



To advance the
profession of editing

INSTITUTE OF PROFESSIONAL EDITORS LIMITED

Annual Report
2015–16

The Institute of Professional Editors Limited (IPEd) exists to advance the profession of editing, by planning and implementing national initiatives – an accreditation scheme, promotion and communication campaigns, training and mentoring – and other activities to support Australian societies of editors and their members, and editors in general.

IPEd also supports biennial national conferences of editors, which have been held in Brisbane (2003), Melbourne (2005), Hobart (2007), Adelaide (2009), Sydney (2011), Fremantle (2013) and Canberra (2015). The Canberra conference was a joint event with the Australian and New Zealand Society of Indexers (ANZSI). Each conference is organised and hosted by the local society of editors. The next conference will be held in Brisbane in September 2017.

IPEd was launched at the 2005 national conference as successor to the Council of Australian Societies of Editors (CASE) and was registered as an Australian Public Company on 22 January 2008. The Members of IPEd were the seven Australian societies of editors in the six states and Canberra.

This report covers the period 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016.

ABOUT IPed

www.iped-editors.org

The Institute of Professional Editors Limited is a public, not-for-profit company (ACN 129 337 217) registered in, and under the Corporations Law of, the Australian Capital Territory.

The Members of the company for the reporting period were:

Canberra Society of Editors Inc.

Society of Editors (NSW) Inc.

Society of Editors (Queensland) Inc.

Society of Editors (SA) Inc.

Society of Editors (Tasmania) Inc.

Editors Victoria Inc.

Society of Editors (WA) Inc.

The interests of editors in the Northern Territory are attended to by the South Australian society.

The registered office of the company is:

Institute of Professional Editors Limited
37 Baroda Street
Coopers Plains QLD 4108

The company has engaged the accounting services of Vector Services, and the audit services of the chartered accountancy firm Teamwork Accounting Pty Ltd, PO Box 6083, Point Cook VIC 3030. During the period of this report, the company banked with Bankwest Australia.

The company's postal address is:

The Secretary
Institute of Professional Editors Limited
PO Box 8
Coopers Plains QLD 4108

About the Members

The numbers of members of the societies of editors (the Members of IPEd) are tabulated below. The societies vary not only in size but also, to some degree, in their structure and rules of association. Overviews of the seven Members are given later in the report.

For the reporting period, the Members supported IPEd financially through an annual contribution based on their membership numbers. The per capita contribution from 2011 to 2015 was \$25 per society member. Strong in-kind support also came from provision of members for IPEd's various committees, working groups and ad hoc projects.

Society membership numbers, 2015 and 2016

Society	Number of members at 31 May 2015, 30 June 2016*	
	2015	2016
Canberra	180	177
New South Wales	354	315
Queensland	270	269
South Australia	116	129
Tasmania	28	32
Victoria	560	564
Western Australia	76	99
TOTAL	1584	1585

*Due to the imminent transition to national direct membership, the usual 31 May tally was not conducted. Numbers given here are for members transferred to IPed on 1 July, and numbers for the Canberra Society of Editors, which did not transfer its members, were supplied subsequently.

GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

IPed is governed by a council comprising one nominee of each of the Members. Councillors, who are directors of the company, serve two-year terms. Retiring councillors are eligible for re-election.

Councillors during the period covered by this report were:

Eris Harrison AE (Canberra) from September 2015 until June 2016

Julie Ganner AE (New South Wales) until June 2016

Kerry Davies AE (Queensland)

Loene Doube AE (South Australia), Katy McDevitt as Alternate from October 2015

Charles Houen (Victoria) until June 2016

Kathleen Stewart (Western Australia) from September 2015 until March 2016

Stephen White (Western Australia) from March 2016.

In accordance with the Corporations Law, each councillor is bound to act in the interests of the company as a whole, and not in the interests of any one or more Members that might have assisted or nominated their appointment to the council.

Kerry Davies AE continued as Chair for the reporting period.

Loene Doube AE continued as Honorary Treasurer for the reporting period.

Margaret Telford continued as Secretary for the reporting period, on contract.

Mary-Ann Came AE continued as Communication Officer for the reporting period, on contract.

Rosemary Noble AE continued as Transition Project Manager, on contract, until November 2015.

Tracy Harwood AE, of the Canberra Society of Editors and Convenor of the 2015 conference, was contracted from October 2015 to March 2016 to compile a handbook to assist IPed national conference organisers.

Charles Houen (Vector Services) continued to provide accounting services for the reporting period, on contract, and was appointed Technical Transition Manager, on contract, from January to July 2016.

Staff to be appointed from 1 July as employees began on short-term contracts from their recruitment date in June 2016 until 1 July, including Karen Lee as CEO, Charles Houen as Finance Officer (from which he stepped down in early July) and Karen Gillen as Membership Officer.

The contract positions were IPed's only paid officeholders, but various members of the accreditation exam development, implementation and marking team, the Accreditation Board Chair and the IPed Chair

and Honorary Treasurer received honoraria for their services. The members of three transition subcommittees (see below) also received honoraria.

