YOUR NATIONAL COUNCIL

The Australian Council for Computers in Education is a federation—a professional umbrella that comprises the various computer education groups, associations and societies that are active throughout Australia. It does not have a national headquarters, a staffed office or an enormous working budget, yet it prospers and is respected at national and international levels. In a very real sense its lifeblood is the activity and vitality of its member organisations.

The ACCE exists to encourage cooperation and the sharing of information among its constituent parts and to promote excellence in the use of computers and related information technologies in teaching and learning. Its aims and purposes, as outlined in the ACCE constitution, are:

- to establish and maintain a national professional organisation representing the users of computers in education in Australia;
- to establish, maintain and provide a representative national voice for member organisations;
- to provide and maintain a common forum for member organisations;
- to co-operate and/or liaise with other relevant organisations at local, state, territory, national and international levels;
- to facilitate and provide mechanisms for the dissemination of information in relation to the use of computers in education;
- to provide support for member organisations;
- to organise and conduct conferences, seminars and/or other programs;
- to organise and/or publish publications with a national focus;
- to increase the community awareness of the roles of computers in education;
- to promote initiatives in the use of computers in education; and
- to do all such things as may be incidental to or associated with or conducive to the attainment of the above mentioned purposes.

The board of the ACCE consists of elected representatives from each of the member organisations. The board meets to discuss issues of strategic importance to the aims of the council, to share information and plan and monitor the activities that are carried out nationally. It is usual for the board to meet twice a year, although third meetings are sometimes scheduled. One meeting is generally conducted in association with the national conference.

The current board representatives are:

- Anne Ballard: Computers in Education Group of South Australia
- Sandra Bargery: Computing Educators Association of the Northern Territory and National Treasurer
- Graham Ferres: Computing in Education Group of Victoria
- Andrew Fluck: Computer Education Special Interest Group of Tasmania and National Secretary
- Paul Holland: Queensland Society for Information Technology in Education and National President
- Ian Mackay-Scollay: Educational Computing Association of Western Australia
- Ian Webb: Computer Education Group of the ACT
- Arna Wesley: New South Wales Computer Education Group
- Sandra Wills: Australian Computer Society

Hard working board members take a lunch break in Lygon Street, Carlton
(Photo by Sandra Wills, ACS)
Left to right, Anne Ballard, CEGSA, Andrew Fluck, CEGICT – Secretary, Sandra Bargery, CEANT – Treasurer, Ian Webb, CEGACT – Past President, Ian Mackay-Scollay, ECAWA – Conference Liaison, Paul Holland, QSITE – New President and Arna Wesley, NSWCEG.
(Not present – on a diet! – Graham Ferres, CEGV)
Just as the national conference is the most important single event on the ACCE calendar, the national journal is our most important ongoing activity. This year the journal finally attains fully refereed status—something we have been working towards for many years.

*Australian Educational Computing* is the premier publication for educators involved in the use of computers and other related information technologies in this country. With its new status it becomes the ideal vehicle to showcase your work at the highest professional level. However the success of this format rests largely on the contributions of Australian educators working in the field. I encourage you all to approach this publication with your work. Together we have the opportunity to continue building a journal that will have a major impact on education throughout the Asia-Pacific region.

The next issue of the journal will focus on 'computer studies' as they apply to the Australian context. The impact of the Technology Statement will also be investigated and some conclusions drawn. Your views on these important matters are sought, as quality debate among actively involved educators is a key mission of the journal. So start writing! The journal is waiting to spread your ideas.