

EDITORS VICTORIA COMMITTEE REPORTS 2021–22

President, Stephanie Holt

This year Editors Victoria maintained a busy program of online networking, speakers and training, while cautiously reintroducing some in-person social gatherings. Training workshops continued to sell out, speaker events continued to draw significant audiences, and niche Zoom meetings continued to attract highly engaged participants. The committee reports give further detail, but don't always capture the planning, liaison, consultation and promotional work behind each public outcome. I would like to acknowledge the care and enthusiasm with which committee members undertook this work.

In-person gatherings were still impacted by Covid, with late cancellations and member caution leading to smaller groups than initially envisaged, given how keen many of us had been to reconnect. Nonetheless, these gatherings were welcomed by those who attended. I particularly valued the chance to meet and hear from a range of members in these informal settings.

Victoria remains IPEd's largest branch. After an initial dip and then strong recovery last year, membership has stabilised. Overall, a small drop in associates has been offset by an increase in students. Within these numbers, new members join, previous members lapse, and existing members move between membership categories. A highlight of this year was working with branch colleagues to develop an affordable membership category to support recent graduates and provide an incentive for student members to stay involved.

*Membership numbers**

Category	June 2021	May 2022
Honorary Life Members	19	19
Corporate	1	1
Professional	254	254
Associate	137	132
Student	31	34
TOTAL	442	440

* active financial members, latest available figures

At the time of writing, our 2022 branch member survey is still open. The 2021 survey gave feedback, ideas and suggestions we continue to draw on, so we are looking forward to the new survey results for further insights and guidance.

Behind the scenes, we have farewelled or prepared to farewell stalwarts of the committee and great contributors to the branch in Jane Fitzpatrick, Claire Kelly and Maryna Mews, each of whom has served in varied roles across the years and leaves a strong legacy, especially in professional development. We also farewell this term's advisers, Cassandra Wright-Dole (Inclusion and Accessibility) and Tim Loveday (Students), who had a significant impact on our activities and thinking. Finally, we farewelled Donna Quinn, the backbone of the branch as Admin Officer, who greatly facilitated our work, including the challenging transition to Zoom.

We had some major member achievements to celebrate in the past year. Our first book promotion campaign acknowledged members as writers. Hosting the associated panel with Eugen Bacon, Christine Balint and Lyn Yeowart was a highlight of my year. It was also wonderful to see past president and honorary life member Dr Renée Otmar recognised with the Janet Mackenzie medal, and student member Penny Robinson awarded the IPEd student prize. From their very different perspectives, both have drawn attention to the lack of diversity within Australian publishing and its impacts. We are exploring ways to support a more inclusive profession through IPEd-wide initiatives and local collaborations.

One of the consequences of the shift online is the barrier to volunteer recruitment, without the enthusing encounters, gentle shoulder taps and encouraging conversations of pre-Covid interactions. Even so, many members have actively supported branch projects and priorities. I particularly thank those regional and outer-Melbourne contacts who have hosted gatherings and explored collaborative opportunities, in particular Liz Atkinson, AJ Collins, Rebecca Fletcher, Caitilin Punshon, Cecile Shanahan and Jenn Zabinskas.

The branch presidents network meets quarterly, and has highlighted a need to improve communication and connection across the organisation. Periodic all-staff (both paid and volunteer) Zooms have been a positive development this year, and I was pleased to help with these variously, as presenter, co-host and trivia quizmaster. The branch presidents are working on a campaign to recruit and better support IPEd volunteers, not only within branch committees but on IPEd standing committees, or contributing to special projects or the mentoring and accreditation schemes. Thank you to all Victorian members who step up to help in whatever ways—your passion and commitment are vital.

During the year I have worked alongside committee colleagues on many activities. In particular, as a member of the Events Subcommittee and on production team for 9 speaker meetings; co-hosting 4 Zoom cuppas (poetry, sports books, art editing, regional networking); co-hosting 4 outreach Zooms (3 with students, 1 for accreditation); co-hosting 3 lunches (1 in Castlemaine) and 3 other social gatherings (1 in Bendigo); and supporting 2 workshop sessions (Indexing). Many thanks to Jane Fitzpatrick (lunches, Zoom cuppas and workshops), Marie Pietersz (speaker events) and Caroline Arnoul (outreach Zooms) for the opportunity to be a part of them. They have been fun and fulfilling.

