

dassh Collaborative
Influential
Connected
Knowledgeable

 **ANNUAL REPORT**
2022–23



Acknowledgement of First Nations

The Australasian Council of Deans of Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities proudly acknowledges First Nations people as the First Peoples and Traditional Owners and custodians of the land and water on which we rely. We acknowledge and respect that Aboriginal communities are steeped in traditions and customs built on a disciplined social and cultural order. This social and cultural order has sustained at least 50,000 years of existence. We acknowledge the powerful opportunity our sector has to embrace, learn from and improve through better understanding and integration of Indigenous Knowledges.

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About dassh

DASSH represents more than 300 Deans and Associate and Deputy Deans from nearly every university in Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand. Our members lead schools that are home to more than 100,000 students and thousands of researchers in the Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities.



We advocate for our disciplines, produce research and policy submissions, engage with government, members and colleagues in Australia and around the world. DASSH is a hub for members, with networking and professional development events held throughout the year.

We Advocate for the Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities by:

- Conducting research
- Writing policy submissions
- Engaging with media
- Engaging with other peak bodies
- Working with government departments and agencies

We support members by:

- Bringing members together at networking events

- Connecting members with government departments and agencies
- Creating and distributing resources
- Sharing opportunities and news
- Hosting an annual conference
- Establishing partnerships in Australia and globally
- Connecting members with Deans and cognate academic leaders from around the world

DASSH was formed more than 20 years ago, when Deans from around Australia and New Zealand gathered for the first time. The organisation has always represented institutions from across the Tasman. We became an association in 2011 and have had 12 Presidents since 2007.

Our Purpose

To build sector leadership capacity and shape public policy debate

Our Principles

Collaborative
Influential
Connected
Knowledgeable

Who are we?

The Australasian Council of Deans of Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities is dedicated to the representation and promotion of disciplines within the higher education sector. DASSH is an influential and growing voice for those who have responsibility for governance and management of research, teaching and learning across its 43 member institutions, in both Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand.

DASSH represents more than 250 Deans and Associate and Deputy Deans who lead schools, faculties or colleges educating many thousands of students. They also supervise and manage several thousand scholars in the humanities, social sciences and creative arts disciplines.

The volunteer DASSH Board is committed to providing its members with professional development and networking opportunities, both across its Dean and Executive Dean members as well as for its network of Deans and Associate Deans.

The year 2021 marks the beginning of DASSH's 20-year anniversary celebrations. We are celebrating across the next 12 months with recognition of the achievements of past Presidents and Board members, a renewed agenda for engagement with members, the media and policy makers, as well as a series of international events.

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Board Members



Professor Nick Bisley
President



Professor Robert Greenberg
Vice President



Professor Matt McGuire
Treasurer



Professor Heather Zwicker
Secretary



Professor Cynthia White
New Zealand Officer



Professor Kate Darian-Smith
Board Member



Professor Lori Lockyer
Board Member



Professor Deborah Gare
Board Member



President's Report

I am pleased to present DASSH's Annual Report for 2023, encapsulating our collective dedication to advocating for the arts, social sciences, and humanities as well as the organisation's financial results.

“ Our contribution to the Universities Accord process was a focal point throughout this year. ”

This initiative has brought us together to champion policies that recognise the value of our disciplines in shaping well-rounded individuals and addressing societal challenges. Our combined efforts are reflected in the Universities Accord Interim Report, which we are now building on further.

We have fostered a culture of collaboration and knowledge exchange among our members and made great representation to government through the Universities Accord process. The DASSH-hosted conference, webinars, and workshops have provided platforms for vibrant discussions about challenges and opportunities and the sharing of best practices.

This diverse exchange of ideas through conversations at round tables and more informally has fostered innovative endeavours, strengthened networks and relationships, seeded ideas and helped us identify future areas of focus.

This year DASSH emphasised member engagement and increased the number of inclusive discussions, workshops, and collaborative projects.

Aotearoa New Zealand

Our Aotearoa New Zealand colleagues have been impacted by large scale change in the higher education sector this year. The conditions have been difficult for Associate, Deputy and Executive Deans alike. The Network of Associate and Deputy Deans has brought a focus to supporting its NZ members and I travelled to Aotearoa New Zealand recently to meet with nearly all Council members at a gathering in Auckland.

