

ARMS

Australasian Research Management Society

ARMS REPORT TO MEMBERS



25TH BIRTHDAY
EDITION

HIGHLIGHTS FROM
1 JULY 2023 – 30 JUNE 2024

PLATINUM PARTNER



SILVER PARTNER



BRONZE PARTNERS



ARMS acknowledge the contributions made by our Corporate Partners, ResearchMaster (Platinum), Cayuse (Silver), BMJ Impact Analytics and Clarivate (Bronze).

We also extend our gratitude to RMIT University for sponsoring the Society's annual awards for Research Management Practice.



Australasian Research Management Society

About the Australasian Research Management Society (ARMS)

ARMS is the Australasian association of research management professionals¹.

The Society's membership spans universities, independent research institutions, government and health research organisations from across the Australasian region including Australia, New Zealand and Singapore.

Company Information

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🌐 www.researchmanagement.org.au

ARMS was incorporated in Victoria and is a not Not-For-Profit (NFP) association (ARBN 609 051 443).

¹ Research Management Professionals are defined as individuals who provide strategic, management, technical, administrative, or clerical assistance to support the research endeavour.



**Flinders
University**

ARMS acknowledges the generous support of Flinders University, the official host of the Executive Office based at its Bedford Park Campus, Adelaide, South Australia.

ARMS acknowledges the traditional owners of the lands that we live and work and pays its respect to elders past, present and emerging.

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From the President

Many of you will have heard me say at various ARMS events that “Research Management and Research Management Professionals are the critical infrastructure for our researchers and research institutions.”

This statement remains very true this reporting period, which has been marked by significant growth and active engagement across our research management community.

Our mission is threefold: to develop Research Management Professionals, to promote the profession of research management, and to advance the research enterprise. Throughout this period, the ARMS community has exemplified these goals through its unwavering commitment to connecting, sharing skills, mentoring, and supporting each other, all in the pursuit of research excellence and its impact.

I am delighted to present this report, which provides an overview of our many accomplishments. It showcases our positive transition post-COVID, highlighted by the successful delivery of our highly anticipated in-person conference in Sydney. Additionally, this report details the wide range of networking events organised by our Chapter, Special Interest Groups, and Networks across ARMS’ geographic reach.

I extend my thanks to all our volunteers, including those serving on our Board, Standing Committees, Accreditation Council, Chapters, SIGs, Networks, and various ad-hoc working groups. Special recognition is also due to our Training Fellows, who play a crucial role in educating and developing our Research Management workforce.

Together, as a cohesive and dynamic community, we have accelerated our growth and provided numerous benefits to support our members. Our volunteers are our backbone, and while giving to the Society, they also grow professionally and personally. My sincerest gratitude is also extended to their employers for enabling them to participate in the activities of ARMS.

Our corporate partners and sponsors are vital to our mission, enabling us to invest in essential services for our members. We acknowledge our Corporate Partners for this reporting period: ResearchMaster (Platinum Sponsor), Cayuse (Silver), BMJ Analytics and Ex Libris Australia part of Clarivate (Bronze). A special thanks is also extended to RMIT University for their sponsorship of the annual RMIT Paul Taylor Awards.

Congratulations to everyone on our significant progress and success. A final special mention is extended to the ARMS HQ team for their unwavering dedication led by our Chief Operating Officer and ARMS Fellow, the passionate and patient Maria Zollo. Their commitment exemplifies the high-quality support that empowers our community to achieve excellence in research management.

Thank you all for your continued support and contribution.

**Dr Tania Bezzobs
President**



L-R Dr Tan Hsiao Wei, Dr Tania Bezzobs and Mr Steve Hannan cutting a cake to mark 25 years of Research Management Excellence.



ARMS Singapore Chapter celebrating 25 years of Research Management excellence.

25th Birthday reflections by ARMS President, Dr Tania Bezzobs

As I reflect on our journey to this milestone—ARMS' 25th birthday—I'm struck by how much the Society has grown over the last 25 years. I have been personally fortunate to have observed this growth directly. ARMS has evolved and expanded in so many ways that were once just dreams of some very passionate true believers. Looking back, I am reminded of the early visionaries of research management—those hopeful pioneers through Ms Janet Dibb-Leigh, Dr Mark Hochman and Dr Wayne Harvey and many others who back in 1999 laid the foundations for the establishment of our community of Research Management Professionals. Their early vision has grown and has been enabled by the many research management leaders since then, including Chapter Convenors, Conference Committee Organisers, Training Fellows, Special Interest Group and Network leaders, Presidents, Board Members, Accreditation Council Members and Committee members.

Fast forward to today, research management is more than just a profession; it's a community of dedicated professionals working toward a common goal. I am so grateful and often amazed to be part of this community which fosters excellence, diversity, collaboration, and continuous learning.

The work we do impacts not just research institutions but the larger world, shaping discoveries that will change lives for generations to come.

I look forward to seeing what the next 25 years will bring!

Over the coming months, many of our Chapters will be coordinating commemorative 25th birthday events and I encourage all members to participate.

Here's to the next chapter of growth, impact, and collaboration!!

Happy 25th Birthday ARMS!

Dr Tania Bezzobs
President

ARMS

Board of Directors

The ARMS Board is the governing body, and it controls and directs the affairs of the Society, including its committees and publications.

The Board determines the Society's promotions, policies, and strategic planning, and it evaluates the Society's progress towards achieving its mission and goals in accordance with the Society's Strategic Plan. The Board has statutory responsibility for all ARMS activities.

The Board includes four office bearers - President, President-Elect, Secretary, and Treasurer including five General Committee Members, with one being appointed outside of Australia.

The ARMS Chief Operating Officer (COO) provides strategic and operational support to the Board and leads the Adelaide based Executive Office hosted by Flinders University at its Bedford Park campus in South Australia.

All Committee positions, including membership on the ARMS Board are voluntary. The Society acknowledges the dedication of all its members who contribute their time on a voluntary basis and their employing organisations who support them.

Induction

All newly appointed ARMS Board members attend a formal induction at the start of their term, which covers legal and financial training. Board members are also provided with an induction handbook covering all governance and operational aspects of the Society.

Organisation

To further its mission, ARMS is organised into Chapters, Standing Committees, Special Interest Groups and Networks which may change over time, depending on the needs of the Society and the approval of the Board. These communities of practice are largely directed by the strategic goals and operational principles outlined in the Society's Strategic Plan.



L – Ms Susan Rose, M – Dr Amanda Cleaver and receiving a formal acknowledgement at the ARMS Sydney Gala Dinner, September 7, 2023 for their service on the Board. R – Dr Tania Bezzobs, ARMS President.

Board of Directors for period ending 30 June 2024

Our Board of Directors for the period ending 30 June 2024 are:



President
Dr Tania Bezzobs
University of Technology,
Sydney
*(Appointed 2020,
re-appointed 2022)*



Secretary
Ms Kate Swanson
The University of
Queensland, now
Griffith University
(Appointed 2022)



Treasurer
Dr Lachlan Doughney
RMIT University
(Appointed 2023)

General Committee Members



Dr Brett Szmajda
Department of Industry
(Appointed 2022)



Dr Yordanka Krastev
Ramsay Hospital
Research Foundation
*(Appointed 2020,
re-appointed 2022)*



Ms Emma Collyer
UNSW Australia
*(Appointed 2021,
re-appointed 2023)*



Ms Sharon Aburn
Monash University
(Appointed 2023)



Ms Jaylene Wehipeihana
The University of Auckland
*(Appointed 2021,
re-appointed 2023)*

We also acknowledge the departure of Board members Ms Susan Rose from Deakin University and Dr Amanda Cleaver from the Kids Institute Australia whose terms ended September 2023.

“ The Society acknowledges the dedication of all its members who contribute their time on a voluntary basis and their employing organisations who support them. ”

The Executive Office

The South Australian based Executive Office, located at Flinders University in Adelaide, plays a pivotal role in supporting the Board of Directors to fulfill ARMS' mission and vision.

Specifically, the Executive Office is responsible for:

- Governance, by working closely with the Board of Directors, Standing Committees and the Accreditation Council in developing policies to ensure programs and initiatives are delivered in compliance with our Strategic priorities.
 - Managing daily operations of the Executive Office, ensuring that member benefits are delivered effectively and efficiently.
 - Providing financial oversight, including budget forecasting, planning and resource allocation.
 - Managing member relations as well as retention strategies to enhance engagement with ARMS members.
- Supporting the development and implementation of programs, events and other initiatives aligned with ARMS' goals.
 - Fostering relationships with other organisations, corporate partners and other key stakeholders to enhance the Society's influence and reach.
 - Supporting the Board by acting as the primary communication hub, promoting ARMS' mission and advocating for its interests to stakeholders and our members via various communication platforms.

During 2024, the Society had created a new role, Partnerships, Education and Policy Manager. An active recruitment drive is planned for the second half of 2024 with the successful candidate expected to commence in January 2025.

Members of the Executive Office include:



ARMS Chief Operating Officer
Ms Maria Zollo

Responsible for providing operational leadership and management and supporting the ARMS Board in the implementation of its ARMS Strategic Plan.



Conferences and Major Events Coordinator
Ms Kaeisha Kilmister

Responsible for the coordination of small to large scale events as determined by the Conferences and Major Events Committee.



Management Accountant
Mr Brett Dobson

Responsible for providing financial management and accounting expertise to ensure accurate transactional management and processing of ARMS accounts.



ARMS Events Administrator
Ms Janice Yau

Responsible for providing general secretariat support to the ARMS Executive Office including coordination of the Society's social media.



Accreditation and Member Engagement Coordinator
Ms Dana Watts

Responsible for the daily management and maintenance of ARMS operations relating to the accreditation program, membership management and engagement.

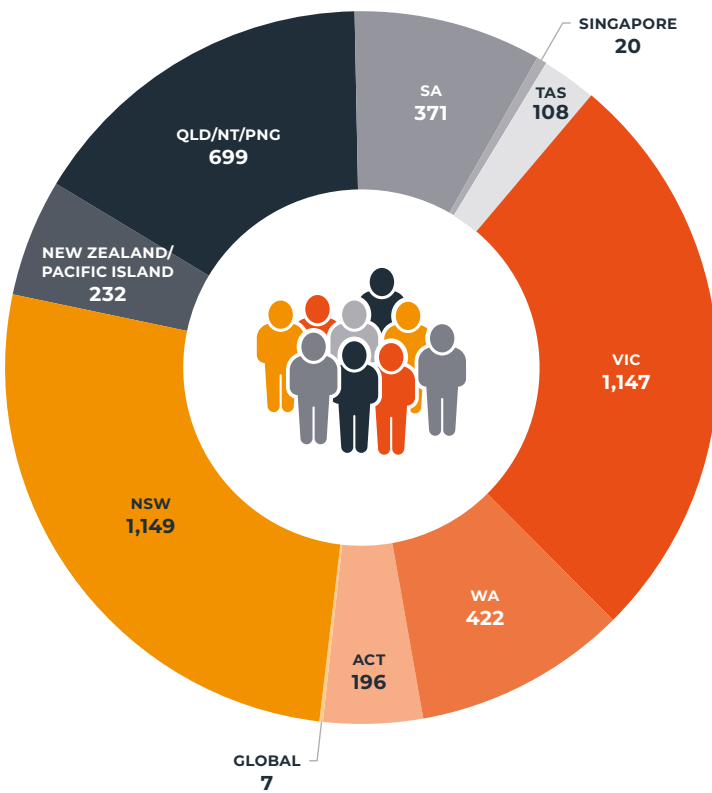
Membership

As of June 30, 2024, the Society recorded 4,351 members from across the Australasian region, including Australia, New Zealand, and Singapore. This represents a 3.59% increase of our membership base from the previous reporting period.


The NSW Chapter held the largest membership base (1,149 or 26.41%) followed by VIC (1,147 or 26.36%), Qld/NT/PNG (699 or 16.07%), Western Australia (422 or 9.70%), South Australia (371 or 8.53%), New Zealand/Pacific Island (232 or 5.33%), ACT (196 or 4.50%), Tasmania (108 or 2.48%), Singapore (20 or 0.46%) and the Global Chapter (7 or 0.16%).


The geographical distribution of our members is summarised in Graph 1.

Graph 1: ARMS Membership by Chapter

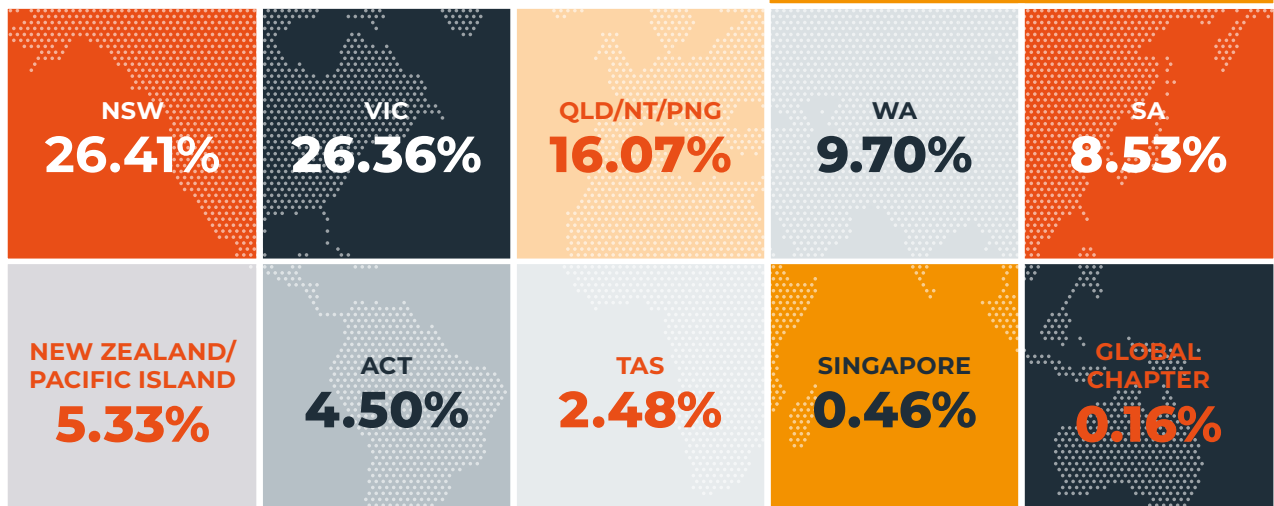


4,351 MEMBERS





3.59% INCREASE



Membership

The Society acknowledges the generous support of our corporate and small corporate members during the reporting period.