Vice-president, Jane Fitzpatrick

The vice-president's role has traditionally been to organise networking lunches, but in the last year the emphasis has continued to be on online networking. While this is not a substitute for meeting in person, these events have had the advantage of connecting members across the whole of IPEd.

Zoom cuppas

In the past year I have coordinated the program of Editors Victoria Zoom cuppas, which have had more than 150 attendees from all branches of IPEd. They have provided an opportunity for informal exchange of information and ideas, especially for members interested in new or niche areas of editing that might only attract a small, but devoted, audience.

I am very grateful to all the people who have shared their ideas and enthusiasm in co-hosting these: Liz Atkinson, AJ Collins, Imelda Cribbin, Stephanie Holt, Claire Kelly, Sally-Anne Watson-Kane, Rebecca Fletcher, Mandy Johnson, Tim Loveday, Maryna Mews, Cristina Savin and Margaret Trudgeon.

2021	
19 August	Plain English
3 September	Working with self-publishing fiction authors
16 September	Editing poetry
22 September	Book chat on sports writing
14 October	Networking for regional editors
27 October	Academic editing
2022	
8 February	Specialising within editing
10 March	Building your fiction editing practice
29 April	Getting into academic editing
19 May	Editing art writing
8 July	Editing historical fiction and nonfiction

Science editors' online networking

I've also hosted the Science editors' online networking events on 23 July and 29 October 2021, and 29 March and 5 July 2022. Topics have included resources and tips for map editing; approaches to editing references and the effect of digital publishing on this area; labour-saving tech discoveries, tips, training and tools; and editing science writing for the lay reader. These events are always met with enthusiasm, and enable attendees to share specialist resources and strategies.

Networking lunches

I have organised networking lunches on 19 August (cancelled due to lockdown extension) and 18 November 2021, and 25 March and 22 June 2022. Stephanie Holt, with regional members, has complemented the Melbourne lunches with a regional series.

It's been rewarding to support the activities of the generous professionals who make up the Editors Victoria Branch Committee. My particular thanks to president Stephanie Holt and secretary Margaret Trudgeon for collegial support and camaraderie.

Secretary, Margaret Trudgeon

The committee currently consists of eight executive members, four ex-officio members (+ one vacancy), and an Administrative Officer. There is also currently one subcommittee member.

Editors Victoria Branch Committee 2021–22

Executive

Stephanie Holt [SH] President (Chair)
Jane Fitzpatrick [JF] Vice President
Margaret Trudgeon [MT] Secretary (minutes)
Marnie Hannagan [MH] Budget Officer
Bridget Blair [BB] Communications Officer
Marie Pietersz [MP] Events Officer
Jane Fitzpatrick [FP] Acting Professional Development Officer
Caroline Arnoul [CA] Projects and Outreach Officer

Ex Officio

Susan Pierotti [SP] Accreditation Board Rep
Lan Wang [LW] EdVic Director, IPEd
Maryna Mews [MM] Mentoring Officer
Timothy Loveday [TL] Student Adviser
Inclusion and Accessibility Adviser – vacant
Jake Egan [JE] Administrative Officer

Subcommittee

Jenn Zabinskas [JZ] Events SC

This year, Editors Victoria held 10 committee meetings, for which I organised the agenda (with President Stephanie Holt), took notes during the meetings and wrote up the minutes. It was decided that for the current committee term we would trial a system of alternating arrangements, with full committee meetings (all members) one month, followed by executive members only the next month. The trial had mixed success; while it meant that for executive-only meetings there was more free-flowing discussion on items due to the smaller number of attendees, it was noted by a couple of our ex-officio members that they felt less connected to the committee as they could only attend half the number of meetings, and attendances fell for the ex-officio members in general. Therefore, for the next term we intend to resume opening all meetings to all committee members.

