

## **President's Report**

2022/23

The past year has offered ACTA many opportunities as well as challenges. ACTA has worked on a number of projects and submissions through its consultancy and working groups. I will highlight some of these.

### TESOL in Context

ACTA's TESOL in Context journal has had a strong year under the leadership of Skye Playsted. The editorial team, reviewers and authors have supported Skye in her work. Vol 31, editions 1 and 2 were published. One volume focused on arguments around political ideologies, the commodification of EAL/D teaching and the professional needs of both EAL/D and mainstream educators working in the field in Australia. While a second volume was a special issue about interactional competence in the online space: Affordances, challenges and opportunities for TESOL practitioners. Skye reports that several teacher-authors are working on their papers for the next issue, most of these are a result of the ACTA conference

### Schools Consultancy group

The ACTA Schools consultancy group led by Dr Michael Michell with support from Margaret Turnbull released the document 'The Schools Roadmap'. The Schools Roadmap was promoted widely and meetings were held with peak organisations and bodies such as AERO, ACARA, Deans of Education (NSW, Vic and Qld). Key politicians were also contacted, and meetings were held with representatives from the Greens. A number of state associations offered special events to discuss the Schools Roadmap. Submissions included those made to the Productivity Commission National School Reform Agreement and the draft National Teacher Workforce action plan.

### Adult ESOL Consultancy group

ACTA has been involved in actively advocating for the adult sector. Thanks to Margaret Corrigan who convened the group until Jan 23 and to Vicki Walker who took over the convening of the group. The group has been in discussions with the Immigration Minister about the AMEP Action Plan over the past year. Thanks to Helen Moore for her support with this consultancy group.

### Early Childhood Education consultancy group

The Early Childhood Education consultancy group released its Principles document at the ACTA conference, September, 2022. The Principles were promoted widely to key organisations and associations and meetings ensued with AERO, ACARA, AITSL and key politicians including Dr Anne Ally (Minister for Early Childhood Education and Youth) and Ms Angie Bell Shadow Minister for Early Childhood Education and Youth) and Ms Kate Chaney (TEALS rep). The ACTA President and convenor of the ECE consultancy group attended an Early Years summit at Parliament House in Canberra in February 2023.

A revised set of Principles was released in April, 2023 to align the document with the revised Early Years Learning Framework.  
Feedback was provided to the National Vision Strategy in April 2023.

#### Indigenous EAL/D Education consultancy group

The Indigenous EAL/D Education consultancy group was formed in 2022 and is convened by Liz Easton and Dr Helen Moore. The group has been active in its advocacy work through activities such as drafting a submission to 'Closing the Gap', discussions with AERO and exploring assessment for Indigenous EAL/D learners.

#### ACTA conference

The QATESOL ACTA conference was a highlight of the year. It was held in Brisbane in September, 2022. Thanks to Gae Nastasi and the QATESOL conference team who worked had an extraordinarily long lead up period to the conference due to COVID 19 circumstances. The conference provided opportunities for councillors, state and association members and guests to meet f2f and develop networks.

VicTESOL has begun organising the 2025 conference to be held in Melbourne.

#### ACTA Councillors/ Executive

Many thanks to the ACTA councillors who have contributed in a range of ways throughout the year. To the members of the Executive who have put in much work behind the scenes. In particular, I would like to acknowledge the work of the treasurer Clare Blackman who will be stepping down from this role. Thanks to our RMIT placement student and now ACTA administration officer Lyn Rowbotham who has contributed to ACTA in different ways.

I would like to especially acknowledge the support I have received from the immediate Past President Margaret Corrigan.

And thank you to the state and territory associations in their important endeavours in strengthened the TESOL sector.



Anne Keary  
2022/23 President