Corporate Members

ANSTO	Infonetica Ltd	The University of Newcastle
Australian National University	James Cook University	The University of Queensland
Auckland University	La Trobe University	The University of Sydney
Australian Catholic University	Macquarie University	The University of Western Australia
Bond University	Massey University	University of Canberra
Cancer Council Australia	Monash University	University of New England
Central Queensland University	Murdoch Children's Research Institute	University of South Australia
Charles Darwin University	Murdoch University	University of Southern Queensland
Charles Sturt University	Queensland University of Technology	University of Tasmania
CSIRO	RMIT University	University of Technology Sydney
Curtin University	Southern Cross University	University of the Sunshine Coast
Deakin University	Swinburne University	University of Wollongong
Edith Cowan University	The Kids Research Institute Australia	Victoria University
Federation University Australia	The University of Adelaide	Western Sydney University
Flinders University	The University of Melbourne	
Griffith University	The University of New South Wales	

Small Corporate Members

AgResearch Ltd	Otago Polytechnic	Transport Accident Commission
Baker Heart & Diabetes Institute	Sydney Children's Hospital Network	University of Notre Dame
Hearing Australia	The Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research	Victoria University of Wellington
Nanyang Technological University		

Membership Types

The Society offers a diverse range of membership types, each designed to cater to varying levels of engagement.

The membership categories include:

Corporate Membership

This category is designed for those members whose dues are covered under a group by their employing organisation, which is actively engaged in, or supports the research enterprise.

TIER
1

Corporate Membership:

- Research organisations - Up to AUD\$50m external research revenue in the most recent financial year); or
- Funding agencies/organisations and councils - Up to AUD\$50m in external grant funding (distributed to other organisations) managed in the most recent financial year; or
- Other organisations not elsewhere covered – Up to AUD\$30m total expenditure.

TIER
2

Corporate Membership:

- Research organisations - AUD \$50m-\$99.99m in external research revenue in the most recent financial year; or
- Funding agencies/ organisations/councils – AUD \$50m-\$99.99m in external grant funding management in the most recent financial year; or
- Other organisations not elsewhere classified, AUD\$30m-AUD\$60m expenditure.

TIER
3

Corporate Membership:

- Research Organisation - >AUD \$100m external research revenue in the most recent financial year); or
- Funding agencies /organisations/council - > AUD\$100m in external grant funding managed in the most recent financial year; or
- Other organisations not elsewhere classified, AUD >\$60m expenditure.

Small Corporate Membership

This category is designed for small organisations such as Medical Research Institutes, Government Organisations, etc. This option offers a 10% discount off the standard Individual Membership rate when 6-10 individual members at the same organisation pay their membership fee on a single invoice. Each Small Corporate Member under this category shall have voting privileges of the Society.

Individual Membership

This category is designed for individuals who are employed or active in the field of research management and/or administration at any level and with any sector of research community. Each individual will have voting privileges of the Society.

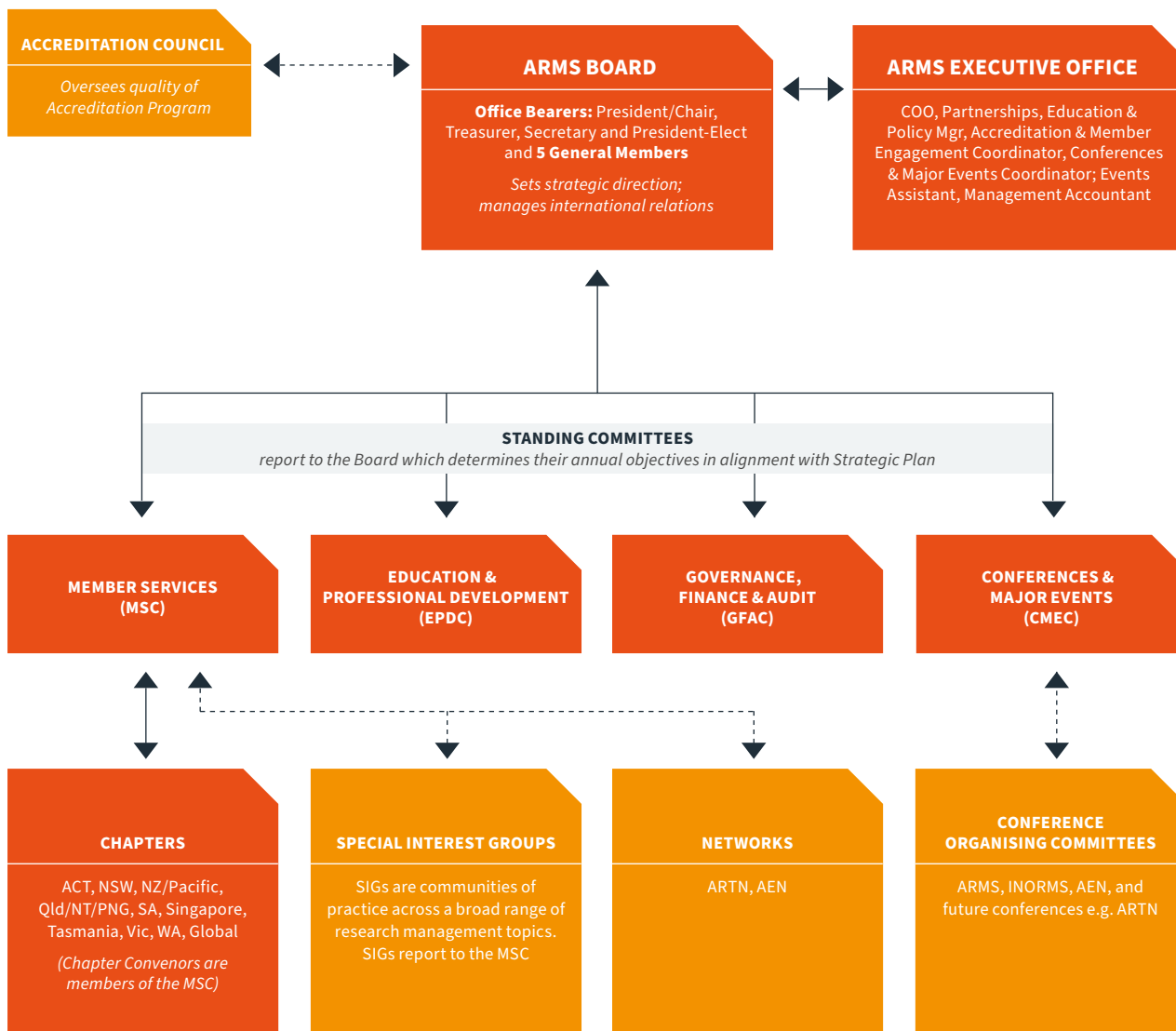
Retired Membership

This category is designed for current members who have retired from the research management profession but wish to remain a part of the Society.

Management and Organisational Structure

ARMS is a Not-For Profit association formed in 1999. It is governed by an approved Constitution and operationalised by a set of by-laws. (ARBN 609 051 443).

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE



* Provides services to the entire Society, reporting to the Board of Directors. Supports marketing and communications, including stakeholder engagement; provides Secretariat support to Standing Committees, Chapters, SIGs and Networks.

The Executive Office is hosted by Flinders University, South Australia and is based at its Bedford Park Campus.

Our Strategic Plan

The Strategic Plan: Towards 2025 guides culture and provides direction to decision-making and actions towards 2025 to ensure the delivery of ARMS' mission for its members.

Throughout 2024, the Board has been working with an external facilitator to develop the next iteration of the Strategic Plan, for the period 2025 to 2030. Feedback from the most recent biennial Member Services survey has provided invaluable insights into the preparation of the next version of the Strategic plan.

It is intended that the revised Strategic Plan: Towards 2030 will help to enhance the Society's impact as a community of practice; improve operations; and ensure that the Society continues to serve the needs and interest of all Research Management Professionals across the geographical remit of the Society.

Members will be widely consulted on the new Strategic Plan: Towards 2030 in the second half of 2024 with an official launch scheduled for December 2024.

<p>The strategic priorities of the Society during the current reporting period are summarised as follows:</p>	<p>STRATEGIC PRIORITY 1 Excellence for the Individual</p> <p>The Society provides a diverse and broadly accessible range of professional development opportunities including a high-quality accreditation program, and other resources to enable members to continually enhance their skills and expertise.</p>	<p>STRATEGIC PRIORITY 2 Promotion of the profession</p> <p>ARMS works with all stakeholders and influencers to promote the research management profession. It facilitates the delivery of research management practices that support future research excellence.</p>
	<p>STRATEGIC PRIORITY 3 Creating Communities of Practice</p> <p>Through Chapters, Special Interest Groups and Networks, ARMS provides opportunities and resources to drive the development and sharing of best practice. This fosters dialogue, accessibility, learnings and synergies amongst its members and stakeholders.</p>	<p>STRATEGIC PRIORITY 4 International Excellence</p> <p>ARMS is part of a global community of research management professionals that aim to develop best practice and attain excellence in research management. The Society also works with countries where research management is an emerging profession to support the awareness and practice of research management.</p>

These priorities are intended to shape the programs ARMS delivers, the services it provides and the management of its business and finances to continue to support and expand a sustainable and successful society.

Implementation Plan

The ARMS Board also developed an Implementation Plan which sets the framework for achievement of its strategic priorities over the next triennium. The Implementation Plan took effect from January 2019 and is monitored annually by the Board against several Key Performance Indicators (KPIs).

Our Vision

ARMS aim to create an internationally connected community of research management professionals who operate at the highest standards to influence, support and enhance the global delivery of research excellence.

Our Mission

ARMS is dedicated to the development of research management professionals; the promotion of the profession of research management; and the advancement of the research enterprise.

The Society fulfils its mission through:

- A strong, agile and resilient network of research management professionals at all levels and in a variety of settings through personal relationships and professional collaborations, presentations, formal and information meetings and publications.
- Development and promotion of international best practice for research management in Australasia and Singapore that is responsive to the changing factors that influence the research environment.
- Enhancement of the interface between researchers and research management professionals.

Our Values

The Society values include:



Equity and diversity in the profession of research management.



A strong, vibrant profession.



High standards of research governance including the uncompromising protection of the integrity and the ethics of research.



The profession of research management as integral to the research enterprise.



ARMS Board of Directors at a Strategic Planning Day held at RMIT University on Friday the 3rd of May 2024.
L-R Nick Northcott (External Facilitator from Chrysalis Consulting), together with Board members: Kate Swanson, Dr Yordanka Krastev, Dr Tania Bezzobs, Dr Brett Szmajda, Emma Collyer, Dr Lachlan Doughney, Sharon Aburn and Jaylene Wehipeihana.

ARMS

Accreditation Program

Foundation Level Accreditation Program

Since its inaugural delivery in 2013, 6,900-unit registrations have been recorded across the full suite of modules available to our members.

The Society recorded 700-unit registrations for our Foundation Level Accreditation Modules (which comprise of 355-unit registrations for compulsory electives delivered via the LMS and 345-unit registrations for elective modules delivered via Zoom or in-person). This compares with 687-unit registrations in the previous reporting period.

173-unit registrations were recorded for our specialised master classes on the Costing and Pricing of Research (100-unit-registrations) and Fundamentals of Project Management (73-unit registrations). This compares with 150-unit registrations in the previous reporting period with Costing and Pricing of Research (14-unit registrations) and Fundamentals of Project Management (136-unit registrations).

Overall, this represents a 2% increase in the uptake for our Foundation Level Accreditation Modules and a 13% increase for our specialised Master classes from the previous reporting period. This increase reflects the value and importance of these program in educating and training our Research Management workforce.

The Society has continued to attract new Training Fellows to meet the ongoing demands for our programs. These individuals are authorised to deliver content for our Foundation modules and master classes. In particular, the Society sought new Training Fellows for module 2.4: Navigating Agreements and all Higher Degree by Research modules.

A list of all current Training Fellows is available from our website: <https://www.researchmanagement.org.au/list-accredited-training-fellows>

Our pool of Accredited Research Managers (Foundation) (or ARMF) has also increased during the current period. We welcomed 41 new ARMFs, bringing our total number of graduates to over 650.

These include:

Camille Ahern
Central Queensland University

Lizzie Bazarnik
Southern Cross University

Ren Ta (Jonathan) Chew
Nanyang Technological University

Prisca Cradick
Swinburne University of Technology

Lynne Creasy
Charles Stuart University

Shannon Das
Australian National University

Denise Davidson
Central Queensland University

Urmi Dhagat
University of Melbourne

Kirandeep Kaur Dhillon
Swinburne University of Technology

Sarah Diab
The Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research

Daniel Dunne
The University of Melbourne

Renee Estrella
University of Technology Sydney

Donna Field
Edith Cowan University

Katja Gutwein
Monash University

Catherine Hayden
Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research

Bridget Holland
University of Waikato

Kate Khamly
Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre

Jun Yan Lek
Nanyang Technological University

Carrie Liang
University of Melbourne

Brett Mclvor
Swinburne University of Technology

Katherine Milostic
Central Queensland University

Sarah Morgan
Central Queensland University

Vivienne Moyle
La Trobe University

Moilet Mtandwa
University of Western Australia

Kyle Muldoon
Central Queensland University

Rowe Oakes
Edith Cowan University

Mike O'Leary
Edith Cowan University

Jill Penridge
University of the Sunshine Coast

Ruth Roach
Charles Stuart University

Jodie Ryan
University of New England

Lorena Sciusco
Australian National University

Graydon Smith
Edith Cowan University

Meryck Smith
Central Queensland University

Emma Southcott
ACT Government

Lyndal Viney
University of the Sunshine Coast

Christina Vrahnas
The Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research

Leanne Watson
Australian Catholic University

Shalane Weerasinghe
University of New England

Caithlin White
RMIT

Kate Wilson
Monash University

Celia Wong
Swinburne University of Technology

A full list of all ARMFs can also be found on the [website](#)

ARMS Accreditation Program

Keeping content updated to reflect policy changes and other current trends has continued to be at the forefront of the Accreditation Council's agenda during this period. In collaboration with selected Training Fellow specialists, the Accreditation Council has been working consistently to update module content. To date, content for most elective modules was completed during the reporting period with the focus now shifting to the revision of the three (3) Australian compulsory modules; 1.1-Aus: *The National Research and Innovation System in Australia*, 1.2-Aus: *Legislation as it Affects Research in Australia* and 1.3: *Understanding Research and Researchers* (all regions).