Attendances per meeting – all committee members 2021–22

Meeting No.	Date	Exec only (EO) Full Comm (FC)	Number of attendees	Apologies	Absent
1	5 August	FC	12	3	2
2	2 Sept	FC	13	2	1
3	7 Oct	EO	5	3	
4	4 Nov	FC	10	3	2
5	2 Dec	EO	7	1	

6	3 Feb	FC	8	4	2
7	3 March	EO	7		
8	7 April	FC	6	6	1
9	5 May	EO	6	2	
10	2 June	FC	9	3	

Overall attendance – Executive committee 2021–22

Name	Attended Full committee	Attended Exec only	Apologies	Absent	Resigned / Joined
SH	6	4			
JF	6	4			
MT	6	4			
MH	4	3	3		
BB	6	4			
CK	2		1		Res. Nov. 21
MP	5	2	3		
CA	6	1	1		Joined Oct. 21

In my capacity as Secretary of Editors Victoria, I have also helped out on administrative tasks where requested, and consulted and advised on the IPEd by-laws and Constitution on occasion. I also challenged myself to put my hand up for other tasks to expand my skills and get to know other committee members better.

Throughout the year, I worked closely with the President and Vice-President on various matters. Recently, I was involved in organising the recruitment of a new Administrative Officer and organising the Annual Branch Meeting via Zoom for the second time, which consists of two mailouts of a range of documents and the ABM evening itself. Once again, the meeting will be via Zoom, and this year we have a speaker (Alice Pung) to entertain the attendees after the meeting formalities. I was also involved in this process.

I oversaw some contract renewals for positions on the committee and helped to organise the Planning Day meeting in March, tracking down a suitable meeting room and hiring it, as well as serving as the Covid response person.

Towards the end of 2021 I also worked on the Editors Victoria Christmas event, which featured a panel of three editors turned authors. For the event I designed and formatted the advertising flyer for what turned out to be a lively discussion between the three writers as they shared their experiences and read from their books. I wrote a couple of reports for *Gatherings* for Events ('Mastering Style Sheets' and 'Oops and Bloopers'), and attended some PD workshops, helping out as a tech assistant on 'Introduction to E-book Editing' and 'Using PDF Mark-up Effectively'. In May, Stephanie and I collaborated to hold a Zoom Cuppa on the subject of editing art materials, which was extremely enjoyable.

Overall, it's been a busy but enjoyable year for me in my role as Secretary. For next term I will be passing the Secretarial baton to someone else as I am nominating for the role of Vice-President.

Budget, Marnie Hannagan

Finance reports

For the previous financial year, the IPEd national office allocated the Victorian branch about \$9500 to cover costs associated with the branch committee, admin services and the Annual Branch Meeting.

We have the finance reports up until the end of May 2022, and the branch is on track to stay well within budget. The main expense categories are shown below.

Item	Approx. budget
Admin services for members and committee, including occasional Zoom event support	\$6840
Proofreading Vic part of IPEd newsletter	\$1710
Annual Branch Meeting	\$310
Prizes, thank you gifts, special projects	\$300
Catering	\$180
Institutional membership of Writers Vic (includes access to meeting room)	\$150
Venue hire	\$70
TOTAL	\$9560

Branch events, such as speaker meetings and professional development workshops, are generally funded by participants' fees. We aim to at least break even, or ideally make a small surplus.

As at the end of May 2022, compared to the budget, speaker events have made about \$2600 more than expected, partly due to revenue from recorded events. Compared to the budget, professional development workshops have brought in about \$1700 less than anticipated. This is mainly because some workshops could not go ahead, for various reasons.

The Victorian branch has about \$61,200 in reserved funds, and did not use any of these funds in 2021–22.

2022–23 budget

For the new financial year, the IPEd national office asked our branch to estimate how much it needs for general admin costs. In our draft budget we have requested about \$12,200, based on the following figures.

Item	Estimated cost
Admin services for members and committee, including occasional Zoom event support	\$7700
Proofreading Vic part of IPEd newsletter	\$1925
Honoraria (Student Adviser, Inclusion and Accessibility Adviser), thank you gifts	\$1200
Annual Branch Meeting	\$934
Catering	\$240
Institutional membership of Writers Vic (includes access to meeting room)	\$150
Venue hire	\$115
TOTAL	\$12,264

We have also allocated expenditure from branch reserves:

- \$2500 for conference subsidies
- \$960 for two targeted corporate membership, e.g. for inclusion/diversity organisations.

Our budget is currently being reviewed by IPEd Finance & Risk Management.

Communications, Bridget Blair

Editors Victoria's communications team was a one-man band this year – in the sense that there were no official subcommittee members. However, it would be grossly unfair to say that it was a solo project. I've had lots of invaluable input from other members of the committee, as well as from individual members.