Meetings

Council members generally meet face-to-face only every two years, in association with the national conferences. Otherwise, the business of the council is conducted during two-hour teleconferences, usually held on the first Sunday of every month. The 1 November meeting did not obtain quorum so was postponed to Tuesday 17 November following the Special General Meeting to vote on the transition to direct membership.

The dates of 2015–16 teleconferences were: 5 July, 2 August, 6 September, 4 October, 17 November, 3 January, 7 February, 6 March, 3 April, 1 May, and 5 and 21 June.

Committees

There are four standing committees of council – Finance and Risk Management, the Accreditation Board, Professional Development and Communication (the latter having been, in practice, replaced in 2014–15 by the contract Communication Officer). Their responsibilities and highlights of their work during the year are detailed below.

The Finance and Risk Management committee met on 30 November to consider the terms of appointment of the Technical Transition Manager and three transition subcommittees: Recruitment, Systems and Records, and Policies.

Finance and Risk Management

The financial year 2015–16 was extremely busy, with the development of the transition Green Papers and presentation of the White Papers ongoing throughout 2015, culminating in the successful vote for direct membership in November 2015.

IPEd financial statements

The audited Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2016 have been completed and are available from the Secretary and on the IPed website. They will be presented at the AGM in November for the consideration of the Members.

Income and expenditure

While IPed ended the year with an operating deficit of \$58,760 (2015 operating surplus \$23,627), a healthy retained surplus of \$89,743 from 2015, which had been accumulated for the purpose of meeting the costs of transition, saw a final retained surplus of \$30,983.

The 2015 standard membership levy remained at \$25 per society member, payable on 1 August 2015, and, with some adjustments to the additional \$45 2014–15 transition levy, these totalled \$38,965. No transition levy was required in 2015–16.

The council approved an honorarium of \$2000 be paid to the IPed Chair and \$1000 to the Honorary Treasurer in appreciation of the significant services they have provided during the financial year. The Accreditation Board and Council approved an honorarium of \$6000 to be paid to the Accreditation Board Chair.

Balance Sheet

The bank balance at 30 June 2016 was \$66,401 (2015: \$94,434).

At that date IPed had trade debtors of \$1795 and expense prepayments of \$2362 and had other non-current assets of \$18,465 (accreditation exam database and onscreen exam development, and direct membership set-up). Thus, total IPed assets were \$89,203 (2015: \$103,734).

At financial year end, IPed owed \$58,220 (2015: \$13,991) in outstanding liabilities, including deferred income of \$730 (exam fees held over to the next exam). Net assets were \$30,983 (2015: \$89,743).

Budget for financial year 2016–17

The budget for the six months from July to December 2016 has been prepared on the basis of the draft pre-transition 2016–17 budget with additional provisions for systems set-up and development; additional staff costs; staff, councillor and branch training; and branch administration costs, based on draft budgets submitted by the branches. Income was initially difficult to estimate as the number of members who would actually transfer to IPed through the branches was uncertain. Happily, the member retention rate has proved to be around 80 per cent to date. Half of the branches had transferred unreserved funds at time of writing (October 2016), with remaining funds yet to be allocated.

The 2016 accreditation exam was held in June, with some costs, such as for exam assessors, allocated to 2016–17. Renewal of accreditation for editors accredited in 2011 also occurred in 2016–17.

All of IPed's volunteer workers were covered by its Association Liability, Voluntary Workers Personal Accident and Public Liability insurance policies.

The budget for the six months from January to June 2017 is currently in process on the basis of review of the July to December budget and budget to actual comparisons in progress.

Accreditation

The Accreditation Board administers the national accreditation scheme for editors on behalf of IPed. The scheme provides for accreditation at the level of Accredited Editor (designated AE). To gain accreditation candidates must pass, to a specified level, a three-hour editing exam. The first accreditation exam, held in 2008, was developed by a group of experienced editors nominated by their societies. The members of this group were subsequently accorded the title Distinguished Editor (DE).

The Accreditation Board was made up of:

- *Society delegates.* These delegates are experienced editors appointed by their societies' management committees. There were seven society delegates on the board, all answerable both to their own management committee and to the board. All delegates are accredited editors.
- *The IPed Council delegate.* This delegate is responsible for representing Council's interests at all board meetings and other discussions (such as teleconferences), and for reporting to Council on the outcome of those discussions.

The Accreditation Board during the period of this report consisted of:

Society delegates:

Canberra – Ted Briggs AE
New South Wales – Alison Moodie AE
South Australia – Valerie Mobley AE
Queensland – Desolie Page AE
Victoria – Andi Jones AE (to September 2015), then Sandra Duncanson and Stephanie Heriot (joint delegates)
Western Australia – Sue Thomson AE
Tasmania – Elizabeth Spiegel AE

IPed Council delegate: Julie Ganner AE (NSW)

Chair: Ted Briggs AE.

The Accreditation Board met 17 times during the year. All meetings were by teleconference, with Margaret Telford this year providing minute-taking services to the Board.

Highlights of Accreditation Board activity during 2015–16 were:

- conduct of the sixth accreditation exam, held onscreen for the first time
- call for renewal of accreditation for editors accredited in the third exam in 2011.

Accreditation exam

On 25 June, 85 candidates sat the accreditation exam – the first to be offered onscreen. Forty candidates passed the exam, representing a pass rate of 47 per cent. Pass rates for previous exams have ranged from 51 to 85 per cent.

