

WHAT REAL PARTICIPATION
FEELS LIKE...



"It was an important
to me to be given an
opportunity to take part
in something that can
make a difference
for people with disability."



I saw a man like
me on stage...



felt valued and part of
the team.

I jumped at the chance



and be apart in
a meaningful way.



My job was to show where
people can sit and give
people the microphone...

Maybe other people
with disability will
feel they can do
more, and that others
will take more time to
think about different
ways that can all
be part of things.

Real
Inclusion
workshop

Robert
Martin
elected
to UN

Independent Person
survey

contents

editorial	2
Elected to the Un's CRPD.....	3
letters	3
Strategies for Real Inclusion: ASID Workshop	5
Senior Practitioner's Independent Person Survey	11
presidents report	13
division updates	14
Hi I am Paul O'Dea	19
research to practise Excellence Award	20
virtual special issue RAPIDD free access	21
upcoming events	22
ASID NZ Conference 2016	23
ASID Conference 2017.....	23

front cover artwork
Filipo Signorelli



Intellectual Disability Australasia is produced and distributed by the Australasian Society for Intellectual Disability.

ISSN: 2206-4311

The views expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the Australasian Society for Intellectual Disability.

Editor: Darryleen Wiggins

Phone: (03) 6244 9405

Email: darryleen.wiggins@mosaictas.org.au

Editorial Assistant:

Ross Tudman

Advertisers:

Rates are available, on inquiry,
from the editorial assistant at
ross@krvtdesign.com.au

Editorial Address:

4 Figwood Dr
Bellingen NSW 2454

Membership and Subscription:

Sue Salisbury
ASID Secretariat
38 Surrey Road
KESWICK SA 5035
1800 644 741
secretariat@asid.asn.au

Artwork:

krvt DESIGN
ross@krvtdesign.com.au

editorial



Welcome to the next edition of IDA for 2016. Your usual editor, Darryleen Wiggins is away overseas enjoying a well-deserved break, so you have a guest editor for this edition.

With so much happening at the moment in the disability sector in Australia, this edition of IDA is full of updates and exciting news.

The IASSIDD World Congress in Melbourne from the 14 – 19 August brought a large number of international topic experts to Australia. In place of our annual Australasian Conference, this year ASID took a different approach and created a Road Show event. This enabled invited international delegates to visit local divisions to present on topical issues. You'll find more information about these events in the Division Reports section.

August was a busy month as it was also the Board of Directors meeting in Melbourne, a productive and positive meeting focused on the future direction of ASID in the evolving disability sector.

ASID is on a continual learning journey to increase our accessibility and inclusion at all levels of the organisation. The Board is currently trialling the use of new accessible templates for our board meeting reports. Another innovative example of this work was a recent workshop hosted by the Victorian ASID Division on "Strategies for Real Inclusion". This is one of our feature articles for this edition of IDA and you will find this on page 5

We hope you enjoy this edition of IDA. If you have an event coming up that you would like us to include in the next edition of IDA, please let us know.

Once again, we would love to hear from you if have any suggestions for activities ASID could be involved in or suggestions for engaging you and our membership.

Laura Hogan

first person with a learning disability elected to the UN's CRPD

New Zealander **Robert Martin** is a Fellow of ASID, an award made in 2005. Recently Robert made history at the UN, as the first person with a learning disability to be elected to the United Nations Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

"The hard work begins, and I know it's going to be a lot of hard work," he says.

"I don't think that people with a learning disability... that it's properly recognised we can do a lot of stuff, we can actually work."



Robert Martin at ASID 2015

Robert's term runs from 2017 until 2020.

ASID congratulates Robert, and looks forward to seeing and hearing about progress in *continued page 4*

letter

Dear Editor

As a member and board director of ASID I am committed to our mission of improving the quality of life for people with an intellectual disability and their right to meaningful participation in the community.

After reading the lead article in the last edition of IDA from Janelle McMillan, a woman with cerebral palsy, I was reminded that we are still fighting overt (and covert) negative attitudes towards people with an intellectual disability. These attitudes are not only held by people without disabilities but also promulgated by people with disabilities. People with a physical and/or sensory disability frequently feel the need to differentiate and distance themselves from people with an intellectual disability in order to be treated with dignity and respect.

McMillan wrote about the challenges she experienced with not having speech and the strategies she uses to communicate. She commented that others often treated her as if she had an intellectual disability "Imagine how you would feel if people continuously assume that you must have an intellectual disability because you are

non-verbal." McMillan (2016, p 4).

A similar attitude was reported in the AGE newspaper (Perkins, M., 2016) in which Brandon Tomlin, a man with cerebral palsy who uses a letter board to spell out his message (augmentative communication) was reported as saying he was tired of being treated as if he had an intellectual disability.

We all need to be recognised and understood as the people we are and accorded respect. Obviously this is more difficult for people with a disability like McMillan and Tomlin. However, it is of concern that in making the differentiation we might appear to be saying that people with intellectual disability are other and so less deserving of respect.

continued page 4



... elected to the UN's CRPD

continued from page 3

relation to the Convention through his significant and committed contribution.

