetings
Con Doolan	Technical Subcommittee
Ray Kirby	Technical Subcommittee
John Wassermann	Memberships

The NSW Federal Councillors are as follows:

Angus Leslie

Jeff Parnell

## 2. Technical / Social Activities

The major work of the committee during this year has been organising and running the technical program. Many thanks to Mattia and Paul for organising an excellent program over the last 12 months which has seen attendances of over 50 at several talks.

There were seven technical meetings held in Sydney over the last 12 months. These talks are described below:

Date	Description	Presenter	Location
1 Nov 2017	The EPA Noise Policy for Industry, what it says, and how it will be implemented	Gordon Downey	UNSW
29 Feb 2017 Breakfast Talk	Presentation to the Acoustical Society of America Executive	Various	Kirribilli Club
19 Apr 2018	Recent progress regarding noise and rolling resistance properties of road surfaces	Ulf Sandberg	UNSW
22 May 2018	The Australian Accent and its effects on Aussies' perception of vowels and words in other English accents	Catherine Best	Hearing Hub
20 June 2018	The acoustic and psychoacoustic considerations in open-plan offices	Manuj Yadav	USyd
17 Jul 2018	Wind farm noise production	Con Doolan	UNSW
23 Aug 2018	The Challenges of Aviation Communication	Dominique Estival	WSU

In grasping technology, Prof. Doolan's talk on wind farm noise was provided as a live feed to other Divisions. The committee is always looking for presenters and topics for the technical talks. If you have any feedback on the technical talks, or any ideas for new topics and more importantly presenters, please let the committee know.

### 3. Membership

The NSW Division Membership numbers for October 2018 and the preceding 6 years are given in the following table. It can be seen that member numbers are similar to last year but have maintained a 10% plus increase on the level from 5 years previous.

	<b>Oct 2018</b>	<b>Sept 2017</b>	<b>Sept 2016</b>	<b>Sept 2015</b>	<b>Sept 2014</b>	<b>Sept 2013</b>	<b>Sept 2012</b>	<b>Sept 2011</b>
Fellows/Life Members	4	10	11	11	11	12	10	10
Members	238	222	228	227	201	198	196	177
Graduates	10	14	11	13	9	9	7	4
Associates	5	5	7	9	11	11	12	13
Subscribers	8	10	12	12	12	13	8	8
Students	21	16	14	13	17	17	13	7
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>286</b>	<b>277</b>	<b>283</b>	<b>285</b>	<b>265</b>	<b>260</b>	<b>249</b>	<b>219</b>

Thank you to John Wassermann who has charge of membership responsibilities.

### 4. Acoustics Australia

I would like to thank Marion Burgess and Truda King for their hard work over the year. Acoustics Australia continues to be a high standard journal with a good impact factor rating.

However, to maintain this standard, Acoustics Australia requires articles and technical notes to be submitted by the membership for inclusion in the journal. If members have worked on an interesting project, please consider writing it up for publication as a technical note. The projects you work on may appear routine to you, but to others working in different areas they could be very interesting!

## 5. Awards and Grants

The AAS Divisional committee makes travel grants available for an Early Career Researcher and a Research Student to attend Acoustics 2018, Adelaide. This year Laetitia Roux, a research student at UNSW was successful in her application based research co-authored with Christian Audoly, Anne-Christine Hladky and Nicole Kessissoglou - *Inverse methods to derive effective properties of metamaterials*. An award of \$1750 was given.

The successful awardees will provide a short report (200 to 500 words) on their experiences at the Conference to be included in Acoustics Australia journal.

It is important to encourage Student Membership through initiatives such as the AAS NSW Acoustics Prize to the best undergraduate students in acoustics. AAS NSW Division provide university awards in acoustics to the University of Western Sydney, Macquarie University, Sydney University and University of NSW. Each award consists of a cash prize of \$250 and one year's subscription to the Australian Acoustical Society. The objectives of this education prize are to encourage undergraduate students into the field of acoustics and provide exposure for the Society at the university prize giving ceremonies. The Award recipients for 2018 were:

Benjamin Curtis	WSU
Esther Lee	MacU
Zain Khan	UNSW



Angus Leslie and Dr Helen Wu with Benjamin Curtis



Jeff Parnell and Prof Simon Handley with Esther Lee



Jeff Parnell with Zain Khan

Congratulations to those winners.

