



ANNUAL REPORT 2017-2018



Photo: Workshop with Mary Lee Hardenbergh, Melbourne, January 2018

The Dance Movement Therapy Association of Australasia
ABN 26 323 204 775
PO Box 641, Carlton South 3053
Victoria Australia
TEL: 0419 531 218
EMAIL: admin@dtaa.org.au
WEB: www.dtaa.org.au

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President's Report



I am pleased to present this Annual Report of my third year as President.

The DTAA has had a successful year overall. The General Committee been working to our Strategic Plan adopted in 2016, reviewing progress against it twice a year. We've made good progress against our two major objectives: the improved quality of DMT work, and expanded reach of DMT services. The full Strategic Plan is available from the website: <http://dtaa.org.au/about/services/>

Some highlights of our achievements are listed against strategic objectives below:

2.5. The DTAA has more sustainable operations

2.5.4 involve greater numbers of members in the organisation's higher level work

My role of President was supported by Executive Committee members Elizabeth Mackenzie as Vice-President, Jane Guthrie as Secretary and Jennifer Au as Treasurer. Other members of the General Committee in 2017-2018 were Ben Assan, Sharon Paetzold, Faith Bolton, Anna Schlusser, Connor Kelly, Robyn Price, Sandra Lauffenburger and newest recruit Maeve Larkin.

The General Committee held nine meetings throughout the year, all at Elizabeth Mackenzie's home in Surrey Hills, Melbourne and by Zoom. We thank Elizabeth for continuing to provide warm hospitality, and members of the General and other Committees and members for their significant contributions to the work of our Association.

General Committee Members' attendance

Committee members	Number of meetings eligible to attend	Number of meetings attended
Kim Dunphy	8	8
Elizabeth Mackenzie	8	8
Jane Guthrie	8	8
Ben Assan	8	4
Sharon Paetzold	8	3
Anna Schlusser	8	0
Faith Bolton	8	4
Jennifer Au	8	3
Connor Kelly	8	8
Sandra Lauffenburger	6	6
Robyn Price	6	4
Maeve Larkin	2	2

Committees and Sub-Committees 2017-2018

We've had a growing number of active committees and sub-committees contributing successfully to the development of the DTAA and the dance movement therapy profession. Sub-committees operating in 2017-2018 and their convenors were:

- General Committee (GC): as above
- Executive Committee (EC): President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer
- Finance Committee (FC): Treasurer Jennifer Au and Ben Assan
- Admin Team: Jane Guthrie and Administrator Laura Houley
- Professional Membership Committee (PMC): Convenor Sandra Lauffenburger
- Professional Development Committee (PDC): Convenor Jane Guthrie with Robyn Price
- Publications Committee (JPC): Convenor Jane Guthrie
- Regional Liaison: Connor Kelly and one or more representatives from every state, territory and NZ and region.
- HEMF Committee: Convenor Bouthaina Mayall.
- NDIS Sub-Committee: Convenor Jennifer Au
- Competency Standards Sub-Committee (CSC): Convenor Sally Denning.
- Constitution Sub-Committee: Convenor Sandra Lauffenburger.

2.5.2. Reducing the reliance on volunteers for basic administrative processes

2.5.3 implement more streamlined systems, including those for requesting and processing membership

Administration: We had a transition of admin contractors this year, from Meagan Otu who worked with us for the latter part of 2017 and Tess Hens who continued managing e-news into 2018, to Laura Houley who joined us in early 2018 taking over both roles. We thank Meagan and Tess for their contributions and welcome Laura into her role. Laura began the task of managing our administrative and membership processes with a big bang: in June, she identified and activated a new membership system for us, (Wild Apricot, used by our colleagues in ADTA and ANZACATA), which is looking like being the first really functional on-line membership system we have ever had. Members are being supported well by Laura, within the limits of her one day a week position.

2.4 Strengthened case for DMT, by development of governance practices

2.4.8 Develop a constitution for the DTAA

This objective is well advanced, with the development of DTAA's first constitution to enable us to have national registration across Australia, in contrast to our current situation of being incorporated only for operations in Victoria.

A major task for the development of our profession have been the re-writing of our definition of dance movement therapy, discussed at last year's AGM and then further refined by the General Committee and adopted in December 2017.

DTAA definition of dance movement therapy

Dance movement therapy is the relational and therapeutic use of dance and movement to further the physical, emotional, cognitive, social, and cultural* functioning of a person. Dance movement therapy is based on the empirically-supported unity of body and mind. It recognizes that change and growth in one, supports change and growth in the other.

Dance movement therapists combine the elements of dance, movement systems, creative processes, and psychological and scientific theories, to address the specific needs of groups and individuals.

