



From the CHASS Executive Director

The last month has been a busy one for CHASS as we begin the process of organisational renewal. This message is designed to keep you informed of our most recent activities.

Membership drive

Our recruitment drive is now underway, and I would like to welcome our three newest members: The University of Queensland, The University of New England and the Hawke Research Institute. The more members we have, the more effective we can be. So, if you know any organisations that may be interested in membership, please let me know and I will contact them directly.



Assessing the wider benefits arising from university-based research

One of CHASS's most important functions is to contribute to policy making. Because the government's review of research "impact" will affect many CHASS members, CHASS has made a submission to the review. This submission will be available on the CHASS website as well as on the review website. Thank you to those who commented on the submission. Given the wide scope of HASS research, it is not surprising that some of you disagreed with one another about the technical issues. There was one point of unanimity—the metrics currently used to assess the impact of scientific research are not always appropriate to HASS research.

CHASS prize

There was an enthusiastic response to the suggestion that CHASS offer an annual prize at the Forum. I am pleased to let you know that sponsorship has now been obtained for two prizes. Although the details remain to be finalised, one possibility is to award one prize for a scholarly work and the other for an exhibition, performance or any work (policy, philanthropy, advocacy) that advances the arts, humanities and social sciences. The idea is to ensure that the entire CHASS constituency would be eligible for at least one of these prizes. Please let me know how you feel about these ideas.

Communications

- **Daily alerts:** At the request of many members, the media alerts have been restarted. There will be a brief hiatus when one staff member is away but the alerts will resume in September.
- **Website:** A lot of new material has been loaded on to the website. If you have ideas about other materials you would like to see on the site, please let me know. We are planning to make the website more interactive and useful to members.
- **Direct meetings:** I plan to meet members in the major cities over the next year. It will give me an opportunity to get feedback on how well CHASS is meeting their needs. If possible, these meetings will also include a CHASS public lecture by a prominent person. Many of these lectures will involve CHASS partnering with our member organisations. We hope to reach regional cities as well as major metropolitan areas.

CHASS National Forum 2014

Although we did wind up with a reasonable audience for the Forum, relatively few members from other places made the trip to Canberra. For this reason the CHASS Board is considering moving the Forum to Melbourne in the second half of 2014. It will be easier for more members to attend and we may be able to hold our meeting in conjunction with the annual meetings of some of our member organisations. This strategy of co-meetings has worked well for the Canadian Federation. If your organisation is planning an annual meeting in Melbourne next year, please let us know.

Steven Schwartz

Your Say: Pre-service teacher self-efficacy of arts education across Australia

Contributed by [Narelle Lemon, LaTrobe University](#) and [Susanne Garvis, Griffith University](#).

Arts education is part of the new National Curriculum for Australia and scheduled to be implemented in 2014. This sends a clear message that generalist primary school teachers need to be capable and confident to teach all of the arts areas. There is however several issues sounding this vision, not at least pre-service teacher and teacher self-efficacy in arts (dance, drama, media, music and visual arts) and their perceived attitude towards whose role it is to teach these areas.

Beliefs about the teaching of arts education inform a teacher's capability to teach the arts. If beliefs are positive, the teacher is more likely to engage with arts experiences in their classroom (Garvis & Pendergast, 2010). If beliefs are negative, they will either limit the exposure of arts education in their classroom or ignore it all together (Garvis and Pendergast, 2010). It is for this reason the exploration of teacher beliefs about arts education is important.

In 2013, a survey on teacher self-efficacy and perceptions towards the arts was administered to pre-service teachers studying primary education degrees. A survey was administered to pre-service teachers at a Victorian university (group 1, N = 85) and a Queensland university (group 2, N=121). Pre-service teachers were chosen for this study because they will be future teachers. Pre-service teacher education is an important part of teacher development that either confirms or challenges beliefs about education. According to Bandura (2006), once beliefs are formed in the beginning phase of teaching they are resistant to change.

