

The logo for Aspera, featuring the word "aspera." in a bold, black, sans-serif font. The text is centered within a rectangular frame that has a colorful, abstract background of overlapping translucent shapes in shades of orange, red, green, and blue.

# AGM MINUTES

<b>Meeting</b>	Annual General Meeting
<b>Date</b>	Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> July
<b>Time</b>	2.15pm-4.15pm
<b>Location</b>	Deakin University

## 1. Attendance and Apologies

Gillian Leahy (UTS), Howard Worth (Curtin), Nicolette Freeman (VCA, UoM), Jill Holt (Swinburne), James Verdon (Swinburne), George Karpathakis (Edith Cowan), Ron Elliott (Curtin), Rose Woodcock (Deakin), Alison Wotherspoon (Flinders), Chris Pahlow (Deakin), Alexandra Millar (Deakin), Jeanette McGown (QUT), Kath Dooley (Flinders), Michael Sergi (Bond), Josko Petkovic (Murdoch), Nicholas Oughton (Griffith), Sean Maher (QUT), Susan Kerrigan (Newcastle), Leo Berkeley (RMIT, minutes).

## 2. Previous Minutes

Passed without amendment.

## 3. Business Arising

## 4. Reports

### 4.1 President's Report

See Appendix 1

As well as tabling her report, Susan encouraged people to sign up to the new email list. The Association had lost some numbers in transferring from the previous list to Google Groups.

### 4.2 Treasurer's Report

See Appendix 2

Nick tabled his report. He said the Association was operating well financially and slowly building up a reserve. He highlighted the travelling costs associated with the Executive working bee but argued this was a worthwhile activity.

### 4.3 Secretary's Report

See Appendix 3

Leo tabled his report.

## 5. General Business

### 5.1 SPARC MOU for Australian Screen Academy

The meeting was asked to respond to a proposal to establish an Australian Screen Academy, which emerged from an OLT research project led by Josko Petkovic called Screen Production and Research Collaboration (SPARC) and was the focus at a colloquium held in Melbourne immediately before the ASPERA Conference.

A report on the issue was given by people who attended the colloquium and were involved in the SPARC project, then Gill Leahy presented a draft motion that was discussed by the meeting. It was suggested that a research subcommittee of ASPERA might be a better way to advance the research objectives of the academic screen production discipline, rather than a new organisation with its own governance structure, even if this was in some way aligned with ASPERA.

Numerous suggestions were made about the composition and function of the subcommittee, including timelines for setting it up, how it could be funded and to what level. It was proposed that a small steering group of three members be appointed to work out guiding principles, objectives and a timeline for action, reporting back to the Executive by February 2014.

The following motion was put to the meeting:

'ASPERA thanks Josko Petkovic for his work via the OLTC SPARC project towards improving the research outputs of our screen production tertiary sector. Accordingly ASPERA agrees to set up a subcommittee (membership to be determined by the executive using a group of 3 ASPERA members – a steering committee - to advise on the setting up of that subcommittee) to advance research in our sector. This subcommittee will be formed specifically to foster research in the screen production sector.

This will include all or any of:

- Workshops to improve ARC and linkage applications
- Work on collaborative research projects
- Other research to collect data and reference material useful to researchers in our sector
- Activities to promote research and to publicise research in screen production
- Requests to our universities to support the aims of this subcommittee of ASPERA
- And to undertake any other activities useful to researchers in our sector

This subcommittee's general aims will be to increase our research outputs and the quality of those outputs. ASPERA to commit initial funding of \$3,000 to this project. Initial actions are expected from the steering committee by February 2014.

Steering committee should develop a set of guiding principles, goals and objectives as soon as possible. There is an intention for this steering committee to seek advice and a mentor with considerable research experience and research funding success and outcomes in our sector.

Sean Maher (incoming president), Leo Berkeley and Gill Leahy will be members of steering committee.'

The motion was put by Gill Leahy and seconded by Susan Kerrigan.  
The result was 13 in favour, 0 against and 1 abstention.

## 5.2 Seed Funding Research Grant

See Appendix 4 for a report from the 2013 grant recipient.

Susan outlined the process followed for awarding the inaugural Seed Funding Research Grant. The successful application was from COFA (UNSW). It transpired that the grant money was used for a project that was different to the one in the application. It was a worthwhile project but the meeting was asked whether we should allow this in future. Howard argued we need to ensure that the grant money

has to be used on the stated project. It was also suggested that the awarding of the grant become part of the functions of the new research subcommittee. Nicolette asked whether there should be a window where successful applicants can't apply the following year, or priority given to people who haven't got it before. It was agreed that application guidelines be adjusted to reflect the changes above.