Dance movement therapists work in clinical, institutional, community and private settings, using clear therapeutic contracts, agreements and goals, often within a defined time frame. Verbally and non-verbally, they attune to client/s' needs and provide the therapeutic relationship requisite for growth and change.

In Australasia, the DTAA recognizes only Professional and Provisional Professional level members as credentialed to deliver dance movement therapy.

Other therapeutic practices of dance and movement, including those provided by members of the DTAA who have not reached Professional or Provisional Professional Membership status, are not recognized as dance movement therapy by the DTAA.

**Culture is that complex whole which includes knowledge, beliefs, arts, morals, laws, customs, and any other capabilities and habits acquired by [a human] as a member of society (UNESCO, 1982).*

(Revised December 2017)

Objective 1. Improved quality of DMT work through:

1.2. More members at Professional level, through improved processes for attracting and accrediting them

This objective was advanced very substantially, with a number of very significant developments related to members' services achieved. Greatly improved processes relating to senior levels of membership, including forms and support provided, were provided largely through the efforts of Sandra Lauffenburger and the PMC, supported by the Admin team.

A Register of Professional Members has been established which has enabled us to clearly identify for the first time those members the DTAA recognises as 'dance movement therapists'.

Membership numbers

Membership numbers as of 30 June 2018 are:

Professional: 34
Provisional Professional: 6
General: 20 (estimated)
Associate: 70 (estimated)
Life: 1 (estimated)
Student: 4 (estimated)
Total: 135

1.3.2 Present regular skill development activities for practitioners, including evidence-informed practice, that address identified needs of practitioners or take advantage of special opportunities

We've offered a range of professional development activities in Melbourne and Sydney, detailed in the PD report below.

1.3.6 establish an auditing process for CPD

The first process for members to document and report their CPD was implemented, followed by our first successful audit of this for 30% of Professional Members.

1.3.8 prioritise activities that are inclusive of those not in Melbourne through; the use of technology such as Zoom for meetings and supervision, and by promoting activities in a variety of locations such as member-led accredited PDs

Our use of technology has continued to expand, enabling regular participation by contributors from across Australasia in the General Committee, and other Committees and Sub-Committees. We held our first on-line CPD events, comprising both monthly discussions about research held by our new Research Committee and one webinar by South African dance movement therapist Noa Belling on her new book.

1.3.9 increase capacity of DM therapists as supervisors

A Sub-Committee was established to develop a process for reporting supervision, expected to make its first reports in early 2019.

1.3. DMT practitioners who demonstrate good practices re CPD and supervision

A major task has been a two year project to develop the first set of competencies for dance movement therapists in Australasia. The current version is being presented for discussion at the AGM in close to final draft form.

1.3.4 publish regular journal for sharing of information and increasing opportunities for Australasian DM therapists to publish

We published one double edition of our journal and our fourth edited collection of writings.

Objective 2. Expanded reach of DMT services, through

2.1. Better employment opportunities for DM therapists

NDIS: The NDIS Sub-Committee advanced in its objective to support dance movement therapists to offer services supported by NDIS funding. This involved a supportive response from NDIA staff who advised us on a number of tasks that need to be completed before we can return and request their consideration of our application for recognition.

2.1.4 Strengthen connection with related professions including artists and other creative arts therapists

The Association also strengthened its connections to a range of relevant organisations. These include PACFA, (Psychotherapy and Counselling Federation of Australia) with which the DTAA has a longstanding relationship as a member association. This provides us with a much larger group of colleagues to develop protocols, strengthen our evidence base and advocate upwards to funders and decision-makers, about the potential of DMT as a form of evidence-based psychotherapy and counselling.

DTAA was represented at PACFA Council meetings in Melbourne in October 2017 by Sharon Paetzold and Ben Assan, and in Sydney in April 2018 by Robyn Price and myself, and the Board by myself, in the role of Research Committee Convenor. Issues of significance for DTAA discussed at these meetings include:

- review of PACFA's training standards was completed, including specialist trainings (those that are complementary to primary qualifications) accreditation scheme were discussed. This are relevant to DTAA as we prepare to develop our own standards for our profession and training courses;
- PACFA PD and supervision document and reporting process were updated.
- The next PACFA conference will be held in Melbourne in early 2019.

We've also had an excellent connection with ANZATA, our sister organisation of creative arts therapists, who have now amalgamated with ACATA to create ANZACATA. This group generously provided us with significant resources they have developed to support their members gain NDIS registration or funding. The NDIS Working Group will eventually update and adapt these for the current NDIS situation and make them available to our members.