We will also engage with a promised full-scale higher education review likely to begin towards the end of 2023.

The guiding principles of the Universities Accord will be at the forefront of our actions over the coming 12 months, ensuring the preservation and growth of our disciplines within academia and society. Our active members continue to steer our course, leading the way as we formulate policies and initiatives that resonate deeply with our shared vision.

Thank you for your contributions and I look forward to working closely with members in the coming year.

Yours sincerely,



Professor Nick Bisley,
DASSH President 2022-24

“ Our trans-Tasman members will remain firmly in focus in the lead up to their national election in October.”



Executive Director's Report

Throughout 2022/23 DASSH has been a leading advocate for the recognition and support of our disciplines. We've actively engaged with policymakers, institutions, and industry partners to emphasize the crucial contributions of the arts, social sciences, and humanities in fostering critical thinking, cultural understanding, and societal cohesion.

We've established partnerships with international associations, fostering cross-cultural dialogues and collaborative initiatives. This broader perspective enriches our members' experiences and contributes to a more globally aware community.

As we look to the future, DASSH is poised to embrace emerging opportunities.

In order to reach these goals we have employed Rebekah Harms as a Policy and Communications Officer for the next 12 months with the aim of strengthening our research and policy output.

I would like to thank our members for their engagement and participation in our consultation and networking events. It's been great to meet so many of you and share ideas. I'm looking forward to working with you as we work with government throughout the remainder of the Accord process and through to the implementation.

Sincerely,



Jane Ryan
DASSH Executive Director

“ Next we plan to increase the scope of our policy and research work, form new relationships with organisations and government bodies here and around the world and strengthen our advocacy efforts.”

Secretary's Report

The last 12 months have seen DASSH engage actively in policy debate, advocacy and submissions to government and other agencies.

President Nick Bisley has worked with media as a commentator and advocate in outlets like the Sydney Morning Herald and ABC News. By participating in interviews, providing expert opinions, and positioning ourselves as a meaningful contributor to debates, we've successfully conveyed the role of our disciplines in fostering critical thinking, enriching culture, and increasing societal understanding.

Our ongoing engagement with policy makers has yielded tangible outcomes.

This has led to increased recognition of the Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities in education and research policies, particularly in the Interim Report for the Universities Accord.

Our commitment to informed advocacy is evident through our extensive submission writing. We've produced well-researched reports, position papers, and recommendations that present compelling arguments. These submissions serve as valuable resources for policy makers, governmental bodies, and educational institutions, reinforcing the benefits of investing in the DASSH disciplines.

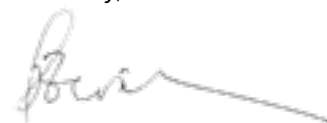
Our active involvement in media engagement, policy advocacy, and submission writing has significantly contributed to the advancement of the Arts, Social Sciences, and Humanities.

“Through consistent dialogue, evidence-based insights, and participation in policy discussions, we've positioned ourselves as influential voices.”

By strategically using these channels, we've been successful in shaping discussions, policies, and public awareness in line with our collective mission.

We appreciate your continued support and dedication to our shared goals. Together, we can move forward with renewed enthusiasm, knowing that our efforts are driving positive change and increased recognition for our important disciplines.

Sincerely,



Professor Heather Zwicker
Secretary, DASSH 2022-24

Treasurer's Report

In 2022/23 we achieved a total revenue of \$245,704 and a modest surplus of \$12,200. This accomplishment was a collaborative effort, with your support and our dedicated team, with member fee revenue higher than expected due to continued engagement.

Our members are the core of our strength. We're pleased to note that our membership grew the 2022-23 period. In total we currently have 43 members from Australia and Aotearoa New Zealand and are focussed on capturing the last remaining universities. This rise in membership not only enriches our community but also reinforces our financial standing.

This strategic allocation has not only deepened our connections but has also positioned us to make a more meaningful impact.

We have built on our reserves and allocated part of these the employment of a Policy and Communications Officer for DASSH. This strategic move will improve our research and policy work when it matters most.

With this investment, we're set to boost our ability to research, shape policies, and effectively communicate. It's a practical use of our resources to make a stronger impact. We have allocated finances for a one-year contract with the possibility to extend the role pending a discussion about membership fees.