I have coordinated our branch contribution to the monthly IPEd newsletter, *Gatherings*, but much of the actual content is written by our passionate and creative members. Each month, president Stephanie Holt has reviewed the previous month's activities and previewed upcoming events. Marie Pietersz, Margaret Trudgeon and other members have reported on speaker events. Jane Fitzpatrick has devised wonderfully inventive cryptic crosswords to keep you all puzzling. New members have dived into the EdVic community by sharing details of their editing experience and aspirations, demonstrating the breadth of jobs and circumstances that are represented by our organisation. Various volunteers have put up their hands to review books (often in exchange for a free copy of the book!). And last but not least is the contribution of our newsletter proofreader, Cassandra Ball, who has once again this year managed the tricky task of editing for editors.

Please remember that anyone is welcome to submit articles to the newsletter at any time.

Besides the newsletter, our other main channel of communication is social media. Our socials aim to promote a sense of community, representing our Victorian identity within the bigger family of IPEd. They provide added value to members in the form of interesting content, and allow us to reach out to potential new members, clients, advocates and partners for Editors Victoria.

Facebook is our most active channel, with 1620 followers, while Twitter has 2017 followers. Our private group on LinkedIn currently has 573 members. Through the year I have posted regularly on these sites, promoting our own events, training courses and social gatherings as well as events happening in the literary sphere all around Victoria, and also sharing editing-related job advertisements and various articles and bits and pieces that I hope members find informative, useful or entertaining.

I'd like to encourage you all to engage with our social media and to like, comment and share posts so that the profile of EdVic continues to grow. If anyone has a particular interest in this area and would like to help grow our social media presence, I'd love to hear from you.

As communications officer I represent Editors Victoria on IPEd's Communications Standing Committee (CSC), which half way through the year merged with the Standing Committee on Australian and Aotearoa New Zealand Style (SCAANZS) to become the new Communications and Style Standing Committee (CSSC). This group has worked on a number of projects, including revising IPEd's style manual and applying it to internal policies and templates, and reviewing the architecture and content of the IPEd website. The latter is a very large and ongoing project – you may not see much evidence of it yet on the website but be assured there is plenty of work going on behind the scenes.

Highlights for me this year included promoting the wonderful books featured in our end-of-year event, "Celebrating Editors Victoria Writers", in December, and meeting in person with Catherine Van, IPEd's communication officer, when she stopped by Melbourne on her way to Brisbane to begin her new role, and filling her in on Editors Victoria's communication projects.

Events, Marie Pietersz

This year Events ran 10 online speaker meetings. No meetings were held in July (ABM) and August 2021 (Conference), and January (summer holidays) and May 2022 (bye month). There were no in-person speaker meetings as the pandemic situation presented the need to continue with online meetings.

We were able to continue our reach to audiences, increase events participation and bring international speakers into our Zoom/lounge rooms and remain in the black through self-funding. Events were recorded and reported in *Gatherings*. Registrations remained high as attendees were assured of receiving the recording if unable to attend on the day. Members who did not register were able to purchase the recording at the same price as attendance costs.

The Events subcommittee comprised myself, Stephanie Holt and Jenn Zabinskas. We met through Zoom meetings and email exchanges to discuss matters. I acknowledge and thank them for their assistance, support and team effort to provide professional Zoom production which has been acknowledged by our local and overseas speakers.

The subcommittee was well supported by Donna Quinn to April 2022. Welcome to Jake Egan recruited in May 2022 as Administration Officer, who will provide Events support as hours permit. I thank those members who volunteered to assist to ease the workload of the subcommittee by writing event reports and advertising in social media.

It should be acknowledged that our role tasks have continued to increase due to the need to do things differently as a result of the COVID new norm and the increased use of technology to deliver online, requiring increased organisation and communication in that space.

We chose local and international drawcard speakers and were not afraid to go a little left of centre when choosing topics, including speakers and offering flexibility with times and days. We were rewarded with significant attendance numbers. Lunchtime sessions to cater for the small window of time available to our overseas speakers were just as popular. We intend to pursue an initiative to advertise our events at external forums and with other affiliated associations.

We delivered a simulated mini bookfair event which acknowledged Victorian writers and showcased three authors from among a very good response to our invitation to members wanting to participate in this new initiative. We expect to repeat this format and promotion of other Victorian authors later in the year.