Read more: <http://www.newshub.co.nz/nznews/health/robert-martins-historic-election-to-un-disabilities-committee-2016061507#ixzz4HGaf8Y8r> ●



ROBERT MARTIN

The Fellow of ASSID award was also made to Robert Martin. Robert gave a very moving acceptance speech when presented with his award. The speech is reproduced below as it provides information about Robert's many achievements and his

significant contribution to the field. The speech also provides an important chronology of events in relation to advances in self advocacy that highlight the dedication, determination, and hard work on the part of Robert and his colleagues that have made these advances possible.

Robert Martin from IDA 2005

COMMITTEE ON THE RIGHTS OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

The Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) is the body of independent experts which monitors implementation of the Convention by the States Parties.

All States parties are obliged to submit regular reports to the Committee on how the rights are being implemented. States must report initially within two years of accepting the Convention and thereafter every four years. The Committee examines each report and shall make such suggestions and general recommendations on the report as it may consider appropriate and shall forward these to the State Party concerned.

The Optional Protocol to the Convention gives the Committee competence to examine individual complaints with regard to alleged violations of the Convention by States parties to the Protocol.

The Committee shall meet in Geneva and normally hold two sessions per year.

letter

continued from page 3

In fact, the concept of people with an intellectual disability as being seen as "not quite human" (Goffman 1963,p.5) appears to be still prevalent in society. The closing of large institutions and Wolfensberger's (1972) movement to provide social role valorization began the push towards community integration but in itself did not enable people with intellectual disabilities to be treated with respect in the community. Dillon (2010) suggested that respect occurs when people are acknowledged as having an inherent value, so how do we tackle current pervasive negative community attitudes against people with an intellectual disability?

It is possible to take heart from the advances of other social movements (e.g. the women's movement, the Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transsexual Intersex Queer community), who challenge stereotypes and have come together to garner respect across diversity and difference for all, not just for an individual. As stated in article 3d of the United National Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (2006) it is everyone's responsibility to ensure people with an intel-

lectual disability are treated with dignity and respect. It is also a principal role of ASID.

Hilary Johnson ●

References

- Dillon, R. (2010). Respect. Stanford encyclopedia of philosophy. Retrieved from <http://plato.stanford.edu/archives/fall2010/entries/respect/>
- Goffman, E (1963) Stigma:Notes on the management of spoiled identity. Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice Hall
- Mc Millan, J (2016) Try living life and being non-verbal. Retrieved from http://www.asid.asn.au/members/members_area/ida_magazine
- Perkins, M (2016, August 10th) Customer can't walk or talk, but Westpac bans him as staff 'fear abuse'. Retrieved from <http://www.theage.com.au/victoria/customer-cant-walk-or-talk-but-westpac-bans-him-as-staff-fear-abuse-20160810-gqpalz.html>
- United Nations. (2006, December 6th). The Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. Retrieved, from <http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/enable/rights/convtexte.htm>
- Wolfensberger, W. (1972). Additional implications of the normalisation principle to residential services. In W. Wolfensberger (Ed.), The principle of normalisation in human services (pp. 1-17).Toronto: National Institute on Mental Retardation.

Strategies for Real Inclusion: ASID Workshop

by

Lisa Hamilton

(La Trobe University),

Filipo Signorelli, Lucy Murphy and Joshua Fartch

(annecto),

Hilary Johnson and Alice Nicholas

(ASID Victoria)

In June, the Victorian Australasian Society for Intellectual Disability (ASID) held an interactive workshop for organisations seeking to be more inclusive of people with disabilities at events. The workshop shared ideas and strategies implemented at the 50th Annual ASID Conference held in Melbourne in November 2015 and asked the question, “What does it really take to be inclusive?” The workshop provided opportunities for participants to collaborate to think about what it really takes to enable genuine inclusion. The workshop also provided networking opportunities for the 19 attendees who came from disability organisations, Oxfam, CBM, YMCA, Victoria University and the Office of the Public Advocate.

Background

Chaired by Dr Chris Fyffe, the ASID Melbourne conference participation committee worked with ASID Victoria over 12 months to think differently about how learning occurs at conferences. The structure and organisation of typical research conferences relies

heavily on the fast exchange of information through multiple, verbal presentations frequently accompanied by dense, word-based PowerPoint presentations. This format is challenged when not everyone can present or understand in the same way. The participation committee asked, “How can people with an intellectual disability participate in the conference and contribute to the transfer of knowledge from research to practice?” Many attendees at the conference commented positively on the inclusion and participation of people with an intellectual disability. ASID Victoria decided to share the strategies developed for the ASID conference more widely.

Sharing the strategies

Commencing with the theme, ‘inclusion benefits everyone’, Lisa Hamilton shared the experiences of the ASID participation committee and how they worked with ASID Victoria to make the annual ASID scientific conference more inclusive. The committee developed and trialled new approaches and flexible models of support to increase the participation of people with intellectual disability at the annual conference. The committee came to realise that inclusion doesn’t just happen, it must be consciously enacted. Membership of the committee included representatives from metropolitan and regional Victoria. During the ASID Workshop, ‘Strategies for Real Inclusion’, Dayna Hayman, from annecto, graphically represented the discussion and key strategies used at the 2015 ASID Conference, these are captured in Image 1 (p6).

