

CONFERENCE WRAP UP 2007

The 2007 AUSA Conference was held at the RMIT University Storey Hall in Melbourne on 4 – 6 July.

A record number of delegates participated in this conference including visitors from the UK and USA.

Amidst numerous sub-themes for the conference, employee wellness and wellbeing emerged as an issue of significant interest.

This was the subject of keynote addresses by David Harrison (University of Birmingham) and John Toomey (Life Balance, Australasia) below.



In addition to the Conference Proceedings distributed at the Conference, speaker presentations slides are available from the [conference website](#).

AUSA is grateful to members from the Victorian universities whose cooperative efforts delivered a conference program of outstanding quality.

1. Swinburne University
2. ACU National
3. RMIT
4. Victoria University
5. Melbourne University
6. Monash University
7. University of Ballarat
8. Deakin University
9. La Trobe University



Delegates at the 2007 Conference networked extensively to share ideas and solutions for common health and safety issues at the fabulous Storey Hall RMIT.

AUSA OHS SCHOLARSHIP 2008

AUSA members are reminded that they are invited to nominate for the AUSA OHS Scholarship for 2008.

All members of one year standing are eligible to receive the award worth up to \$5,000 towards a scholarly activity or project that is aligned with AUSA goals.

Applications for the scholarship close on 29 February 2008.

Further details and application forms are available from the [AUSA Website](#).

AUSA AGM

The Biennial General Meeting of AUSA was held in conjunction with the AUSA Conference in the RMIT University Storey Hall on 6 July 2007.

The draft minutes from the meeting are available from the [AUSA Website](#).

The election of Office Bearers to lead the Association for the next two years resulted in the following appointments:

President – Jon D’Astoli, University of Sydney

Secretary – Michael Rafferty, University of Western Australia

Treasurer – Didier Leclere, Ballarat University

NZ Liaison – Lew Holmwood, Victoria University of Wellington

Communications Officer – Campbell Lee, University of Technology Sydney



Pictured above: AUSA President Jon D’Astoli (centre) with Alan Cowan, Chair Elect of the UK Universities Safety Association USHA and Robin Elliot, Chair of the US Campus Safety and Health Association CSHEMA.

The three Associations are in discussion aimed at promoting collegiality and advancing OHS management at member universities.

NEW MEMBERS

AUSA welcomes the following new 17 members since July 2007:

Andrew Cregan – Australian Wine Research Institute (affiliated with the University of Adelaide);

Daniel Leo – University of Wollongong;

Ganeema Tokhi – Monash University;

Gavan Evans – Swinburne University;

Ian Furness – University of South Australia;

Jasmin Chipper – Curtin University of Technology

John Tsiros – Monash University

John Whale – Monash University;

Kathy Russell – University of Technology Sydney;

Keely Redfean - Curtin University of Technology;

Matt Bennett – University of Melbourne;

Melanie Speelman - Curtin University of Technology;

Nick Giles – Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology;

Philip Woods – Qld University of Technology;

Sharon Lockhart – Monash University;

Stephen Thomas – Australian Submarine Corporation (affiliated with the University of Adelaide);

Trina Collinge – Southern Cross University;

Samuela Tiqatabua – University of the South Pacific, Fiji

AUSA VISION

For AUSA to be recognised by Universities Australia (formerly the AVCC) and external bodies (NSCA, SIA etc) as a recognised pool of OH&S Professionals, expert in a wide variety of hazards and working environments.

AUSA GOALS

- (a) to promote collegiality and support fledgling members and members from smaller Universities with less comprehensive OH&S resourcing;
- (b) to facilitate networking amongst OH&S Professionals in University and Research Institutions;
- (c) to promote ongoing scholarship in the field of OHS&W, amongst members;

- (d) to act as a lobby group, in relation to changes to legislation, Standards (etc) which affect health, safety and welfare;
- (e) to present a bi-annual University OH&S Conference for members and other interested parties; and
- (f) to conduct Benchmarking of resourcing, operations/programs and performance in OH&S within Universities and Research Institutions.

QUSA FORMATION

The inaugural meeting of the Queensland University Safety Association (QUSA) was held on 13th November 07 at Bond University.



It was attended by 17 safety professionals representing 8 regional Universities, including Northern NSW and North Qld.

QUSA will operate as an informal interest and support group for Qld and local regional Universities, under a set of Terms of Reference to be agreed at the next meeting.

Michael Flannery (USQ) was elected President and Kim Burgess as Secretariat (Bond University) for 12 months.

QUSAs first initiative is to develop a QUSA website (to be kindly hosted by USQ), a regional on line safety forum and a database for shared documents that are Queensland specific.

The next meeting will be held in March 2008 at QUT, Brisbane.

AUSA PEOPLE

Member Moves

AUSA farewells Kevin Newton, formerly the OHS manager at the University of Adelaide. Kevin has now left the University sector.

Kevin was AUSA Treasurer for two years and led the Adelaide team who hosted the 2005 AUSA Conference.

Kevin is now working as OHS and Risk Manager at QBE Adelaide.

We wish him well.

AUSA WEBSITE

Visit the AUSA website for all information about the AUSA: <http://www.ehs.uts.edu.au/AUSA/>