### **5.3 Peer Review process**

The ASPERA process for the peer review of screen works was discussed. This process ran twice in 2008 and 2009. Attempts to run it again in 2011 were unsuccessful, with a shortage of films submitted and difficulties in finding reviewers willing to participate. The consensus was that it is nevertheless a worthwhile and relevant process for ASPERA to be involved and there should be further attempts to continue it. It was proposed that making it a rolling process rather than one with an annual fixed deadline might be more successful. Howard suggested this activity could also be included in the proposed research subcommittee's work. Leo agreed to work on reviving the process with rolling deadlines. The meeting thanked Ken Miller for his efforts in this area previously.

### **5.4 Journal Publication**

Sean reported that 2011 and 2012 ASPERA Conference papers submitted for publication had all been reviewed, reviews sent to the authors and author responses reviewed in turn by Sean. Eight papers were still under consideration for publication in a special issue of IM Journal. There was line editing yet to do, with a proposed publication date in October. Howard said he would oversee the process from here.

In relation to the publication of 2013 conference papers, Sean said he would explore a suitable journal to build an ongoing relationship with. Susan asked whether we need to establish our own journal. Alison cautioned about this in relation to workload issues. Howard mentioned that Curtin has just set up a new journal called 'Control Z'.

### **5.5 TAFE / HE relationship**

Susan reported on this issue, which was raised because Holmesglen TAFE was now owned by the University of Canberra, blurring the distinction between TAFE associate members and HE full members. It was proposed that the constitution be adjusted to say full membership required organisational units to have a postgraduate research program, which would clarify the distinction between TAFE and HE members.

The following motion was put the meeting:

'To ensure ASPERA's Full Membership criteria continues to support the delivery of post-graduate research programs, therefore we agree to amend the wording of the ASPERA Constitution, Section 2 Membership Qualifications, 2.1 Full Membership, to delete the following '/or' from the paragraph and to insert the term 'post-graduate' into the phrase so that it reads:

2.1 Full membership of ASPERA is open to Australian Universities, AFTRS, or academic units within a University (faculty, school, department, institute or college) responsible for the teaching and management of screen production and post-graduate research programs where the central objective is the education and advancement of screen practitioners. A University or academic unit as defined above can join ASPERA if one third of their subjects are production based. Each institution or academic unit nominates its representative for ASPERA.'

The motion was put by John Cumming and seconded by Nicholas Oughton.  
Passed unanimously.

## **5.6 Election of new Executive**

The following people were elected to the ASPERA Executive for the year 2013/14:

President: Sean Maher  
Vice-president: Tim Thomas  
Treasurer: Nicholas Oughton  
Secretary: Alison Wotherspoon  
Other members: James Verdon & John Cumming

Susan Kerrigan was co-opted to the Executive as the convenor of the 2014 conference.  
Leo Berkeley was officially thanked by the meeting for his work as the previous Secretary.

## **6. Other Business**

### **6.1 2014 Conference location**

Newcastle University was chosen as the conference location for next year.

### **6.2 ASPERA Advisory Council**

As the immediate past President, Susan Kerrigan was inducted into the ASPERA Advisory Council.

### **6.3 Congratulations and thanks**

The meeting thanked Howard Worth for his great contribution to the Executive over several years.  
Howard agreed to see through the current journal publication process.

Nick proposed a vote of thanks to Susan as the outgoing president. This was unanimously passed.  
The meeting also wished to express a big thank-you to Liz Burke as the administrator of the current conference.

The meeting closed at 4:15pm.

## Appendix 1



### Presidents Report 2012-2013

It has been a pleasure to oversee the last 12 months as ASPERA President. The association, established 10 years ago, continues to develop and mature and deal with issues related to screen production education and research. The executive meets regularly via conference calls throughout the year with one face-to-face meeting in March. ASPERA's core business has focused on a variety of Screen industry and higher education events which included:

**ASPERA Creative Research Seed Grant** - was launched at QUT 2012 conference, it's aims was to support new and early career researchers and facilitate collaborative cross-institutional research between two or more member institutions by contributing directly to such research activities or assisting in the preparation and submission major grant applications leading to an increase in creative research outcomes.