Inclusion and measuring outcomes

Reflecting on his experiences as a volunteer at the ASID Conference, Filippo Signorelli worked with Joshua Fartch to share with workshop par-

continued page 6



Filipo and friends at ASID 2015



Image 1:
What it really takes to be inclusive. Inclusion 'doesn't just happen'.



My name is Filipo Signoreli and I would like to share my story about my role in the ASID Conference, and what being included meant to me.

So let me share a little bit about myself - I live with my elderly mother in an apartment, behind my sister and her family's house in the Western suburbs of Melbourne. My parents both came to live in Australia from Italy, where they married and where my sister and I were born. My father passed away a few years ago, and our family is very close. My mother and I look after each other, but I do a lot more now for my mother now that she is getting older. I have been a member of the Yarraville David House community for over 20 years.

I have made many friends there, and even though I enjoy going it can be challenging doing exactly what I would like to do. For example I would love to get a job doing office work, but this has been hard to do. I love bowling, art, and being with other people. I love talking with people!

It can be hard for people to take you seriously and really listen when you have a disability. It is hard for me to talk out loud and often people have problems understanding what I am saying. If people don't take the time to understand me, then they often do things their way and not mine. It can be frustrating and upsetting.

When Lucy Murphy and Josh Fartch from annecto invited me to attend the conference, I jumped at the chance. Lucy explained that this was about showing how people who have a disability can be part of a conference in a meaningful way. I really enjoy learning new things, but it was important to me to be given an opportunity to take part in something that can make a difference for other people with a disability.

www.annecto.org.au



Image 2: Filipo's story: What being included meant to him.



Filipo and Josh at June 30 2016 Workshop

Participants what being included feels like. Demonstrating why inclusion is important, Filipo shares his story in Image 2 (p7), and speaks of his aspiration to make a difference to other people with intellectual disability and to encourage them to participate in conferences and events. Another conference delegate with intellectual disability enjoyed participating in a drama workshop at the ASID Conference, which was something he had not experienced before. This led to him joining a drama workshop in his local community. A challenge was put to the workshop participants regarding measuring outcomes. How might this be done? Is inclusion measured by the number of people with intellectual disability participating? The number of accessible events available in a conference programme? An accessible program? Or the participants' stories? These questions generated much discussion. Filipo highlighted

continued page 8

WHAT REAL PARTICIPATION FEELS LIKE...



Filippo
Signorelli's
Story

I jumped at the chance!



and be apart in
a meaningful way.

It was an important
to me to be given an
opportunity to take part
in something that can
make a difference
for people with disability.



I saw a man like
me on stage...



My job was to show where
people can sit and give
people the microphone...



felt valued and part of
the team.

Maybe other people
with disability will
feel they can do
more, and that others
will take more time to
think about different
ways that can all
be part of things.

Image 3:

What real participation feels like: Filippo's experiences.



Lucy and Filippo Facilitating June 30 2016 Workshop

the importance of feeling valued and part of the team, and his experiences at the conference are graphically represented in Image 3 (p8).

The second part of the workshop involved a World Café on inclusion, that set a challenge for workshop participants to consider the current practice of inclusion within their own workplaces. Lucy Murphy and Joshua Farteh led a vibrant discussion amongst workshop participants asking the questions:

- 'What is the current practice of inclusion within your organisation or workplace?'
- 'What enables, challenges or stops you from being inclusive within your organisation?'

The World Café concluded with a practical challenge asking participants 'What do you need to enable real inclusion? The brainstorming from the workshop is captured in Image 4 (p10). Participants identified that strategies for inclusion often take more time to plan and prepare than anticipated. Participants realised there is not only one answer and that being inclusive

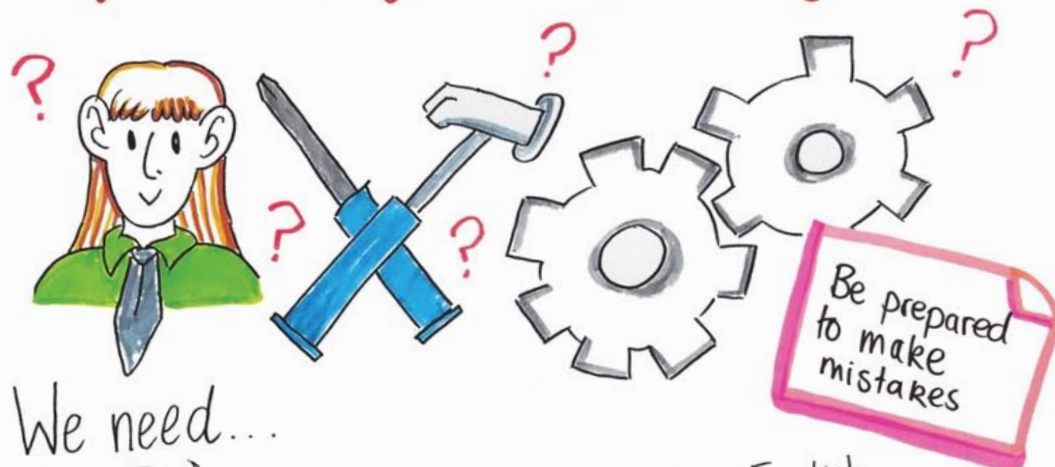
is a process of discovery, engagement and reflection. The ASID workshop, 'Strategies for Real Inclusion' provided valuable opportunities for networking and the workshop itself modelled inclusion.

