



ASSOCIATION FOR
ACADEMIC
LANGUAGE AND
LEARNING

Association for Academic Language and Learning (AALL) Incorporated

Annual Report

November 2023

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1. President's Report – AALL Highlights 2023

Dr Rebekah Clarkson, AALL President 2021-2023, SA State Representative, Learning Adviser, Student Engagement Unit, University of South Australia – rebekah.clarkson@unisa.edu.au

This report provides an overview of the activities undertaken by the AALL Executive Team this year and introduces the 2023-2025 Executive.

This year we welcome a new Executive and thank our continuing and completing members. I have made the decision to step down from an AALL Executive role after four years as SA state representative and two as President. Beyond the things I have learned and hope to have contributed in these roles, it has been the connections made with colleagues – many now friends – that I most value and will work to keep.

I am deeply thankful to the current Executive Team for their time, energy, professionalism, insight and humour.

I thank the Academic Learning Support team at the University of South Australia, and particularly, Manager Kirstin Marks, for their continued support of me in this role. For their counsel, I also thank Associate Professor Julia Prendergast, President of the Australasian Association of Writing Programs, and Professor Rowena Harper, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Education) at Edith Cowan University.

1.1. Introduction

2023 has been another big year for our professional community and association.

Reflecting on where we've been and where we're going as an association, I've been reading back on previous AALL Annual Reports. In former President (2014-2017) Professor Rowena Harper's final report, she reflected on the impact of perpetual restructures and the shifting roles within the ALL profession.

'Change', she wrote at the end of 2017, 'is truly the only constant.'

Don't we know it.

This year, the Executive asked: what changes might we make within our professional Association to better reflect and support the work of our members? Not change for the sake of it, but change that is geared toward vibrancy, efficacy, and sustainability; change infused with goodwill that seeks to build on excellence already established. We asked: what governance structure might be most effective in supporting the post-Covid practices and challenges of our members? How can we ensure our Association is agile, and outwardly and future focussed? How can we better communicate with our members and foster local connections? How can we add more value to AALL membership?

We benchmarked our policies and practices, sought advice and input from previous Executive members, Presidents, and counterpart international organisations, and engaged in rigorous discussion. We have maintained and upheld our mission statement and goals and developed new Executive roles with an accompanying [Governance Charter](#) and Code of Conduct. The Executive will seek members' endorsement of proposed constitutional amendments to support these changes at the AGM. I thank David Rowland, Kate Chanock and Alex Barthel for their commitment to ensuring historical knowledge of the association has not been lost in the process of change. I particularly thank Andrew Kelly and Lisa Amerikanos for their huge dedication of time and expertise on the Governance Working Group.

It has been an honour to be involved in this process of rethinking the AALL governance structure. I am excited by the capacity and talent of the incoming new Executive – more information is provided [below](#).

1.2. Memberships

Memberships have oscillated slightly over the past six years and have dropped again this year. We have decided again to maintain the reduced membership rates which were initiated in 2020 given that the association is financially healthy. This also reflects the executive’s desire to support and encourage membership from casually employed ALL colleagues. Please see David Rowland’s [Treasurer’s Reports](#) for more detail on AALL finances; I thank David for his ongoing and valued contribution. The AALL website has undergone significant development this year which will support a range of initiatives: institutional memberships will be automated, and a new Mail Chimp subscription will enable professional and less logistically cumbersome communication with members.



Figure 1. AALL Memberships: 2018 – 2023.

1.3. Executive roles and contributions

The Executive Team for 2023 and their roles are listed below. Many stepped up this year into additional and assistant roles and I thank them all for their contributions, collegiality, and commitment to AALL.

- **Lisa Amerikanos:** Tasmanian State Representative, Governance Working Group
- **Alex Barthel:** Senior Counsel, Assistant Treasurer, Memberships Working Group, Member of the AALL Grants Review Working Group, Founding President
- **Tiana Blazevic-Bastow:** South Australian State Representative, Social Media Coordinator, PD support, Systems Adviser
- **Shirley Brown:** **Secretary**, Queensland State Representative, Memberships and New Members Coordinator
- **Steve Campitelli:** Victorian State Representative, PD Coordinator
- **Kate Chanock:** Senior Counsel, Founding member
- **Grace Chipperfield:** 2023 Conference Convener

- **Lesley Cioccarelli:** Social Media Support, Website support
- **Rebekah Clarkson: President,** South Australian State Representative, Memberships Working Group, Governance Working Group, Steering Group Member for ICALLD
- **Guido Ernst:** Victorian State Representative, Steering Group Member for ICALLD
- **Sue Gollagher:** Northern Territory State Representative, Social Media Coordinator
- **Gail Heinrich:** Australian Capital Territory Representative, Web Manager
- **Debi Howarth:** Mathematics SIG Coordinator, Strategic Planning Working Group Coordinator
- **Andrew Kelly: Vice-President,** West Australian State Representative, Member of the AALL Grants Review Working Group, Governance Working Group, Steering Group Member for ICALLD Strategic Planning Working Group
- **May Kocatepe: Public Officer,** New South Wales State Representative, PD Support, Assistant Secretary
- **Alice Lee:** New South Wales State Representative, Social Media Coordinator, PD Support
- **Shane Rigby:** Australian Capital Territory Representative, Assistant Treasurer, AALL Grants Review Working Group, Memberships Working Group
- **David Rowland: Treasurer,** Editor of the Journal for Academic Language and Learning, Founding Member of AALL
- **John Smith:** Queensland State Representative, Systems Adviser
- **Hollie West:** Tasmanian State Representative

Executive Activities

The executive met formally six times across the year over Zoom. Beyond these formal meetings, members met in working groups extensively throughout the year.

