

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU)

THIS AGREEMENT is made on 10 September 2008

BETWEEN

The Association for Learning Technology (ALT)

AND

The Australasian Society for Computers In Learning In Tertiary Education (Ascilite)

Background

ALT (UK Registered Charity Number 1063519) and Ascilite (Registered in South Australia under The Associations Incorporation Act (1985) are both not-for-profit organizations with complementary spheres of geographic influence.

Ascilite's aims are to:

- assist and advance educational uses of computers and allied technology in tertiary education;
- create a professional association of those engaged in such educational use of technology and foster their professional interests and facilitate their professional development;
- provide a forum for those interested in the educational use of computer technology to stimulate discussion of relevant issues;
- facilitate improvement of professional practice in the use of computer technology in tertiary education;
- promote and encourage research and evaluation related to the educational use of computer technology in tertiary education;
- promote co-operation and liaison with other groups and organisations, which have complementary purposes and activities.

Under the charitable object "to advance education through increasing, exploring and disseminating knowledge in the field of learning technology for the benefit of the general public", ALT aims to:

- represent and support our individual, organisational, and sponsoring members, and provide services for them;
- facilitate collaboration, networking, and dialogue between practitioners, researchers, and policy makers;
- spread good practice in the use of learning technology;
- raise the profile of research in learning technology, establishing learning technology as a discipline in its own right;
- support the professionalisation of learning technologists;
- contribute to the development of policy.

The overall purpose of this MOU is to put collaboration between ALT and Ascilite on a firm footing, to reduce duplication of effort, to promote efficient use of resources, and ensure fruitful synergy.

Aims

The parties wish to:

1. Engage in a partnership that will provide opportunities for engagement by members of both associations to mutual benefit, including
 - encouraging and stimulating collaboration between people, projects and organizations involved in technology supported teaching, learning and research to help promote good practice
 - promoting the sharing of organizational knowledge, resources, facilities and member services
 - connecting with existing professional networks and fostering working relationships within international communities of educational practice
 - initiating sustainable joint activities to develop and disseminate knowledge, expertise and experience related to the aims of the parties and related organizations;
2. Support learning technology community development and provide opportunities for engagement by members of both associations to mutual benefit;
3. Include and encourage collaboration across the two groups facilitated through attendance at each association's conferences which are funded at member rates.

Terms of Agreement

The terms and conditions applicable to the formation and conduct of this partnership are outlined as follows.

1. PARTNERSHIP

1. The parties hereby acknowledge their acceptance of this Memorandum of Understanding, the terms of which include, but are not limited to:
 - Co-operation and collaboration on their respective programmes, activities, strategic initiatives, and member services by negotiation on a case by case basis;
 - Exchange of organizational, educational and technical expertise and information concerning technology supported teaching, learning and research, including, but not limited to: working methods; project results and 'lessons learned'; papers of mutual interest; developments, initiatives and (applied) research results where appropriate;
 - Participation in mutual visits and exchanges of expertise, collaborative activities and consultancies, not restricted or exclusive to ALT/ ascilite conferences or events. This will include externally funded research exchange schemes to benefit learning technology in reciprocal environments;
 - Collaboration on advisory boards, committees and judging panels of each party;
 - Consultation on matters of policy, mutual interest and endeavour to pursue opportunities to their mutual benefit;
 - Exploration and pursuit of appropriate opportunities to facilitate joint engagement in aligned research activity within each member community;
 - Encouraging a visiting scholar program, supported with some negotiated funding;
 - Joint liaison with cognate organisations outside Australasia and the UK.

2. CO-OPERATION PROCESS

- 2.1 Ascilite and ALT shall designate a liaison officer to develop proposals and initiatives in consultation with Executive Committee Members and Trustees to promote the activities listed in clause 1 above. Any record of discussions between the liaison officers will be shared internally by ALT and Ascilite.
- 2.2 The terms of co-operation and process for collaboration for each implementation of a proposal or initiative developed pursuant to clause 2.1 shall be discussed and agreed upon by both parties prior to the initiation of that activity.

2.3 Both parties understand that any financial, copyright or intellectual property aspects of collaborative activities or initiatives will be subject to negotiation.

3. DURATION OF AGREEMENT

3.1 The initial term of this agreement is three years from the date of the last signature of the parties, unless either party exercises the right to earlier termination.

3.2 The parties agree to review the terms of the agreement one year before the scheduled end date with a view to revision and renewal for a further three years.

4. TERMINATION

4.1 Either party may terminate this agreement by giving three months notice in writing. Both parties are committed to bringing to an orderly conclusion projects and other joint activities that extend beyond the termination of the agreement.

5. VARIATION

5.1 Amendment, revisions or modification to this agreement may be proposed by either party at any time during the term of the agreement and shall be effective from the date of written acceptance of changes signed by both parties.

THIS AGREEMENT executed on the [date]

SIGNED on behalf of
Association for Learning Technology

Name

Title

Date

SIGNED on behalf of
The Australasian Society for Computers In Learning In Tertiary Education

Name

Title

Date