With thanks,



Matt McGuire
Treasurer, DASSH 2022-24

“ The resources you’ve entrusted to us has allowed us to invest in the Universities Accord process and to significantly build on our in-person gatherings.”

Network of Associate and Deputy Deans Convenor Report

The key mission of the Network of Associate and Deputy Deans (NOADD) is to give its members the opportunity to meet and discuss issues of the day, to collaborate and network, and to build on their professional development. We count about 200 Deputy and Associate Deans among our members.

NOADD also plays an important role in the increasingly high-profile advocacy work undertaken by DASSH. NOADD's network contributes regularly to DASSH's overall policy positions and submissions.

Within NOADD, there are four Special Interest Groups which allow members to focus their engagement in the Network on the topics that are most important to them.

- Impact
- Indigenous
- Research
- Equity, Diversity and Inclusion

In 2023 NOADD welcomed three new Special Interest Group leads:



**Professor
Andrea Rizzi**
NOADD Convenor



**Associate Professor
Gail Crimmins**
Equity, Diversity
and Inclusion



**Associate Professor
Sandra Phillips**
Indigenous



**Professor
Craig Batty**
Research

The SIG Leads have already been extremely helpful in setting up and co-leading the 2023 NOADD programme. I am most grateful to them for the time and effort they have already devoted.

“Be challenged by the thinking of peers from around Australia and New Zealand.”

After a slow start, 2022 has been a relatively busy for NOADD. Working with only one Special Interest Group lead (Prof Craig Batty), we ran webinars and workshops on practical and topical challenges for academic deputy leaders and their communities.

These included how to pitch to mainstream media, Indigenous Knowledges as drivers of teaching and research, and dancing with teaching and research. These sessions strengthened the role NOADD plays in connecting its diverse community of leaders and helped focus on key challenges and opportunities emerging from the post-Covid years.

A panel discussion with NOADD and DASSH members at the 2022 CHASS congress on *HASS-tracks out of Covid* brought several of these challenges to the fore in a productive and innovative way. An international perspective came out of the 2022 Helm Summit at a session on *Leading from the middle - global perspectives on the role of the Dean* to which I participated. I have shared these conversations with the NOADD community. These discussions and the practical solutions emerging from them are informing the 2023 NOADD activities.

2023's programme of NOADD activities focus on working together to work through challenges and explore opportunities:

- Indigenous data sovereignty
- Indigenising the curriculum
- Interdisciplinarity in our disciplines
- Emerging trends and challenges in peer review
- What is good leadership in 2023?

Finally I would like to thank DASSH Board members for their help, and the Executive Director Jane Ryan for her expert support and advice.,



Professor Andrea Rizzi
NOADD Convenor

The Universities Accord

In November 2022, the Government announced the establishment of the Australian Universities Accord, led by Professor Mary O’Kane AC. The Accord, the first big-picture review of higher education since the Bradley Review, aims to provide a long-term plan for the sector over the next 10 to 30 years. This process provides an exciting opportunity for DASSH to help shape the future direction of higher education and to ensure that the Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences play a central role in these future reforms.

In April 2023, DASSH provided a submission in response to the Accord Panel’s Discussion Paper. DASSH consulted widely with Members during this submission process.

Our submission centred around five recommendations:

- A more systematic incorporation of Indigenous Knowledges and Peoples across all aspects of the academic enterprise
- Valuing the diversity of pure and applied disciplines to drive a genuinely knowledge-based economy
- Replacing Job-Ready Graduates with a fee system that is fairer, equitable and reflects the costs of university teaching and learning
- Introduce a National Equal Access Bursary Scheme
- Establish a properly functioning national university admissions system.

Central to our submission was recognising the value our disciplines bring to the higher education sector, the Australian economy and society more generally.

This was reinforced by the following statistics:

- HASS disciplines have the highest student enrolments out of all disciplines
- HASS disciplines have a higher proportion of female students than any other discipline
- More than half of all university students who identify as gender diverse study HASS disciplines
- More than a third of all Indigenous university students study HASS disciplines

“ Consultation included a number of in-person meetings in Sydney and Melbourne, several online meetings, a survey, and via various forms of digital communication.”

The Accord Panel has since released its Interim Report which has identified five recommendations for priority action as well as more than 70 policy ideas for further consideration. Many of the ideas raised in the Interim Report reflect the tone and ambition of the recommendations put forward in DASSH's submission.