Dr Volker Kuchelmeister, from COFA and Dr Chris Henschke from RMIT were awarded \$2,170 for their collaborative project '1142Mt, A multi-channel interactive video installation'. Unfortunately the project failed to attract Australia Council funding and so the money was used for the research, creation and evaluation of a new interactive video work 'A dromological vision machine 2013', which was exhibited as part of ISEA - Point of View, June 2013. A report by Dr Kuchelmeister stating the strategic outcomes is attached.

#### **Valuing the Humanities Symposium - Australian Humanities Academy**

In February, ASPERA Executive member Tim Thomas (UC) attended this symposium in Canberra, also present was Associate Professor Mick Broderick (Murdoch). The focus of the event was on the impact of humanities research and how the Government measures its value. Government representatives spoke about how academic research influences policy and the issues of measuring research impact.

Governments are interested in funding research that deals with policy.

Tim noted that the event was primarily about information sharing with about 200 people present. The impact of research on our teaching (i.e. research-based teaching) was not discussed.

#### **DDCA (Deans and Directors in Creative Arts)**

The inaugural DDCA AGM was held on February 15, 2013. Rachel Wilson (RMIT) represented ASPERA at this event, where they began the process of setting up a governance structures (constitution, membership and board), this is an important organization for ASPERA to be involved with and the executive will continue to support the DDCA. There are two board positions for peak bodies. Membership for peak bodies is free as affiliate or associate members.

#### **Publication of 2011 and 2012 Conference papers:**

Dr Sean Maher (QUT) and Howard Worth (Curtain) have completed the blind-peer review process for the Conference Processing from 2011 and 2012. These papers will be published shortly in IM Journal and I would like to than Sean and Howard and all the peer-reviewers for their work in getting this important publication to press.

### **SPARC - Australia Screen Academy**

In 2011 the OLT Grant titled SPARC – Screen Production and Research Collaboration was awarded to Dr Josko Petkovic (Murdoch) with the aim of developing a collaborative national postgraduate research program for 22 Australian Film Schools.

Part of the project is an initiative to establish a National Research Centre for the ASPERA sector. The ASPERA Executive clearly supports all research initiatives that will benefit its members and we are interested in exploring the possibilities for future research opportunities.

### **ASPERA Website & email list**

The new website was launched in 2012 and it gives ASPERA a more contemporary feel. Thanks goes to Rachel Wilson and Leo Berkeley for their work this project. Each member institution is invited to post a link to their best student films on the website. Also there is a link to the 'new' google email list where individuals can sign themselves up, and finally please update your entry on the Examiners & Supervisors Register.

### **Future Projects**

The ASPERA executive is working on raising our profile with the Australian Director's Guild and Screen Australia to ensure that the Screen Industry associations have a clearer understanding of who we are and how our graduates can connect directly with industry.

The executive is also launching the ASPERA Benchmarking project which aims to survey the membership and collect information to assist the sector with TESQA audits, to better represent the scope, functions and membership of ASPERA.

The 2014 Conference will be held at the University of Newcastle.

Finally, I would like to thank the executive for it's enduring support and I wish Dr Sean Maher (QUT) the very best for his forthcoming ASPERA Presidency.

Dr Susan Kerrigan  
ASPERA President 2012/2013

## Appendix 2

**ASPERA Income and Expenditure Summary (Trading Acc) 1/7/2012 to 30/6/2013**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Details</b>	<b>Income</b>	<b>Ref</b>	<b>Expense</b>	<b>Chq No</b>	<b>Balance</b>
1/07/2012	Opening balance at 1st July 2012	0		0		24,238.90
4/07/2012	Membership 2012, Filnders U	600	1107942	0		600
4/07/2012	Membership CHASS	0		330	57	-330
5/07/2012	Ship Inn, Conference 2012 Dinner	0		2295.5	58	-2295.5
24/07/2012	Martha Ansara, Train faire for Conference	0		77.99	59	-77.99
27/07/2012	Membership 2012, Swinburn U	600		0		600
27/07/2012	4 x Bottles of wine as Conference gifts	0		85	60	-85
10/08/2012	Membership 2012, Bond U	600	69573	0		600.00
27/08/2012	Rachel Wilson, EFT, expenses	0		35.3	lb2-45734597	-35.3
31/08/2012	Internet pay fee	0		0.65		-0.65
30/10/2012	Membership 2012, UNSW	600	EFT384894	0		600.00
14/12/2012	Nico Leonard, Web design for site	0		920	lb2-28502210	-920.00
14/12/2012	Transfer to ASPERA Web Savings Acc	0		2500	lb2-1894568	-2,500.00
17/12/2012	Transfer to ASPERA Web Savings Acc	0		2500	lb2-1894569	-2,500.00
19/12/2012	membership 2012, USA	600		0		600.00
31/12/2012	Internet pay fee	0		0.65		-0.65
25/01/2013	Membership 2012, Holmesglen	300		0		300.00
25/01/2013	CILECT Membership fee 2013	0		967.29		-967.29
1/02/2013	General expenses incurred, N. Oughton	0		150	103	-150.00
6/02/2013	Research Grant - Volker Kicklemeister	0		2170	102	-2,170.00
27/02/2013	Working B expenses- Flight S Kerrigan	0		318	lb2-03558466	-318.00
28/02/2013	Internet pay fee	0		0.65		-0.65
4/03/2013	CATLN Symposium expenses R Wilson	0		442.1	lb2-50176549	-442.10
5/03/2013	Transfer to ASPERA Web Savings Acc	0		2500	lb2-59928948	-2,500.00
20/03/2013	Working B expenses- Flight/accom H. Worth	0		634	lb2-20940665	-634.00
31/03/2013	Internet pay fee	0		1.3		-1.30
29/05/2013	Membership 2013, Murdoch U	600		0		600.00