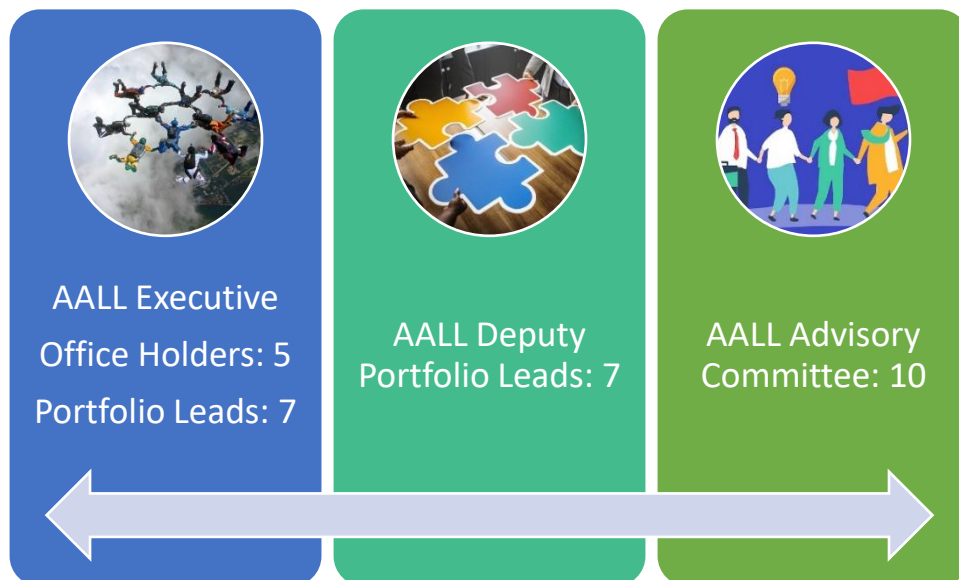
- The Executive called a special meeting on 3rd February to discuss how AALL might support members to share experiences, responses and approaches in response to generative AI.
 - We called for submissions to the [Journal of Academic Language and Learning \(JALL\)](#) allowing shorter and less formal text pieces to support rapid dissemination of ideas. Six articles were published in this special edition, in addition to five regular articles. [David Rowland's editorial report](#) provides excellent detail on the success of JALL in 2023. See also the call for new reviewers.
 - In July, the Executive made a [submission](#) to the Parliamentary House Standing Committee on Employment, Education and Training Inquiry into the use of generative AI in the education system. Our submission was written within a tight timeframe, beginning with a survey to AALL members to gather qualitative responses to the Inquiry's terms of reference.
 - The PD team hosted two Connect. Inspire. Share sessions on AI: In March Professor Rowena Harper presented [AI²: Artificial Intelligence, Academic Integrity and the opportunities for ALL work](#); and in July, Dr David Rowland presented [AI and Large Language Model use – what insights can come from ALL teams and how do we ensure we are developing and sharing these insights?](#) [Steve Campitelli's report](#) provides more information about the engaging and well-received PD sessions offered this year; recordings are openly available on our [website](#). I thank Steve and the PD committee for their enthusiasm and professionalism in conceptualising and providing these sessions. A questionnaire was recently sent to members seeking input; feel free to contact the team with your ideas anytime.

- Led by Debi Howarth with support from Shane Rigby, the AALL Mathematics Advisor Special Interest Group is now well established, providing valuable professional development sessions and initiating national and international collaborations. See [Debi Howarth's report](#); the work of this SIG provides a brilliant template for the establishment of future AALL SIGs and I thank Debi and Shane for their work.
- Led by Convener Grace Chipperfield, the Conference Committee (Kirstin Marks, Michael Lazarou and Lauren Butterworth) has envisioned a brilliant theme for the 16th Biennial conference 'Meeting students at the centre: re-thinking our AALL practice'. The conference will be held virtually and hosted by Flinders University from November 22-24, 2023. I am excited to hear from, and engage with, many of you at this conference. I am inspired by its clear and emphatic focus on wellbeing, inclusivity, and student empowerment. I thank the committee for their positivity and commitment.
- In April, the AALL Executive endorsed a [submission](#) to the Discussion Paper of the Australian Universities Accord Panel, led by Alfred Deakin Professor Liz Johnson, Associate Professor Jason Lodge and Professor Sally Kift, which proposed the concept of a National Centre for Student Success to drive improvements in the quality of learning and teaching. Along with 40 other peak bodies, AALL further endorsed the proposals in the [feedback](#) on the Interim Report in September and indicated our willingness to join in consultation on the proposed National Learning and Teaching Committee.
- We continued to build relationships with our international colleagues through the [International Consortium of Academic Language and Learning Developers](#) (ICALLD), now including representation from AALL, [ALDinHE](#) (UK), [ATLAANZ](#) (NZ), [LSAC](#) (Canada), [ScotHELD](#) (Scotland) and [SAALP](#) (South Africa). The group met three times in 2023, updated the ICALLD MoU to include ScotHELD and SAALP and to clarify goals and objectives. The group is keen to grow further and welcomes participation from each association's members. Ideas for collaboration and/or shared professional development can be submitted to the [AALL executive](#).
- The Governance Working Group (Andrew Kelly, Lisa Amerikanos and Rebekah Clarkson) have developed a new Governance Charter, Code of Conduct for the Executive and proposed changes to the 2020 AALL Constitution. The group worked closely together and sought input from multiple sources. More detail is included below.
- The [AALL Facebook group](#) has continued to slowly grow in members from 302 to 321 and provides opportunities for members to share job openings, resources and generate discussion. Thank you to the social media committee who work to keep this group vibrant.

1.4. Going Forward

The 2023 – 2025 election process was necessarily a little different to previous years as it overlapped the process of renewing our governance structure. I thank incoming members – Anna Podorova, Sarah Irvine and Michael Stein – for their nominations and willingness to step into new roles. A simple representation of the new executive structure is below with a list of the new roles and 2023-2025 team.

AALL Governance Structure



The AALL Executive will now consist of five Office Holders and seven Portfolio Leads. These include Research and Scholarship, Professional Development, Communications, National Practice, Grants and Awards, Conference and Events, and Website and IT. These portfolio leads replace the previous state and territory representative roles; activity that fosters local networks and builds community is now embedded across the portfolios. The new AALL Advisory Committee will sit outside the Executive and will advise the Executive on matters of national policy, strategic and future-thinking. Portfolio Deputy Leads will also function outside the Executive and will play a vital role in sharing workloads and succession planning. The new structure and respective roles are detailed in the [Governance Charter](#). I encourage you to have a look at this document.

I am delighted to share the 2023 – 2025 AALL Executive Team:

Office Holders:

- President – Andrew Kelly WA
- Vice President – Debi Howarth QLD
- Treasurer – David Rowland QLD
- Secretary – Lisa Amerikanos TAS
- Public Officer – May Kocatepe NSW

Portfolio Leads:

- Research and Scholarship Lead – Anna Podorova VIC
- Professional Development Lead – Steve Campitelli VIC
- Communications Lead – Sarah Irvine QLD
- National Practice Lead – Guido Ernst VIC
- Grants and Awards Lead – Michael Stein WA
- Conference and Events Lead – Grace Chipperfield SA
- Website and IT Lead – Shane Rigby ACT

The Executive will call for interest in Portfolio Deputy Lead roles at the AGM and members of the new Advisory Committee will be invited in the new year. There will be multiple opportunities for members to be involved in working groups and special interest groups under these portfolio areas. I encourage members to contact Portfolio Leads to find out more.

