



# ascilite

Australasian Society For Computers  
In Learning In Tertiary Education

## annual report 2003

2003 has been another busy year for the Society. The major initiatives for the year have been:

- Writing guidelines for ascilite Conference Publications (soon to be published);
- Initiating the Community Mentoring Program;
- Reinvigorating the Campus Representative role;
- Launching the new ascilite web site and logo;
- Writing a submission to the Australian Government regarding the proposed National Institute of Learning and Teaching in Higher Education.

Our membership numbers continue to be very healthy, along with a very sound financial situation. Many thanks need to go to Russ Pennell for his diligent work as Treasurer. Russ is retiring from the executive this year.

This year we also recognise the services of Allan Christie to the Society by making him an ascilite fellow and life member. Congratulations Allan.

The Executive and our Secretariat have all worked hard this year to continue the success of the Society. We are lucky to have such a dedicated and hardworking team. Thank you all.

Finally, a very big thank you to last year's conference committee for an exciting conference and substantial profit.

*Helen Carter*  
President

### membership and services

The NZ membership count grew significantly last year and every effort will be made to sustain their involvement in the society. In November 2003 our membership reached 480, with new membership accounting for 73 of these.

### finances

Last year's conference in Auckland, New Zealand returned a very healthy profit of \$60,000 to the Society. For the financial year 2002 to 2003, the Society had an operating surplus of about \$45,000. The Society also has accumulated funds of over \$95,000. Our major expenses were running the Secretariat and production of AJET. A complete set of audited accounts will be presented and available at the Annual General Meeting in Adelaide, and later from the Secretariat in Wollongong.

### community mentoring program

In May this year we announced the Community Mentoring Program. Five pairs of mentor/mentees were set up, each with a facilitator from the ascilite executive. The initial results of the program will be discussed at the conference in Adelaide.

### ascilite fellow

Allan Christie has been a member of ascilite since 1987 and has been involved with the Executive since 1992. He helped establish the electronic information services of the society, has co-convened a conference, has edited and distributed newsletters for the society to name some of his contributions. His sustained and considerable support of the Society is unquestionably one of the reasons for its continued success.

### conferences

The Society is grateful to the 2002 conference committee for their organisation of the conference at UNITEC, Auckland, New Zealand. The 2003 Annual Conference in Adelaide is shaping up to be a success and the 2004 Annual Conference in Perth is already well on the way with planning. Approximately 200 delegates have registered for ascilite 2003 in Adelaide. The theme for the conference is *interact: integrate: impact*. This year's conference has 59 full and 38 concise papers, all of which have been double-blind refereed. There are also 11 poster presentations and 7 workshops.

## ascilite awards

Thanks to all entrants in the awards as well as to the awards committee and its chair, Craig Zimitat, Griffith University. The awards are one way to acknowledge some of our members great work.

Winners for 2002 were:

Best Software Project	Teaching for a Sustainable Future, Flexible Learning & Access Services, Griffith University
Highly commended	123 Count with me, University of Wollongong
Best Web Project	Virtual Power Plant, Tertiary Education Development Institute, University of Queensland
Highly commended	Film & Media Studies, Higher Education Development Centre, University of Otago
Web project within an LMS	Primary Science Education, Flexible Learning & Access Services, Griffith University
Highly commended	Integrating Generic Skills in Business, Queensland University of Technology
Digital Teaching Moment	
Highly commended	Problem based teaching through online discussion, RMIT

## Australian Journal of Educational Technology

The first edition of our Journal for 2003 contained 5 articles from those who had received Outstanding Paper Awards at the 2002 Conference. Our second edition saw production of our first themed edition of the Journal: "technology supported learning communities". Three volumes were distributed to our membership, with a total of 24 high quality papers published.

## newsletter

Newsletters were circulated in April, July and October. The themes for this year's newsletters have been Disability and Access to Digital Education, Online Assessment and Teaching and Learning for a Sustainable Future. Thanks go to the team of Cathy Gunn, Meg O'Reilly, Gerry Lefoe and Russ Pennell for their time and effort in producing this publication.

## about ascilite

ascilite is a society for those involved in higher education, especially computer-facilitated learning and educational interactive multimedia. It provides a forum to stimulate discussion of relevant issues in the educational use of technology, as well as promoting research and evaluation. ascilite also promotes co-operation and liaison with other groups and organisations, which have complementary aims.

Enquiries about membership may be directed to: ascilite Secretariat, c/- CEDIR, University of Wollongong, WOLLONGONG 2522. Phone 02-4221 4895 or email [info@ascilite.org.au](mailto:info@ascilite.org.au)

### communication

- The **annual report** provides a summary of the executive and administrative activities and a financial summary for the calendar year.
- The **Australian Journal of Educational Technology** is produced three times a year and is available free to financial members of ascilite. It is a refereed journal, which publishes high quality articles in the area of education and technology. It is also available on the web at [www.ascilite.org.au/ajet/](http://www.ascilite.org.au/ajet/).
- The **ascilite newsletter** is published electronically three times a year and provides discussion on more topical issues (<http://www.ascilite.org.au/newsletter/>).
- ascilite maintains a number of **listservers**. A general list is moderated and provides information about the society's activities, as well as alerting members to current conferences, positions vacant and similar ([ascilite-general@vcs.ascilite.org.au](mailto:ascilite-general@vcs.ascilite.org.au)).

### executive members

<b>president</b> Helen Carter University of Wollongong	<b>secretariat</b> Robyn Debbes University of Wollongong
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<b>vice-president</b> Cathy Gunn University of Auckland	<b>treasurer</b> Russ Pennell University of Wollongong
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**committee**  
Mike Fardon, University of Western Australia  
Mike Keppell, Hong Kong Institute of Education  
Gerry Lefoe, University of Wollongong  
Meg O'Reilly, Southern Cross University  
Matthew Riddle, University of Melbourne  
Craig Zimitat, Griffith University

**seconded**  
Allan Christie, NetSpot Pty Ltd, South Australia

Further information about the Society is available from the ascilite web site: [www.ascilite.org.au](http://www.ascilite.org.au)