For the first running of the onscreen exam, the Board decided to conduct it in an invigilated setting, using a computer training facility where everyone uses the same technology, the same version of the software, and has technology support available.

The exam was held at Cliftons training and conference centres in Brisbane, Sydney, Canberra, Melbourne, Adelaide and Perth, and at the Quill Consultancy in Hobart, a partner of Cliftons. In addition, two candidates sat the exam in overseas venues under special invigilation arrangements.

The onscreen format was developed using Microsoft Word, the platform most editors work with today. An early prototype was demonstrated at the IPed National Editors Conference in May 2015. After further development, the Board conducted trials of the prototype in Cliftons venues in Canberra and Brisbane in December 2015, to verify that the exam would work in the onscreen environment. In March 2016, the exam itself was trialled in Sydney using both PCs and Apple Mac computers.

One of the limitations of our work with Cliftons is that the company works entirely with PCs, and not Macs. The Board wanted to ensure equal access for all candidates, and so organised with Cliftons to hire Macs for those candidates who specified a Mac on their registration form. Unfortunately, on the day, some candidates in Melbourne, Brisbane and Perth (but not in Sydney, Canberra or Adelaide) experienced problems with the Macs. These candidates were helped by invigilators when they experienced problems, and given additional time at the end of the exam to make up for any loss of time or work. Subsequent research has revealed that the problems encountered are probably related to the settings used in Track Changes, but the Board will do more testing on this for the next exam.

A survey of exam candidates was undertaken soon after the exam and this reflected overwhelming support for the onscreen format.

The Board recognises that advances in technology are likely to make an online exam, which can be delivered via the internet to people's home computers, a more attractive and workable solution for the future and will continue to monitor developments in this area.

Renewal of accreditation

Accreditation through IPed lasts five years, after which accredited editors must apply to have their accreditation renewed. To obtain renewal of accreditation, accredited editors are required to demonstrate that, over the five years since their accreditation, they have:

- been actively employed or involved in the editing profession
- undertaken a range of relevant professional development activities.

Applications for renewal of accreditation are assessed by the Accreditation Board.

In April 2016, editors accredited in 2011 were sent notices that they were required to renew their accreditation in the second half of 2016.

Professional development

In 2015–16 Julie Ganner AE (NSW Councillor) continued to update monthly, the lists of the upcoming training workshops held by each society for the 'Events' page of the IPed website. A record of the training events conducted by the member societies was also updated regularly and sent to the society committees, to help provide ideas for future professional development opportunities.

Editing courses available in Australia were researched and added to the 'About editing' section of the website. This list now includes a table of undergraduate, postgraduate and VET courses offered by Australian universities and will be updated annually.

An agreement was negotiated in 2014 between IPed and the Society for Editors and Proofreaders (SfEP) in the UK that allowed members of Australian societies of editors to access SfEP's online courses at a discounted rate. These courses, which were added to regularly during 2015–16, cover proofreading, copy-editing, fiction editing and grammar, to name a few.

As an additional resource for our members, the presentations from the national conferences in Canberra (2015), Adelaide (2009) and Tasmania (2007) are also now on the IPed website. Further papers will be added to our archive as they become available.

Communication

IPed sustained consistent communication with its stakeholders throughout the year.

Communication with the societies of editors and their members regarding IPed's transition process was a major activity for the year. Announcements were sent to societies explaining the transition process, key dates, the voting process and what the transition to a national membership organisation would mean for members. Transition information, including the IPed Transition White Papers and an FAQs document, were added to the IPed website and included in the 'News' section.

The results of the vote and the details of IPed's new structure were communicated to IPed stakeholders and media releases sent to the Associations Forum and Books+Publishing newsletters.

IPed undertook a recruitment drive to employ three new staff and cost-effective avenues for this were researched and implemented.

A feature on editing was negotiated to run in *CareerOne*, a career insert that appears in NewsCorp print publications around the country. The format features an editor as well as a trainer, an expert and a worker and we aimed to angle the feature to promote the value of accreditation.

The feature appeared in the *Courier Mail* in Brisbane and *The Advertiser* in Adelaide and included:

- Adele Walker AE as the 'editor'
- Ted Briggs as the 'expert'
- Pamela Hewitt as the 'trainer'
- Louise Scahill as the 'worker' to comment on the skills and attributes of an editor.

IPed Notes, IPed's newsletter, was distributed to members of the societies of editors four times during the year.

IPed sponsored Viva La Novella, a competition to promote the short-novel format. IPed's support for this project allowed a new editor, Tom Langshaw, the opportunity to select and edit a novel. In return for this, IPed has gained valuable exposure on the Seizure website and will be recognised when the novella is launched. Tom Langshaw also agreed to write a series of articles for the IPed website.

In June 2016, IPed ran the accreditation exam in an onscreen format for the first time. The website was updated with the exam information, the exam registration form, revised sample exam and marked-up versions of these. A video tutorial of the onscreen exam was also added to the IPed website. The exam was promoted through *IPed Notes* and social media, and a media release distributed to stakeholders, with articles appearing in the *West Australian* and *Career One*.