I am excited about the next chapter of AALL. The new Executive Team will do excellent things and I look forward to supporting them and contributing as an ongoing AALL member.

2. Treasurer's Reports

David Rowland has been the Treasurer this year, assisted by Alex Barthel and Shane Rigby as co-signatories to the account. Shane Rigby has also provided considerable Treasury Support.

2.1. Financial Statements

The Association continues to be in a very healthy position financially.

Table 1. Statement of Income & Expenditure for the financial year ending 30 September 2023.

	AALL last year	AALL This year	SA-AALL Sub-Account
INCOME			
Membership Fees	12,839.09	12,940.00	
Profits from 2021 AALL Conference	23,440.00	-	
ATO Interest from early payment of 2021-22 tax.	-	81.97	
Copyright Agency payments	731.57	39.85	
TOTAL	37,010.66	13,061.82	-
EXPENDITURE			
Accountant fees (tax advice / tax return preparation)	165.00	638.00	
Lodgement fees with the NSW Office of Fair Trading: Annual Statement etc.	48.21	50.22	
Internet banking business fees	165.00	36.00	
Web services (maintenance and upgrades of AALL and JALL websites; domain name renewal etc.)	9,053.00	1,027.50	
PKP Web hosting of JALL ^a	1,166.78	1,331.36	
State and Territory meeting grants	620.00	1,299.71	
Grants ^b	20,804.13	11,879.65	
Stripe merchant fees	256.22	264.18	
Other licences and subscriptions ^c	184.71	224.31	
Step Up, Step In AALL Exec training	990.00	-	
SA-AALL Sub-Account expenditure			-
TOTAL	33,453.05	16,750.93	-
BEFORE TAX SURPLUS (DEFICIT)	3,557.61	- 3,689.11	-
TAXATION			
Income tax for 2021-22 taxation year	-	5,870.25	
PAYGI tax instalment ^d	-	1,496.00	
AFTER TAX SURPLUS (DEFICIT)	3,557.61	-11,055.36	

Notes:

- Note that the journal hosting fee is influenced by the exchange rate as the fee is in USD.
- Includes two round 2 grants from 2022 and one grant from 2023. Round 2 grants for 2023 are yet to be finalised.
- Includes a Zoom licence last FY, and this FY: (i) Teams for WooCommerce Memberships annual subscription; (ii) one month of a MailChimp subscription.
- As AALL's assessable income was less than \$416 for the 2022-23 taxation year, AALL will be refunded this PAYGI instalment.

Table 2. Balance Sheet for the financial year ending 30 September 2023.

	AALL	SA-AALL Sub-Account	
ASSETS			
Cash at bank	48,773.15	3,582.56	
WooCommerce Balance		-	
TOTAL	48,773.15	3,582.56	
GRAND TOTAL	52,355.71		
LIABILITIES			
Accruals and committed funds			Notes
Lodgement of annual statement of financial affairs with NSW Fair Trading	54.00		
Lodgement of Change of Rules form with NSW Fair Trading	60.00		
PKP Web hosting of JALL (US\$850)	1,357.03		Actual amount will depend on exchange rate at time of payment.
Cre8ive: Website software updates; implementation of "Teams for Woo Commerce Memberships" & MailChimp	5,320.00		Estimated amount. Actual amount might vary.
2023 Grants Round 2	6,976.30		Total amount applied for. Review still underway.
Tax bill	-		
Accounting fees (Preparation of company tax return)	682.00		
TOTAL	14,949.33		
GRAND TOTAL	14,949.33		
	NET ASSETS	33,823.83	3,582.56
	GRAND TOTAL	37,406.39	-

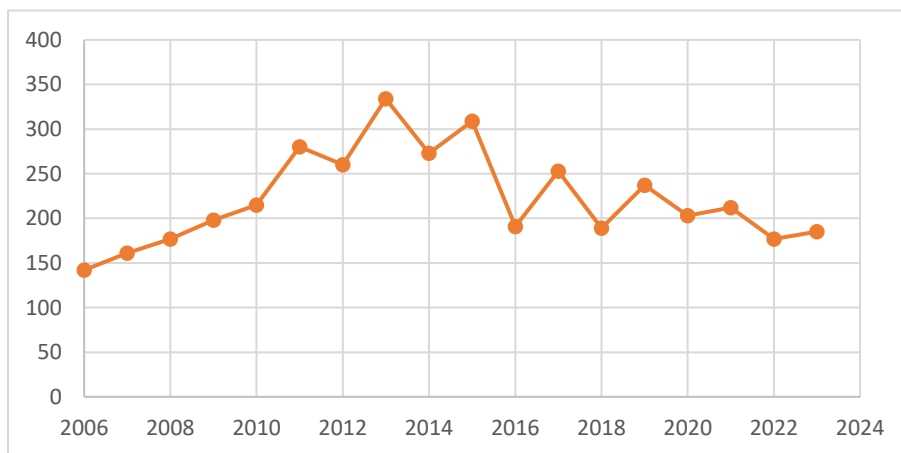


Figure 2. Number of members *joining or renewing* within a FY. Note the boost in renewals in several odd numbered (conference) years.

2.2. Proposed Budget for 2024

Assumptions:

1. It is desirable to aim to have a minimum of \$6,000.00 in the bank at all times to ensure expenses can be paid for in the event of shortfalls in income or in case of unexpected expenses.
2. Membership fees will be maintained at \$80 p.a. for full-time staff, and \$50 p.a. for part-time / casual staff.

Cash balance carried forward from the 2022-23 financial year less grants	40,800.13
Maximum amount committed to the second 2023 grants round	6,976.30
Support for state-based events with 2023 AALL Conference (estimate)	8,000.00
Income^a	
Membership fees (estimated*)	14,200.00
Tax refund (received)	1,496.00
Conference profit (projected and not including support for state-based events) ^a	16,646.00
Total available:	58,165.83

* Assumed number of renewing members: 200
with a relative proportion of full-time to part-time members of 70% to 30%,
with assumed fees of \$80 p.a. for full-time and \$50 p.a. for part-time and casual staff.