<b>Date</b>	<b>Details</b>	<b>Income</b>	<b>Ref</b>	<b>Expense</b>	<b>Chq No</b>	<b>Balance</b>
30/05/2013	Membership 2013, MacQuarie	600		0		600.00
30/05/2013	Membership 2013, Rmit	600		0		600.00
30/05/2013	Membership 2013, Edith Cowan	600		0		600.00
3/06/2013	Membership 2013, AFTRS	600		0		600.00
10/06/2013	Membership 2013, Curtin U	600		0		600.00
20/06/2013	Membership 2013, Deakin U	600		0		600.00
25/06/2013	Membership 2013, Uni Melb, VCA	600		0		600.00
26/06/2013	Membership 2013, UNSW	600		0		600.00
26/06/2013	Membership 2013, GFS	600		0		600.00
27/06/2013	Transfer to ASPERA Web Savings Acc	0		2500		-2,500.00
27/06/2013	Membership 2013, U.Canberra	600		0	ra081819	600.00
27/06/2013	Membership 2013, UWS	600		0	304817	600.00
28/06/2013	Membership 2013, Bond	600		0	76276	600.00
	Balance Trading Acc	<b>11100</b>		<b>18428.43</b>		<b>16,910.47</b>
						0.00
	<b>ASPERA Interest Bearing Savings Acc</b>					<b>10,000.00</b>
	<b>Balance ASPERA Accounts at 27th June, 2013</b>					<b>26,910.47</b>

#### Notes on Accounts

1. There is an outstanding dept of \$3704.45 for Conference 2012 to QUT
2. \$10,000 has been transferred from ASPERA Business Cheque Acc to ASPERA interest baring Savings Acc
3. This year ASPERA provided the first annual research grant amounting to \$2170
4. Income after expenses and outstanding debt (QUT) for year 2012-13: \$(1032.88)
5. Paid up members at 30th June 2013: Murdoch, McQuarie, RMIT, EC, AFTRS, Curtin, Deakin, VCA, UNSW, GFS, UC, UWS, Bond.

## **Appendix 3**

### **Secretary's Report 2012/13 Leo Berkeley**

As Secretary of the Association for 2012/13, I was responsible for writing agendas and minutes for Executive meetings. I also maintained the Examiners & Supervisors Register on the website. With the valuable assistance of former Secretary Rachel Wilson and designer Nico Leonard, I worked on ensuring the new website was up and functioning effectively. From my perspective, the Executive was a professional and collegial group who were a pleasure to work with. Eight Executive meetings were held in the past year. Seven were by conference call and there was also a face-to-face all day 'working bee' meeting held in Melbourne on March 8. Minutes for these meetings were prepared and circulated via email. Key issues dealt with at the meetings included:

The development of a benchmarking project to assist members with external audits and with improving resources and support;

The inaugural Creative Research grant;

The publication of conference papers from 2011 and 2012;

Maintaining and increasing membership;

The migration of the old ASPERA email list to Google Groups.

## Appendix 4

Volker Kuchelmeister. ASPERA, Creative Research Seed Grant 2013 Report. ! 17/6/2013

### Report ASPERA Creative Research Seed Grant 2013.

1142Mt, A multi-channel interactive video installation. Volker Kuchelmeister, Chris Henschke. AUD 2,170.