Use of the IPed website was comparable to the previous year, with about 29,324 users and 114,699 page views for the year.

IPed established a LinkedIn page and is using this platform to establish networks of editing professionals, to communicate IPed news and promote IPed as the professional association for editors. In seven months, IPed's LinkedIn followers grew to 113.

Facebook and Twitter were used to communicate with stakeholders and both communities grew, with 682 Facebook Likes and 1063 Twitter followers at the end of the financial year.

CHAIR'S REPORT

The 2015 Annual General Meeting of IPed was held on 6 September 2015. Eris Harrison AE was nominated as Councillor by the Canberra Society of Editors; Kathleen Stewart (Western Australia) had been nominated in July 2015 to replace Kerry Coyle AE.

I continued as Council Chair and Loene Doube AE as Honorary Treasurer.

Council was without a Councillor from Tasmania for the 2015–16 financial year. Society of Editors (Tasmania) President Ann Hughes attended most Council meetings during that period and also served on the recruitment transition subcommittee. Many thanks to you. Stephen White (Western Australia) replaced Kathleen Stewart in March 2016 and Katy McDevitt served as South Australia's Alternate Councillor from October 2015.

IPed Transition

The work of Transition Working Party 4 continued, with Project Manager Rosemary Noble AE coordinating. Charles Houen (Finance and Operations, Legals and Governance), Robin Bennett AE

(Professional Development), Rosemary Noble (Communications) and myself (Membership) progressed the Green Papers to White Papers, through invaluable feedback from councillors, society committees and members, and developed detailed documents to explain the processes of the transition to national direct membership and voting, released in September 2015, for society ballots from October to November.

The Special General Meeting of 17 November was convened to confirm the votes of the societies on the transition. The initial vote had four societies in favour and three against, with numbers at that point at 82% in favour, more than the 75% required, allowing the transition to proceed. All three societies that voted against transition held second ballots, with two more societies now in favour. The final vote results, in May 2016, are shown below, with 89% in favour and only the Canberra Society of Editors not joining the new structure.

IPEd transition vote results – May 2016

Society	Eligible voting members	Total valid votes cast		For		Against		Result	IPEd votes (75%, or 80 of 106, required)*	
Canberra Society of Editors Inc (2nd ballot)	126	42	33%	20	48%	22	52%	Resolution <u>not</u> passed		12
Society of Editors (NSW) Inc	208	101	49%	79	78%	22	22%	Resolution passed	24	
Society of Editors (Queensland) Inc.	137	92	67%	88	96%	4	4%	Resolution passed	18	
Society of Editors (SA) Inc.	77	33	43%	30	91%	3	9%	Resolution passed	8	
Society of Editors (Tasmania) Inc. (2nd ballot)	31	14	45%	13	93%	1	7%	Resolution passed	2	
Editors Victoria Inc.	375	122	33%	98	80%	24	20%	Resolution passed	37	
Society of Editors (WA) Inc. (2nd ballot)	96	46	48%	40	87%	6	13%	Resolution passed	5	
Total	1050	450	43%	368	82%	82	18%	Resolution passed	94	12
									89% for	11% against

* Based on total membership of each society at 31 May 2015 divided by 15

From that point, Council's work became quite daunting, even compared with the earlier work to develop the White Papers. The first task was to create the three transition subcommittees, which became Transition Working Party 5.

Recruitment was chaired by Eris Harrison AE, with Loene Doube AE, Ann Hughes and myself on various of the panels. Charles Houen had contributed substantially to early work in developing the position descriptions for the Executive Officer, Finance Officer and Membership Officer. Plans were also laid to transfer existing contract positions to part-time employee status, to take effect 1 July.

Julie Ganner AE chaired the Policies Subcommittee, with Secretary Margaret Telford, Loene Doube AE and IPed Patron Roly Sussex working on the various policies, including the extremely important Code of Ethics, as well as the Membership Policy, revised Delegated Financial Authority and policies to cover branch budgets and procedures.

I chaired the Systems and Records Subcommittee, with Charles Houen in his role as Technical Transition Manager and representatives of each of the societies working on the transfer of member records and the set-up of MemNet, the national membership system. The representatives were: Susie Pilkington and Adam Raffel (New South Wales), Ruth Davies AE (Queensland), Loene Doube AE (South Australia); Elizabeth Spiegel AE (Tasmania); Paul Bugeja (Victoria); and Stephen White (Western Australia).

Council thanks everyone involved in this vital work. Alongside the work of the transition, we continue our commitment to the aims of IPed and to addressing new issues as they arise.

Council highlights

Council activities for the year are covered in detail in the following section. Here are some of the highlights.