Item	
AALL Operation and Incorporation Expenses	
Lodgement of annual statement of financial affairs with NSW Fair Trading	54.00
Internet banking business fees	144.00
AALL Teams for Woo Commerce Memberships license (USD129.00 p.a.)	205.95
MailChimp licence (approximate)	276.00
Accountant fees for company tax return (approximate)	700.00
Tax on conference profits (maximum) ^a	4,161.50
AALL Website	
Annual hosting and maintenance fees (\$825 + GST)	907.50
Stripe fees (online membership payments: 1.75% + \$0.30 per domestic payment)	308.50
JALL	
Annual hosting fee (based on PKP Basic Package USD850)	1,357.03
State/Territory-level Funding	
Funding to support state/territory activities	4,000.00
Research and Resource Development, and Event Grants	
Round 1	12,000.00
Round 2 (May be increased to 12,000 depending on conference profit)	12,000.00
Strategic funds for emerging needs^b	10,000.00
TOTAL:	46,114.47
Projected carry forward:	12,051.35

Comments

a. The conference profit has to cover associated taxes, which will depend on both the amount passed to AALL and exactly how much is spent on state-based activities during the conference.

b. Strategic funds for emerging needs will cover updating IT systems and/or the AALL website, as well as projects and costs yet to be determined by the committee that address upcoming needs for AALL. May need to be decreased if there are shortfalls in expected income, especially conference income.

3. Grants Report

In 2023 AALL has funded one grant: ‘Embedding Translanguaging Practises into Individual Courses to Strengthen Bilingual Academic Literacies’ (\$3948). The second round of 2023 grants is currently open at the time of writing, and due at the end of October. The executive has also discussed strategies for increasing promotion and support for the submission of high quality grants in 2024.

4. Journal report

2023 has been another strong year for the [journal](#), with publications to date including five regular articles and six articles in a special section on responses to the challenges and opportunities afforded by generative AI. A further 13 articles are currently under review. International interest in publishing in the journal has remained good, with two of the published papers being by UK-based authors and two by US-based authors.

View traffic for the journal remains strong and has seen an increase compared to last year (Figure 3), possibly because of the interest in the generative AI articles which have all scored high numbers of views.

The level of interest in individual articles varies, but as Figure 4 shows, in the period February 2020 to September 2023, most articles that have been published for more than a year have been downloaded at least 100 times, thus indicating JALL’s success in publishing articles of interest to its target audience, and its reach.

The most popular articles, which have all been downloaded over 1,000 times in the period February 2020 to September 2023, prove to be quite an eclectic mix (

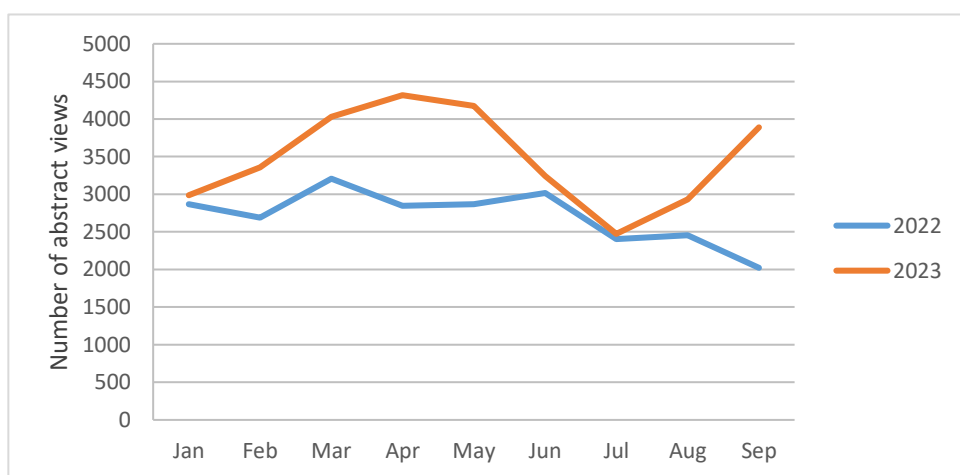


Figure 3. Number of abstract views each month for the last two years for the periods 1 January to 30 September.

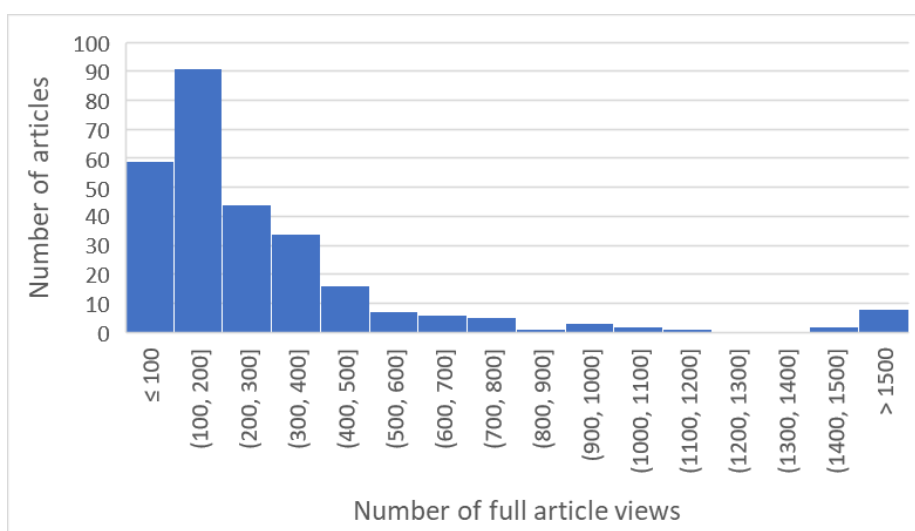


Figure 4. Full article downloads for Volumes 1-16 in the period February 2020 to September 2023.

[Table 1](#)), with topics ranging from Grammarly to academic integrity to academic literacy and more.

Table 1. Articles with over 1,000 full article downloads in the period February 2020 to September 2023.