Our Education and Professional Development Committee (EPDC) has also worked with the Accreditation Council this period to identify new modules to add to our Foundation Level Accreditation Program offerings. The Society was pleased to deliver our newest module on "Navigating Agreements" at the ARMS2023 Sydney Conference in September 2023. New module topics are also under consideration by the EPDC.

Established Level Accreditation Program

The Established Level Accreditation Program (ELAP) is a 3-year, points-based program developed to enhance the skills of mid to senior level Research Management Professionals as well as senior academics and professional staff transitioning into a Research Management role.

The program consisting of five (5) Elements:

ELEMENT 1	A leadership management and strategic thinking workshop (compulsory and assessed).
ELEMENT 2	Three (3), electives focusing on deep, relevant content knowledge from a selection of five (5) specialty areas (compulsory and assessed).
ELEMENT 3	Participation in ongoing group learning activities (compulsory and non-assessed).
ELEMENT 4	Other ARMS programs (assessed); and
ELEMENT 5	Other Programs (non-assessed) including Recognition of Prior Learning.



Delivery of ARMS Foundation Level Accreditation Module 2.1: Pre-Award Grants Processes by Training Fellow, Professor Margaret Jones, Director, Research Services, Edith Cowan University.

The number of participants in the Established Program continues to grow yearly, with eleven (11) participants joining the ELAP in November 2023 and an additional 8 participants joining in May 2024. This brings the total number of participants in the program to 38 participants.

The Society welcomed two new graduates this period:

- Dr Denise Dillon, James Cook University, Singapore
- Ms Louise Barnsbee, Griffith University

All elements of the Established Program were delivered during the reporting period, including continuity of the Leadership, Management and Strategic Thinking workshop (Element 1) as well as the full suite of five (5) Electives (Element 2):

- November 2023: *Due Diligence and Good Governance in Research* (Elective), instructed by Mr Chris Thompson
- March 2024: *Research Funding: A pathway to best practice* (Elective), instructed by Professor Moira Clay
- May 2024: *Maximising Research Impact: the role of Research Management Professionals in supporting impact to thrive* (Elective), instructed by Dr Faith Welch
- June 2024: *Business Process Improvement in Research Management* (Elective), instructed by Assoc Prof/ Tam C. Nguyen
- July 2024: *Leadership, Management and Strategic Thinking*, instructed by Dr Lesley Ashton
- September 2024: *Informed Decision Making in Research Management: Quantitative Data Collection and Analysis Methodologies* (Elective), instructed by Simon Kerridge, Madhuri Dutta, Melinda Fischer and Cristina Oliveira.
- November 2023: *Due Diligence and Good Governance in Research* (Elective), instructed by Mr Chris Thompson

Advanced Level Accreditation Program

To continue their professional develop journey through ARMS Accreditation, graduates of the Established Level Accreditation Program are encouraged to apply to participate in the highest level of accreditation offered by ARMS, the [Advanced Level Accreditation Program](#).

The program consists of a capstone workplace- based assignment. There were no graduates to this program during the reporting period.

A full list of Accredited Research Managers (Advanced) or ARMAs, can be found here: <https://www.researchmanagement.org.au/arma-accredited-research-manager-advanced-list>

ARMS Training Fellow

ARMS Training Fellow is a title given to an individual recognised by the Accreditation Council as having the knowledge, experience and skills to present module material for the Foundation Level Accreditation Program (FLAP).

Special acknowledgment is given to all volunteer Training Fellows who bring a wealth of experience to our programs and help to educate and train our research management workforce.

A full listing of Training Fellows is available on the ARMS website: <https://www.researchmanagement.org.au/training-fellows>

“ Special acknowledgment is given to all volunteer Training Fellows who bring a wealth of experience to our programs and help to educate and train our research management workforce. ”

Accreditation Council

The Accreditation Council is an essential element in the Accreditation Program, comprising of experienced Research Management Professionals who oversee the quality standards of all ARMS Accreditation programs. The Accreditation Council is Chaired by Professor Alastair McEwan who was appointed in June 2023.

Members of the ARMS Accreditation Council



Professor Alastair McEwan
Executive Director,
Biological Sciences and Biotechnology,
Australian Research Council
Chair: ARMS Accreditation Council



Ms Claire Forsyth
Branch Manager:
Research Evaluation and Data Branch,
Australian Research Council
*Representing a member from a key
Australian Agency involved in research
and innovation*



Dr Tania Bezzobs
University of Technology, Sydney,
and President of ARMS
ARMS Board Representative



Ms Joanne Looyen
Director, Science System Investment
and Performance, MBIE, NZ
*Representing a member from a key
New Zealand Agency involved in research
and innovation*



Dr Melissa Straffon
Executive Manager
CSIRO Research Office
*Representing a member from a key
Australian Agency involved in research
and innovation*



Professor Andy Hor
Deputy Chief Executive (A*STAR)
*Representing a member from a key
Singaporean Agency involved in research
and innovation*

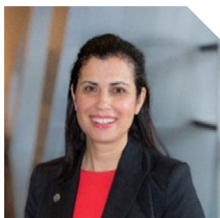


Ms Prue Torrance
General Manager, National Health
and Medical Research Council
*Representing a member from a key
Australian Agency involved in research
and innovation*

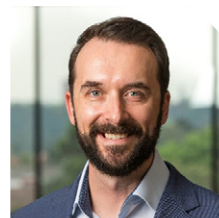


Ms Kate Gunn
COO, Children's Medical Research
Institute
*Representing a member who has served
in the position of General Manager/Chief
Operating Officer of an Independent Medical
Research Institute*

Executive Office Staff in Attendance:



Ms Maria Zollo
ARMS COO



Dr Brett Szmajda
Executive Manager, National AI
Centre, Department of Industry/ARMS
Board Member and representative
from the Education and Professional
Development Committee



Ms Dana Watts
Accreditation and Member
Engagement Coordinator, ARMS

Professional Development, Education and Training

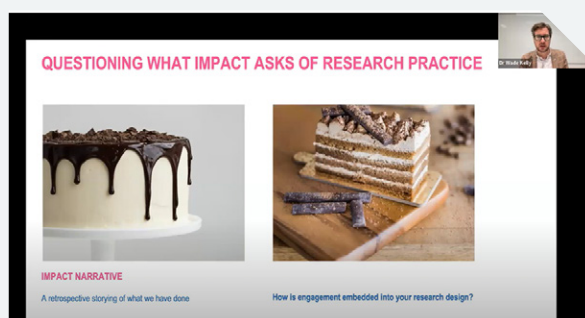
During the reporting period, the Society successfully delivered a series of education and training webinars as part of its annual PD Sessions @ Zoom webinar series.

These webinars are designed to keep members informed about the latest developments and changes in the research and innovation landscape within the geographical remit of ARMS. They provide valuable insights, foster professional development, and support the continued engagement of our members with evolving trends and challenges in the field.

Topics delivered during the reporting period include:

Designing for Impact: Moving Beyond the Icing on the Cake

Presented on November 30, 2023, by **Dr Wade Kelly**, Monash University and **Ken Knight**, Murdoch Children's Research Institute. Facilitated by **Catherine McElhone**, University of Technology Sydney



Designing for Impact: Moving Beyond the Icing on the Cake – presenter on top right – Dr Wade Kelly.

Applying your research manager superpowers to develop major initiatives

Presented on November 15, 2023, by **Dr Sally McArthur**, Deakin University and Facilitated by **Sharon Aburn**, Monash University.

Supporting Indigenous Research and Engagement

Presented on October 18, 2023, by **Ms Mandy Downing** - Curtin University and **Mr Peter Rogers** - Edith Cowan University. Facilitated by **Dr Debbie Thackray** - Curtin University.

From Concept to Contract – Research Contracts with Industry: Relationship Mechanism or Legal Tangle?

Presented on August 16, 2023, by **Dr Helen Barrie**, **Jeff Kasparian** & **Anastasia Apostol**.

Impact: the stuff that dreams are made of

Presented on June 14, 2023, by **Dr Julie Glover** - NHMRC & **Dr Alex Aitkin** - NHMRC and Facilitated by **Dr Brett Szmajda** - CSIRO.

Connecting Research and Policy

Presented on May 31, 2023, by **Dr Hannah McKercher** - Riddet Institute at Massey University, Office of the Prime Minister's Chief Science Advisor and **Dr George Slim** - Rhadegund Life Sciences, Office of Prime Minister's Chief Science Advisor and Facilitated by **Ms Melissa Climo** - Bridger Consulting Ltd

A camel passing through the eye of a needle: NTROs in the Australian research landscape

Presented on April 19, 2023, by Dr **Joseph Toltz** - The University of Sydney, **Dr Smiljana Glisovic** - DDCA & **Professor Craig Batty** - University of South Australia

Open Access in Aotearoa New Zealand - What do we know?

Presented on March 22, 2023, by **Jess Howie** - University of Waikato and **Richard White** - University of Otago and Facilitated by **Lesley Brook** - Te Pūkenga New Zealand Institute of Skills and Technology.

A practical narrative/case study writing workshop for research support staff

Presented on March 15, 2023, by **Dr Lesley Ashton** - QuoVadis Consulting and Facilitated by **Emma Collyer** - UNSW Sydney.

Career pathways for research management and administration professionals in Australia: A pilot study

Presented on February 15, 2023, by **Dr Olumide Odeyemi** and facilitated by **Ed Benyon**.

A new alternative for research team members' curriculum vitae in NZ funding applications - the Narrative CV

Presented on January 25, 2023, by Dr Farzana Masouleh and Ms Kim Pritchard. Facilitated by Dr Simon Lovatt.

Navigating Success in Horizon Europe: The Essential Role of Research Managers

Presented on February 14, 2024, by **Mark Hurdley**, The University of Auckland, Waipapa Taumata Rau. Facilitated by **Katie Jones**, The University of Auckland, Waipapa Taumata Rau.

Creating a smooth transition: Implementing an online Grant Management System for our Research Funding Program

Presented on March 13, 2024, by **Anna Nankivell** and **Naomi Ofler** - Cancer Council WA. Facilitated by **Emma Collyer**, UNSW Sydney.

Attracting fully funded European Postdocs through the MSCA Global Postdoctoral Fellowships

Presented on April 17, 2024, by **Mr Nishant Shandilya**, Regional Coordinator - Australia & New Zealand, EURAXESS Worldwide. Facilitated by **Jace Carson** and **Suzanne Austin**.

The Relationship Between HERDC and Research Funding: complicated? It doesn't need to be!

Presented on May 15, 2024, by **Frank Anastasopoulos** - The University of Melbourne.

HDR Industry Engagement

Presented on June 5, 2024, by **Ms Michelle Luca** - CSIRO, **Director Lauren Stephenson** - Director in Science Development/Office of the Queensland Chief Scientist, and **National Co-Chairs Brooke Cotton** and **Mitch Smyth** - Australian HDR Industry Engagement Community of Practice

Professional Development, Education and Training

Skills Network

The Society officially launched its Skills Network in September 2023. The platform is designed to help make new connections as well as foster knowledge-sharing on an international scale.

By allowing members to self-submit their details, it not only gives individuals control over how their skills and experiences are showcased but also makes it easier for others to find relevant expertise and mentors. Members can access the Skills Network via the [ARMS website](#).



Honour Roll

The Society recognises the importance of members who volunteer their time, skills and expertise to support the delivery of high-quality services for the greater benefit of all ARMS members.

In recognition of our volunteer members, the ARMS Board announced the Honour Roll – A self-submitting listing on the ARMS website which formally acknowledges the contributions made by individual members.

Full details are available on the ARMS [website](#)

“ In recognition of our volunteer members, the ARMS Board announced the Honour Roll – A self-submitting listing on the ARMS website which formally acknowledges the contributions made by individual members. ”

Professional Development Framework





The ARMS Professional Development Framework (PDF) was developed by the Education and Professional Development Committee (EPDC) to help members identify the skills and knowledge needed for the wide range of roles within the research management profession.





The PDF has six core areas of knowledge and three levels for knowledge enhancement – Foundation, Management and Leadership. Each cell describes the broad learning outcomes relevant for that core area and knowledge level. Existing ARMS programs which operate within these areas are mapped to each cell with new programs being added as they are developed.

Levels for Knowledge Enhancement

 CORE AREAS OF KNOWLEDGE	 FOUNDATION	 MANAGEMENT	 LEADERSHIP
Contextual Knowledge	<i>Where the research management professional sits in their relevant country context</i>	<i>Understands and practices principles of good supervision, management and strategy development</i>	<i>Leads institutional research policy and strategy and promotes the institutional research agenda</i>
Relational	Foundation Level Module 1.3: Understanding Research and Researchers	Established Level Accreditation Program Leadership, Management and Strategic Thinking Program	Advanced Level Accreditation Program See ELAP+ Completion of a workplace-based study. Senior Executive Forum
Technical	Foundation Level Modules 1.1- Aus: The National Research and Innovation System in Australia (online) 1.1-NZ – The National Research and Innovation System in New Zealand (online) 1.1-Sing – The National Research and Innovation System in Singapore (online) 1.2- Aus – Legislation as it affects Research in Australia (online) 1.2-NZ- Legislation as it affects Research in New Zealand (online) 1.2 – Singapore – Legislation as it affects Research in Singapore (online) 1.3 – Understanding Research and Researchers (online) Other country specific modules to be offered from time to time.		