The Accord Panel has invited responses to the Interim Report. We have continued to engage with Members around the ideas presented in the Interim Report and are currently in the process of preparing our second submission. In our next submission, we will continue to highlight the value of Indigenous Knowledges and Peoples, the importance of the knowledge economy and the need to improve equity and access. More broadly, we will take this opportunity to reinforce the centrality of HASS disciplines to the future of higher education.

“ Around half of the recommendations raised by DASSH in our initial submission were directly referenced in the report.”



Member Gatherings and Conference

DASSH Conference and AGM 2022 (September, Brisbane)

The 2022 Conference was held on 28-30 September 2022 by the University of Queensland, Queensland University of Technology and Griffith University. The theme of the Conference invoked the multiple windows of time ahead of us, Now, Then, Later and how different future environments may evolve in ways that shape and are shaped by Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences.

Speakers included:

- **Associate Professor Aroha Harris**
The University of Auckland
- **Professor Melissa Brown**
The Council of Deans of Science
- **Professor Sandy O’Sullivan**
Macquarie University
- **Professor Susan Dodds**
La Trobe University
- **Ms Judi Zielke, CEO**
Australian Research Council
- **Major General Mick Ryan AM**
Retired Major General, Australian Army
- **Mr Graham Perrett MP**
Federal Member for Moreton
- **Associate Professor Shino Konishi**
Australian Catholic University
- **Dr Michael Guerzoni**
University of Tasmania
- **Professor Hēmi Whaanga**
Massey University



DASSH Annual Conference Brisbane 2022



Annual Deans’ Meeting. Brisbane 2022

Member Gathering Sydney, April

The first of three member meetings for 2023 was held in Sydney on April 5. Members shared insights and common concerns across a range of issues.

In giving feedback on the Accord Submission members discussed the importance of research and research training, endorsing Indigenous Knowledge, advocating for the specialisation of universities, funding for Arts and Humanities research, a national credit point system, and the need to invest in innovators and thinkers.

The group emphasised the value of HASS disciplines in a knowledge economy and the need to honour the diversity of communities, including regional universities. The discussion also touched on the risks of losing local knowledge and the need for a nationally agreed set of research training standards.

Member Gathering Melbourne, July

There were more than 20 people at the gathering in July, from almost every state and territory. The first half of the meeting was a workshop facilitated by Associate Professor Sandra Phillips, UWS, on Indigenous issues: Indigenous Data Sovereignty, the student experience for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders, and the disproportionate cultural load carried by First Nations colleagues. There were tangible outcomes from this process and each attendee was generous in sharing valuable personal and institutional insights that other members can learn from. A working group will be established to take this project further.

Similar to the first meeting, members then took the opportunity to speak candidly with each other about the issues facing different institutions. Many members commented afterwards on how valuable the experience was – and it is certainly evident in numbers.



DASSH Member Gathering, April 2023

Submissions

National Cultural Policy

The *National Cultural Policy—Revive: a place for every story, a story for every place* was released in January 2022 with a call for feedback. DASSH made a joint submission with The Australian Council of Deans and Directors of Creative Arts. *Revive* is a 5-year plan to renew and revive Australia’s arts, entertainment and cultural sector. As DASSH and DDCA outlined, as arguably one of the most diverse countries in the world, Australia needs to better support its diversity by investing in the talent of the future. Representation of diversity is not enough – diversity needs to be embodied by those creating and sharing those representations. The submission also states that it is essential that Australian society not only understands but embraces First Nations’ history, stories, culture and visions for a sustainable future. HASS and creative disciplines are at the forefront of interpreting and creating understandings of First Nations’ knowledge.

Australian Productivity Commission 5-year Productivity Inquiry: From Learning to Growth

The Productivity Commission was asked to review Australia’s productivity performance and recommend a roadmap to assist governments to make productivity-enhancing reforms. This Inquiry is the second in a series, undertaken at 5 yearly intervals – the previous Inquiry was completed in 2017. DASSH recommended the broader benefits of education be captured and valued in the recommendations. In particular, knowledge for its own sake has an intrinsic value. Education contributes to civic values and creates the conditions for a more informed, engaged and productive citizenry.