- We released the results of the seventh National Survey of Editors in March 2015, for the first time allowing comparison between the societies and against the national data. This was a huge task undertaken largely by Communication Officer Mary-Ann Came AE, with invaluable assistance from CSE members Pam Faulks AE and Karin Hosking AE.
- I was invited by the Australasian Society of Association Executives to participate in a Leadership Symposium in Wellington, New Zealand, in October 2015, hosted by Tourism NZ. This provided a fantastic opportunity to meet with New Zealand editors and students, to let them know about IPed's background and work towards transition, and encourage the formation of a future NZ branch and a possible future IPed conference in New Zealand.
- IPed supported the Style manual 7th edition Working Group by encouraging editors to lobby their MPs to have the *Style manual* updated. In March 2016 an online petition was launched by the Society of Editors (Qld) and distributed nationally by IPed to editors, encouraging them to sign the petition appealing to the Senate to approve funding through the Standing Committee on Publications, which could see work start on the next edition of the *Style manual*. (The petition achieved a total 891 signatories by September 2016 and, with news that the tender would be announced in early 2017, was then submitted to the Standing Committee.)
- The Accreditation Board continued its development of the first onscreen exam, which was held on 25 June 2016.
- IPed endorsed a Canberra Society of Editors (CSE) submission to the Productivity Commission Inquiry into Intellectual Property arrangements rejecting its proposed changes to copyright, identifying that this could lead to authors and publishers losing the rights to the work they have produced.

It's certainly been a very exciting, challenging and productive year, and I am honoured to be part of IPed Council. I thank all councillors, past and present, for their diligence and commitment to the council and the profession.

Kerry Davies AE
Chair, IPed Council

ACTIVITIES DURING THE YEAR

Governance

During the year, Council drafted and approve the following:

- *Council mandate*
- *Guide for IPed councillors* (updated)
- *Branch committees responsibilities and roles*

In the lead up to the IPed transition, Council established the Policies subcommittee, which reviewed and revised the following IPed policy documents:

- *Delegated Financial Authority Policy*
- *Expenditure Policy*
- *Human Resources Policy*
- *Terms of Reference for Working Parties*

The Policies subcommittee also drafted the following policies, which were approved by Council in June 2016:

- *IPed's Code of Ethics*

- *Complaints Handling Policy and Procedures*
- *Branch Budget Policy*
- *Branch Expenditure Policy*
- *IPEd Membership Policy*
- *Procedures for Membership Applications*

National Mentoring Program

This program started with a pilot program in Canberra at the end of 2012. The instigators of the program, Ted Briggs AE and Elizabeth Manning Murphy DE, presented a paper on it to the IPed national editors conference in Fremantle in 2013, and declared that the pilot had proved that a mentoring program could work across geographical and cultural borders, using the technology available – Skype, teleconferencing, email, as well as face-to-face mentor–mentee sessions. Other societies expressed interest in joining the program; by July 2013, Western Australia had joined, and since then all the other states have joined the program.

At the Write | Edit | Index conference in May, IPed announced an agreement between it and the CSE that made the program truly national. It then became the IPed National Mentoring Program. During the reporting period, it was administered by Canberra with the invaluable assistance of state and territory coordinators around Australia.

The National Coordinators are Ted Briggs AE and Elizabeth Manning Murphy DE, Canberra.

State and territory coordinators as at June 2016:

- Canberra: Geoff Dawson AE
- Queensland: Roberta Blake
- New South Wales: Shannon Kelly
- Victoria: Davina Dadley-Moore
- South Australia: Adele Walker AE
- Western Australia: Catherine Schwerin
- Tasmania: Sheelagh Wegman AE.

Davina Dadley-Moore stepped back from the Victorian coordinator role at the end of June and Louise Zedda-Sampson has since replaced her. We gratefully acknowledge the contribution made by Davina.

Mentors' workshops

Workshops are conducted for mentors (both prospective and actual) as required. All mentors are required to attend at least one workshop before getting too far into their first mentorship. They can be run in person if requested, but mostly they are run by Skype.

In addition, new state and territory coordinators are asked to attend a workshop – whether or not they intend to be mentors – so that they get a good overview of the program and how it works.

Awards and prizes

IPEd Prize 2015

IPed aims to support and foster research in editing and publishing as part of its mission to enhance the profession of editing.

As part of this, IPed awards an annual prize of \$250 for an essay or paper written as part of the requirements for a postgraduate degree in editing, publishing or another discipline that permits a focus on editing.

The 2015 IPed Prize winner was John Linnegar, whose essay *Fifteen shades at play: the new 'supermodel' to guide text editors* had been submitted to the University of Antwerp, Belgium. John is an editorial mentor and a co-author with Kris Van de Poel and WAM Carstens of *Text editing: A handbook for students and practitioners* (APS Editions, 2012).

His essay deftly explains the CCC Model, which refers to Correspondence, Consistency and Correctness, and was developed by Dr Jan Renkema, Professor Emeritus in Linguistics at the University of Tilburg in the Netherlands. John shows how the three Cs, combined with the five levels (text type, content, structure,

wording and presentation) of Renkema's schema, yield a 15-point matrix that improves editing by guiding editors through a text methodically, reducing random edits.

The essay title (with its echo of publishing sensation *Fifty Shades of Grey*) allowed John to develop the notion of 'fifteen shades at play', 'seducing' the reader into engagement with the CCC 'supermodel' and encouraging 'mastery' of this editorial discipline.

The judges' comments included:

- A lively essay prepared to take some risks in tone (somewhat arch, juggling the literary and the colloquial, but steering clear of the scholarly voice).
- I learned something new from this essay that I suspect will improve my own editing work in future.
- Introduces the CCC model as a powerful text-editing tool.
- Communicates a complex issue in a manner that is both engaging and accessible.
- Never loses sight of its key message – that this is not only a well-designed tool, but that the use of a tool such as this can lead to comprehensive and confident improvements in a text.