Professional Development Framework

			
CORE AREAS OF KNOWLEDGE	FOUNDATION	MANAGEMENT	LEADERSHIP
<p>The Research Funding Cycle</p>	<p><i>Understands and effectively manages the research cycle from inception to project closure (this should cover opportunity development right through to impact and commercialisation).</i></p> <p>Foundation Level Modules</p> <p>2.1: Pre-Award Grant Processes 2.2: Post Award Processes and Research Finance 2.3: Research Finance 2.4: Navigating Agreements: A Guide for Research Management Professionals</p>	<p><i>Establishes systems for research and researcher development, evaluating grant performance, identifying new funding sources.</i></p> <p>Elective: Research Funding: A pathway to best practice</p> <p>Pricing of Research (Master Class)</p> <p>Fundamentals of Project Management</p>	<p><i>Develops and establishes institutional systems and strategies for research funding and managing large and complex grants.</i></p>
<p>Higher Degree by Research Candidature Cycle</p>	<p><i>Understands and effectively manages the HDR (postgraduate in NZ) candidature cycle from inquiry to graduation.</i></p> <p>Foundation Level Modules</p> <p>3.1: HDR Scholarships 3.2: HDR International Partnerships 3.3: HDR Candidature Management 3.4: HDR Admissions and Completions</p> <p>Programs also offered by the Australasian Research Training Network.</p>	<p><i>Establishes systems for recruitment, retention, and timely completion of HDR candidates.</i></p>	<p><i>Develops and implements institutional policies and strategies at all levels of the HDR cycle. Integrates HDR management into broader research management functions and institutional strategic directions.</i></p> <p>Senior Executive Forum</p>
<p>Programs are also under consideration by the Australasian Ethics Network</p>			
<p>Ethics and Integrity</p>	<p><i>Understands and provides effective support to ethics and integrity committees and processes.</i></p> <p>Foundation Modules</p> <p>4.1: Research Ethics - Human and Animal 4.2: Research Integrity</p> <p>Programs offered by the Australasian Ethics Network</p>	<p><i>Establishes and implements systems to monitor and improve effectiveness of ethics and integrity processes.</i></p> <p>Elective: Due Diligence and Governance Considerations</p>	<p><i>Develops, establishes, and monitors an institutional research governance framework.</i></p>
<p>A range of programs are also offered by the Australasian Ethics Network including a biennial AEN Conference</p>			

			
CORE AREAS OF KNOWLEDGE	FOUNDATION	MANAGEMENT	LEADERSHIP
Data and Information Management	<p>Collects and collates data to enable institutional and external reports.</p> <p>Foundation Level Module</p> <p>5.1: Research Information and Reporting</p>	<p>Monitors the effectiveness of institutional research management systems and data.</p> <p>Elective – Business Process Improvements for Research Management Professionals.</p>	<p>Uses data to develop and implement evidence-based strategies, monitor and benchmark institutional performance, suggest changes to strategy as needed.</p> <p>Senior Executive Forum</p>
Engagement and Impact	<p>Supports researchers in engagement activities with external end-users. Streamlines engagement with end-users.</p> <p>Foundation Level Module</p> <p>6.1: Working with Industry</p>	<p>Implements operational plans for engagement with end-users, uses information to identify engagement opportunities. Helps researchers identify and articulate research impact.</p> <p>Elective: Maximising Research Impact: The role of Research Management Professionals in Supporting Impact to Thrive</p> <p>Elective: Informed Decision Making in Research Management: Quantitative Data Collection and Analysis Methodologies</p>	<p>Develops institutional strategies and monitors external policy environment to maximise engagement and impact with end-users.</p> <p>Senior Executive Forum</p>

ARMS Annual Conference – ARMS also offers an annual flagship conference which provides an array of education, training, and professional development opportunities.	Regular (Monthly) Webinars are also offered to members on a range of relevant research management topics as part of our PD Sessions @ Zoom webinar series.	Senior Executive Forums are offered from time to time to members in the Leadership category on topics of relevance and interest to the profession.	Australasian Ethics Network (AEN) – Offers members a biennial conference and other relevant PD, education and training offerings from time-to-time.	Australasian Research Training Network (ARTN) – Offers members education and training on topics related to graduate research.
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Chapter Highlights

ACT Chapter

The ACT Chapter Committee offered members an event led by Professor Michael Khor on the 15th of September 2023 on “Decoding the Academics’ Perspective to Publishing: Metrics Dos and Don’ts.

This presentation provided a glimpse into an exercise conducted at Nanyang Technological University, Singapore that measures the performance of publications across the disciplines and examines the choices of a tired journals list. The presentation was followed by a networking event.

The ACT Chapter Committee members during the reporting period include:

- Ms Suzanne Austin (Committee Member), UNSW
- Mr Sebastien Lacrampe, ANU (Committee Member), Australian National University
- Ms Kus Pandey (Treasurer), Australian National University
- Mr Jonathan Ward, (Committee Member), Australian National University
- Ms Huan Wu (Convenor), Australian National University (ANU)
- Ms Ewa Ziolkowska, (Committee Member), Australian National University

The Chapter Committee is pleased to welcome Ms Samantha Pavetich from the Australian National University as the incoming Treasurer.

We extend our gratitude to Ms Kus Pudney from the Australian National University, who has stepped down as Treasurer and has remained on the Chapter Committee in their capacity as general committee member.

Global Chapter

The Global Chapter is currently under review.

New South Wales Chapter

The New South Wales (NSW) Chapter Committee continues to focus on enhancing the capabilities and skills of Research Management Professionals through the delivery of professional development activities, social and networking activities, and peer knowledge exchange via workshops and forums delivered face-to-face, hybrid and online for members that underpin individual development and the profession in general.

Highlights during the reporting period include regular chapter committee meetings, one (1) professional development event and three (3) pre-conference workshop for all ARMS members.

A snapshot of key events in the region include:

- Career pathways University sector and beyond, 19 July 2023. Hybrid event hosted by UTS, organised by Stephan Waibel.
- ARMS Pre-Conference Workshops
 - > How to write an abstract, 19 March 2024. Online event delivered by Emmaline Lear and Najwa Reynolds.
 - > How to craft a poster presentation, 20 June 2024. Online event delivered by Jodi McLean and Jodie Richardson.
 - > Effective Conference Presentations, 25 June 2024. Online event delivered by Lisa Simmons and Shantala Mohan.

The NSW Chapter Committee members also submitted and presented workshops and posters at the ARMS 2023 conference in Sydney and plan to also present at the ARMS Darwin conference. This demonstrates the commitment and enthusiasm of the NSW Chapter Committee members to lead the way and to share their experience with the rest of the research management society.

The NSW Chapter farewelled and formally acknowledged the contributions Qian Garret (University of Notre Dame), Hayley See (Thoracic Society of Australia and New Zealand) and Roy McBurney (Online Event Coordinator November 2023-May 2024) who have been instrumental in the leadership and support of the Chapter Committee to strengthen our offerings for NSW members.

“ The ACT Chapter Committee offered members an event led by Professor Michael Khor on the 15th of September 2023 on “Decoding the Academics’ Perspective to Publishing: Metrics Dos and Don’ts. ”

Session Overview



- Understanding ARMS submission guidelines
- What is an abstract?
- The purpose of your abstract
- The 5-Question Technique
- Writing an engaging title

ARMS24: How to write an abstract

2

How to write an abstract, 19 March 2024 presented by Emmaline Lear and Najwa Reynolds. Emmaline Lear at top right.

The Chapter circulated a call for Expressions of Interest for new members to replace outgoing members. The call targeted Research Management Professionals outside of Sydney, and those from the community, government or commercial sectors, to help continue the diversification of the committee, and to improve the Chapter's relevance to members across the state. In October 2023, four new members were appointed - Lisa Simmons (University of Wollongong), Najwa Reynolds (Hammond Care), Jodie Richardson (The University of Sydney and Jodi McLean from Soils CRC).

Membership of the NSW Chapter for the reporting period includes:

- Mr Stephan Waibel, University of Technology (Co-Convenor)
- Dr Emmaline Lear, Charles Sturt University (Co-Convenor)
- Ms Tanya Karliychuk, Australian Communications Consumer Action Network (ACCAN) (Committee Member)
- Ms Jodi McLean, The University of Newcastle (Committee Member)
- Dr Shantala Mohan, Western Sydney University Sydney (Committee Member)
- Dr Najwa Reynolds, Hammond Care (Committee Member)
- Dr Jodie Richardson, The University of Sydney (Committee Member)
- Ms Lisa Simmons, University of Wollongong (Committee Member)

Chapter Highlights

New Zealand and Pacific Islands Chapter

The New Zealand and Pacific Islands Chapter Committee commenced the reporting period with three successful in-person events held in Auckland, Wellington, and Christchurch throughout August 2023.

These events featured networking opportunities and panel discussions centred around recent reforms to New Zealand's research and innovation system. Each event was attended by ARMS President, Dr Tania Bezzobs, Board Member, Ms Jaylene Wehipeihana and ARMS COO Maria Zollo, who participated actively in the discussions. The events were well-attended across all locations, with strong engagement from the local community.

In October 2023, the Chapter held a webinar on the new He Aka Ka Toro and He Tipu Ka Hua funds to advance iwi, hapū, hapori, and Māori Research, Science and Innovation (RSI) priorities and build the capability and capacity of Māori to engage with RSI. Support was also provided for three presentations around New Zealand by Dr Hannah McKerchar on connecting research and policy.

In February 2024, the Chapter organised the first PD Sessions @ Zoom webinar event for 2024, which focused on the Horizon Europe scheme, of which New Zealand is an associate member. The event attracted many attendees from around Australasia.

During the year, the committee welcomed new members Michelle van Rheede and Dr James Savage, and farewellled Melissa Climo. Co-Convenors, Katie Jones and Dr Simon Lovatt extend their gratitude to all committee members for providing ideas and organising events for the benefit of all members in the region.

Membership of the New Zealand and Pacific Islands Chapter during the reporting period include:

- Mrs Lesley Brook (Committee Member), Otago Polytechnic
- Ms Melissa Climo (Committee Member), Bridger Consulting Ltd
- Dr Martin Gagnon (Committee Member), University of Otago
- Ms Sharon Jensen (Committee Member), Agresearch NZ
- Ms Katie Jones (Co-Convenor), The University of Auckland
- Dr Simon Lovatt (Co-Convenor), University of Waikato
- Dr Kristy McGregor (Committee Member), New Zealand Forest Research Institute Ltd
- Dr James Savage (Committee Member), Southern Institute of Technology
- Mrs Michell Van Rheede (Committee Member), University of Canterbury



L-R – Jace Carson and Jaylene Wehipeihana at the Christchurch event hosted by the University of Canterbury.

Queensland, NT, PNG Chapter

The Queensland, Northern Territory, and Papua New Guinea Chapter Committee focused on organising a diverse range of networking events across Queensland and Darwin to ensure broad regional representation and provide members with opportunities to connect.

The events included:

- A networking event held in Darwin at the Beachfront Hotel on the 13th of November 2023
- A networking event held in Brisbane at the Ship Inn on the 24th of November 2023
- A networking event held in Brisbane at the Stock Exchange Hotel on the 10th of May 2024
- A networking event held at Charles Darwin University on the 17th of May 2024. At this event, members were encouraged to share stories of their learnings from the Sydney 2023 conference and their expectations at the fast-approaching 2024 Darwin conference

The Chapter acknowledges the leadership provided by Belinda Watanabe and Iftikhar Hayat who will be stepping down as Co-Convenors later in the year. It is anticipated that Dr Junna Hayashi will take the place of Co-Convenor with an additional Co-Convenor elected shortly. The Chapter acknowledges the contributions of Dr Trung Ngo and Alison Vawser, who also stepped down as Committee members during this period and welcomed a new committee member, Analyn Vargas.

Membership of the Queensland and Pacific Islands Chapter during the reporting period include:

- Ms Sara Coram (Committee Member), The University of Queensland
- Mr Amir Gaffoor (Committee Member), Queensland University of Technology
- Ms Serena Gent (Committee Member), Griffith University
- Dr Junna Hayashi (Secretary), Griffith University
- Mr Iftikhar Hayat (Co-Convenor), Charles Darwin University
- Dr Trung Ngo (Committee Member), The University of Queensland
- Mrs Megan Stephenson (Treasurer), Griffith University
- Mrs Analyn Vargas (Committee Member), Charles Darwin University
- Ms Alison Vawser (Committee Member), Queensland University of Technology
- Mr Tony Wang (Committee Member), The University of Queensland
- Ms Belinda Watanabe (Co-Convenor), Griffith University



ARMS Members at the Beachfront Hotel for the Chapter end of year event in Darwin on the 17th of November.



ARMS members at a networking event held in Brisbane at the Ship Inn on the 24th of November 2023

Chapter Highlights

Singapore Chapter

The Singapore Chapter Committee commenced the year with an informal networking event held on 16 February 2024, attended by over 60 members at the Learning Studio, Nanyang Technological University.

Over 100 Research Management Professionals from across the Singapore gathered again at Nanyang Technological University on the 24th of May 2024, the event's host, for the Chapter's first in-person Symposium since the pandemic. The symposium entitled: "*Current Challenges faced by Research Management Professionals*" highlighted the increasing challenges faced by the profession under ever increasing changes to the funding landscape, regulatory frameworks and the transformative impact of technologies.

A wide range of presenters filled the event schedule including: Dr Tania Bezzobs, ARMS President; A/Professor Denise Dillon from JCU Singapore; Dr Julian Tan, Ernest & Kin; Mr George Loh, Associate Vice President (Strategic Partnerships); National University of Singapore; and Professor Lim Kah Leong (Associate Vice President (Biomed & Life Sciences), Nanyang Technological University; The event was opened by Dr Willie Koh, Co-Convenor of the Singapore Chapter from Nanyang Technological University and the event was concluded by a panel session moderated by Professor Michael Khor, also Co-Convenor from Nanyang Technological University.

The Singapore Chapter plans to deliver a professional development workshop in November 2024.

Membership of the Singapore Chapter Committee during the reporting period include:

- Associate Professor Denise Dillon (Committee Member), James Cook University, Singapore.
- Professor Tat Ching Fung (Committee Member), Nanyang Technological University
- Dr Jun Song Huang (Committee Member), National Institute of Education
- Ms Yennie Kadarusman (Committee Member), Nanyang Technological University
- Professor Michael Khiam Aik Khor, (Co-Convenor), Nanyang Technological University
- Dr Willie Koh (Co-Convenor), Nanyang Technological University
- Ms Anna Stanislaws (Secretary), Nanyang Technological University
- Dr Edward Tan (Committee Member), Geriatric Education and Research Institute (GERI)



Snapshots from the Singapore Chapter Symposium held on 24 May 2024.

South Australia Chapter

The South Australia Chapter Committee had a very productive year, delivering a range of activities to members in the region.

In August 2023, the SA Chapter was pleased to organise and host an ARMS PD Session@Zoom entitled “*From Concept to Contract – Research Contracts with Industry: Relationship Mechanism or Legal Tangle*” with guest presenters Dr Helen Barrie (University of South Australia), Jeff Kasparian (KasComm) and Anastasia Apostol (Flinders University).

Several networking lunches were hosted across the year where Directors of Research Offices identified staff from pre- and post-award research teams to join informal discussions and share best practice, pain points, and identify broad themes where SA Chapter support could make a difference.

The Chapter’s end of year “*Research Reset*” event in December 2023 was well attended, and members participated in a very relaxed reflection exercise while enjoying a drink and plenty of cheese!

In May 2024, the SA Chapter welcomed members to a thought-provoking panel session “*Serving up Research Management I.C.E – Integrity, Compliance and Ethics*”.