The Australian Research Council Independent Review

In August 2022, the Government announced the establishment of an Independent Review of the *Australian Research Council Act 2001*. This Review considered the role and purpose of the ARC within the university research system so it can meet current and future needs. DASSH provided a submission in response to the Review's Consultation Paper in December 2022. In this submission, DASSH proposed that the Act be recrafted to provide the ARC with the scope to determine the nature of the programs it funds with a particular focus on establishing a wider range of grant programs. DASSH also called for the amendment of the Act to consolidate the pre-eminence of academic judgment in the allocation of funding and to implement a more streamlined application process.

Australian Universities Accord

In April 2023, DASSH provided a submission in response to the Universities Accord Discussion Paper. The Universities Accord, chaired by Professor Mary O'Kane AC, aims to provide a big-picture reform of the Australian higher education sector over the next 10 to 30 years. DASSH's submission centred around five key recommendations, namely: the incorporation of Indigenous Knowledges and Peoples into all aspects of the academic enterprise, driving a knowledge-based economy, replacing the Job-Ready Graduates Package, introducing a National Equal Access Bursary Scheme, and establishing a national university admissions system. Many of the ideas raised in DASSH's submission have been addressed in the Accord Panel's Interim Report. We will continue to engage with Members around the issues raised in the Interim Report in the lead up to our second submission.



Public Engagement

In an era where communication shapes perceptions, our media appearances, op-ed contributions, and growing presence on LinkedIn have emerged as powerful tools for DASSH to expand its influence, enhance visibility, and contribute to informed discussions

Opinion pieces

We authored and co-authored a number of impactful opinion pieces over the past 12 months. Beyond advocacy, these op-eds foster connections with readers, government and other organisations, stimulating dialogues that matter.

Our collaborative op-ed contributions stand as a testament to the transformative impact of interdisciplinary collaboration.

Our joint efforts, including a co-authored article with the Council of Deans of Science and published by the Australian Council of Graduate Research, demonstrate the potential of diverse perspectives.

The impact of these collaborative op-eds extends beyond the pages of publications.

They have enriched public discourse, encouraged cross-disciplinary thinking, and fostered a broader understanding of complex issues.

We continue to embrace interdisciplinary collaboration, and these collaborative op-eds serve as a great reminder that collective intelligence and diverse perspectives are catalysts for innovation, shaping narratives that propel us toward a more informed, inclusive, and progressive future.

LinkedIn Engagement

Our digital voyage extends to the professional realm of LinkedIn, where we've established a growing presence. Through thought-provoking posts, articles, and engaging conversations, we've carved a niche as leaders in our fields. The platform's dynamic nature allows us to foster connections, share insights, and amplify our mission in a unique way, reaching a professional audience invested in our areas of expertise.

“Through newspaper, radio, podcasts, and online video platforms, we've cast a wide net, reaching diverse audiences with our insights.”

In the news

In the past year, DASSH has continued to have an impact on higher education discussions. Through strategic appearances in articles and radio interviews, DASSH has effectively championed the recognition and significance of our disciplines and brought attention to the damaging effects of the Job-Ready Graduates Package.

As we look forward, our strategies evolve. Embracing the shifting media landscape and catering to diverse preferences, we're poised to diversify media engagement, explore innovative formats, and reach untapped demographics. This adaptability is pivotal, ensuring that our voice remains influential in an ever-evolving communication milieu.

As we continue to amplify our media presence, we reaffirm our dedication to shaping narratives that redefine the discourse and drive our mission forward. Together, we're not just influencing perspectives; we're influencing the future.

“Our journey through media appearances, op-eds, and LinkedIn engagement underscores our commitment to catalysing informed discussions and steering positive transformations.”

**The Australasian Council of Deans of
Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities
Incorporated**

ABN: 11 408 780 436

Financial Statements

30 June 2023

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The Australasian Council of Deans of Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities Incorporated

Board Report

Your Board submit the financial report of The Australasian Council of Deans of Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities Incorporated (the Council) for the financial year ended 30 June 2023.

Board Members

The names of the Board members during the year or at the date of this statement were:

- Professor Nick Bisley (President)
- Professor Robert Greenberg (Vice President)
- Professor Heather Zwicker (Secretary)
- Professor Matt McGuire (Treasurer)
- Professor Cynthia White (New Zealand Officer)
- Professor Kate Darian-Smith (Board Member)
- Professor Lori Lockyer (Board Member)
- Professor Deborah Gare (Board Member).