After a long period of negotiation, we were able to secure a prominent and sought-after presenter for our ABM in Alice Pung and we look forward to hearing from this keynote speaker on 14 July 2022.

Events speaker meetings 2021–22

September 2021

Speaker: Pooja Desai, children's book cover designer

Topic: Design principles and navigation process and how editors and designers can work together with design guiding principles to create books

Registrations: 90+

October 2021

Speaker: Tim Coronel, adjunct lecturer in publishing and communication, University of Melbourne

Topic: How had COVID-19 affected the Australian book industry

Registrations: 30+

November 2021

Speaker: Roz Bellamy, writer and editor-in-chief at *Archer* magazine

Topic: Addressing gender and sexuality as editors

Registrations: 40+

December 2021

Event: Celebrating EdVic writers

Speakers: EdVic Writers Dr Eugen Bacon, Dr Christine Balint and Lyn Yeowart

Topic: How their experience as editors influenced their experience of writing
(speakers presented complimentary copies of their publications for distribution as determined by EdVic)

Registrations: 26+

February 2022

Speaker: Amy J Schneider

Topic: Mastering Editorial Style Sheets

Registrations: 90+

March 2022

Speaker: Sarah Grey, Pennsylvania, USA

Topic: Healthy author/editor relationships

Registrations: 60+

April 2022

Speaker: Amy Schneider, Wisconsin, USA

Topic: Oops! Finding and Fixing Bloopers in Fiction

Registrations: 80+

June 2022

Speaker: Eugen Bacon, internationally acclaimed African-Australian author and writer

Topic: Seduce the writing: The editor as mentor

Attendees: 60 at time of writing

July 2022

Speaker: Alice Pung

Topic: Alice Pung: Writing and Editing Across Genres

The sub-committee would be delighted to hear from members who want to join or discuss events-related matters.

Professional Development, Claire Kelly, Jane Fitzpatrick

Professional Development Sub-committee: Claire Kelly (Professional Development Officer July to November 2021), Jane Fitzpatrick (Professional Development Officer November 2021 to July 2022)

Training program

Editors Victoria's training program is designed to cover editing skills, technical skills, business skills and genre editing. During years when the IPEd accreditation exam is held, we make sure to offer courses to help prepare members. Participants enrol in our courses to maintain their professional competence, enhance career progression, learn new technology and practices, and engage in lifelong learning. We design the programs based on feedback from courses and communication with members. We aim to offer a mix of new courses and repeat courses.

In 2021–22 we prepared 8 courses, 7 of which were delivered. Demand for courses continued to be high and all courses booked out. Because of this, some courses sold out to IPEd members without non-members having an opportunity to book.

The COVID-19 pandemic continued to challenge our planning for 2021–22. At several points we had hoped to return to face-to-face training at our usual venue, the CAE, in central Melbourne. Over time we realised the risks (both of having to cancel for health reasons and of low attendance) were unlikely to drop and we stayed with online delivery.

As our members' level of comfort with teleconferencing has increased, online training has become more widely accepted and more trainers are also adapting to this delivery mode. The lower running costs and ease of access to online workshops continue to be strengths. We recognise there is a higher administrative load for volunteers supporting online training and the range of interactive exercises that trainers can use are affected by the format.

Other activities

Members of the PD sub-committee attended the meetings of the IPEd Standing Committee on Professional Development and provided input into policy-making and development of the wider IPEd PD program.

The PD Officer also liaised with counterparts in other branches to offer repeat workshops and to develop and share resources.

Acknowledgements

The PD sub-committee is very grateful for the assistance of Editors Victoria Administrative Officers: Donna Quinn, who has given dedicated support to Editors Victoria for several years, and Jake Egan, freshly appointed. We also acknowledge Liz Atkinson for extra administrative assistance; Inclusion and Accessibility Adviser Cassandra Wright-Dole and Student Adviser Tim Loveday for their valued input; Nicole Mathers, IPEd's Administration and Board Secretariat for continuing support; and those who supported delivery of workshops, Imogen Bannister, Stephanie Holt, Tina Morganella and Margaret Trudgeon.

Claire: I loved this role, and I was sorry when personal circumstances meant that I had to give it up. It was a privilege to work on behalf of members to deliver PD that they wanted, and to be a part of such a forward-thinking and active committee. I'm especially grateful to Jane and the committee for stepping up to fill in the gaps, and it's been heartening to watch such a full program unfold.