For further information about 'Strategies for Real Inclusion', please contact:

Lisa Hamilton l.hamilton@latrobe.edu.au

Members of the 2015 ASID Conference Participation Sub-Committee, chaired by Dr Chris Fyffe, included Lucy Murphy, Joshua Farteh, Kathy Wilton, John Willis, Ash Cole, Lincoln Ashley, Dean Dadson, Sue Smith, Alice Nicholas and Lisa Hamilton. ●

What do you need (tools, resources, people) to enable real inclusion practice in your work/organisation/community?



We need...

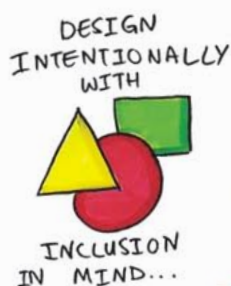


FEEDBACK
AND
CONVERSATIONS

Having Purpose
and vision
that into
systems...

Plain English
ABC

Keeping people with
disability "front and
centre" and in mind.



Willingness to want
inclusion; try and
try again...

Modelling in leadership,
roles, visual and media.

Image 4:
Strategies for real inclusion: A graphic harvest from the World Café facilitated by Lucy Murphy and Joshua Fartch of annecto. Dana Hayman was the graphic artist.

The Disability Act, 2006 says that any person with a disability who:

1. who lives in Victoria and
2. gets a disability service and
3. has a behaviour support plan,
must have an **independent person** to protect their rights.

The law says the independent person must be independent from disability services.

- The independent person can be a family member or friend of the person with a disability.
- Disability staff are not independent and cannot be independent persons.

The law says the independent person must make sure:

- That any restrictive interventions that are included in the person's Behaviour support plan, are only used to stop a person hurting themselves or others. (Restrictive interventions include things like giving a person drugs to make them calm down or locking a person in a room by themselves).
- The person with a disability knows when the restrictive interventions will be used.

**In May 2013
the Senior Practitioner
did a SURVEY
to find out what
Independent Persons
thought about their
work as an
independent person.**

The Senior Practitioner's Independent Person Survey

by
**Savva Zavou
and
Bonnie O'Leary**

*(Office of Professional Practice,
Department of Health and Human
Services, Victoria)*

What we did in the survey

Staff in the Senior Practitioner's office called 96 independent persons on the telephone to ask them 4 questions about their work as an independent person:

1. Did you act as an Independent Person for (the person's name was mentioned) during the year?
(Any one listed on the person's behaviour support plan as an independent person, should have agreed to be the independent person)
2. Did you see a copy of the person's Behaviour Support Plan?
(Anyone listed as an independent person should have seen the person's behaviour support plan).
3. Were you able to explain to the person with a disability what was in the behaviour support plan?
(All independent persons must explain to the person with a disability when and how the restrictive interventions will be used).
4. Is there anything you would like to tell the Senior Practitioner about being an Independent Person?

continued page 12

What independent persons said:

1. Most of the independent persons said they did act as an independent person during the year for the person with a disability that was mentioned.
2. Most of the independent persons said they had seen a copy of the person's behaviour support plan.
3. Many independent persons said they were not able to explain what was in the person's behaviour support plan to the person with a disability.
4. Some independent persons said they felt the person with a disability didn't understand about what restrictive interventions were and when they would be used.

What this means

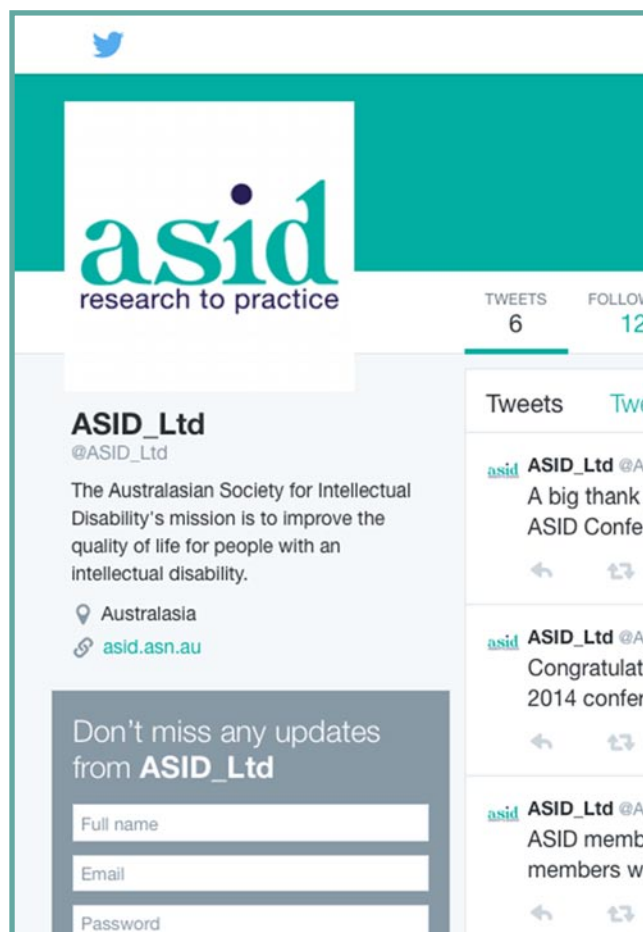
The results of the survey suggest that some independent persons and disability services may not know about what the law says the independent person and disability service provider must do to protect the rights of people with a disability. To address this, the Senior Practitioner wrote a frequently asked question about the independent person and revised the Independent persons toolkit. These were sent out to all disability services to use and send on to their independent persons.