Purpose

The purpose of the Council is to lead and promote the arts, social sciences and humanities, nationally and internationally. In so doing the Council will:

- advocate for the role of teaching, research and scholarship in the arts, social sciences and humanities;
- share information and disseminate best practice;
- foster research;
- provide a forum for the discussion of management in higher education;
- contribute to the development of education policy and administration issues with a view to establishing national position statements;
- take a leading role in fostering the arts, social sciences and humanities in Australasia;

The Australasian Council of Deans of Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities Incorporated

Board Report (continued)

Purpose

- create alliances with related organizations and institutions, nationally and internationally; and
- identify issues of relevance to the arts, social sciences and humanities and respond, where appropriate.

Significant changes

No significant change in the nature of this purpose occurred during the year.

Operating result

The operating surplus for the year amounted to \$12,228 [2022 deficit: \$5,053].

Australasian Council of Deans of Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities Incorporated

Statement by Members of the Board (Responsible Persons' Declaration)

In the opinion of the Board, the accompanying financial report is drawn up so as to give a true and fair view of the results and cash flows of the Council for the year ended 30 June 2023 and the state of affairs of the Council as at that date.

The accompanying financial report of the Association is prepared in accordance with the requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* and the provisions of the *Associations Incorporation Act 1991* of the Australian Capital Territory, accounting standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements in Australia.

In the opinion of the Board, the Council will be able to meet its debts as and when they fall due.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Members of the Board.

Dated this 7th day of August 2023.

Nick Bisley



Matt McGuire





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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE AUSTRALASIAN COUNCIL OF DEANS OF ARTS, SOCIAL SCIENCES AND HUMANITIES INCORPORATED

Report on the Audit of the Financial Report

Opinion

I have audited the financial report of The Australasian Council of Deans of Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities Incorporated (the Council), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2023, the statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies, and the Statement by Members of the Board.

In my opinion the financial report of The Australasian Council of Deans of Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities Incorporated has been prepared in accordance with Division 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*, including:

- a) giving a true and fair view of the Council's financial position as at 30 June 2023 and of its financial performance for the year then ended; and
- b) complying with Australian Accounting Standards and Division 60 of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013.

Basis for Opinion

I conducted my audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report* section of my report. I am independent of The Australasian Council of Deans of Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities Incorporated in accordance with the ethical requirements of the *Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* (the *Code*) that are relevant to my audit of the financial report in Australia. I have also fulfilled my other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the *Code*.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

Responsibilities of Board for the Financial Report

The Board of The Australasian Council of Deans of Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities Incorporated is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the ACNC Act, and for such internal control as the Board determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the Board is responsible for assessing the Council's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Board either intends to liquidate the Council or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

The Board is responsible for the Council's financial reporting process.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

My objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. No opinion is expressed as to whether the accounting policies used are appropriate to meet the needs of the stakeholders.

Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of the financial report.

A further description of my responsibilities for the audit of the financial report is located on the Auditing and Assurance Standards Board website and forms part of this audit report. Refer http://www.auasb.gov.au/auditors_responsibilities/ar4.pdf

AccountAbility



Anthony Wilson
Registered Company Auditor
Canberra, ACT
7 August 2023

Australasian Council of Deans of Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities Incorporated

**Statement of comprehensive income
For the year ended 30 June 2023**

	<i>Note</i>	2023 \$	2022 \$
<i>Income</i>			
Memberships		199,274	184,789
Conference		38,227	-
Sponsorship		2,727	-
Interest		5,476	1,045
Other revenue		-	-
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Total income		245,704	185,834
<i>Expenses</i>			
Finance	3	22,508	18,007
Administrative		25,962	24,714
Employee benefits and other costs	3	144,116	146,703
Travel		4,123	64
Conference		36,554	1,399
Depreciation		213	-
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Total expenses		233,476	190,887
Operating surplus/(deficit)		<hr/> 12,228	<hr/> (5,053)
Other comprehensive income		-	-
Total comprehensive income		<hr/> 12,228	<hr/> (5,053)

Australasian Council of Deans of Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities Incorporated