Article Title	Publication Issue	Number of full article downloads
You want me to check your grammar again? The usefulness of an online grammar checker as perceived by students	Vol. 10 No. 1 (2016): Special Issue: Proceedings of the 12th Biennial Conference of the Association for Academic Language and Learning	6456
Scaffolding theory: High challenge, high support in Academic Language and Learning (ALL) contexts	Vol. 8 No. 3 (2014): Special Issue: Key thinkers, key theories: The contribution of theory to academic language and learning practice (Pt. 2)	5689
Grammarly: Help or hindrance? Academic Learning Advisors' perceptions of an online grammar checker	Vol. 13 No. 1 (2019)	5351
The impact of neoliberalism on academics and students in higher education	Vol. 14 No. 2 (2020): Special Issue: Proceedings of the 14th Biennial Conference of the Association for Academic Language and Learning	2813
Research article titles in applied linguistics	Vol. 6 No. 1 (2012)	2393
Bakhtin's theory of heteroglossia/intertextuality in teaching academic writing in higher education	Vol. 8 No. 3 (2014): Special Issue: Key thinkers, key theories: The contribution of theory to academic language and learning practice (Pt. 2)	2354
Academic integrity and referencing: Whose responsibility is it?	Vol. 12 No. 1 (2018): Special Issue: Proceedings of the 13th Biennial Conference of the Association for Academic Language and Learning	1891
Rhetorical genre theory and academic literacy	Vol. 8 No. 1 (2014): Special Issue: Key thinkers, key theories: The contribution of theory to academic language and learning practice (Pt. 1)	1526
On paper, in person, and online: A multi-literacies framework for university teaching	Vol. 9 No. 2 (2015)	1455
Faces, hearts and thumbs: Exploring the use of Emoji in online teacher-student communications in higher education	Vol. 14 No. 1 (2020)	1411
Aligning policy and practice: An approach to integrating academic integrity	Vol. 3 No. 1 (2009)	1119
How Different are we? Understanding and Managing Plagiarism between East and West	Vol. 5 No. 2 (2011): Special Issue: Proceedings of the 10th Biennial Conference of the Association of Academic Language and Learning	1066
Preparing undergraduate students to be successful writers: Exploring the Spelling, Grammar and Punctuation skills of students identified as potentially 'at risk'	Vol. 10 No. 2 (2016)	1047

An ongoing challenge for the journal is finding willing reviewers in a timely fashion, so if you are willing to review one or a maximum of two articles per year for JALL and are not already in our reviewer database, please consider registering. **Registering as a reviewer** is a two step process:

1. First, [register](#) with the journal.
2. Second, modify your profile:
 - a. Log in to the journal and click on your username in the very top right-hand corner of the web page and select, “View profile”.
 - b. Under the “Roles” tab, select “Reviewer” and enter your reviewing interests.
 - c. Click “Save”.

Once again, a big thank you to all the reviewers and the rest of the regular editorial team:

- Kate Chanock
- Tim Moore
- Andrew Johnson
- Bronwyn James
- Alexandra Garcia Marrugo
- Averil Grieve

who have all volunteered considerable amounts of their time and expertise to ensure JALL continues to publish high quality work of value to the academic language and learning community.

At this time, I want to particularly acknowledge the contributions of Tim Moore, one of the founding co-editors of the journal, who stepped down from his role with the journal this year to pursue other interests in his retirement. We wish you all the best Tim, and thank for your efforts over many years to make JALL a quality journal.

5. PD Committee Report

The AALL PD Committee for 2024 consisted of Steve Campitelli, Alice Lee, May Kocatepe and Tiana Blazevic. The focus of PD for 2023 was a continuation of the Connect Inspire Share (CIS) series, now in its fourth season, which incorporated the Meet the Author PD series from 2022.

This year’s CIS presentations, unsurprisingly, saw a strong focus on ‘the’ hot topic in academia of AI and rise of Chat GPT and other such Large Language Model programs, and how they affect the work of Academic Skills Advisers.

At the time of writing, we have conducted four CIS sessions this year, with one more to come in late October. The sessions have averaged 70 attendees, which is very good, but with an AALL membership base of around 200, we would love to see that average higher. The sessions are consistently interesting and engage the participants at a high level on topics relevant and appropriate to Academic Skills advising.

2023 sessions:

- 16/03 Rowena Harper, ECU: *AI²: Artificial Intelligence, Academic Integrity and the opportunities for ALL work*
- 3/5 John Mahoney, ACU: *Evidence based teaching*
- 12/7 David Rowland, UQ: *AI and Large Language Model use – what insights can come from ALL teams and how do we ensure we are developing and sharing these insights?*
- 14/9 Kerry Bond, CQU: *Dialogic pedagogies which facilitate disciplinary language acquisition*
- 26/10 Steven Thurlow, UniMelb: *Creative Collisions: Advising, creativity and academic writing in the age of AI*

We will look to continue the CIS program in 2024. The PD Committee has sent out a questionnaire seeking AALL members’ ideas and views on what the program could look like next year.

At this point, as committee Chair, I’d like to thank Rebekah Clarkson as AALL president for her unfailing support of the program and would also like to extend a very big thank you to our committee for the work we have as a group done in this space. I will be continuing in this role in 2024 along with Alice Lee, and would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to May Kocatepe and Tiana Blazevic who will be leaving the PD committee.

Look forward to seeing you all in 2024.

6. State and Territory Reports

6.1. Australian Capital Territory

Representatives		Additional Executive Members
		
Gail Heinrich , AALL Website Co-ordinator (University of Canberra)	Shane Rigby , AALL Assistant Treasurer (University of Canberra)	Lesley Cioccarelli , AALL Social Media (Canberra Institute of Technology)

Members

ACT has 15 members from:

- Australian Catholic University, Canberra
- ADFA, UNSW
- Australian National University
- The University of Canberra
- Canberra Institute of Technology

Meetings

The AALL ACT Chapter held two meetings this year. We have continued with our hybrid meeting model which begins with a 30 minute in person catch-up for those who have the capacity to meet in

person. This is followed by a 1-hour online meeting for all ACT colleagues where the in-person members join from the same room. We have found the hybrid model for meeting works well and has encouraged more active engagement. We plan to gather again for part of the AALL Conference in November.



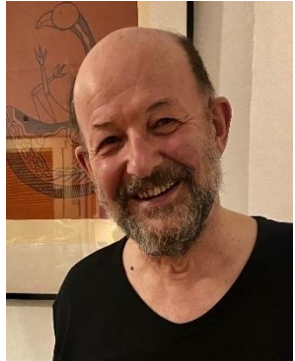
Website

In 2023, the website was updated to add a Search function to the home page and the latest plugin updates were also applied. The Website Coordinator liaised with Cre8ive on automating Institutional memberships and as a result, WooCommerce Membership plugins have been applied to the site. At the time of preparing this report, this is still in final testing, with hopes for it to be completed by the AGM. We have also subscribed to MailChimp for streamlined communications through the website and this plugin is also still in final testing stages.