Summary of findings includes:

- A considerable high number of pre-service teachers do not engage in arts in their personal life and do not see connections to teaching requirement;
- Valuing what an arts educator has to do revealed some tension points in relation to roles of the arts in primary schools, timetabling of the arts in primary school, and devotion of time to arts; The critical reflection and making of connections to practicum are not yet present in the beliefs of many of the pre-service teachers surveyed;
- The pre-service teachers surveyed did not see the importance of visiting art museums and galleries;
- The pre-service teachers responses raised appreciation around the lack of awareness of the wealth of knowledge and skills artists can contribute in the educational setting;
- The ability to integrate although seen as processing a capacity by some of the pre-service teachers of this study, the finding reiterated the need to also address what this actually looks like in meaningful application within primary school learning environments; and
- More research is clearly needed into the teaching of arts education in the primary school landscape within Australia and the training of pre-service teachers in teacher education programs.

Read more: [Lemon, Narelle and Garvis, Susanne \(2013\) "What is the Role of the Arts in a Primary School?: An Investigation of Perceptions of Pre-Service Teachers in Australia," Australian Journal of Teacher Education: Vol. 38: Iss. 9, Article 1.](#)

Member and Sector Updates

[Exhibition: *Made to last: the conservation of art*, QUT Art Museum, 3 August – 22 September, Brisbane](#)

QUT Art Museum's new exhibition, *Made to last: the conservation of art*, explores methods of contemporary art conservation and brings together five contemporary artists who use a range of complex materials in their work. The conservation of art is commonly associated with the restoration of 17th century easel paintings or marble sculptures from antiquity. But the use of materials in contemporary art has challenged this perception and enabled a shift

in the way conservators interact with artists. Visitors can expect to see incredible works of art which include neon works and master woodblock prints by Brook Andrew, altered ceramics by Penny Byrne, paintings and anamorphic works by Juan Ford, ink on paper and unique objects such as cacti on shelves by Ghostpatrol and video work and installation using strawberries and cream and raspberry lollies by Claire Anna Watson. For more details, email artmuseum@qut.edu.au.

[2013 Sir Walter Murdoch Lecture by Dr Toby Miller, Murdoch University, 27 August, Perth](#)

Murdoch University's Vice Chancellor Professor Richard Higgott invites you to attend the 2013 Sir Walter Murdoch Lecture, *Australian Citizenship, 1912 - A Model for the World?* presented by Dr Toby Miller. A Murdoch graduate (PhD in Philosophy and Communication Studies, 1992), Dr Miller has authored and edited more than 30 books, published essays in more than 100 journals and is a regular cultural commentator on television and radio programs across the USA. This year's lecture will draw on Walter Murdoch's book *Australian Citizenship*, published in 1912 and the talk will focus on the three principal forms of citizenship (political, economic, and cultural) and ask how well they work today and whether Sir Walter's little book from a century ago offers a way forward for dealing with economic and environmental crises. This free talk will be held in the Kim Beazley Theatre on Murdoch's South Street Campus. Places are limited and [RSVP](#) is essential (before 21 August). For more information, contact [Heather Stoddart](#).

[Early Modern Literature Forum, The University of Queensland, 30 August, UQ Art Museum Brisbane](#)

The Centre for the History of Emotions (CHE), UQ Art Museum and School of English, Media Studies and Art History are proud to present an Early Modern Literature Forum as part of the EMSAH Research Seminar Series. Two renowned scholars will present on two different topics: '*Real Places in Imaginary Spaces*' (Speaker: Stephen Orgel, the Jackson Eli Reynolds Professor in the Humanities at Stanford University), and '*Aretino in Albion: Pietro Aretino in Thomas Nashe's Unfortunate Traveler*' (Speaker: Michael Wyatt, an independent scholar who works on the intersecting cultural histories of Italy, England, and France in the early modern period). The event is free and open to the public. Seating is limited, so please RSVP by August 27: uqche@uq.edu.au or (07) 3365 4913.