**Statement of financial position
As at 30 June 2023**

	<i>Note</i>	2023 \$	2022 \$
Current assets			
Cash	4	<u>442,135</u>	<u>440,984</u>
Total current assets		442,135	440,984
Non-current assets			
Office equipment		1,066	-
Works in progress - intangibles		<u>8,546</u>	<u>4,964</u>
Total non-current assets		9,612	4,964
Total assets		<u>451,747</u>	<u>445,948</u>
Current liabilities			
Creditors/accruals		3,200	938
Other liabilities		6,002	9,903
Unearned income		2,772	7,091
Employee benefits		<u>8,582</u>	<u>9,053</u>
Total current liabilities		20,556	26,985
Total liabilities		<u>20,556</u>	<u>26,985</u>
Net assets		<u>431,191</u>	<u>418,963</u>
Equity			
Accumulated funds		<u>431,191</u>	<u>418,963</u>

Australasian Council of Deans of Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities Incorporated

**Statement of recognised income and expense
For the year ended 30 June 2023**

	Accumulated funds	Total
Balance as at 1 July 2021	424,016	424,016
Result attributable to members	(5,053)	(5,053)
Balance as at 30 June 2022	<u>418,963</u>	<u>418,963</u>
Result attributable to members	12,228	12,228
Balance as at 30 June 2023	<u>431,191</u>	<u>431,191</u>

**Statement of cash flows
For the year ended 30 June 2023**

	Note	2023 \$	2022 \$
Cash flows from operating activities			
Receipts from members and others		240,228	203,481
Payments to suppliers, employees and others		(239,691)	(212,920)
Interest received		<u>5,475</u>	<u>1,045</u>
<i>Cash provided/(utilised) by operating activities</i>	5	6,012	(8,394)
Cash flows from investing activities			
Payments for equipment		(1,279)	-
Payments for intangibles		<u>(3,582)</u>	<u>-</u>
<i>Cash provided/(utilised) by investing activities</i>		(4,861)	-
Net cash movement for the year		<u>1,151</u>	<u>(8,394)</u>
Cash at beginning of the year		440,984	449,378
Cash at end of the year	4	<u>442,135</u>	<u>440,984</u>

Australasian Council of Deans of Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities Incorporated

Notes to and forming part of the accounts

1. Statement of significant accounting policies

The financial report covers The Australasian Council of Deans of Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities Incorporated as an individual entity. The Council is an association incorporated in the ACT under the *Associations Incorporation Act 1991* and is currently seeking registration as a charity under the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*.

Basis of Preparation

This financial report is a general-purpose financial report that has been prepared in accordance with the Australian Accounting Standards – Simplified Disclosures and the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*.

The financial report has been prepared on an accruals basis and is based on historical cost.

Accounting Policies

The following is a summary of the material accounting policies adopted by the Council in the preparation of the financial report. The reporting policies have been consistently applied, unless otherwise stated.

(a) New and amended accounting policies adopted by the Council

The Council has adopted all new, revised or amended accounting standards and interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board that are mandatory for the current reporting period.

(b) Membership subscriptions

Membership subscriptions are recorded in the year for which the subscription relates. Membership subscriptions paid in advance are recognised as a liability to the Council. The Board deem that the provision of benefits to members over the membership period represents a performance obligation under *AASB 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers*.

Australasian Council of Deans of Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities Incorporated

Notes to and forming part of the accounts

1. Statement of significant accounting policies (continued)

(c) Cash

For the purposes of the Statement of cash flows, cash includes cash on hand, at banks and on deposit.

(d) Non-current assets - plant and equipment/intangibles

Each class of plant and equipment is carried at cost or fair values as indicated, less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation and impairment losses.

Plant and equipment

Plant and equipment are measured on the cost basis less depreciation and impairment losses.

The carrying amount of plant and equipment is reviewed annually by the Board to ensure it is not in excess of the recoverable amount from these assets. The recoverable amount is assessed on the basis of the expected net cash flows that will be received from the asset's employment and subsequent disposal. The expected net cash flows have been discounted to present values in determining recoverable amounts.

Plant and equipment that have been contributed at no cost, or for nominal cost are valued at the fair value of the asset at the date it is acquired.