The guest panellists Rebekah O’Shea (Research Assurance Services), A/Prof David Foster (University of South Australia), and Hendryk Flaegel (Flinders University) shared insights and expertise across pillars that are embedded in every research management and administration role.

The SA Chapter Committee grew from three core members to nine, with members from different institutions across the spectrum of research management bringing fresh ideas and energy. The Chapter extended its gratitude to the two departing committee members for their contributions to the Chapter and celebrate Kathy Mott’s longstanding service as Chapter Convenor.

Membership of the Chapter Committee during the reporting period include:

- Dr Leah Couzner (Treasurer), Flinders University
- Ms Vanessa Eley, (Co-Convenor), UniSA
- Miss Anthea Hall (Secretary), The University of Adelaide
- Mrs Imelda Leavy (Committee Member), Flinders University
- Dr Haipei Liu (Committee Member), University of Adelaide
- Ms Kathy Mott (Committee Member), Kathy Mott & Associates
- Ms Deborah Williams (Committee Member), UniSA
- Dr Marina Zupan, (Co-Convenor), Flinders University



Chapter Highlights

Tasmania Chapter

The Tasmania Chapter Committee offered members a wide range of opportunities to network and collaborate during the reporting period.

These include:

- A hybrid event held in collaboration with the University of Tasmania on the 22nd of June 2023, entitled “Research to Impact: Two Research Institutions’ Insights on the Journey to Commercialisation.
- A webinar on Impacts of unsuccessful research funding on Australian research, held on 7 March 2024
- A Chapter networking event at the Derwent Sailing Club on the 27th of March 2024; and
- Come Walk with Us Aboriginal Cultural Safety Program delivered on the 14th of June.

The Chapter Committee is also planning an online Winter Wellness Yoga session for the 24th of July 2024 as well as a 25th ARMS Birthday Celebration on the 25th of September 2024 to align with Research Administrator’s Day.

The Chapter Committee wishes to acknowledge Dr Brenda Lamb, Xue Tian and Gudrun Wells who stepped down during the reporting period. The Chapter Committee also welcomed new Members Dr Claire McLean, Dr Bea Contreras, Lauren Dean and Emma Moloney

Membership of the Chapter Committee during the reporting period include:

- Ms Amanda Avens (Committee Member), University of Tasmania
- Mr Edward Benyon (Co-Convenor), University of Tasmania
- Ms Lauren Dean (Committee Member), University of Tasmania
- Dr Claire McLean (Secretary), University of Tasmania
- Dr Bea Contreras (Committee Member), University of Tasmania
- Dr Olumide Odeyemi (Co-Convenor), University of Tasmania
- Ms Mandy Pink (Treasurer), University of Tasmania
- Ms Emma Smith (Committee Member), University of Tasmania
- Dr Naila Yaqoob (Committee Member), University of Tasmania

“ *The Tasmania Chapter Committee offered members a wide range of opportunities to network and collaborate during the reporting period.* ”

Victoria Chapter

The Victoria Chapter Committee held several networking events, including its first hybrid event, while undergoing a period of change across the sector.

The Chapter Committee held a networking event on 14 December 2023 at Seamstress Restaurant and Bar, in Melbourne. More than 40 Research Management Professionals from 10 research organisations gathered to share insights, stories and the achievements of 2023. The attendees rated this event as highly valuable for building connections and generating creative ideas for how we can work better together, as well as providing a celebratory circuit breaker with colleagues.

In February 2024, the Committee conducted a special member survey to better establish members' preferences, needs and challenges, to inform Chapter activities.

The Chapter welcomed ARMS President, Dr Tania Bezzobs, to commence the year's events by providing a big picture overview of the sector. This hybrid event held on 10 May 2024 was designed to include those across Victoria and reached over 50 members. Dr Bezzobs outlined current trends and challenges in the sector, including research impact, changing technologies, and global connectivity.

Specific challenges relevant to Victorian members was also covered including membership survey findings and highlighting new programs available to members.

Taking the audience on a journey through their career, they shared anecdotes and lessons learned, with their story serving as a source of inspiration for aspiring research management professionals. The presentation was followed by lunch and networking for in-person attendees, which included regional members from Deakin University's Geelong campus and Federation University.

In this period, the Committee also led a highly attended PD @zoom session webinar on 15 November 2023, on the topic "Applying Your Research Manager Superpowers to Develop Major Initiatives", presented by Professor Sally McArthur of Deakin University.

Members of the Victorian Chapter Committee during the reporting period include:

- Dr Rachel Kennedy (Convenor, on leave), WEHI
- Mrs Sharon Aburn (Acting Co-Convenor), Monash University
- Ms Sheila Hamilton-Brown (Acting Co-Convenor; Co-Convenor), WEHI; Deakin University
- Dr Davina Dadley-Moore (Acting Convenor; Co-Convenor), Monash University
- Dr Lachlan Doughney (Treasurer), RMIT University
- Dr Andrea Christie (Committee member; Treasurer), RMIT University
- Dr Urmi Dhagat (Committee member), The University of Melbourne
- Ms Li He (Committee member, on leave), Victoria University
- Dr Wade Moore (Committee member), Individual Member (based at CSIRO)
- Ms Vivienne Moyle (Committee member), Monash University; La Trobe University



Dr Tania Bezzobs presenting at the Victoria Chapter Hybrid event on 10 May 2024

Chapter Highlights

Western Australia Chapter

The WA Chapter Committee provided members with an opportunity to connect during the reporting period.

These include:

- A networking event and Annual General Meeting held on 23 November 2023 at Murdoch University. This event offered members the opportunity to hear from the WA Chapter Conference Travel Award recipients about their learnings from the ARMS Sydney conference.
- A networking breakfast held on the 12th of June 2024 at Zamia Café, Perth.

The Chapter Committee will also be delivering a 25th birthday celebration event to members later in the year.

The Chapter Committee extends its gratitude to Ieuan Link who stepped down as Convenor and welcomed Erika Slavin and Kirsty Perry into the roles of Co-Convenor. The Chapter also extends its gratitude to all other departing members including Carla De Gois, Ylva Olsen and Debbie Thackray.

New members were also welcomed during this period including Jananee Raguragavan, Caitilin Symons, Beth Tippett and Melanie Wright.

Membership of the Western Australia Chapter Committee during the reporting period include:

- Mr Dale Banks (Secretary), Murdoch University
- Ms Jennifer Hogan (Committee Member), Edith Cowan University
- Ms Kirsty Perry (Co-Convenor), Murdoch University
- Ms Elizabeth Przywolnik (Committee Member), Notre Dame University
- Dr Jananee Raguragavan (Treasurer), Curtin University
- Ms Erika Slavin (Co-Convenor), University of Western Australia
- Ms Caitilin Symons (Committee Member), The Kids Institute Australia
- Ms Beth Tippett (Committee Member), Minderoo Foundation
- Ms Melanie Wright (Committee Member), South Metropolitan Health Service



Snapshot of events held in WA over the reporting period.

Standing Committee Highlights

Conferences and Major Events Committee (CMEC)

The CMEC oversees major events including the annual Society conference, the biennial Australasian Ethics Network (AEN) conference and, when necessary, the International Network of Research Management Societies (INORMS) Congress, as well as any other major events held by or in association with the Society from time to time (e.g., the Australasian Research Training Network events).

Key achievements of the CMEC include:

- Review of the conference abstract guidelines.
- Creation of an assessment rubric for conference abstracts.
- The development of a policy for press representatives wishing to attend the annual conference; and
- Consideration of a guiding document for partnerships with other organisations interested in delivering joint events with the Society. These guidelines are currently in development.

The most significant highlight for the reporting period was the return of the ARMS in-person conference in Sydney. Full details about the conference are provided in this report.

The membership of the CMEC for the reporting period:

- Ms Emma Collyer (UNSW Australia – Board Liaison)
- Dr Megan Dean, University of Tasmania
- Ms Kaeisha Kilmister (ARMS Secretariat for the CMEC)
- Ms Serena Gent, Griffith University
- Professor Michael Khor, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore (stepped down February 2024)
- Dr Erin Semon (Convenor), Macquarie University (Convenor)

Education and Professional Development Committee (EPDC)

The EPDC oversees the development, promotion, operational management, and delivery of the Society's Accreditation Program (Foundation, Established), Master classes and other professional development activities to serve the needs of the ARMS community.

Key milestones for the EPDC during the reporting period include:

- The launch of the Skills Network at the ARMS Sydney conference in September 2023. The Skills Network is an online platform designed to help make new connections as well as foster knowledge-sharing on an international scale.
- The establishment of three new awards providing increased benefits to our members. These awards include: An Indigenous First Nations Conference Travel Award, An Early Career Research Management Professional Career Development Program; and an International Travel Award Program (ITAP) (reframed award, previous ARMS/NCURA International Travel Fellowship).
- The development of a guidance tool to promote exchanges amongst membership organisations. The guidance tool is currently under development.

The EPDC welcomed a new member in May 2024 – Ms Vivienne Moyle from La Trobe University.

The membership of the EPDC for the reporting period include:

- Ms Sharon Aburn (Convenor and ARMS Board Liaison)
- Dr Amanda Cleaver, The Kids Research Institute
- Ms Vivienne Moyle, La Trobe University
- Dr Brett Szmajda, DISR (Co-Convenor and ARMS Board Liaison)
- Ms Tania Tambiah, Swinburne University
- Ms Monique O'Callaghan, University of Melbourne
- Mr Grahame Pearson, Elsevier
- Ms Maria Zollo (ARMS Secretariat for the GFAC)

“The most significant highlight for the reporting period was the return of the ARMS in-person conference in Sydney.”

Standing Committee Highlights

Governance, Finance and Audit Committee (GFAC)

The Committee supports the Board by maintaining its By-Laws and reviewing or developing other policies as necessary.

The GFAC also oversees the rigour and independence of the election processes as well as assisting the Board in fulfilling its financial responsibilities by overseeing the development and review of financial reports, assessing systems of internal controls and adequacy of risk management as well as facilitating auditing processes.

Key milestones for the GFAC during the reporting period include:

- Amendment of the By-Laws to align with approved changes to the ARMS Constitution. Changes to the Constitution were endorsed by the membership at a Special General Meeting of the Society on the 10th of October 2023.
- Periodic review of the compliance register, with specific policies identified for review including:
 - > Financial Reserves Policy
 - > Corporate Credit Card Policy
 - > Confidentiality Policy and
 - > Members's Code of Conduct Policy.

The GFAC extends its gratitude to Susan Rose who stepped down from their role as ex-officio member on the GFAC and Treasurer of the Board, effective September 2023. Ms Rose agreed to remain on the GFAC as the incoming Convenor.

A special thanks was also given to Ms Anna Coppel for their leadership as the Convenor of the GFAC during this period. Ms Coppel expressed their willingness to remain on the committee as a general committee member.

The Committee also welcomed an additional ex-officio member, Dr Lachlan Doughney in their capacity as ARMS Treasurer.

The GFAC membership for the reporting period comprised:

- Ms Anna Coppel, University of Melbourne (Convenor)
- Mr Brett Dobson, (ARMS Secretariat for the GFAC)
- Dr Lachlan Doughney, RMIT University (ex-officio member of GFAC, incoming Treasurer)
- Mr Jerry Gay, Deakin University
- Dr Sebastian Gimenez, Australian Catholic University
- Professor Margaret Jones, Edith Cowan University
- Ms Susan Rose, Deakin University (ARMS Treasurer)
- Ms Kate Swanson, The University of Queensland (ARMS Secretary, ex-officio member of GFAC).

Member Services Committee (MSC)

The Member Services Committee is responsible for overseeing and facilitating the development and delivery mechanisms for services to members of the Society including awards and scholarships.

The Committee is a formal channel of communications between the Society and its Chapters and facilitates connectedness and the sharing of ideas.

Key milestones for the MSC during the reporting period include:

- The successful delivery of the Society's PD Sessions @ Zoom webinar series. A snapshot is provided in this report.
- The release of the Society's Biennial Membership survey.
- The Biennial Membership survey was significantly revised to obtain a broader understanding of who makes up our community of Research Management Professionals and to obtain a greater insight into what our members value and require as part of their continuing professional development. The results from the survey are also expected to be useful in helping to inform the Board as it reviews the next iteration of the Society's Strategic Plan: Towards 2030.

Membership of the MSC during the reporting period:

- **ACT Chapter:** Huan Wu, Australian National University
- **Global Chapter:** Convenor to be appointed.
- **NSW Chapter:** Ms Tanya Karliychuk, ACCAN and Dr Stephan Waibel, University of Technology Sydney
- **Qld/NT & PNG:** Ms Belinda Watanabe, Griffith University
- **South Australia:** Ms Kathy Mott, Kathy Mott and Associates
- **Singapore:** Professor Michael Khor, Nanyang Technological University
- **NZ/Pacific Island:** Dr Simon Lovatt, University of Waikato and Katie Jones, The University of Auckland
- **Tasmania Chapter:** Mr Ed Benyon and Mr Olumide Odeyemi, University of Tasmania
- **Victoria Chapter:** Ms Sheila Hamilton Smith, WEHI and Ms Sharon Aburn, Monash University
- **Western Australia:** Ieuan Linck, the University of Western Australia

The Board Liaison and Chair is held by Dr Yordanka Krastev, Ramsay Hospital Research Foundation and Jaylene Wehipeihana, the University of Auckland. Ms Dana Watts provided secretariat support services to the MSC during this period.

Special Interest Groups

Special Interest Groups (SIGs) are responsible for developing and maintaining a network of members sharing a common area of practice or application.

SIGs are vital in fostering collaboration, promoting professional growth, and advancing specific areas of practice by creating a space for ARMS Members with shared interests to engage and work together.

During the reporting period, the Society offered a range of Special Interest Groups as follows:

Artificial Intelligence in Research Management

In early 2024, the ARMS Board identified the need to address the rapidly evolving impact of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in the research management sector. In response, two key steps were undertaken:

- Establishment of a consultation group to provide recommendations and guidance on AI directly to the Board; and
- The launch of a new Special Interest Group (SIG) dedicated to AI.

The closed consultation group, led by Dr Brett Szmajda from the National Artificial Intelligence Centre, meets regularly to monitor developments in the AI space and advise the Board accordingly.

