Welcome to the ACDICT Annual Council Meeting 2011

President’s Report

2010/2011 Activities

• 5 Executive meetings – ACM and 4 Ordinary

• Details of all the items below can be found on the ACDICT website: www.acdict.edu.au
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Establishment of the ACDICT Learning and Teaching Academy (ALTA) led by Janet Verbyla

• 3 ALTA grants and projects funded at about $10,000 each
• Project Leader: Malcolm Corney, QUT with UTS and UWA
  • "Novice Programmers in the First Three Semesters: Gaining a Better Understanding of the Problem"
• Project Leader: Judy Sheard, Monash, with Newcastle, RMIT and UTS
  • "Investigating the nature and design of computer programming examinations"
• Project Leader: John Venable, Curtin, with Edith Cowan
  • "Comparative evaluation of marking and feedback support systems"
• These projects will provide a report to ACDICT in mid-2012.
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Annual L&T forum: May 2–3 Adelaide: highly valued by attendees
• 30 attendees from 18 universities
• Numerous speakers including DEEWR, ALTC, TAFE, ACPET

Activities concerning the closure of the ALTC
• 2 Letters to PM Feb and March – ACDICT one of main drivers in orchestrating the 10 Councils of Deans
• Subsequent Canberra meeting with Ministerial Advisors 31 May by 4 representatives of the Councils (ACDICT being one)
• Briefing paper to Ministerial Advisors
• Outcomes include greater DEEWR consultation process and recognition that the Deans are the change agents in universities
• Alison Johns consultation with ACDICT, DEEWR, 29 July, Sydney

Australian Council of Deans of Information and Communications Technology
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ITIIC
- ITIIC reorganised the membership and ACDICT retained its seat.
- WG6 project on Educational pathways will need some input from ACDICT in 2011 to assist this project.

National ICT Week steering committee – Tony Koppi on Organising Committee
- Includes ACS, ACSF, AIIA, Chaired by Penny Coulter from Taylor Coulter.
- This is included in the agenda for tomorrow to discuss the value of the NICTW to universities.
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Submissions

• SOL response – Nov 2010
• Base Funding Review – March 2011
• ERA – March 2011
• TEQSA – March 2011
• TEQSA – July 2011
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FASTS membership

• Joined the Federation of Australian Scientific and Technological Societies (FASTS) to add our interests to that voice. Now called Science and Technology Australia: www.sta.org.au

• Science meets Parliament 20–21 June: 2 reps from Swinburne University attended and their feedback includes ICT being seen as a great enabler of research amongst the participating scientists, and that engagement with the general community is essential.
ALTC Grant: ACDICT and ACED Learning Network

“The Australian Engineering & ICT Education Support Network”

- Robin King and Tony Koppi applied for this final ALTC grant on behalf of ACED and ACDICT. It builds on the Discipline Support Strategy (DSS) currently funded by the ALTC for Engineering and ICT and takes the funding to late 2013. The ALTC will provide a further $100,000 and ACDICT and ACED will each provide an additional $10,000 for each of the 2 years.

- Robin will talk tomorrow how we might best exploit this funding.
• Discussions are currently in progress between the ACDICT Learning and Teaching Academy (ALTA) and the DSS / Learning Network, and will also engage with the Australasian Special Interest Group in Computer Science Education (SIGCSE) of which Simon from Newcastle is the current Chair, and the Australasian Association for Engineering Education (AAEE) of which Duncan Campbell (QUT) is the current President.

• Along with the outcomes of ICT learning and teaching projects, such as shown in the Attrition and TRIL briefings circulated, we are making good progress in the learning and teaching space.
Proposal for ACDICT Reserve – currently >$200,000~

- To avoid an ever increasing bank reserve the following is proposed:
  - Annual carry over balance to be distributed
  - 30% of balance kept as reserve for following budget year
  - 30% of balance added to the next operating budget
  - 30% of balance to be made available for ongoing grants/scholarships/awards as approved
  - 10% contingency on next operating budget

- This will allow $10,000 of the current monies to be contributed to the ACDICT and ACED Learning Network for the coming year