Depreciation and amortisation

The depreciable amount of all fixed and intangible assets are depreciated or amortised on a straight-line basis over the asset's useful life to the entity commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use.

The depreciation/amortisation rates used for each class of depreciable assets are:

Class of Fixed Asset	Depreciation Rate
Plant and equipment	20.0 – 40.0%
Intangibles	50%

Australasian Council of Deans of Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities Incorporated**Notes to and forming part of the accounts****(e) Taxation**

The Council considers itself exempt from income tax under *Section 50-5 of the Income Tax Assessment Act*.

(f) Comparative figures

When required by Accounting Standards, comparative figures have been adjusted to conform to changes in presentation for the current financial year.

(f) Financial instruments - recognition

When held, financial instruments would be initially measured at cost on trade date, which includes transaction costs, when the related contractual rights or obligations exist. Subsequent to initial recognition these instruments are measured as set out below:

Loans and receivables – these are non-derivative financial assets with fixed or determinable payments that are not quoted in an active market and are stated at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method.

Held-to-maturity investments – these investments have fixed maturities, and it is the Council's intention to hold these investments to maturity. Any "held-to-maturity" investments held by the Council are stated at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method.

Financial liabilities – non-derivative financial liabilities are recognised at amortised cost, comprising original debt less principal payments and amortisation.

Australasian Council of Deans of Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities Incorporated

Notes to and forming part of the accounts

2. Critical accounting estimates and judgements

The Board evaluate estimates and judgements incorporated into the financial report based on historical knowledge and best available current information. Estimates assume a reasonable expectation of future events and are based on current trends and other available data, obtained both externally and within the Council.

Key Estimates - Impairment

The Council assesses impairment at each reporting date by evaluating conditions specific to the group of assets that may lead to the impairment of those assets. Where an impairment trigger exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is determined. Value in use calculations performed in assessing recoverable amounts incorporate a number of key estimates.

Critical Judgements – not applicable for 2023.

	2023 \$	2022 \$
3. Specific disclosures		
Amounts included as <i>Finance</i>		
Audit fee	3,500	3,500
Amounts included as <i>Employee benefits and other costs</i>		
Superannuation	20,801	19,903
4. Cash at bank		
Community solutions account	4,793	3,052
Cash reserve account	137,342	177,623
Term deposits	300,000	252,686
Other accounts	-	7,623
	<u>442,135</u>	<u>440,984</u>

Australasian Council of Deans of Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities Incorporated

Notes to and forming part of the accounts

5. Reconciliation of Cash flows from operating activities to operating result

Operating result for the year	12,228	(5,053)
Depreciation	213	-
(Increase)/decrease in receivables	-	199,027
(Increase)/decrease in employee benefits	(471)	(9,564)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	(1,639)	(12,468)
Increase/(decrease) in income in advance	(4,319)	(180,336)
	<u>6,012</u>	<u>(8,394)</u>

6. Contingent assets and contingent liabilities

There are no contingent assets or contingent liabilities of the Council at 30 June 2023.

7. Related party transactions and Key Management Personnel

All transactions between the members of the Board and the Council are on normal commercial terms.

There are no other related party transactions.

The totals of remuneration paid to the key management personnel of the Council during the year are as follows:

	2023	2022
	\$	\$
Executive Director short-term employee benefits	143,140	104,846

8. Events after the reporting date

There have been no events after the reporting date which have had a material impact on the Council.

Australasian Council of Deans of Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities Incorporated

Notes to and forming part of the accounts

9. Financial Instruments

(a) Financial risk management

The Council's financial instruments consist mainly of deposits with banks, local money market instruments, short term investments, accounts receivable and payable.

The Council does not have any derivative financial instruments at 30 June 2023.

Financial Risk

The main risks the Council is exposed to through its financial instruments are interest rate risk, liquidity risk and credit risk.

Liquidity risk

The Council manages liquidity risk by monitoring forecast cash flows and ensuring that sufficient cash balances are maintained for its continued activities.

Credit Risk

The Council does not have any material credit risk exposure to any single receivable or group of receivables under financial instruments entered into by the Council.

(b) Interest Rate Risk

The Council's exposure to interest rate risk is the risk that investment income associated with a financial instrument will fluctuate as a result of changes in market interest rates.

Financial Liabilities

The Council has no interest rate risk on any liabilities.

← Previous

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