John has made his prize-winning essay available for members to read on the IPed website.

ABOUT THE MEMBERS OF IPED

Canberra Society of Editors

To say that the last financial year has been eventful, emotional and uneasy would be an understatement. Perhaps this was not felt in the rest of the societies around the country, but I know we in the Canberra Society of Editors (CSE) felt it.

We began the 2015–16 year as a member of IPed and with representatives on the board. However, in November 2015 and again in March 2016, CSE members voted decisively not to become part of IPed in its new structure, at least until CSE's ongoing concerns about administration and branch flexibility have been satisfactorily handled.

Although it may seem that this puts CSE on the outside looking in, many CSE members are keen to also be members of IPed – and seek to be actively engaged, not just at the local level, but to remain active and engaged with the larger conversation that makes up the editing industry.

CSE renewals for 2016-17, which as always began during June, reflected the society's vote in March. As at 30 June, CSE's total membership (Life, Full, Associate, Corporate, Student) was 177. Before the end of the renewal period in July/August, new and renewing members were approaching 110.

The mentoring program, which was initiated in CSE but quickly became a national program, has continued to evolve and grow and flourish, and although the CSE committee is no longer directly involved with the financial side since 1 July, our members have continued to work hard to keep the program working through their IPed memberships. I would like to thank all the members (around Australia) who have worked hard (either as mentors and mentees, or organisers) to make the program nationally and internationally recognised.

I would like to close out by saying how I and many others within the society, committee and the larger editing profession would like to see both our national body and our local society grow the editing field, not in competition, but as complementary societies that mirror the diverse nature of our field.

We in CSE are committed to maintaining a practical working relationship with IPed, where members can feel included in both. We hope that our members, like the members of IPed, will continue to see the same benefits of having societies that represent them, that encourage them to learn and develop through professional development courses and guest speaking events, that help them seek out mentors like through the national mentoring program, and that strive to increase the depth and breadth of the field, through publications and online forums.

I look forward to continue to work and grow as a society and alongside IPed into the future.

Johann Idriss
President

Society of Editors (NSW)

In 1979, seven Sydney editors (Bruce Champion, George Morrison, Jim Robins, Gil Teague, Barbara Ker Wilson, Jackie Kent and Elaine Russell) gathered to discuss the idea of forming a society, 'The Editors'. The purpose of this society was twofold: to maintain and develop standards of editorial skills and at the same time to promote the exchange of ideas among editors. An interim committee was formed, a constitution agreed, and 75 editors attended the first meeting, a social event at a venue called Julie's Swiss Inn. The first annual general meeting was held on 16 May 1979 and the interim committee members were confirmed in their positions.

The idea was a good one: the society has grown from these not-so-humble beginnings and its list of members, patrons and guest speakers over the years has included some of New South Wales' most admired and respected editors, authors and public figures, including Hazel Hawke, Beatrice Davis and Jon Cleary.

The constitution stated that membership would be open to anyone engaged full-time in any aspect of book editing, any self-employed book editor and to any former editor in either of those categories. This stands today, as do the ideas expressed in the first society newsletter: the value of developing affiliations with other editors' societies and even overseas groups; establishing a freelance register; and conducting courses to develop editing skills.

The first professional development meeting was held at the Kirribilli Neighbourhood Centre in Fitzroy St and these are now held at the Sydney Mechanics' School of Arts at 280 Pitt St, Sydney.

Following that first meeting in 1979 there were 70 financial members of the society, by the AGM a few months later there were 86, and this has since grown to approximately 324 in 2016. Subscription fees have increased modestly from the original \$10, and still represent *excellent* value for money in 2016. Several name changes have also occurred. The original and economical 'The Editors' became, in 1986, the Society of Editors (NSW) Inc. and in June 2016 the society was wound down and replaced as 'Editors NSW', a branch of IPEd.

In 2015, NSW voted to become a branch of IPEd. As a result of this transition, which became official on 1 July 2016, membership includes eligibility for inclusion on an online national directory of editors, attendance at the biennial editors' conference, and ever-greater opportunities to develop skills and share ideas.

A record of the society's events and issues is maintained in the society newsletter. *The Editors Newsletter* No 1, appeared in February 1979 and was renamed *Blue Pencil* in 1987. Back copies of *Blue Pencil* and its predecessor, *The Editors Newsletter*, are available on the Editors NSW website where they provide a rich resource for all society members.

Highlights for the society for 2015 and 2016 included a full schedule of well-attended members' meetings and professional development workshops. The workshop topics covered included copyediting basics, social media for editors, indexing for editors, mark-up languages, InDesign, young adult editing, and proofreading.

Monthly members' meetings included topics such as the changing nature of copyright, life lessons in book publishing, self-publishing and editing, plain English, educational editing, and the world of magazine editing and subediting.

Many members of the society also enjoyed giving and attending presentations at our monthly member meetings, with presentations covering topics such as accuracy and clarity in science editing, insurance for editors, and The Copy Collective.