- The Frequently asked question about what independent persons need to know and do is available at: www.dhs.vic.gov.au/.../rids-ebsp-faq-19-role-of-independent-person
- Independent Person toolkit is available at: <http://www.dhs.vic.gov.au/about-the-department/documents-and-resources/reports-publications/office-of-the-senior-practitioner-independent-person-toolkit>

The results of the survey also suggested that many independent persons were not sure how well the person with a disability had understood how and when restrictive interventions would be used to some people with a disability because they had limited ability to communicate. The advice from the Senior Practitioner is that

alternative communication must be used if people need alternative ways to communicate and if people don't have any alternative communication that they can use, services and independent persons need to make sure they have tried everything possible to communicate this information. ●

If you would like more information about the independent person you can contact your Authorised Program Officer or the Senior Practitioner – Disability on (03) 9096 8427.



President's report

Dr Angus Buchanan



The Governance of ASID is important but something we do not spend much time discussing in IDA. For the past three years ASID has been through a major transition moving from eight separate incorporated bodies to one organisation. This important change has been achieved through many people's hard work, good will and a willingness to look to the future to support the needs of the organisation. The changes have enabled more efficient decision making, effective administration, the aggregation of significant financial resources, and now ASID truly presents as a united voice with regard to intellectual disability and research matters.

As I have often reminded members, apart from the Secretariat ASID is run by voluntary effort. Flowing out of recent strategic work on making the board made a decision to employ an executive officer, Jenny Crosbie. Jenny has extensive experience working to support people who have an intellectual disability including in direct service and service management roles and as a researcher. Jenny will be working 2 1/2 days per week and is available via email at eo@asid.asn.au. She will be travelling around to divisions over the next few months to meet as many members as possible. The ASID Board are excited about the opportunities the appointment of an Executive Officer brings to the organisation.

As I mentioned ASID has recently developed a Marketing plan with a strong emphasis on membership and membership services. Jenny will be working on many activities that have come from this planning and I hope over the next 3 – 6 months you will notice an improved level of membership communication amongst other activities. Jenny will be providing significant support to drive the Board's activities.

The ASID Board currently meets seven times per year 7 times per year, three being face to face meetings in Melbourne and where Conference is held, and the others done by teleconference. ASID also has a committee

structure that includes finance, conference, publication, inclusion, position statements and partnerships, and membership. All Board members sit on at least one committee but other ASID members are co-opted.

The last Board meeting was held in August. Getting on with Business was the theme that flowed through both days of the meeting. Board Directors started the meeting by reflecting on what was a priority to achieve over the 2 days. These priorities were: tangible products, clear priorities, demonstration of research to practice, direction/governance of publications and tackling the difficult questions. The 2 days the Board had together were productive and met these priorities with great success.

As part of clear priorities the Board refocused on the principle that governance is the foundation that informs our strategy, however this focus needs to be balanced with the requirements of continued business while governance is sorted. The Board challenged itself to tackle the difficult questions and as a result reflected on the implications of the suitability of the size of our current board. Further work will be conducted over the coming months to explore this issue and members will be kept informed of the discussion.

By asking different questions, the Board engaged in a robust discussion about the direction/ governance of our two Journals. Clear priorities were decided on and there is a solid plan in place to move forward with regard to the governance and strategic direction of the Journal for Intellectual and Developmental Disability, and Research and Practice in Intellectual and Developmental Disability.

Our business as a membership based organisation was also a point of discussion with acknowledgement needed for a targeted plan for each division, recognising their unique needs. There is an ongoing commitment to finding ways of providing members

continued page 14



New Zealand

by Adrian Higgins

ASID –Aoteroa New Zealand is looking forward to hosting its 2016 Divisional Conference at the Brentwood Hotel, Wellington, New Zealand 3 - 4 November. The conference theme of **No more excuses: Looking beyond “because”** has drawn a range of exciting and in some cases, provocative papers which we are confident will stimulate discussion. This is what we had hoped for when choosing our theme and is consistent

with ASID’s mission of improving the quality of life for people with intellectual disability.

The conference keynote speakers include :Lorraine Bailey , Service Manager Affinity Services; Associate Professor Leanne Dowse, University of New South Wales; Professor Nick Lennox, Director of the Queensland Centre for Intellectual and Developmental Disability and Joanne Watson, Deakin University. We are also pleased to extend a mihi (welcome) to ASID’s new Executive Officer Jenny Crosbie who will be joining us at the conference.

continued page 15

President's report

continued from page 13

with access to content produced by divisions through methods such as webinars or videos of hosted events

Separate to our priorities we also had the pleasure of welcoming to their first Board meeting our new Executive Officer, Jenny Crosbie and new board Directors David Treanor (Tasmania), Paul O’Dea (Queensland), Justin O’Meara Smith (Western Australia).