The newly launched Artificial Intelligence in Research Management SIG aims to foster collaboration, research, and knowledge sharing among Research Management Professionals on a broad range of topics, including, but not limited to:

- Research Trends: Discussing the latest advancements in machine learning, natural language processing, computer vision, etc.
- Ethics and Policy: Addressing the ethical implications of AI technologies and advocating for responsible practices.
- Applications: Exploring real-world applications of AI a research management context.
- Workshops and Networking: Organising events and meetings to establish a community of practice with a shared interest in adopting, incorporating and using AI tools.

The current Convenor of the SIG is Fotini Toso, from Research Governance and Ethics at RMIT University, with additional Co-Convenors to be appointed. The SIG expects to deliver a range of webinars and sessions for its members over the next reporting period.

Directors of Research

The Directors of Research Special Interest Group (SIG) has remained highly active during the reporting period, continuing to engage with funding agencies and other key organisations to provide vital updates on topics of interest to its members. Notable discussions included insights from a New Zealand perspective on the introduction of short draft applications for major funding rounds; updates from the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) on recent upgrades to the SAPPHERE Grant Management System; addressing compliance with the US System for Award Management (SAM); and the Australian Research Council's (ARC) updates regarding the National Competitive Grant consultation, changes to the ARC ACT, and the formation of the ARC Board.

The SIG has agreed to conduct another survey on HERDC research income data at a sub-category level.

Additionally, the SIG will carry out a national survey on ethics and integrity, aimed at benchmarking activity and support across Australian universities.

The SIG is led by Convenors Dr Hannah Allan from Curtin University, Mr Simon Brennan from Flinders University, and Ms Nicole Makoviney from the University of Sydney. It is noted that Mr Simon Brennan will be stepping down as Co-Convenor at the end of 2024, with a new Co-Convenor to be appointed.

Ethics and Research Integrity

During the reporting period, the SIG Convenors have been collaborating closely with the Australasian Ethics Network (AEN) conference committee to develop the program for the 2025 conference, which will take place in Newcastle. The theme of the conference will be "Ethics and Integrity Uncharted: Navigating New Roles and Emerging Challenges."

Additionally, the SIG is planning a webinar in the latter half of 2024 focused on integrity investigations.

Also refer to the Australasian Ethics Network updates in this report.

The Convenors of the Ethics and Research Integrity SIG are Dr Karolyn White from Macquarie University and Dr Nitya Phillipson from the Murdoch Children's Medical Research Institute.

Special Interest Groups

First Nations Research

During the reporting period, the First Nations Research SIG, in collaboration with the Research Impact SIG, co-hosted a webinar on 26 October 2023 focused on supporting Indigenous research for community benefit within the New Zealand and Canadian contexts. The webinar was led by SIG Convenor Jaylene Wehipeihana and David Phipps from York University.

The webinar explored the connections between research in Indigenous contexts and knowledge mobilisation, and featured a tool from Research Impact Canada to help non-Indigenous researchers prepare for engaging with Indigenous communities.

Additionally, the First Nations Research SIG will be partnering with the Directors of Research SIG to facilitate a discussion at the Directors SIG meeting in Darwin scheduled on 9 September. The discussion will focus on how research office leaders can better support Indigenous research and researchers. To help guide the discussion, it is anticipated that a short survey will be circulated to assess the progress made so far and identify the additional steps needed to support our SIG members.

The First Nations SIG Co-Convenors are Ms Jaylene Wehipeihana from the University of Auckland and Dr Mandy Downing from Curtin University.



Health and Medical Research

Current Convenor Assoc Professor Tam C Nguyen, Deputy Director of Research at St Vincent's Hospital Melbourne, has been joined by Ms Melanie Wright, Director of Research at South Metropolitan Health Service, to lead the relaunch of the HMR SIG expected in early 2025. The Co-Convenors will be supported by Dr Edward Tan, Senior Manager (Research Administration) at the Geriatric Education and Research Institute Singapore, who will serve in an advisory capacity.

It is anticipated that SIG members will be engaged to help shape the SIG to better meet the needs of all members and provide guidance on potential collaborations with other SIG groups and the wider ARMS community.

International Research Collaborations

During the reporting period, the SIG engaged with members through the following events:

- **Networking Session on 28 March 2023:** The first event of the year was an online coffee networking session designed to facilitate connections among members. This informal gathering provided an opportunity for participants to meet and engage with one another, fostering collaboration and idea sharing. During the session, members were encouraged to contribute their thoughts on future topics that would be valuable for upcoming events, helping to shape the direction of future SIG activities.
- **Webinar on Attracting Fully Funded European Postdocs:** On 17 April 2024, a webinar titled *Attracting Fully Funded European Postdocs through the MSCA Global Postdoctoral Fellowships* was presented by Mr. Nishan Shandilya, representing EURAXESS Worldwide for Australia & New Zealand. This session provided an in-depth overview of the MSCA Global Postdoctoral Fellowships program and offered practical insights into how Australian institutions can attract highly qualified European postdoctoral researchers. The webinar aimed to inform and guide institutions on the opportunities available through this program, promoting global talent mobility and international collaboration in research.

The International Research Collaborations SIG is convened by Dr Jace Carson from University of Canterbury and Ms Suzanne Austin from the University of New South Wales.

Post Award Research Management

The Research Management Post Award Special Interest Group (SIG) has seen continued growth, now comprising 49 active members from 29 institutions, including the Australian Research Council, and the National Health and Medical Research Council.

The SIG has been working closely with the Directors of Research SIG, providing feedback on Multi Institutional Agreements (MIAs) and contract templates to help streamline processes across Australian universities.

Representatives from the ARC, NHMRC, and MRFF have used this forum to share updates from their organisations, which have proven to be extremely valuable. Members are able to relay this information back to their institutions, and these updates have become regular agenda items. Additionally, members can ask questions, and the ARC, NHMRC, and MRFF representatives have been generous in sharing as much information as possible with the group.

The SIG has also fostered a collaborative environment for sharing best practice. It has conducted surveys and established smaller working groups focusing on specific topics, such as shared grant financial reporting, post-award reporting, and HERDC best practices. It has been encouraging to see increased engagement among members, along with the development of cross-institutional relationships. Members are now reaching out to each other outside meetings to exchange ideas and explore different approaches.

The Post-Award Research Managers SIG is led by Ms Connie Killey from Deakin University and Mr Frank Anastopoulos from the University of Melbourne.

Research Development

The Research Development SIG is planning a relaunch in 2025 and will work with SIG members to help shape the activities of the SIG.

The Research Development SIG is currently convened by Dr Dora Horvath from Swinburne University of Technology. New Co-Convenors are expected to be appointed during the next reporting period with a re-launch of the SIG anticipated. Special acknowledgment is given to departing SIG Co-Convenor Dr Marina Delpin from the University of Adelaide who stepped down in May 2024.

Research Funders

The reporting period marked the relaunch of the Research Funders SIG on 12th June 2024. The SIG serves as a platform for actively sharing information and insights on developing and managing funding schemes. This includes discussions on best practice investment models, governance strategies, program administration, and other key issues. The SIG is also planning a face-to-face meeting for its members at the upcoming ARMS Darwin Conference in September 2024.

The SIG will be led by Jade Hurst from the Transport Accident Commission (TAC) and Tanya Karlychuk from the Australian Communications Consumer Action Network (ACCAN).

Research Impact

The Research Impact Special Interest Group (SIG) offers support to Research Management Professionals engaged in fostering an impact-driven culture, embedding impact strategies, interacting with end-users, or fulfilling any other role aimed at helping researchers maximize the impact of their work.

Throughout the reporting period, the SIG continued to host monthly networking sessions for its members.

In collaboration with the First Nations SIG, the Research Impact SIG co-hosted a webinar on 26 October 2023, focused on advancing Indigenous research for community benefit within the New Zealand and Canadian contexts. The webinar was led by SIG Convenor Jaylene Wehipeihana and David Phipps from York University. It explored the intersection of Indigenous research and knowledge mobilisation and introduced a tool from Research Impact Canada designed to help non-Indigenous researchers prepare for engaging with Indigenous communities.

Additionally, the SIG partnered with the Research Information and Reporting SIG to co-deliver a webinar on 29 June 2024 titled "Supporting and Capturing Research Impact." Presented by Professor Jenny Lewis, Professor of Public Policy at the University of Melbourne, the session delved into the University's development of a research impact definition and framework, as well as initiatives designed to help researchers ensure their work has a meaningful effect. The presentation also covered the University's approach to capturing and storing evidence of diverse types of research impact.

Looking ahead, the SIG is planning an in-person gathering at the ARMS Darwin conference in September 2024.

The Research Impact SIG is led by Dr Faith Welch from the University of Auckland, Dr Catherine McElhone from University of Technology Sydney, Dr Helen Slaney from Latrobe University and Ms Julie Ward from the University of the Sunshine Coast.

Research Information and Reporting

The Research Information and Reporting (RIR) SIG partnered with the Research Impact SIG to co-deliver a webinar on 29 June 2024 titled "Supporting and Capturing Research Impact." Presented by Professor Jenny Lewis, Professor of Public Policy at the University of Melbourne, the session delved into the University's development of a research impact definition and framework, as well as initiatives designed to help researchers ensure their work has a meaningful effect. The presentation also covered the University's approach to capturing and storing evidence of diverse types of research impact.

The SIG Convenors are also planning an event for the next reporting period on Sustainably and Safely Populating ARDC's Research Link Australia to be held on the 13 November 2024.

Members of the RIR-SIG Convening Committee during the reporting period:

- Adam Finch, CSIRO
- Anupom Roy, Macquarie University
- Elizabeth Przywolnik, University of Notre Dame (**Co-convenor**)
- Gary Long, Western Sydney University (**Co-convenor**)
- Judy Alexander, University of Newcastle
- Justin Shearer, University of Melbourne
- Marianne Brown, James Cook University

ARMS Awards

The Society proudly recognises and celebrates the outstanding achievements of its members through a variety of prestigious awards and special acknowledgements.

These remarkable accomplishments were honoured at a dedicated award ceremony during the Sydney 2023 conference, underscoring the significance of member's contributions. These awards not only highlight the exceptional work of our members but also emphasises the Society's commitment to fostering excellence and inspiring future innovation in research management.

Janet Dibb-Leigh Award for Distinguished Service to Research Management 2023

The Janet Dibb-Leigh Award for Distinguished Service to Research Management recognises individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the enhancement of the research management sector throughout Australasia and Singapore.

The Society congratulates Ms Rochelle Finlay as the 2023 recipient.



L- Ms Rochelle Finlay accepting her award, R - Dr Tania Bezzobs, ARMS President.

Fellow of ARMS 2023

Fellow of ARMS is an award which recognises individuals who have made an enduring and substantial contribution to research management as a practitioner, mentor, trainer or advocate in the research management profession.

The Society congratulates Ms Maria Zollo, ARMS COO as the 2023 recipient.



L - Dr Tania Bezzobs, R - Ms Maria Zollo, ARMS COO accepting their Fellow of ARMS Trophy.

RMIT Paul Taylor Awards for Excellence in Research Management Practice 2023

Through the generous contribution of RMIT University, the RMIT Paul Taylor Medal was announced at an award ceremony at the ARMS 2023 Sydney Conference. The recipients of the Paul Taylor Medal were Ms Claire Blankley and Dr Marc Fellman, both from Edith Cown University.



L- Ms Jane Holt, M- Ms Claire Blankley and L- Dr Tania Bezzobs, ARMS President

New Awards

The ARMS Board has made a substantial investment in enhancing the value it provides to its members by expanding its range of benefits.

In late 2023, the Board supported three new programs designed to provide ongoing education, training, and professional development for ARMS members. This investment is critical as it empowers our members to advance their skills and enables members to have access to resources to thrive in an increasingly competitive and evolving professional landscape.

Below is a summary of these new programs and the list of awardees:

i. Early Career Research Management Development Program 2024 (ECRM 2024)

The ECRM Program supports Early Career Research Management Professionals to undertake education, training, and professional development programs to become more proficient Research Management Professionals. Funding support under this program may be used to cover the registration cost related to a professional development program either through ARMS or via a relevant external provider. Priority will be given in the first instance to applicants seeking support under the Society's [Foundation Level Accreditation Modules](#) and/or [Master Classes](#)

Recipients for the inaugural awards are:

- Sheena Abraham, Monash University
- Tulika Basak, Deakin University
- Alice Ferguson, RMIT University
- Lahiru Gangoda, Centre for Eye Research Australia
- Mateo Mosquera Garcia, Deakin University
- Lakshmi Krishnan, University of Technology, Sydney
- Imogen Kuner, Monash University
- Samantha Orr, The University of Melbourne
- Caitlin Symons, Telethon Kids Institute
- Lisa Truong, Black Dog Institute
- Caitlin van Ree, Walter Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research
- Anika Waterhouse, Black Dog Institute

ARMS Awards

ii. ARMS Indigenous/First Nations Conference Travel Award Program 2024 (ICTAP 2024)

The award is designed to provide modest financial support to eligible Indigenous/First Nations Research Management Professionals who wish to attend the [ARMS Darwin conference](#) from 11-13 September 2024.

Recipients for the inaugural awards are:

- Spencer Argus, Australian National University
- Dhani Coe, The University of Sydney
- Allan Teale, University of Technology, Sydney
- Mary Waria, University of Queensland

iii. ARMS International Travel Award Program 2024 (ITAP 2024)

The ARMS International Travel Award Program (ITAP) provides modest financial support for up to two ARMS members to participate in international visits and exchanges for an agreed period (nominally up to two weeks) with an agreed program of work and training.

Recipients for the inaugural awards are:

- Dani Milos, Flinders University
- Susan Rose, Deakin University

iv. ARMS Conference Travel Awards

The Society once again offered members financial support to offset the cost of attending the annual conference in Sydney in September 2023. Recipients for the 2023 awards were:

- Sharon Aburn, Monash University
- Chloe Bibari, University of Tasmania
- Rahna Carusi, Massey University
- Stuart Clarke, Curtin University
- Emilie Corrick, The University of Adelaide
- Noni Creasey, The University of Queensland
- Megan Cross, Griffith University
- Kira Davidson, Monash University
- Gabriel de Carheil, La Trobe University
- Urmi Dhagat, University of Melbourne
- Denise Dillon, James Cook University – Singapore
- Irene Dullaway, Griffith University
- Daniel Dunne, University of Melbourne
- Katrina Fisher, Murdoch University
- Chiaw Gee Ng, Nanyang Technological University
- Steven Guo, Monash University
- Bernardo Jarrin, University of Melbourne
- Rosie Jayasekera, Curtin University
- Sonia Jessup, University of Tasmania
- Muhammad Khattab, The University of Western Australia
- Hadassah Knowles, The University of Adelaide
- Julia Kuliwaba, The University of Adelaide
- Kate McKenzie, The University of Western Australia
- Shaie O'Brien, University of Melbourne
- Amanda Paech, University of Tasmania
- Leah Sullivan (Mount), University of Melbourne
- Tony Wang, The University of Queensland
- Mandy Webb, The University of Adelaide
- Jaylene Wehipeihana, Te Pōkai Tara Universities New Zealand
- Alison Wright, Griffith University



Chapter Travel Award recipients at the ARMS 2023 Sydney Conference Gala Dinner held on 7 September 2023.