The society publishes its newsletter, *Blue Pencil*, ten times a year and it's available online for members. Zoe Hale continued as president and was re-elected in March 2016 at the AGM. The society committee continues to work together to serve the best interests of the society and its members, and their hard work is appreciated.

Zoe Hale
President

Society of Editors (Queensland)

The Society of Editors (Queensland) Inc. began in 1990 with 86 founding members from across the publishing industry. Having celebrated its 25th anniversary in 2015, membership at 30 June 2016 was 269. Of those, 151 were Full Members, 111 Associates and 7 Honorary Life Members, with IPed Council nominating our Patron Emeritus Professor Roly Sussex in June 2016, in recognition of his role since 2012, his contributions to the past two national conferences and his work on the Code of Ethics.

For 2015–16 we maintained fee levels at \$150 for full members and \$90 for associates, with reduced fees of \$70 for retirees and \$50 for those holding a Commonwealth concession card. We continued to employ a part-time bookkeeper over the financial year and were able to pay reasonable honoraria to committee members.

The Society again had a large and active committee, with 21 members in executive, appointed and support positions. I again became president at the August AGM. We held ten committee meetings, and from November 2015, five meetings of the 2017 Conference Subcommittee, whose planning work is seeing the conference organisation falling into place nicely.

The conference will be held from 13 to 15 September 2017 at the Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre (BCEC), with the theme Advancing Our Profession.

During the year, the Society produced ten issues of *Offpress* and held ten general (member) meetings, including the September AGM and November Special General Meeting to accept the vote on the IPed transition, with a wide variety of speakers. Social occasions included an end-of-year dinner, a start-of-year picnic and three freelancers lunches. The Sunshine Coast and hinterland regional subgroup held four lunches, each with a central topic and special guest.

Professional development workshops included Grammar in a Nutshell (Elizabeth Manning Murphy DE), a two-part fiction editing workshop (Leonie Tyle), the accreditation exam preparation workshop (Helena Bond AE, Desolie Page AE and myself), Online Marketing (Belinda Pollard) and Word for Editors (Kevin O'Brien).

Queensland members threw their support wholeheartedly behind the IPed transition, with a record 67% of eligible members voting, 96% in favour of the Special Resolutions, and 97% in favour of a name change to Editors Queensland. We look forward to working solidly with IPed and its branches over the next year to provide a united voice for editors nationally and to presenting a successful national conference in 2017, where we will truly demonstrate how our profession is advancing.

Kerry Davies AE
President

Society of Editors (SA)

At 30 June 2016, the Society of Editors (SA) Inc. had 129 members, an increase of 13 on the figure in last year's annual report. We have once again been deeply occupied with matters related to the IPed transition process, for which SA members voted in October 2015.

We have also continued to offer our members as full a program of general meetings as in earlier years, including an active speaker roster, with guest speakers IPed Patron Professor Roly Sussex, content strategist Leticia Mooney, and IPed's own Mary-Ann Came, for example. We provided professional development workshops on structural editing, preparation for the accreditation exam, and writing for the web, among others.

The Society turned 25 in 2015 and took the opportunity to celebrate with champagne and cake at the AGM in August and as always our Christmas dinner was a relaxed evening and this year was held at Namastè Nepalese restaurant in Parkside.

The SA Writers Centre has for many years allowed us to use its premises for our meetings and workshops and for this we are most grateful. However, our needs have gradually changed and in February 2016 we

made a move to Intersect in Flinders Street. This modern, state-of-the-art corporate space offers us a well-equipped venue, better suited for networking events, workshops and training.

We also continued to provide an active set of communications for members including several issues of ...*the Word* newsletter and regular email updates.

We were also delighted to award Honorary Life Membership to Kathie Stove DE and Rosemary Luke AE.

President
Dr Katy McDevitt AE

Society of Editors (Tasmania)

This year, by a quirk of history, the Society of Editors (Tasmania) celebrated its 30th anniversary – just at the time we formally came to an end, becoming a branch of IPed! Thank you to the enthusiastic and far-sighted editors, especially Honorary Life Members Robyn Colman and Sheila Allison, who have done so much, at Tasmanian and national level, to establish and build the professional body and to advance editing generally.

It was a lively year for the Society in 2015–16 with a vibrant committee working well together. Margaret Johnson stepped down from the position of President, and we thank her for her contribution, particularly her clear thinking and planning.

I'd like to thank all committee members who have shared the necessary tasks of running the Society so cooperatively – identifying and liaising with stimulating presenters, managing our finances, promoting events to an increasingly wide audience, gathering and distributing information of interest, and organising and catering for events.

We have run a well-received professional development and networking program this year with excellent attendances. Our plan is to have an event every month. We've successfully reached out to writers and other communication workers.

Event topics included Copyediting like a Champion with Chris Champion of 40 South Publishing and *Tasmania 40°South magazine*, Poetry: Editing and Being Edited with Anne Kellas, and Self-publishing with Kylie Dunn, author of *Do Share Inspire: The Year I Changed My Life through TED Talks*.

Full-day workshops included a grammar workshop with Elizabeth Manning Murphy DE and exam preparation session with Meryl Potter DE.