The governances of ASID is very important and I encourage all members to think about how they can contribute to the efficient and effective running of the organisation. This may be by becoming a Board member, sitting on the local Divisional committee, volunteering to be on a committee or maybe offering to organise and event. ●



Back Row: **Sam Arnold, Laura Hogan, Adrian Higgins, Angus Buchanan, Justin O’Meara Smith**

Middle Row: **Darryleen Wiggins, Sharon Brandford, Vivienne Riches, Denice Wharldall, Jenny Crosbie, Allyson Thomson, Ben Crothers, Michael Arthur-Kelly**

Front Row Seated: **Ian Pearce, Christine Bigby, Hilary Johnson, Richard O’Loughlin, David Treanor, Paul O’Dea**

Very Front: **Morrie O’Connor**



With New Zealand ASID members being thinly spread across our two motu (islands) the annual conference provides one of the few opportunities we have to meet face-to-face. For this reason we have scheduled our Divisional meeting to be held during the conference and extend a warm welcome for Aotearoa- NZ members to attend both the conference and the Divisional Meeting.

The New Zealand Divisional Committee continues to regular teleconferences. Activities undertaken but committee this year include making a response to the revision of the New Zealand Disability Strategy, providing partial financial assistance to a self-advocate to allow him to present at the Melbourne 2016 IASSID conference and the development of a "New Presenter" Award. This award is open to New Zealand residents and is intended to encourage new presenters to develop conference presentations consistent with ASID's goals. The award includes a financial component to cover the registration fee for one person to attend the 2017 Australasian ASID conference in Hobart and a return economy airfare for one person to attend that conference. Details can be found on the [ASID webpage](#).

Queensland

by Morrie O'Connor

Joanne Richards has needed to resign as QLD representative on National Board due to pressure of work; however she will stay on the QLD Division Committee. Victoria Tucker has been elected as her replacement to National Board.

Paul O'Dea attended his first face-to-face Board Meeting in Melbourne as QLD Division representative.

QLD Division is participating as a co-sponsor of Roundtable forum 'A Voice for Queenslanders with Intellectual Disabilities' which will be held on 4th October 2016.

QLD Division is beginning to approach local individuals and groups re ASID national conference to be held in QLD in 2018.

Western Australia

by Justin O'Meara Smith

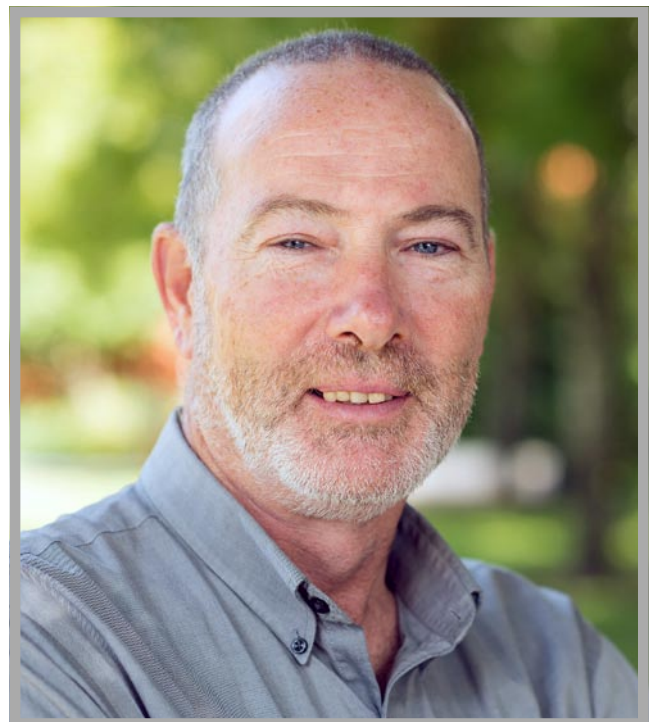
ASID ROADSHOW EVENT IN PERTH

Claiming full citizenship – with Professor Tim Stainton

ASID WA took full advantage of the recent IASSID conference in Melbourne by partnering with the WA Disability Services Commission to bring Professor Tim Stainton across to Western Australia for a series of events.

On Tuesday August 23rd ASID and DSC co-hosted a seminar led by Tim titled Claiming Full Citizenship. With over 80 people in attendance this was an opportunity for those present to get a sense of the history behind community living; individualised funding and 'what works' in British Columbia and what we can learn from the experiences of people with intellectual disability there.

continued page 16



Professor Tim Stainton



There was also plenty of opportunity to discuss what is happening here in the West, particularly within the context of two different NDIS trials and the pending transition to full scheme rollout from July 2017.

The afternoon consisted of presentation; group work and individual questioning and reflection and was ably facilitated by Angus Buchanan ASID Australasian President.

ASID thanks all participants and the Disability Services Commission for their willingness to co-host this event.