## 6. ACT Chapter Activities for 2017-2018 - Meetings

A sub-report on the activities of the ACT Chapter of the NSW Division has been provided by Jamie Hladky. Moves are afoot to further support this Chapter in 2019.

**The 104th meeting** was held on 24 April 2018 and was our annual meeting with the senior noise team from the ACT Environment Protection Authority. The group tabled several responses received from the EPA on various planning submissions and policy matters, including assessment at the boundary of the noise-generating property (rather than across the road), requiring noise intrusion assessments for residential care home (not covered by ACT MUHDC) and requiring noise intrusion assessments for child care centres (not covered by any policy).

**The 105th meeting** was held on 10 May 2018 and was a *Breakfast with Embleton* session. There are relatively few acoustic consultants in the ACT and almost all acoustics-related product sales representatives visit from interstate. The ACT group discusses this at a recent

meeting and agreed to attempt to arrange a group meeting around these visits from time to time.

Embleton presented to a group of consultants on the following topic:

*"This presentation will outline different constructions of Embelton floating floor projects, photos & videos along with their typical applications, learning experiences from the field and test data. This will also give us the time to hand over the new Embelton catalogue along with a soft copy."*

**The 106th meeting** was held on 25 July 2018. A group of ACT members met at the pub for a couple of refreshing drinks and a catchup, before attending a lecture at the ANU School of Music:

*"Mark Opitz in Conversation at ANU School of Music - Mark Opitz is Australia's most successful record producer and a HC Coombs Creative Arts Fellow in 2018. In a career spanning more than four decades, Mark's productions are an integral part of Australia's sonic history. From AC/DC to the Divinyls, Cold Chisel to INXS, Kiss and the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra to The Angels, Mark's multi ARIA award winning records and unique approach to sound recording and production have cemented him as one of the world's best record producers. Mark will be joined by ANU School of Music Academic, Associate Professor Samantha Bennett, whose research centres on recorded popular music, phonomusicological analysis of popular music recordings and associated contextual studies of workplace, recordists and technologies."*

### Petty cash float summary

The table below summarises the ACT petty cash spend throughout 2017-18.

#	Date	Item	\$
		<b>ACT petty cash float rollover from 2017</b>	<b>-150.20</b>
	07/05/18	Much needed cash injection from NSW HQ	500.00
105	10/05/18	Breakfast with Embelton	0.00
104	23/05/18	Catchup meeting with ACT EPA Noise team	-58.45
106	25/07/18	Mark Opitz in Conversation at ANU School of Music	0.00
		<b>ACT petty cash float rollover to 2019</b>	<b>291.35</b>

### Membership

The number of AAS members located in and around the ACT is hard to understand, as all are listed formally as NSW division members. We have 20 in the email distribution list (this is based on ACT or regional NSW home addresses and known members).

Attendance at meetings is typically between 4 and 7, plus typically 0 to 3 invited guests. I'd like to improve connections between the ACT group and NSW Division. I'd be grateful if you could table this at the AGM and I'll raise it at the next ACT meeting.

Please feel free to give me a call if you would like to discuss any part of this report.

Kind regards

Jamie Hladky  
 Convenor AAS Group of NSW Division Canberra

## **7. International Conferences**

In what may be seen as one of the biggest coups for acoustics in Australia, Sydney has been successful in reaching an agreement with the Acoustical Society of America to co-host an event in 2021. This event will effectively be a movement of their Fall 2021 Meeting to Sydney. *Acoustics 2021* will not only include the ASA, but will also incorporate WESPAC which is the Western Pacific Commission for Acoustics (of which Australia is a member) and PRUAC which is the Pacific Rim Underwater Acoustics Conference. The NSW Division is busy beginning the promotion of this event and you will hear much more about the opportunities to be involved in the next 18 months.

## **8. Australian Conferences**

The WA Division hosted the 2017 Conference in Perth which was a well attended event. With the 2018 Conference being held in Adelaide, NSW is next scheduled as a host for 2020, however with our successful bid to host *Acoustics 2021*, the NSW Division has determined that it will not seek to host the 2020 event. Some preliminary discussions have been held with NZAS to potentially step up to that role, but at this point nothing is fixed.

## **9. Conclusion**

As we sign off on another successful year, I would like to take this opportunity to provide a special thank you to all members of the NSW Committee who continue to offer their valuable personal time in running the NSW Division of the Society.

Best regards,

Jeff Parnell  
Chairperson  
NSW Division - Australian Acoustical Society