As of July 2023, Cre8ive are no longer offering web-hosting services and have outsourced web-hosting to a Canberra partner, Go-Hosting. The AALL website hosting has been rolled over to Go-Hosting at no additional cost. Cre8ive will still be our contact for troubleshooting and any upgrades or changes we want to make to the site.

Lesley Cioccarelli has supported Gail this year with website work. Lesley has been ensuring events, news and professional development are updated on the site.

6.2. New South Wales

Representatives		Additional Executive Member
		
May Kocatepe , AALL Public Officer, Assistant Secretary, PD support (Endeavour College of Natural Health)	Alice Lee , AALL PD Support, Social Media Coordinator (Australian Catholic University)	Alex Barthel , AALL Senior Counsel and AALL Assistant Treasurer

Members

As of October 2023, NSW has 44 members from:

- Asia Pacific College
- Australian Catholic University

- Charles Sturt University
- Endeavour College of Natural Health
- Macquarie University
- The University of Newcastle
- The University of Sydney
- Torrens University
- University of Melbourne
- University of NSW
- University of New England
- University of Technology, Sydney
- Western Sydney University

Correspondence

May Kocatepe (may_kocatepe@hotmail.com)

Meetings

The AALL NSW chapter met once face to face in 2023. The NSW chapter were invited to a networking dinner on Friday 5th of May. Other than the two NSW reps, two chapter members attended the event. The event theme was 'dealing with change: issues and opportunities'.

6.3. Northern Territory

Representatives



Susan Gollagher, Social Media Coordinator (Charles Darwin University)

The Northern Territory has four AALL members from Charles Darwin University (CDU).

CDU has the distinction of not only being a *regional* university, but also being the country's only truly *remote* university. Here are some fun facts about Darwin and CDU:

- For Darwin staff and students, the nearest capital city is Dili in Timor Leste, while the nearest Australian capital city is a four-and-a-half-hour flight away.
- If I wanted to visit our ALL team member at our Alice Springs campus, I would have to drive over 1500km over two days through remote desert. Flights are prohibitively expensive.
- Darwin has a population of 147,255, while the entire Northern Territory has a population of 245,000 in an area of 1.4 million square km.
- It's been estimated that a university needs a population of one million to be financially viable (according to our Vice-Chancellor).

In addition to this (or possibly because of this), nearly 70% of CDU students are mature, distance students, with a high proportion being low SES, first-in family and living in regional Australia.




CDU must compete for funding using the same model as every university in Australia, but its remote location means that it cannot achieve the same economies of scale possible for a university in, or

close, to a major urban area. Also, the student demographic means that most CDU students commence study with significant support needs, but limited funding is available to deliver that support.

You may be wondering how all this is relevant in an Annual Report. I write this because I want to express how proud I am of the Language and Learning team that I represent and what it is able to achieve. We may only have four AALL members here, but we punch above our weight.

Although the state and territory representative positions won't exist in the new organisational chart in 2024, I hope to continue to contribute to AALL in other capacities. Next year, I hope to finally achieve some success in persuading more CDU staff to join AALL and benefit from the PD support available

6.4. Queensland

Representatives		Additional Executive Member
		
Shirley Brown , AALL Secretary, Memberships and New Members (Bond University)	John Smith Systems Adviser (Griffith University)	David Rowland , JALL Editor and AALL Treasurer (University of Queensland)

Members

Queensland currently has 39 members. Queensland institutions represented by our members are:




- AIPC
- Bond University
- Central Queensland University
- Griffith University
- James Cook University
- Queensland University of Technology
- QUT
- Southern Cross University
- Torrens University
- University of Queensland
- University of Southern Queensland

Meetings

On Friday, 30th June, Bond University held a networking event with representatives from ACU, Bond, Griffith, QUT, SCU, Torrens, and USQ. Each institution outlined the structure of their ALL unit and shared how COVID-19 has reshaped their working practices and environments. They also discussed current challenges presented by the most recent updates of generative AI tools. Debi Howarth presented a focused talk on generative AI, sparking a lively discussion about the implications and potential hurdles of this digital disruptor. The hosts provided a lovely morning tea and lunch as well as an enjoyable morning catching up with colleagues.

At the end of the session, plans were discussed for holding further events in Qld in 2024 as well as a possible catch up around the time of the conference in November this year.

6.5. South Australia

Representatives		Additional Executive Member
		
Rebekah Clarkson , President (University of South Australia)	Tiana Blazevic , Social Media Coordinator (University of Adelaide)	Grace Chipperfield , 2023 AALL Conference Coordinator (Flinders University)

Members

South Australia has 21 members from the following institutions:

- The University of South Australia
- The University of Adelaide
- Flinders University
- The International Hotel Management College

Meetings and Connections

Throughout 2023, AALL members in SA have continued to increase informal connections, small gatherings and information sharing between colleagues from the three major Universities. Areas of shared knowledge and discussion have included artificial intelligence, academic Integrity programs, peer learning support, staffing and the 2023 AALL conference.

Ten AALL members and student leaders enjoyed a networking dinner on 7th December after the AALL Symposium and members are looking forward to meeting again in person during the AALL conference in November.

Academic language and learning staff from the University of South Australia and the University of Adelaide are increasingly engaged in considering and discussing the proposed new *Adelaide University*, which is subject to the passing of state legislation and further legal and regulatory approvals. The two institutions are currently in a transition period (2023-25) with a target launch date of 1 January 2026 for the combined new University.

AALL 2023 Conference



Additional Executive Members

- **Grace Chipperfield**, AALL Conference Convenor (Flinders University)
- **Kirstin Marks**, AALL Conference Convenor (University of South Australia)
- **Michael Lazarou**, AALL Conference Convenor (University of Adelaide)
- **Lauren Butterworth**, AALL Conference Convenor (Flinders University)

Conference:

The 16th Biennial AALL Conference is well underway and will be held online across November 22-24. Our keynotes will be Professor Romy Lawson, Professor Michelle Picard and Professor Rowena Harper. We currently have 100+ registrations and an excellent full 3-day program. With less than a month to go, the committee is also working to organise some local social events for attendees. We're very excited to welcome everyone online on the 22nd!

6.6. Tasmania

Representatives	
	
<p>Lisa Amerikanos Governance Working Group (University of Tasmania)</p>	<p>Hollie West (University of Tasmania)</p>



Members

Tasmania has had a reduction in membership from 7 members down to 4 in late 2023. All current members are from the University of Tasmania.

Meetings

The Tasmanian chapter of AALL has held one Zoom meeting to discuss AALL activities. A range of workload and structural challenges have made local connections more difficult this year. Connect Inspire Share sessions continue to be well-attended and highly valued by Tasmanian members. We are looking forward to attending the AALL virtual conference.