Our Flagship Conference



ARMS Annual Conference

The ARMS Conference in 2023 was a significant milestone after a long hiatus of in-person conferences due to disruptions caused by the pandemic. The conference was held from 5-8 September 2023 at the Sydney International Convention Centre, with the theme **“Shifting Sands: Embracing the Diverse Future of Research Management,”** which resonated with delegates. The event saw a significantly large attendance of 777 delegates and received 158 abstract submissions, surpassing attendance figures and abstract contributions of pre COVID events. The strong engagement by our members highlighted the conference’s importance as a hub for networking, professional development, and knowledge exchange.

The subthemes for the conference included:

- Analytics and the future of research
- Higher Degree Research - Creating Consistency in Inconsistent Ecosystems
- Improving engagement, improving research
- Research impact: tackling the global challenges of the future
- Research operations: Pre-award, post-award, and finance
- Research quality: Ethics and integrity beyond compliance
- Supporting Indigenous research and engagement
- Workforce development and diversity

Keynote and invited speakers for the event were:

- Prof Seyedali (Ali) Mirjalili, *Director, Centre for Artificial Intelligence Research and Optimisation, Torrens University Australia*
- A/Prof Siouxsie Wiles, *New Zealanders of the Year (University of Auckland)*
- Prof Bronwyn Fox, *Chief Scientist, CSIRO*
- Invited Speakers for the event were:
 - Dr Willy-John Martin, *Director Māori Research, Science and Innovation · Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment*
 - Anthony Ackroyd, *CEO, Feel Betterer*
 - Marc Pellegrini, *Centenary Institute*

We acknowledge the vital contributions of our sponsors and exhibitors, whose support makes the conference possible. Their involvement plays a crucial role in ensuring the event is a valuable professional development and networking opportunity for ARMS Members and the wider research management community.



Members networking at the ARMS Sydney Conference held at the Sydney Convention and Exhibition Centre.



Poster display at ARMS 2023 Sydney Conference

Our Flagship Conference

Our Sponsors:

Organisation	Sponsorship Level
Worktribe	Gold Sponsor
Cayuse	Gold Sponsor & Gala Dinner
Endpoint IQ	Silver Sponsor & Lunch & Learn
Elsevier	Silver Sponsor
Infonetica	Silver Sponsor
ARC	Bronze Sponsor
University of Melbourne	Bronze Sponsor
ResearchMaster	Lunch & Learn
BMJ	Lunch & Learn
InfoEd Global	E-Satchel Insert
SW Accountants & Advisors	E-Satchel Insert
F1000 - Taylor & Francis	E-Satchel Insert
Sage Malaysia	Morning or Afternoon Tea Sponsor
Springer nature	Breakfast Sponsor
Emerald Publishing	SIG Sponsor

Our Exhibitors:

The GrantEd Group	BMJ
Springer Nature	ResearchMaster
Digital Science & Research Solutions Limited	Cayuse
Endpoint IQ	Infonetica
Elsevier	F1 Solutions
Clarivate	Epigeum (Sage)
Worktribe	

A special acknowledgment is extended to the conference organisers. Their unwavering dedication, hard work, and meticulous attention to detail have been instrumental in bringing the 2023 Sydney Conference to life. From planning and coordination to overcoming challenges along the way, the committee's collective efforts have ensured a smooth and successful event.

Conference Convenor

- Ms Connie Killey, Deakin University

Program Organising Committee:

- Dr Miriam-Rose Ash, The University of Sydney
- Mr Ed Benyon, University of Tasmania
- Mireille Consalvey, Victoria University of Wellington
- Dr Denise Dillon, James Cook University, Singapore
- Ms Tanya Karlychuk, Australian Communications Consumer Action Network (ACCAN)
- Ms Tess Tuxford, Te Herenga Waka - Victoria University of Wellington
- Dr Faith Welch, University of Auckland

Conference Organising Committee:

- Ms Sarah Lisle, University of Wollongong
- Ms Jennifer Luplow, The Royal Children's Hospital
- Ms Melissa Maloney, University of Newcastle (withdrew due to moving out of the industry)

Promotion of Our Profession

The Society remains committed to underscoring the critical role of research management by making informed submissions to government bodies as well as actively engaging with other peak bodies and stakeholders in the research and innovation sector.

Highlights for the reporting period include:

- A response to the Defence Trade Controls Act (DTC) 2023 Review on 18 October 2023.
- Continued engagement with funding agencies and other peak bodies via our Directors of Research Special Interest Group. Over the course of the past 12 months, the SIG has been provided regular updates from funding agencies and other peak bodies on a range of topics of relevance to research and research management such as: Australian Universities Accord; review of the National Competitive Grants Program (Discovery and Linkage Projects); The Medical Research Future Fund (MRFF) consultation; and introduction of short draft applications for major funding rounds and how these have been managed by our members.

- Our Research Contracting Working Group (a sub-committee of the ARMS Directors SIG) has undertaken a series of initiatives aimed at addressing some key constraints across the sector including Streamlining Research Head Agreements and consequential Multi Institutional Agreements, developing new template agreements for adoption by the sectors and developing resources to support the principles and approach to contracting. The major highlight was the introduction of a template agreement “3 in 1” for NHMRC Programs launched in April 2024.

All these activities demonstrate the Society’s commitment to advancing research management and maintaining robust connections with stakeholders and research communities globally.

“ All these activities demonstrate the Society’s commitment to advancing research management and maintaining robust connections with stakeholders and research communities globally. ”

Strategic Partnerships

The Society continues to maintain and form new partnerships with other like-minded Research Management Professionals across the research and innovation sector. These partnerships include:

Australasian Ethics Network (AEN)

ARMS has had a long-term affiliation with the Australasian Ethics Network (AEN) as a stream of the ARMS Ethics and Integrity Special Interest Group. Also refer to Ethics and Integrity Special Interest Group for an update. The AEN is well into its planning for its biennial conference which is scheduled for delivery in November 2025 in Newcastle, Australia. The AEN Conference Committee is led by Dr Jodie Marquez and Dr Kathryn Skelding. The Committee expects to launch the registration portal in the second half of 2024 with a call for abstracts scheduled for March 2025.

Australasian Research Training Network (ARTN)

During the reporting period, the Australasian Research Training Network (ARTN) hosted its first online webinar, titled "*HDR Orientation and Induction*." The session featured a panel of experts: Dr Sean O'Reilly from The University of Sydney, Dr Murray Lane from Queensland University of Technology, Ms Cathy van der Griend from Queensland University of Technology, and Professor Jason White from Charles Sturt University. The webinar focused on different approaches and initiatives designed to maximize benefits for HDR students.

Additionally, the ARTN Advisory also hosted its second webinar on June 5, 2024, titled "*HDR Industry Engagement*". The session was presented by Michelle Luca from CSIRO, Director, Lauren Stephenson from the Office of the Queensland Chief Scientist, and National Co-Chairs Brooke Cotton and Mitch Smyth from the Australian HDR Industry Engagement Community of Practice. This webinar offered members valuable insights into sectoral successes, challenges, and opportunities.

The ARTN Advisory Committee plans to issue a call for new members in the second half of 2024 and has scheduled a planning meeting in the second half of 2024 to identify offerings for its members in 2025.

Members of the ARTN Advisory Committee during the reporting period include:

- Ms Tracy Sullivan – Co-Chair
- Ms Susan Schlinker – Co-Chair
- Professor Jason White – Co-Chair
- Ms Catherine Murphy - Committee member – Governance and Administration
- Dr Seán O'Reilly - Committee member – Graduate Research Development
- Dr Douglas Eacersall - Committee member – Graduate Research Development
- Ms Kate Swanson – Committee member

Stakeholder Engagement

From 15-18 August 2023, with the ARMS COO, Maria Zollo, and Deputy President, Jaylene Wehipeihana, ARMS President Dr Tania Bezzobs attended a series of New Zealand and Pacific Island Chapter events held in Auckland, Wellington and Christchurch.

Organised by the New Zealand and Pacific Island Chapter, these events were highly engaging. Each event commenced with a policy discussion on the *Te Ara Paerangi* Future Pathways and New Zealand National Research Priorities followed by networking. These events were the first significant in-person activities post-Covid. Aligned with this event were a series of meetings with key funding agencies and other stakeholders across the New Zealand research and innovation system including from the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment, the Health Research Council of NZ, The University of Auckland and Auckland University of Technology. Also refer to New Zealand and Pacific Island highlights in this report.

The Singapore Chapter in collaboration with the ARMS Board coordinated a Symposium on “*Current Challenges faced by Research Management Professionals*”. The purpose of the Symposium was to bring together the broader Research Management community in Singapore as its first major in-person event since the pandemic and as a means of re-engaging with the sector in the region. Attended by over 100 Research Management Professionals on the 24th of May 2024, presenters included Dr Willie Koh, NTU; Associate Professor Denise Dillon, James Cook University; Mr Georg Loh, National University of Singapore, Professor Lim Kah Leong, Nanyang Technological University; and Professor Michael Khor, Nanyang Technological University.

While in Singapore, ARMS COO and I met with key research organisations, including The National Research Foundation; The National University of Singapore; A*Star; Singapore Institute of Technology; the National University Health System; and the Geriatric Research Institute. Also refer to Singapore Chapter highlights in this report.

ARC and NHMRC Research Administrators' Seminar 2023

On November 12 and 13, the Australian Research Council (ARC) and the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) hosted the first ARC/NHMRC Research Administrators' Seminar in Canberra since 2019.

Over 160 Research Management Professionals from Australian universities, research institutes, and research organisations attended in-person, with many more joining online. ARMS proudly sponsored the networking session on day one, demonstrating its support for the ARC and NHMRC in organising the event and providing an opportunity for ARMS members to connect with colleagues from Australia's leading research funding bodies. Attendees were able to engage with the latest updates from the ARC and NHMRC, ask questions, and contribute to fostering a positive and collaborative relationship between research managers, funders, and providers.



Mr Simon Brennan opening the networking session at the ARC/NHMRC Research Administrators' seminar in Canberra on the 12th of December 2023.

Global Partnerships

International Network of Research Management Societies (INORMS)

ARMS continues to be an active participant in the global research management community through its involvement with the International Network of Research Management Societies (INORMS).

Extending on this commitment and as part of Strategic Priority 4, the Society works with countries where research management is an emerging profession. Members will be aware that ARMS has committed to partnering with the Malaysian Research Management Association (MyRMA) to deliver the ARMS Darwin Conference in September 2024.

This collaboration highlights the Society's dedication to fostering international cooperation and advancing research management practices. Through this mentoring partnership, both organisations have combined their expertise to ensure the conference's success and meaningful impact. This alliance not only strengthens global research management networks but also boosts the capacity for knowledge exchange and innovation within the field of research management

INORMS Members International Network of Research Management Societies





Our Finances

I'm delighted to provide an update on the financial position of the Society for the financial year - 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024.

The financial year has been instructive about predicting the financial viability of key ARMS initiatives (especially our flagship conference) into the future and how we can further broaden the reach and support the Society provides to Research Management Professionals across the geographical remit of the Society.

For this financial year, the Society budgeted for a very modest surplus of AUD\$25,000. However, comprehensive forecasting throughout the period showed that our position would, like the previous financial year, be more favorable by the end of the financial year. The Society ended the year with an AUD\$250,000 surplus, driven by higher than forecasted conference registrations (AUD\$109,000), and lower expenditure in Foundation Accreditation and Masterclasses due to online delivery (AUD\$60,000 less than expected). The Executive Office's diligence to pursue more cost-effective modes of accreditation delivery and support of a highly successful Sydney conference in 2023 have placed ARMS in our strongest financial position for several years.

ARMS' investment portfolio has provided a return of AUD\$71,000 in this financial year following AUD\$75,000 in the previous financial year FY22/23. This outcome against a global backdrop of significant financial instability is another good result from our investment portfolio.

With continued stability in income from other sources (i.e., membership dues, sponsorship and education and training), the Society has not been required to draw down on its portfolio investment this year. In line with our status as a not for profit, and in compliance with our reserves policy, future forecasting will increase expenditure and may open consideration of using portfolio funds where they exceed operational requirements.

2024 sees the delivery of our conference in Darwin in collaboration with our INORMS international partner MyRMA in a mentoring capacity. Delivery of this conference is a key test of events that are not on the Eastern seaboard of Australia and are as highly attended due to the population density of members. Currently, early results from 2023/2024 regarding the conference, while not as significant as the financial return of the Sydney conference, show we will likely exceed our most positive forecast for the event. This provides confidence that the approach of the Society to host conferences in diverse locations is viable and embeds positivity about further delivery of this critical event to all members across Australasia.

The Board of Directors has made a strategic decision to reinvest budget surplus to support the establishment of a critical new role "Partnerships, Education and Policy Manager". This role will be responsible for leading, supporting and enabling professional development programs; partnership engagement and advocacy all in pursuit of providing increased and high-quality benefits to all members. It will also ensure continuity and longevity for ARMS, providing support to the COO and succession planning.

It has been forecasted that this appointment will entail an increase in operational expenditure in 2024/2025 and, drawing on positive outcomes of the last two financial years, reflects our desire to translate returns from this financial year into future initiatives that drive further member interest and engagement.

The next financial phase for the Society will be to consider how we can use now known increases in income to meet the clear interests of our members for engagement and professional development.