Tasmania

by Ben Crothers

The main focus of the Tasmanian division is the planning and organising of the 51st annual ASID conference, to be held in Hobart between the 8th and 10th of November, 2017. The organising committee invites any individual or organisation who would like to be involved in shaping and making this event to make contact with our conference convenor, Darryleen Wiggins - Darryleen.Wiggins@mosaictas.org.au

Another significant merger of two major intellectual disability support providers has occurred in Tasmania. OAK Tasmania and Possability (formally Optia Inc.) have merged to form a new organisation, OAK Possability, in response to the changing marketplace the introduction of the NDIS has created.

In other NIDS news, the School Leaver Employment Supports (SLES) funding initiative is now in its second year and numbers of applications have increased from 70 to 115 as the scope of the funding broadens to include Catholic and independent schools as well as district high schools (high schools which offer year 11 and 12 education as an alternative to the Tasmanian college system). SLES funding is seen as the key NDIS strategy to help young people enter the workforce after leaving school and it is being progressively introduced to the rest of Australia (2016 is the first year for NSW, and 2017 is expected to be the first year for Victoria).

NSW & ACT

by Laura Hogan

The ASID NSW committee have been busy over the past few months. On Friday 12th August, we hosted the 'Ethical Issues in Ageing' event. The day had 4 themes – health, families, transition to retirement and end of life care. We were fortunate to have a variety of local and international speaker including Prof. Tamar Heller (USA), Dr. Stuart Wark (Australia). Prof. Roger Stancliffe (Australia), Dr Michele Wiese (Australia), Dr Angela Dew (Australia) and Ms Sharon Brandford (New Zealand). The day provided the opportunity to learn from the experts and participate in facilitated panel discussions. The ASID NSW committee are now working to write up the results from the day.



Tamar Heller

Following this on the 29th August we hosted another professional development day on Individualised Funding and Self Determination. Prof. Tim Stainton of Canada was the keynote address for the day. Participants also had the opportunity to hear from Dr. Samuel Arnold (Australia) on the assessment of support needs and the Inclusive

continued page 17



members of the NSW Organising committee



Sharon Brandford presenting



Victoria

by Hilary Johnson

Research Network from the Centre for Disability Studies (CDS) share their lived and research experience in the area.

It is with thanks that the NSW committee acknowledge the event organising sub-committee for these successful and well received events: Angela Dew, Vivienne Riches, Michele Wiese, Laura Hogan, Bernadette Curryer and Linda Ward.

The NSW committee is now reflecting on feedback received from participants about the focus of future events including; the management side of individualised funding, inclusive education, the research part of ASID's by-line, and other ethical discussions. We look forward to planning future events based on this feedback.

In other news we were saddened to farewell long time committee member Julie Deane who resigned from our committee in August. Julie was instrumental in leading the much of the governance work for the NSW committee prior to the ASID restructure. She was also a passionate advocate for the adoption of inclusive meeting practices and will be greatly missed by the whole committee.



Tim Stainton

South Australia

(Update not available at time of publication)

The Victorian ASID continues to meet monthly and recently spent a productive Saturday afternoon at one of Melbourne's local pubs to plan and budget for the coming year. The planning meeting was well attended by 8 committee members.

After much discussion we decided to focus on 2 main activities this year.

1. To complete the conference manual as soon as possible to assist the conference planning for Tasmania in 2017. Alice Nicholas is leading his task.
2. To focus on a series of local events to inform and engage the membership.

The first seminar, Strategies for real inclusion-Involving people with intellectual disability in events, provided a workshop experience for attendees. It was led by Lisa Hamilton, Lucy Murphy, Joshua Farteh and Filippo Signorelli. Filippo provided insight from the perspective of a person with an intellectual disability. Lucy recorded the outcomes of the small group work through graphic illustrations. There were good networking opportunities for the 19 attendees who came from disability organisations, Oxfam, CBM, YMCA, Victoria University and the Office of the Public Advocate. Lisa Hamilton has written a summary of the event for IDA.

The second seminar was held on August 31st entitled "I can't always read it and it isn't always easy" with Susan Buell from the University of East Anglia, UK who presented the results from her PhD on Easy English. The 25 registered attendees enjoyed a lively discussion and opportunities to network and get to know each other over nibbles and wine. A podcast is being developed from the presentation and will be made available on ASID's website. The next seminar will be held on September 29th with a panel discussion on Safeguards under the NDIS. ●

Hi I am Paul O'Dea

I am the new National Australasian Board Representative from Queensland. I have been a member of the ASID Queensland division committee since November last year.

There are a few reasons why I am interested in ASID. I want to have a voice as a person with disability, and I want to make sure things happen for all people with a disability in Australia and New Zealand.

I was born in New Zealand and moved to Australia when I was 15 to live with my mum and dad. When I was around 18 I moved out and have been living independently since then.

My favourite sport is ten pin bowling. I also enjoy watching Rugby League. I like to hang out with my family, friends and girlfriend. When I can I like going out and seeing movies.

There are some issues that I am very interested in; housing, bullying, employment and transport. Housing especially is a big thing for me, I think it gives people independence and chances to do things they want to do. There seems to be less opportunity for people with disability in the job market, and they often have low wages.