6.7. Victoria

Representatives		Additional Executive members
		
Steve Campitelli , AALL Connect. Inspire. Share. PD Events Coordinator (University of Melbourne)	Guido Ernst , ICALLD member (Australian Catholic University)	● Kate Chanock , AALL Senior Counsel

Members

Victoria has members from:

- Australian Catholic University
- Deakin University
- Federation University
- La Trobe University
- Monash University
- Swinburne University of Technology
- The University of Melbourne
- Victoria University

Meetings

AALL Victoria is scheduled to hold a social get-together/meeting on 1st December.

Centre Reports

Reports received from listed Centres below:

Australian Catholic University

The main focus of the Academic Skills Unit (ASU) at ACU has been its contribution to [ACU Thrive](#), a new model for first-year learning. ASU maps first-year units and embeds resources at relevant places in the LMS. Together with a flipped classroom approach, mastery learning and other design principles, this creates a scaffolded learning experience for students. ACU Thrive was piloted on the Ballarat campus in Semester 1 and is now being rolled out institution-wide.

Another initiative has been the reintroduction of in-person academic skills drop-ins at all ACU's campuses, including its two Victorian campuses, Melbourne and Ballarat, supplementing booked appointments. Drop-ins were running in the libraries during semester for one day a week and will be expanded in 2024.

Deakin University

Academic and Peer Support Services (APS) comprises a Director and two teams: Study Support of Language and Learning Advisers (LLA), Student Writing Mentors and Senior Writing Mentors; and Peer Support staff. Direct support is provided for students via individual LLA consultations, Writing and Maths Mentors provide online and on-campus drop-ins, PASS sessions, Studiosity, 'UniStart' and 'Preparing to Succeed' resources, and 'Writing for Research' for HDR students.

A suite of study resources are provided including [Academic Skills Guides](#), [Deakin Guide to Referencing](#) and planning tools available at [Study Resources](#).

LLAs collaborate with teaching teams to embed academic literacy and maths support development in units and courses, provide feedback on assessment task design, instructions and marking rubrics, deliver unit/course specific workshops, facilitate writing groups, and work with the NIKERI Institute (National Indigenous Knowledges Education Research Institute).

Other activities include Teaching Academic Literacies: A Transition Toolkit, Interactive learning resources designed for use by academic teachers to support students' development of key skills; developing guidelines for the use of generative AI; Referencing Guide for Indigenous Knowledges; Students Helping Students (SHS) Community of Practice; and Deakin PASS.

Federation University

Learning and Academic Skills Success (LASS) is part of Retention, Innovation, and Student Experience (RISE) comprised of LASS, Student Comms, Student Events and Student Advisory. Our LASS team has 8 LSAs and one full time Program Coordinator.

Programs supported by our Program Coordinator and LSAs are: PASS, ASK Desk – peers answer a wide range of students' questions on-campus and online, FedReady – preparatory academic skills program for transitioning students, and Studiosity.

LSA activities include: 1-1 appointments, academic skills workshops, and Writing Space, a drop in service in each library for quick questions and feedback.

Key metrics: Studiosity 3165 sts; ASK 1247 sts; LSA 1-1s 876 sts; PASS 1206 sts; Writing Space 368 sts

La Trobe University

At La Trobe University, the Library Learning Services Team is responsible for proactively engaging with students to enhance their learning experience and facilitate their academic success through a range of online and face-to-face services, communications and programs.

We deliver a combination of on-demand and in-subject (embedded) services, and digital asynchronous resources, to help students develop the multiliteracy skills necessary to be successful in their chosen field of study. This includes 1:1 consultations, skills workshops, LMS modules, Peer Learning Advisors and more.

Recently, we piloted new English for Success microlearning modules designed for international students in their first year of study in Australia. We deliver these programs and services in line with

the Library Learning and Teaching Partnership Framework, which outlines our approach to supporting the student experience both within and outside the curriculum, guides continuous improvement of programs so that they are relevant and accessible for students, and is aligned with the University strategies.

Monash University

[Student Academic Success](#) (SAS) provides academic skills, language and learning support for students across all locations, with Australian staff partnering with colleagues in Suzhou, Malaysia and Indonesia to complement their location-based learning advising services. Student Academic Success services include 1-on-1 advising, workshops, online courses, academic language testing, feedback studio, cohort interventions and the maintenance of an online resource hub, [Learn HQ](#).

RMIT University

The Learning Lab is where students can learn and apply foundational skills needed to succeed in tertiary education. Material on the Learning Lab is designed to promote active learning. Each section includes activities so that students may apply their knowledge to tasks. While the Learning Lab does not replace curriculum, it can complement courses by providing short tutorials and pages where students can gain confidence in areas of assumed knowledge.

Swinburne University of Technology

In 2023, the Learning and Academic Skills (LAS) department launched several key initiatives including individual consultations, workshops and short programs, the integration of learning and academic skills into the curriculum, the introduction of Teaching LAS Online, collaboration and development in learning and teaching, cross-service collaboration, and a communication support program for Higher Degree Research.

Teaching LAS Online was delivered in an asynchronous mode, offering self-paced online modules to students along with personalized feedback from LAS advisors. A comprehensive suite of academic language development materials was also made available to students. In 2023, the number of students enrolled in specialized LAS Canvas shells exceeded 5,000.

Individual consultations were offered both face-to-face and virtually. These included bookable consultations and drop-in sessions held at the Library Learning Hub, which were co-located with drop-in sessions run by librarians.

Workshops and short programs covered a range of topics such as active participation in classes using essential technologies for effective study, planning and time management, note-taking strategies, managing assignment resources, understanding assignment instructions, effective reading strategies, editing and proofreading strategies, workplace communication skills, writing job applications, public speaking skills, negotiation skills, and financial skills.

In 2023, LAS staff participated in the Learning Transformation Unit Partnership Series for Educators: Library and Learning Academic Skills. They also presented at the LEAP Intensive Program Workshop 1 (Module 2): Learning Design Process workshop in collaboration with the Swinburne Learning Transformation unit.

LAS continued to embed its programs into mainstream units of study. Collaborating with 71 units from 5 HE schools and 2 VE departments allowed LAS to reach over 6,000 students.

The University of Melbourne

Service optimisation and digital transformation are the focus for Academic Skills (AS) at UniMelb. A sustained focus on digital experience and supporting students' online skill development has seen

significant growth in the use of the [Academic Skills website](#), with views exceeding more than 1.5 million in 2023.