First of all, I want to thank the ASPERA board for their support and trust invested in me and Chris and I believe the outcome after 6 month into the program can be considered successful.

In my grant application, I outlined a specific project titled *1142Mt*, A multi-channel video installation which had two stages in its research and production. Stage one comprised of initial research and video capture in Australia, stage two production in China. As outlined in my application, the project is only viable if additional funds can be secured. The ASPERA seed grant was intended to kick start the project, conduct initial research and production in Australia and apply for an Australia Council for the Arts grant.

Unfortunately, my first attempt to get funding through the Australian Council was unsuccessful:

Australian Council for the Arts, Inter-Arts Projects. December 2012. *1142Mt* is an investigation into collage as a concept and narrative structure in multi-channel video. Asking \$12,680. Notified 26/2/2013 application not successful. Total applications 101, successful 11.

The fact that this particular work was unsuccessful with Oz Council made me reconsider the viability of the project. Instead, I adjusted the nature of the project from a video focused approach to a more interactive experience with a stronger research component. This led to another application with Oz Council:

Australian Council for the Arts, Visual Arts Board, New Work - Mid Career. Creation and exhibition of *zeitRaum*, an investigation into the topographical texture of temporality. April 2013. Asking \$30,000. Decision to be advised in August 2013.

As an initial outcome of my research into *zeitRaum*, I presented the new work *A dromological vision machine* in the exhibition *Point of View*, part of ISEA (International Symposium on Electronic Arts) in June 2013 in Sydney. The exhibition was curated by me, and I invited Chris Henschke to be part in it. ASPERA is mentioned as official supporter of the exhibition on the ISEA web-site: <http://www.isea2013.org/events/point-of-view/>.

In conclusion, to date, the ASPERA seed grant supported the following activities:

- Initial research into 1142Mt project.
- Research, creation and evaluation of a new interactive video work *A dromological vision machine*, 2013, V. Kuchelmeister. Exhibited as part of *Point of View*, June 2013.
- *Point of View* Exhibition, part of ISEA International Symposium on Electronic Art, , 5-15 June 2013. Works by Josh Harle, Chris Henschke and Volker Kuchelmeister, curated by V. Kuchelmeister. Supported by ISEA, UNSW COFA and ASPERA.
- External grant application Australian Council for the Arts, Inter-Arts Projects. *1142Mt* is an investigation into collage as a concept and narrative structure in multi-channel video. December 2012. Asking \$12,680. Notified 26/2/2013 application not successful. Total applications 101, successful 11.
- External grant application Australian Council for the Arts, Visual Arts Board, New Work - Mid Career. Creation and exhibition of *zeitRaum*, an investigation into the topographical texture of temporality. April 2013. Asking \$30,000. Decision to be advised in August 2013.

Volker Kuchelmeister! ! 17/6/2013

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**Appendix: POINT OF VIEW** exhibition details

Artists: Josh Harle, Chris Henschke and Volker Kuchelmeister

Curated by Volker Kuchelmeister.

5 June - 15 June 2013. Kudos Gallery 6 Napier St, Paddington, Sydney.

Presented by the College of Fine Arts and ISEA 2013, this exhibition explores the boundaries between real and virtual space and the relationship between observer and observed. It utilises electronic media to investigate the limitations traditional ocular optics put on our perception of mediated imagery while exploring and exploding the boundaries of the cinematic image. Point of View questions our understanding of place, representation and perspective.

<http://www.isea2013.org/events/point-of-view/>

Works:

- *Juxtaposition*, Volker Kuchelmeister, 2010. Interactive video installation. Custom interactive panoramic projection system, 3D panorama montage.
- *A dromological vision machine*, 2013. Interactive video installation, time variable.
- *Lady Macquarie's Chair*, Volker Kuchelmeister, 2011. Digital print, 85x85cm.
- *Finger Wharf Steps*, Volker Kuchelmeister, 2011. Digital print, 85x85cm.
- *Lightbridge*, Chris Henschke, 2013. Realtime animation, HD video, time variable.
- *Machine Study no. 4*, Chris Henschke, 2012 / 2013. Z-Print, turntable, video camera, projector, photodiodes, amplifier, speakers. Dimensions variable.
- *Spectral Spin*, Chris Henschke, 2008. Pegasus prints, 480 cm x 50 cm.
- *The Eye of Science*, Chris Henschke, 2009. Pegasus prints, 160 cm x 150 cm.
- *Chinatown*, Josh Harle, 2013. Interactive Video Installation.