I am and have been involved with a number of groups and committees. I have been a board member and treasurer of Community Living Association and Independent Youth Housing Group since 1997. I was a member of the Talking about Bullying group and am currently a member of People of the Air radio group ●.

research to practice

Excellence Award

by
NSW ASID Division

NSW ASID Division Committee member, **Dr. Angela Dew** was recently awarded the Excellence Award for Research to Practice at the Annual Trevor Parmenter Lecture and Awards ceremony. Angela was nominated by Dr Susan Collings, with testimonials provided by Associated Professor Leanne Dowse (Chair in Intellectual Disability Behaviour Support, UNSW) and Laura Hogan (Chair, ASID NSW). Angela was recognised for her excellence in translating disability research into practice especially for rural and remote, inclusive of indigenous communities.

Some excerpts from Angela's award presentation included:

Angela has a well deserved international reputation as a disability scholar and has made significant contributions to disability sector capacity building in Australia. In 2014, as part of international research collaboration, Angela completed the prestigious Knowledge Translation Professional Certificate at the University of Toronto, Canada. Angela is now at the forefront in applying this important innovation in disability and is regularly engaged to share her expertise about how to develop research to practice strategies for academic and professional audiences.

Through her management of the Wobbly Hub and Double Spokes project and on the completion the Knowledge Translation Professional Certificate of Angela lead the successful work around applying art-based knowledge translation techniques to the analysis and dissemination of rural and remote research findings. This innovative initiative provided rural and



**Dr Angela Dew being presented her award
by Emeritus Professor Trevor Parmenter**

remote practitioners, families, services, policy makers with equitable access to recent and relevant research. This work made a significant contribution to shaping service provision in rural and remote communities, including the development of supporting policies and procedures.

Angela is passionate about ASID's by-line of 'Research to Practice' which is reflected through the many roles and projects that she has undertaken in her time with ASID. Through her co-leadership of the events subcommittee, Angela brings local and international experts on current and relevant topics to our local practitioners, service providers, families, carers and people with disability in both metro and rural settings.

Congratulations Angela!

virtual special issue of RAPIDD on Support for Decision Making with free access to papers

<http://explore.tandfonline.com/page/med/rapidd-supported-decision-making>

In this **virtual special issue** of Research and Practice in Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities, we bring together papers about decision making support for people with intellectual disabilities that have been published in the first three issues of the journal.

Ensuring effective support for decision making is a key challenge confronting mainstream and disability services systems. It is central to the rights based foundations of the National Disability Insurance Scheme being rolled out across Australia.

Though there has been much debate about legal frameworks, there is little empirical research about supported decision making models or practice.

This is unique collection includes commentaries from leading international academics about UK, Australia and Canadian schemes, reflections from the perspectives of families and research about the practice of decision making

support. Our aim is to showcase the value of RAPIDD and encourage you, whatever your perspective, to write for our journal about issues that are important in improving the lives of people with intellectual disabilities.

I wish you enjoyable reading!

Christine Bigby ●



upcoming events

10 Oct 2016	World Mental Health Day http://www.who.int/mental_health/world-mental-health-day/en/
17 - 18 Oct 2016	National Guardianship & Administration Council Conference Sydney http://agac2016.conorg.com.au/
17 - 19 Oct 2016	World Federation for Mental Health (WFMH) International Conference Cairns http://www.wfmh2016.com
26 - 27 Oct 2016	PANDDA Disability Nurses Conference 2016 Novotel, Parramatta http://www.pandda.net/conference/
3 - 4 Nov 2016	ASID NZ 2016 Conference Brentwood Hotel, Wellington www.asid.asn.au/events/32_asid_nz_2016_conference
10 Nov 2016	Positive Behaviour Support Symposium Lidcombe, NSW http://www.thejunctionworks.org/LatestEvents/BehaviourSupportSymposium
24 - 25 Nov 2016	Social Workers in Disability (SWID) Conference Milpera, NSW https://www.aasw.asn.au/document/item/8861
30 Nov - 2 Dec 2016	Pathways13: Australian Tertiary Education Network on Disability (ATEND) Conference Canberra http://www.pathways.consec.com.au/
3 Dec 2016	International Day of People with Disability http://www.idpwd.com.au/
8 - 10 Nov 2017	Australasian Society for Intellectual Disability Annual Board Conference The Grand Chancellor Hotel, Hobart www.asid.asn.au

If you want to advertise in IDA's upcoming events section,
please e-mail: darryleen.wiggins@mosaictas.org.au



No More Excuses: looking beyond “because”

*Shifting Paradigms,
Moving Beyond Maybe.....?,
The right to autonomy for people rarely heard ...*

ASID NZ 2016 Conference

Thurs, 3rd Nov - Fri, 4th Nov

Brentwood Hotel, Wellington

Contact: Paardekooper & Associates

Email: asid@paardekooper.co.nz

Phone: P: +64 4 562 8259

Details: www.asid.asn.au/events

2017 ASID Conference Pushing Boundaries

**The Grand Chancellor Hotel
Hobart, Tasmania.**

8th – 10th November 2017



www.asid.asn.au