**Dr Lachlan Doughney,
ARMS Treasurer**

“ *The Executive Office's diligence to pursue more cost-effective modes of accreditation delivery and support of a highly successful Sydney conference in 2023 have placed ARMS in our strongest financial position for several years.* **”**

Audited Financial Statement for the Year Ended 30 June 2024

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ARMS

Australasian Research Management Society

AUSTRALASIAN RESEARCH MANAGEMENT SOCIETY INC

ABN 57 334 849 485

Committee's Report

The Committee members present the financial report for the Australasian Research Management Society Inc (the Society) for the year ended 30 June 2024.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

The names of the Committee members throughout the year and at the date of this report are:

Dr Tania Bezzobs (President)	Dr Brett Szmajda
Dr Lachlan Doughney (Treasurer – appointed 7/9/23)	Ms Jaylene Wehipeihana
Ms Susan Rose (Treasurer – resigned 7/9/23)	Dr Amanda Cleaver (resigned 7/9/23)
Ms Kate Swanson (Secretary)	Ms Emma Collyer (appointed 7/9/23)
Dr Yordanka Krastev	Ms Sharon Aburn (appointed 7/9/23)

PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES

The principal activities of the Society during the financial year were:

- to encourage the professional development of research managers and research administrators
- to promote the profession of research management and enhancement of the research enterprise
- to establish a strong and effective professional network of research managers and research administrators at all levels and based on a verity of setting through personal relationships, presentations, formal and informal meetings and publications
- the development and promotion of professional standards for research management and research administration throughout Australasia consistent with international best practice

SIGNIFICANT CHANGES

No significant change in the nature of these activities occurred during the year.

OPERATING RESULT

The operating profit / (loss) of the society for the current and previous annual periods were as follows:

	Profit / (loss)
Current period	250,377
Prior period	40,640

LIKELY DEVELOPMENTS

The Committee has determined that there are no likely development that would affect the operations of the Society in future years.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the council members of the Society.



President

Date: 06/09/2024
Adelaide, South Australia



Treasurer

Date: 06/09/2024
Melbourne, Victoria

Statement by Members of the Committee

The statements attached to this statement present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position and financial performance of Australasian Research Management Society Inc during and at the end of the financial year of the association ending 30 June 2024.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the council members of the Society.



President

Date: 06/09/2024
Adelaide, South Australia



Treasurer

Date: 06/09/2024
Melbourne, Victoria

Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income

	Note	2024 AU\$	2023 AU\$
Revenue	3	1,502,279	854,569
Other Income	3	90,882	77,593
		1,593,161	932,162
Operating Expenses			
Chief Operating Officer	12	187,927	185,353
Finance Officer		97,672	96,861
Conference & Major Events Coordinator		117,885	113,596
Accreditation Program Administrator		119,766	107,177
Administrative officer		69,893	90,929
Chapter expenses		20,841	18,901
Executive expenses		44,265	11,582
Conference expense		546,628	101,545
Award expense		4,057	8,123
Special interest groups		3,115	6,116
Administrative expenses		52,943	49,955
Amortisation		37,639	47,404
<u>Website</u>		12,679	10,733
Accreditation expenses		27,474	43,247
		1,342,784	891,522
Profit / (loss) for the year		250,377	40,640
Other comprehensive income for the year			
Other comprehensive income for the year		-	-
Total comprehensive income for the year		250,377	40,640

The above statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Statement of Financial Position

	Note	2024 AU\$	2023 AU\$
ASSETS			
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents	4	975,770	823,405
Trade and other receivables	5	281,185	272,075
Prepayments		140,076	122,076
Investments	6	1,088,920	1,018,130
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		2,485,951	2,235,686
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Intangible assets	7	18,144	55,783
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS		18,144	55,783
TOTAL ASSETS		2,504,095	2,291,469
LIABILITIES			
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Trade and other payables	8	216,006	230,188
Deferred income		985,854	1,009,423
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES		1,201,860	1,239,611
TOTAL LIABILITIES		1,201,860	1,239,611
NET ASSETS		1,302,235	1,051,858
EQUITY			
Retained Earnings		1,302,235	1,051,858
Total equity		1,302,235	1,051,858

The above statement of financial position should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Statement of Cash Flows

	Note	2024 AU\$	2023 AU\$
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Members' & customers' receipts		1,488,137	1,296,066
Payments to suppliers		(1,337,327)	(739,295)
Interest received		1,555	1,595
Net cash inflow/(outflow) from operating activities		152,365	558,366
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		152,365	558,366
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period		823,405	265,039
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	4	975,770	823,405

The above statement of cash flows should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Statement of Changes in Equity

	Retained Earnings AU\$	Total AU\$
At 1 July 2022	1,011,218	1,011,218
Profit for the year	40,640	40,640
Other comprehensive income	-	-
Total comprehensive income for the year	40,640	40,640
At 30 June 2023	1,051,858	1,051,858
Profit for the year	250,377	250,377
Other comprehensive income	-	-
Total comprehensive income for the year	250,377	250,377
At 30 June 2024	1,302,235	1,302,235

The above statement of changes in equity should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

Notes to the Financial Statements

NOTE 1 MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICY INFORMATION

The principal accounting policies adopted in the preparation of the financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

New or amended Accounting Standards and Interpretations adopted

The incorporated association has adopted all of the new or amended Accounting Standards and Interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board ('AASB') that are mandatory for the current reporting period.

Any new or amended Accounting Standards or Interpretations that are not yet mandatory have not been early adopted. The adoption of these Accounting Standards and Interpretations did not have any significant impact on the financial performance or position of the incorporated association.

The following Accounting Standards and Interpretations are most relevant to the incorporated association:

(a) Basis of Preparation

The financial statements are general purpose financial statements that have been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards - Simplified Disclosure Requirements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB) and the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012. The Society is a not-for-profit entity for the financial reporting purposes under Australian Accounting Standards.

Australian Accounting Standards set out accounting policies that the AASB has concluded would result in financial statements containing relevant and reliable information about transactions, events and conditions. Material accounting policies adopted in the preparation of the financial statements are presented below and have been consistently applied unless stated otherwise.

The financial statements, except for the cash flow information, have been prepared on an accrual basis and are based on historical costs, modified, where applicable, by the measurement at fair value of financial assets. The amounts presented in the financial statements have been rounded to the nearest dollar

(b) Revenue Recognition

Membership revenue is measured at the fair value of the consideration received and is brought to account as revenue in the year it relates. The membership period covers 1 July to 30 June each year.

Interest

Interest revenue is recognised as interest accrues using the effective interest method. The effective interest method uses the effective interest rate which is the rate that exactly discounts the estimated future cash receipts over the expected life of the financial asset.

(c) Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Revenues and expenses are recognised net of GST except where GST incurred on a purchase of goods and services is not recoverable from the taxation authority, in which case the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of the expense item.

Receivables and payables are stated with the amount of GST included. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the taxation authority is included as part of receivables or payables in the statement of financial position.

Cash flows are included in the statement of cash flows on a gross basis and the GST component of cash flows arising from investing and financing activities, which is recoverable from, or payable to, the taxation authority are classified as operating cash flows.

Commitments and contingencies are disclosed net of the amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the taxation authority.

(d) Income Tax

As the incorporated association is a non-profit scientific organisation in terms of subsection 50-5 of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997, as amended, it is exempt from paying income tax.

(e) Cash and Cash Equivalents

For the purposes of the Statement of Cash Flows, cash and cash equivalents includes cash on hand and at bank, deposits held at call with financial institutions, other short term, highly liquid investments with maturities of three months or less, that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and which are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value and bank overdrafts.

Notes to the Financial Statements

(f) Trade Receivables

Other receivables are recognised at amortised cost, less any allowance for expected credit losses.

(g) Intangible Assets

Intangible assets are stated at historical cost, including costs directly attributable to bringing the asset to the location and condition necessary for it to be capable of operating in the manner intended by management, less amortisation and any impairments.

The carrying amount is reviewed annually by the Committee to ensure it is not in excess of the recoverable amount from these assets. The recoverable amount is assessed on the basis of the expected net cash flows that will be received from the assets' employment and subsequent disposal. The expected net cash flows have been discounted to their present values in determining recoverable amounts.

The amount of all intangible assets is amortised on a straight line basis over the asset's useful life to the Society commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use.

(h) Trade and Other Payables

Trade and other payables represent liabilities for goods and services provided to the Society prior to the year end and which are unpaid. These amounts are unsecured and are usually paid within 30 days of recognition. All trade and other payables are non interest bearing.

(i) Financial Assets

Investments and other financial assets are initially measured at fair value. Transaction costs are included as part of the initial measurement, except for financial assets at fair value through profit or loss. Such assets are subsequently measured at either amortised cost or fair value depending on their classification. Classification is determined based on both the business model within which such assets are held and the contractual cash flow characteristics of the financial asset unless, an accounting mismatch is being avoided.

Financial assets are derecognised when the rights to receive cash flows have expired or have been transferred and the consolidated entity has transferred substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership. When there is no reasonable expectation of recovering part or all of a financial asset, its carrying value is written off.

Financial assets not measured at amortised cost or at fair value through other comprehensive income are classified as financial assets at fair value through profit or loss. Typically, such financial assets will be either: (i) held for trading, where they are acquired for the purpose of selling in the short-term with an intention of making a profit, or a derivative; or (ii) designated as such upon initial recognition where permitted. Fair value movements are recognised in profit or loss.

(j) Accounting Standards Issued but not yet Effective

Certain new accounting standards and interpretations have been published that are not mandatory for reporting periods ending 30 June 2024. At the date of authorisation of the financial statements, the Standards and Interpretations in issue but not yet effective or adopted were not expected to have a material impact.

(k) Application of new and Revised Accounting Standards

The Society has adopted all of the new, revised or amending Accounting Standards and Interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board ('AASB') that are mandatory for the current reporting period. There was no impact on application.

(l) Comparative Figures

When required by accounting standards, comparative figures have been adjusted to conform to changes in presentation for the current year.

NOTE 2 ACCOUNTING ESTIMATES AND JUDGEMENTS

The Committee evaluate estimates and judgments incorporated into the financial statements based on historical knowledge and best available current information. Estimates assume a reasonable expectation of future events and are based on current trends and economic data, obtained both externally and within the Society.

NOTE 3 REVENUE AND OTHER INCOME

Revenue

	2024 AU\$	2023 AU\$
Membership	269,465	174,726
Conference	930,162	341,736
Accreditation	269,598	305,413
Sponsorship	31,909	28,476
Advertising	1,145	4,218
	<u>1,502,279</u>	<u>854,569</u>

Other Income

Interest	1,555	1,595
Managed Funds Distributions received	37,057	5,703
Fair Value Movement on Financial Assets at Fair Value through Profit or Loss	34,242	70,295
Other Income	18,028	-
	<u>90,882</u>	<u>77,593</u>

NOTE 4 CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

Cash at bank	975,770	823,405
	<u>975,770</u>	<u>823,405</u>

NOTE 5 TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES

Trade receivables	281,185	270,702
Other receivables	-	1,373
	<u>281,185</u>	<u>272,075</u>

NOTE 6 INVESTMENTS

Financial Assets at Fair Value Through Profit or Loss	<u>1,088,920</u>	<u>1,018,130</u>
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The 'Units in unlisted managed funds' have been valued based on their quoted market prices in active markets.

Notes to the Financial Statements

	2024	2023
	AU\$	AU\$
NOTE 7 INTANGIBLE ASSETS		
<i>Software</i>		
At cost	189,615	189,615
Accumulated amortisation	(171,471)	(133,832)
	<u>18,144</u>	<u>55,783</u>
<i>Reconciliation of Software</i>		
Balance at the beginning of the year	55,783	103,187
Amortisation	(37,639)	(47,404)
Closing carrying value	<u>18,144</u>	<u>55,783</u>

NOTE 8 TRADE AND OTHER PAYABLES

Accounts Payable	11,561	19,317
Accrued Expenses	175,199	178,040
GST Payable	29,246	32,831
	<u>216,006</u>	<u>230,188</u>

NOTE 9 CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

The incorporated association had no contingent liabilities as at 30 June 2024 and 30 June 2023.

NOTE 10 EVENTS AFTER THE REPORTING PERIOD

No matter or circumstance has arisen since 30 June 2024 that has significantly affected, or may significantly affect the incorporated association's operations, the results of those operations, or the incorporated association's state of affairs in future financial years.

NOTE 11 AUDITORS REMUNERATION

Audit of the financial statements
Non assurance services - compilation of financial statements

2024 AU\$	2023 AU\$
8,500	5,900
1,500	1,000
<u>10,000</u>	<u>6,900</u>

NOTE 12 RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Key Management Personnel

The aggregate compensation made to officers and other members of key management personnel is set out below:

Aggregate Compensation

<u>187,927</u>	<u>185,353</u>
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The compensation disclosed in this note includes compensation paid to key management personnel on behalf of the Society.

Transactions with related parties

There were no transactions with related parties during the current and previous financial year.

Receivable from and payable to related parties

There were no trade receivables from or trade payables to related parties at the current and previous reporting date.

Loans to/from related parties

There were no loans to or from related parties at the current and previous reporting date.

Certificate by Members of the Committee

I, Tania Bezzobs of Melbourne, Victoria
and I Lachlan Doughney of Melbourne, Victoria

certify that

- a We are members of the Committee of Australasian Research Management Society Inc
- b We attended the annual general meeting of the Society held on
- c We are authorised by the attached resolution of the Committee to sign this certificate
- d This annual statement was submitted to the members of the Society at its annual general meeting



President



Treasurer

Dated this 2nd day of October 2024

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF AUSTRALASIAN RESEARCH MANAGEMENT SOCIETY INCORPORATED

Report on the Audit of the Financial Report

Opinion

We have audited the financial report of Australasian Research Management Society Incorporated (the Entity), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2024, the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, the statement of changes in equity and the statement of cash flows for the year then ended, the notes to the financial report including material accounting policy information, and the Statement by Members of the Committee .

In our opinion the accompanying financial report presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Entity as at 30 June 2024, and its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards - Simplified Disclosures.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report* section of our report. We are independent of the Entity in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards)* (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Other information

Those charged with governance are responsible for the other information. The other information obtained at the date of this auditor's report is information included in the Committee's Report, but does not include the financial report and our auditor's report thereon.

Our opinion on the financial report does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial report, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial report or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work we have performed on the other information obtained prior to the date of this auditor's report, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Responsibilities of those charged with governance for the Financial Report

Those charged with governance of the Entity are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards - Simplified Disclosures and for such internal control as those charged with governance determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, those charged with governance are responsible for assessing the Entity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless those charged with governance either intend to liquidate the Entity or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the Financial Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial report is located at the Auditing and Assurance Standards Board website (<http://www.auasb.gov.au/Home.aspx>) at: https://www.auasb.gov.au/auditors_responsibilities/ar4.pdf.

This description forms part of our auditor's report.



BDO Audit Pty Ltd



Josh Carver
Director

Adelaide, 10 September 2024



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