Jane: I would like to thank Claire for her energy and enthusiasm, and for establishing resources and systems that made following her into the role so easy, and made me look good! Particular thanks to Stephanie Holt and Margaret Trudgeon for stepping in to help when needed, and all of the Editors Victoria committee for their support.

Professional development courses 2021–22

- 1 Editing for plain English – 24 and 31 July 2021 (new course)**
Caitlin Whiteman provided an engaging workshop that took in the history, meaning and importance of plain English, as well as the roles that editors can play at different stages of planning and producing a plain English document. See the [October 2021 newsletter](#) for a full report.
- 2 Editing tools to boost your productivity – 31 August 2021 (new course)**
Hilary Cadman demonstrated four tools to help with efficient editing: PerfectIt, PhraseExpress, Editor's Toolkit and ProWriting Aid. See the [October 2021 newsletter](#) for a full report.
- 3 Working with Microsoft Word styles and templates – 10 September 2021**
Denise Tsagaris taught workshop attendees how to use styles and templates for efficient, effective editing of Word documents.
- 4 Dance Steps to Reboot Your Freelance Practice – 19 February 2022**
[cancelled]
We were disappointed to again be forced to cancel this in-person course, as it coincided with a resurgence in Covid risk that we judged would affect attendance.
- 5 Using PDF mark-up effectively - 19/23 March 2022**

This was a repeat of the course first taught by Kevin O’Brien in 2020, designed to help editors to master on-screen mark-up in Adobe Acrobat. Tina Morganella of Editors SA shared the administration and Eds SA hosted a repeat. See the [April 2022 newsletter](#) for a full report.

6 Grammar in a nutshell – 6/13 May and 24 June/1 July

We were delighted to host two series of Elizabeth Manning Murphy’s highly successful condensed grammar course, in which she was assisted by Ted Briggs. See the [June 2022 newsletter](#) for a full report.

7 Indexing: Adding to the Editor’s Skillset – 24/26 May 2022 (new course)

Max McMaster delivered this comprehensive workshop, teaching the conventions of indexing and providing participants with exercises to apply and refine their judgement. See the July 2022 newsletter for a full report.

8 An Introduction to Ebook Editing – 4 & 8 June 2022 (new course)

Sarah Fletcher packed a wealth of understanding and tips into this short course, which included an explanation of the technical setting, an overview of where editors fit in ebook workflows and an exercise where participants tried their hand at fixing common ebook errors. See the July 2022 newsletter for a full report.

Projects and Outreach, Caroline Arnoul

About the Projects and Outreach Officer position

The Projects and Outreach Officer position was created in 2021, for a Victorian branch member to serve on the branch committee. This role complements and supports existing committee portfolios and activities, through a focus on special projects, innovation in service delivery and outreach to members.

I joined the Editors Victoria branch committee in November 2021 as the first Projects and Outreach Officer, so the position has been in place for seven months.

Overview of 2021–22 activity

Initial priorities set in place for the Projects and Outreach position were as follows:

- Put in place a process to welcome new members and introduce them to the various services offered by Editors Victoria and IPEd
- Establish a regular student outreach program in conjunction with the Student Adviser, Tim Loveday
- Assist other committee members as required
- Investigate other opportunities for outreach activities.

New member process

New members now receive a welcome email which gives details about *Gatherings*, how to navigate the IPEd website and noting the Project and Outreach Officer as a point of contact for any questions.

Student outreach

We held three Zoom information sessions for students in November 2021, April 2022 and May 2022. Sessions have been hosted by Stephanie Holt (Editors Victoria President), moderated by me as Projects and Outreach Officer) with assistance from Tim Loveday as Student Adviser.

Following an initial introductory session in November, we established the theme of ‘Ask an Editor’ for our 2022 sessions with guest speakers at each session. Sessions were open to student members and non-members from all branches.

Session 1 (November 2021): Intro to Editors Victoria and Student Prize information session

Carol Goudie (Standing Committee on Awards and Prizes) and Jess Gateley (Editors WA)

Session 2 (April 2022): Ask an Editor

Stephanie Holt, Caroline Arnoul and Tim Loveday with guest, Rebecca Fletcher (Freelance editor and previous Student Adviser)

Session 3 (May 2022): Ask an Editor

Bridget Blair (Editors Victoria Communications Officer)

Carol Goudie (Standing Committee on Awards and Prizes)

Penny Robinson (Winner of the IPEd Student Editing Prize)

The sessions have been very well received by students and have also been well supported by teaching staff at the various institutions, who have kindly passed on information about the sessions to their students.

