

## ***IPEd Notes***

News from the Institute of Professional Editors Limited  
www.iped-editors.org  
July–August 2011

The IPEd Council met twice during the period covered by these notes, both meetings by teleconference. Two major surveys, and preparations for the 2011 national conference and IPEd's AGM, were finalised. Summary details of these and other major activities follow.

### *National Survey of Editors*

IPEd surveyed Australian editors from June to August, using an online questionnaire, which was widely advertised by IPEd, the Australian Publishers Association and the state societies of editors. There were 345 responses. The survey built on and expanded the surveys conducted by Pamela Hewitt AE at previous national editors conferences, and at the joint Canberra Society of Editors – Australian Society of Indexers conference in 2001, making this the sixth such snapshot of the profession. The report on the findings of the survey will be distributed to participants in the national conference in Sydney in September, and is also available to societies of editors' members on the IPEd website.

### *Online exam discussion paper*

The three accreditation exams held so far have been, for logistical necessity, pen-and-paper, whereas it is clear that many potential candidates would prefer to take the exam onscreen, since that is how they now work, day to day, as editors. The IPEd Council and Accreditation Board therefore prepared a discussion paper to canvass responses to a range of suggested options for the form of future exams. This was distributed widely during July and August and its findings will be presented at a session of the national conference, and later on the website. The paper can be read on the IPEd website.

### *Annual financial statements*

The IPEd Council has received the company's annual financial statements from its auditor, Houston & Hanna Chartered Accountants. They will be tabled at IPEd's AGM on Friday 9 September and will subsequently be placed on the website. They show IPEd to be in a relatively sound financial position and, for the first time, perhaps able to entertain some substantial proactive promotion of the profession during the coming year.

### *Website minder/manager to be sought*

Traffic on the website has been steadily increasing. Between mid June and mid July this year, for example, there were 1,740 visits, over 50% of them from new people. Also steadily increasing, is the time taken to update and maintain the site, tasks that have so far, like the vast bulk of IPEd work, been done by volunteers. The IPEd Council has determined that the time has come to appoint a paid, part-time web minder who has the requisite technical skills and familiarity with the discipline and business of editing. Details of the position will be advertised soon.

### *Policy development*

The IPEd Council is developing new policy in two areas; use of the IPEd logo, and the review and promotion of books by editors. The former defines what the IPEd logo is, who can use it, when it should/should not be used and in what format it may be used. The latter, in summary, states that IPEd will not undertake any reviews of books or other material produced by editors or others. When such requests are received, they will be forwarded to the societies of editors for such action as they might wish to take.

The policy documents for both will be placed on the website in due course.

### *Transportable training*

The first event under IPEd's 'transportable training' scheme mentioned in previous IPEd Notes took place during August: a course on advanced features of Microsoft Word originally run in Victoria was presented in Adelaide for members of the SA society. IPEd funded the trainer's travel and accommodation costs.

### *New WA Councillor*

At its meeting in July, the IPEd Council officially welcomed Jo Smith as the new Councillor from the Society of Editors (WA) Inc.

Jo's nomination followed the resignation of Anne Surma, whose singular contributions during more than six years of voluntary service to the profession – spanning a period both before and after the formal establishment of IPEd – were also recorded.

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