We are continuing to work on forming closer links with Tasmanian Writers Centre and are developing a partnership with 26Ten, Tasmania's campaign 26Ten.

Our electronic newsletter *eTextpert* promotes events, Society matters and issues of wider interest to editors and writers.

The time spent by the society dealing with IPed matters was also raised as an issue by some exiting members.

Ann Hughes
President

Editors Victoria

Editors Victoria was founded in October 1970, as Society of Editors, holding its first AGM in June 1971, and incorporating in 1991 under the name Society of Editors (Victoria).

When Editors Victoria was formed, publishers were beginning to withdraw from in-house training for editors. Over the years, we've worked hard to fill this gap, organising hundreds of courses and workshops on a wide range of topics, from the basics of editing to copyright law and ergonomics. Working closely with RMIT, we helped establish the Graduate Diploma in Editing and Publishing, which began in 1988.

Editors Victoria has itself acted as publisher in 1991, 2005, 2007 and 2009. Editors Victoria has also provided strong support for freelance editors, producing the freelance register since the late 1970s, initially twice a year and more recently annually.

In 1998, Editors Victoria was active in the establishment of the Council of Australian Societies of Editors (CASE), which was the first national body to represent editors. CASE was succeeded in 2008 by the

Institute of Professional Editors Limited (IPEd), which established a national accreditation scheme and runs national editing conferences every two years.

In 2005, Editors Victoria hosted Editing in Context, the second national editing conference in Melbourne.

In 2016 we celebrated our 45th birthday with a cocktail event, including a performance from Emilie Zoey Baker.

Member dinner meetings were as follows:

- August 2015: AGM
- October 2015: IPed transition information
- February 2016: Working with Illustrators (Judith Rossell)
- April 2016: The Business of Being an Editor (Lena Smarrelli)
- June 2016: New Media (Erik Jensen, Brigid Delaney, Izzy Roberts-Orr, Veronica Sullivan).

Freelance lunches were held in September and November 2015, March and May 2016.

We conducted training courses as follows:

- Create and Edit a WordPress Website
- Introduction To and Advanced PerfectIt
- Introduction to Structural Editing
- Legal Issues for Professional Editors
- Getting Ready for the Accreditation Exam
- Grammar for Editors (Intermediate and Advanced).

In addition, we held Redact in October 2015, an intensive weekend professional development course held every two years, with three streams: supercharging your business; editing digital content; and manuscript assessment.

In the Accreditation Exam we had a pass rate of 60% in a 47% overall pass rate, with 13 new AEs.

We published 11 issues of our society newsletter.

At 30 June 2016, there were 583 active members and the lower total obtained from the IPed database (558 members) suggests that not all members transferred their membership from EV to IPed. In comparison, there were around 642 active members at the time of our last AGM.

I'd like to thank our committee, both executive and subcommittee members, and staff officers for a year of excellence in innovative services for our members.

Jackey Coyle
President

Society of Editors (WA)

During the year, the Society of Editors WA's professional development event was the full-day winter seminar held during August 2015. The keynote speakers were Vivienne Conway, Director of WebKeyIT, talking about accessibility and the web, and Rhonda Bracey, owner of Cybertext Consulting, who talked about increasing your efficiency with Microsoft Word. Committee member Stephen White organised a session on communicating and science, and Ilsa Sharp headed a panel of speakers on editing for readers for whom English is a second language.

The members' meetings covered various topics. In July 2015, Stephen White, a senior geoscience editor at the Geological Survey of WA, facilitated an interactive discussion on editing figures, including diagrams, maps, illustrations and photographs.

The September meeting on heaven and horror stories was an informal event aimed at drawing attention to the ups and downs of the editing profession. It was facilitated by Chloe Stam and saw an intimate gathering of members all defending their grammatical preferences.

In April this year Cheryl Bettridge ran a style sheet for dummies workshop and in May, together with Sue Thompson, ran a workshop on preparing for the IPed accreditation exam.

The Society of Editors WA AGM was held on 21 March and the guest speaker was Richard Rossiter, Associate Professor at Edith Cowan University, who spoke on making decisions as editor, supervisor, writer and judge.

There were four café society meetings held during the year and we explored a variety of venues, including a vegetarian café, Genesis in the hills, Brunch at the Bay, Matilda Bay tearooms and Oliver's on James Street. The Christmas lunch was held at Canning River eco education centre at the end of November.

Our mentoring programme continued with one mentorship ongoing, one formed in January 2016 between WA and SA and one mentee due to start a mentorship in Victoria.

Members of the Society of Editors WA were particularly saddened by the passing of one of its founding members and its first honorary life member (which she was awarded in 2002), Betty Durston. Betty was an editor for about 30 years, producing promotional material for the Health Department WA for much of this time. She also ran her own business specialising in health and education publications and promoted the profession of editing to writers and artists. Betty passed away in her sleep at 89 years old.

Finally, the Society of Editors WA would like to thank those committee members who retired over the past year for their valuable contributions to the society and the committee, Brittany Woodhams, Sue Thompson, Kerry Coyle, Chloe Stam, Catherine Schwerin and Manuela Puerro.

Your hard work has been much appreciated by all members you represented.

Cheryl Bettridge AE
President