Our April session had almost 40 registrations and the May session had close to 20 (which although a lesser number was reflective of the timing at the end of Semester 1).

[Accreditation Outreach – Is Accreditation for you?](#)

Susan Pierotti (Victorian Branch Accreditation Board representative) identified a need among IPEd members for additional information about the accreditation exam and the accreditation process.

In conjunction with Stephanie Holt and Susan, I organised and moderated an information session on Zoom in April to answer questions and provide information about the accreditation process.

The session was very well received by members with a strong attendance and many positive comments following the session.

Thanks to Dr Linda Nix (Chair of the Accreditation Board) for her attendance at the session.

[Miscellaneous activities \(branch support\)](#)

- Assisted in the recruitment and selection of the new Admin Officer for Editors Victoria, Jake Egan.
- Gave feedback on the proposed new extended student membership category to IPEd.

[Acknowledgements](#)

Thanks goes to Stephanie Holt and all the members of the Editors Victoria Executive Committee for their support and guidance in establishing this new position on the committee.

Thanks to Tim Loveday as Student Adviser and our guest speakers at the student information sessions (Jess Gately, Carol Goudie (twice), Rebecca Fletcher, Bridget Blair and Penny Robinson).

Thanks also to Susan Pierotti and Dr Linda Nix for their assistance with the Accreditation session.

Ex-officio

Accreditation Board Representative, Susan Pierotti

The Board continues to meet on the second Thursday of each month. We still lack a South Australian representative.

The Board was approached by a group of Indian authors who are publishing a book on editing accreditation standards across the English-speaking world. Other contributors include editing societies in Canada and the UK. The IPEd AB contributed a chapter edited by me and Dr Linda Nix based largely on the text used for the AB's presentation at the last IPEd conference.

Given that those who attended the exam workshops held in July 2020 had a better pass rate than those who didn't attend, the Accreditation Board held the same series of workshops in March–April and May of 2022.

The Board also held separate workshops on each of the three parts of the exam in June.

As a means of encouraging more editors to sit the exam, the Board has been discussing ways to promote the exam more on Facebook and other platforms.

2022 Accreditation exam

Ideally, May is the preferred month for the IPEd Accreditation exam. Due to Covid lockdowns, IPEd was obliged to hold it in December in 2022. The aim is to eventually get back to May due to budgeting timelines. To streamline this, the next IPEd Accreditation exam will be held on Monday 22 August 2022.

The Accreditation Board is aware of the requests by several to hold the exam online and continues to discuss and review this option.

As of June, the numbers of registered candidates is lower than in other years, possibly due to people's fear of Covid infections when travelling and sitting in one room with others for four to five hours.

IPEd Mentoring Program, Maryna Mews

- Tailored, friendly, one-on-one professional development
- Suitable for all member levels
- Wide range, multi-skilled mentors
- National database of mentors

It gives me great pleasure to report on the 2021–22 year of the IPEd Mentoring Program in Victoria.

The program is unique in the editing world insofar as it caters for members at all levels.

One-on-one mentoring is highly effective for professional development at all career stages.

Over the past year some nine members contacted me regarding the program. These ranged from members with little editing experience and recent graduates to the most highly experienced – some with decades of editing behind them.

Topics for mentoring ranged from setting up a freelance business to editing translations.

Three of the prospective mentees signed up for the mentoring program. These were matched up with multi-skilled mentors from the national database.

There were two completions. However, currently three mentorships are ongoing. This includes two who intermitted and resumed this year.

We also gained a new mentor, Margaret Trudgeon. Margaret is kindly taking over as Victorian mentoring coordinator as I stand down after five years in the role.

New mentors are always welcome. Becoming a mentor is a good fun and a great way of contributing to the profession. It is a rewarding experience both for the mentee and the mentor.

Finally, I would like to thank the mentors of the past year: Susan Pierotti, Kaaren Sutcliffe from NSW and also Margaret Trudgeon. I would also like to thank my colleagues on the branch committee and wish them well for the forthcoming year.