[2013 Keith Hancock Lecture 'Retirement Income Design with an Ageing Demographic', Academy of the Social Sciences in Australia \(ASSA\), 2 & 5 September, Sydney and Canberra](#)

The Academy in conjunction with Crawford School of Public Policy, The Australian National University, is pleased to present the 2013 Keith Hancock Lecture by Scientia Professor John Piggott, Director of the ARC Centre of Excellence in Population Ageing Research at UNSW and a Fellow of ASSA. Population ageing has challenged the standard 20th century retirement income paradigm, which relies on ever-growing payrolls to finance retirees. These structures have become unsustainable in many countries, and public promises have not been kept. In this lecture, the challenges of retirement income provision in an era of demographic ageing are explained, and alternative approaches to the financing and design of retirement incomes are explored. Research analysis will be combined with country experience to argue for a set of policies suitable for this new demographic environment. Free entry, but bookings are essential. First presentation at UNSW, Kensington: 2 Sep ([RSVP](#) by cob 26 August). Second Presentation at ANU, Canberra: 5 Sep ([RSVP](#) by cob 2 September).

[First Global Conference on Research Integration and Implementation, 8-11 September, Canberra](#)

The conference offers a world-first opportunity for researchers to meet a wide range of leading experts in systems-based, action-oriented, inter- and trans-disciplinary investigations, discover relevant new ideas and share your work with interested colleagues. Program includes sixteen plenary talks, including Julie Thompson Klein on 'Interdisciplinarity Then, Now, and Into Networked Futures', John Young on 'Knowledge vs Politics: How Research can Contribute to Better Policy', Gerald Midgley on 'An Introduction to Systems Thinking: Integration and Implementation in the Face of Wicked Problems', and Noshir Contractor on 'Some Assembly Required: Networking and Team Science for the 21st Century'. It also includes a plenary panel on 'Education for research integration and

implementation' and a plenary debate on 'Effective approaches to complex real-world problems need an underpinning discipline like Integration and Implementation Sciences'.
Registration queries: I2Sconference@arinex.com.au or (02) 9265 0700.

[RMIT Stella Prize Lecture, 10 September, Melbourne](#)

The Stella Prize, Australia's new literary prize for writing by women, was awarded for the first time in 2013. Inaugural winner Carrie Tiffany will deliver the RMIT Stella Prize Lecture on her interest in science and nature and how it affects her writing process. Carrie teaches at RMIT in the Professional Writing and Editing degree and is a RMIT graduate of both the Master of Arts (Creative Writing) and the Professional Writing and Editing diploma. She is a former park ranger and works as an agricultural journalist. Her award-winning debut novel, *Everyman's Rules for Scientific Living*, was published in 2005. Her second novel, *Mateship with Birds*, won the inaugural Stella Prize, the Christina Stead Prize, and was shortlisted for the Miles Franklin Literary Award and the Prime Minister's Literary Awards. For bookings, email: wendy.little@rmit.edu.au

[XIX National ASME Conference 2013 'Redefining the musical landscape: Inspired learning and innovation in music education', 29 September-1 October, Canberra](#)

The National Australian Society for Music Education (ASME) Conference 2013 will be held at Hotel Realm in Canberra. Conference Perspectives 2013 include: Creative Synergies (New thinking and sustained changes in school music education), At the Cutting Edge (Research changing trajectories for future music innovation), Impacting Communities (Changing lives through music projects of difference), and Transforming the landscape (Using 21st century technologies for music creation & social connections). For further details, please contact co-conveners Mathew Irving/Dr Brad Merrick/Heidi Anthony at asmeconference2013@gmail.com.

[2013 Peace Studies Conference 'Mining in a Sustainable World: Environmental, Social, and Political Economic Issues', 13-15 October, University of New England, Armidale](#)

The conference will be opened by Dr Jim Maher, Mayor, Armidale Dumaresq Council. It aims to tackle issues around the relationship between mining and sustainability, including the economic advantages and disadvantages of mining booms, the ethics of allowing mining on public lands, and the new social movements forming around mining issues. [Click here to register](#). Registrations close 5 October.

Council for the Humanities, Arts and Social Sciences
LPO Box 5086, University of Canberra, Bruce ACT 2617
e-mail: membership@chass.org.au
Phone: (02) 6201 5996



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