The team continues to offer two types of [1-1 services](#) for students. The *Writing Advice Service* is an asynchronous online service providing personalised feedback and skill development resources to students based on a quick review of their writing. This service has worked with more than 2300 students this year. Our other *Individual Appointment service* operates principally through Zoom and sees UniMelb students for any aspect of academic skills, with more than 1800 students accessing the service in 2023.

AS offers a comprehensive workshop program which includes Orientation; curriculum-embedded workshops delivered into UniMelb faculties; Graduate Researcher program; in-semester Open Call workshops; English language workshops; and the Academic English Tutorial program.

This year, AS has also been immersed in AI research and what it means for Academic Advising, DELA testing, a robust Students as Partners program, and auditing our online learning resources.

Victoria University

VU's Learning Hub continues to offer a range of academic support services to support students throughout their learning journey, ranging from online self-paced development modules, to online and face to face workshops, Learning Advisor drop-in support and Student Mentors.

The most significant update to our service has been partnering with the VYGO App which allows students to connect directly with Student Mentors to request sessions. The success of over 1600 students on this platform has led to the roll out of the Learning Advisors platform to provide extra flexibility for students to book personalized support with our professional team.

6.8. Western Australia

Representatives



Andrew Kelly, AALL Vice President
(Edith Cowan University)

Members



WA has 20 members from:

- Edith Cown University
- Notre Dame
- Curtin University
- Curtin College

Meetings

In June, Curtin University hosted a seminar on the impact of generative artificial intelligence on language and learning education. Representatives from each WA university shared reflections on the opportunities, challenges, and priorities of generative artificial intelligence with a view to continue collaborative discussions on this topic into 2024.

7. AALL Mathematics Advisor Special Interest Group

	
Debi Howarth , Chair, Mathematics Advisors Special Interest Group (Torrens University Australia)	Shane Rigby , AALL Treasury Assistant (University of Canberra)

Special Interest Group 2023 Progress

The SIG was established by Debi Howarth in late 2021 with the intention of providing a place for open discussion, professional development opportunities, and to encourage research collaborations in the Maths advising space. The SIG continues to fulfil its remit and has been an excellent opportunity for Advisors to come together in discipline specific ways.

Membership

Early in the year we saw our numbers drop slightly as SIG members were made redundant in their roles and/or transferred to different roles. However, our numbers picked up with new members as the word continues to spread about the opportunity the SIG brings to advisors across Australia. We were pleased to receive some new requests from Advisors during the past few months and especially since Dr Raquel Salmeron (USQ College) and I presented at STARS 2023 in July when we took the opportunity to promote the SIG. As at November this year, we remain steady at 39 members, including some AALL Executive members.

Leadership 2023-2024

Debi Howarth continues to Chair the SIG but during 2023, Shane Rigby was happy to support the Chair's role. From January 2024, Debi will step aside from the Chair role and Shane will take over as Chair. Dr Raquel Salmeron (USQ) is happy to support Shane in the role.

Professional Development

We have seen SIG members stepping up to run sessions which has been exciting and very useful as they are the practitioners who know best. We commenced the year with some idea generation and then settled on the following sessions:

- *Let's Have a Chat*: Debi Howarth, Dr Raquel Salmeron, and Shane Rigby presented a session which took participants through some likely 'glitches' in the use of Generative Pre-trained Transformer (ChatGPT) in Mathematics.
- *Maths Advisors' Showcase*: Dr David Butler gave a tour of the University of Adelaide Maths Learning Centre, discussed how his team run their maths Drop-In Centre and how they provide both face-to-face and online support to students.
- *Developing Academic Numeracy in Universities: Who owns the territory?* – Professor Linda Galligan, Head of School and Dean (Mathematics, Physics and Computing), USQ.
 - Academic numeracy is an important, but undervalued and under-researched, area in tertiary education. Mathematics skills are necessary in many academic disciplines in university. However, there is concern that these skills are insufficient for today's quantitative culture. While the mathematics skills may look similar, each discipline has its own mathematics culture and characteristics. For staff in academic pathways, support, or service programs, there is a crucial need to understand this metaknowledge around the different mathematics skills. However, it is also important to have an institutional structure around development of such knowledge. In 2013 (Galligan 2013) I proposed a university-wide approach to developing academic numeracy at the university, program, course, individual student, and teacher level. However, in the past 10 years I have seen a fracturing of academic numeracy support instead of the development of such an approach. This discussion will focus on those who have a stake in adult numeracy, highlighting their territory and discuss ways to move forward.
- *Case studies in neurodiversity* - Geoff Coates.
 - How neurodivergent students engage with maths content and thoughts on how we can make it easier for them to study tertiary maths.

Conference Presentations and Submissions

STARS 2023

Dr Raquel Salmeron (USQ College) and Debi Howarth presented the *Academic Numeracies Framework* at STARS 2023 in July. At that time, we also promoted the SIG and were very happy to receive new enquiries including those Maths staff who wished to be involved in the research we are undertaking around the *Framework*. To that end, we are hoping to provide the SIG with a presentation on the use of the *Framework* in Q1, 2024 as we will have had input by then from some SIG members, and others, through focus groups. Collaboration is an obvious aim of the SIG and we are excited to see people wanting to be involved.

International Congress on Mathematical Education

The SIG has heard Professor Linda Galligan speak several times on the ICME Conference coming up in 2024 and asked if anyone would like to submit a presentation abstract. SIG members Dr Raquel Salmeron, Debi Howarth, and Professor Linda Galligan together with Dr Nawin Raj (USQ College), have submitted an abstract around the systematic embedding of numeracies within university curriculum. At the time of writing, the submission was being reviewed.

Teams Site – Sharing Mechanism

Dr Raquel Salmeron responded to a SIG suggestion that we set up a collection point for resources and sharing generally. SIG members were invited to become members of a MS Team for Maths

Advisors. The response to joining the MS Team continues to be very slow but we will promote access and resource sharing through 2024.

Conclusion

It has been a privilege to act as inaugural Chair and founder of the SIG 2021-2023 and I look forward to its continued work with a new Chair at the helm in 2024 – exciting times as someone from the Maths discipline takes over. I cannot close without thanking the AALLL Executive for their enormous encouragement and support of the SIG. Very special thanks to Dr Rebekah Clarkson who attended some SIG sessions in support of the group, always offering us encouraging words, and to Shane Rigby for his assistance during 2023.