Other significant connections include the involvement, through my role as Convenor, of the new World Alliance for Dance Movement Therapy. This group has been working together slowly but steadily since 2016 to engage DM therapists around the world to establish an international association. It's particularly relevant for the DTAA because of our intention to support members in the Asia-Pacific region, especially those who do not yet have their own associations.

The Inaugural Steering Group includes one senior DM therapist from six world regions: Dr. Dita Federman, Middle-East representative, University of Haifa, Israel; Dr. Diana Fischman, South American representative, Dance Movement Therapy Training Program, Argentina; Amber Gray, North American representative, Director, Restorative Resources, USA; Dr. Vincenzo Puxeddu, European representative Co-director, Master Program in Dance Therapy, René Descartes University, Paris, President, EADMT; Dr. Tony Zhou, Asian representative, Inspirees Institute/CAET journal, China. The group are pictured here with DTAA Research Committee member Ella Dumaresq who is working as Research Assistant to help the group set up its website and conducting a research project scoping DMT internationally.



Photo: WADMT Steering Group, June 2018

Financial issues

One area of our operations that proved more challenging was the management of our finances. The report provided by Treasurer Jennifer Au (below) indicates that we had a loss of \$11,459 for the year. This is obviously very significant, and particularly concerning, because it is the second year in a row in which we have made a loss.

Expenditure issues

One major expense for the year was the completion of the project to upload our entire journal since its inception and all chapters of our Collections books to the Internet so that all articles are available for purchase online. This completes a long-standing project to make our resources available electronically. This was a one-off expense. In the future, only one year's publications will be uploaded annually.

Another major expense for the year has been the Administrator's role. We have significantly increased admin demands with all the new membership tasks such as the development of the Register, issuing Certificates of Currency, CPD reporting, etc. This demand is expected only to increase with time. The DTAA's entire administrative operations have been undertaken for many years by one volunteer, Secretary Jane Guthrie, with a very few hours' admin support. For our operations to be sustainable into the future, core administration tasks need to be taken on by a paid administrator.

Income issues:

Membership income for the second half of the financial year was under expected. We had significant difficulties with our membership system, which was not doing any electronic processing, and for some months of the financial year we were without admin staff to follow up outstanding membership fees. Many of our members did not pay subscriptions at all during this period. Partly this was because of systems that were not working well, but we also have a significant problem with many members very slow in paying subscriptions. This means we have to spend admin time (and therefore membership income) on chasing people and sending follow up invoices.

A very significant problem in relation to this is that we pay a levy of \$180 to PACFA for every Professional Member in Australia. Last financial year we paid for 32 Professional Members, yet we received membership fees for fewer than 20 Professional Members. This means that every Professional Member who didn't pay their fees was subsidised by the DTAA for that \$180, as well as not contributing to the costs of running the Association.

Publication sales were significantly less than budgeted. Our new publication (DTC4, available in hard copy and by chapters on-line) sold only a small number of copies for the year, against costs of \$6000 (printing and uploading). We might need to seriously consider the value of producing such material if more interest is not demonstrated by members through sales.

Into the future:

Improvements to the financial outcome for the current financial year include establishment of a new effective electronic membership system that is making membership admin much more efficient. Our Administrator Officer is now paid for a full day a week to oversee our admin work including membership processes. As Laura settles into that role and gradually establishes a Procedures Manual for the DTAA, we can expect the role to become more effective.

Members can assist our situation by paying subscriptions on time. This leaves the Administrator's time more free to spend on tasks that advance us.

We increased membership fees for the current financial year. This will help our financial situation somewhat. However, most of the fee we receive from Professional Members is transferred to PACFA in the form of a Member Association levy. So, despite a much larger pool of Professional Members, and each paying more, our membership income remains largely unchanged.

Another expense that must be incorporated into our budget is insurance cover, for the events we host and for our governance. To date we have only had occasional public liability cover for events, but not professional indemnity or directors' insurance. These insurance covers are all required for an organisation that is providing advice (through CDP activities and publications) and making decisions about our members' livelihoods through professional membership processes. This is a non-negotiable expense for our future.

I am determined that we address these financial issues and find a way to be solvent into the future. The General Committee will be making financial considerations a strong focus in our management of the DTAA this financial year.

Reports from all Committees and Sub-Committees appear below.

Dr. Kim Dunphy
President

20 October 2018

Financial Report 2017-2018: Treasurer Jennifer Au

Total equity as of 30 June 2017:	\$53,918.49
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Income

Membership	\$10,260.00
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Professional development	\$34,450.62
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Interest	\$ 316.04
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Publication sales	\$784.00
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Total	\$45,810.66
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Expenditure

Publications	\$7,201.18
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PACFA Membership	\$6,423.82
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IT support	\$4,583.00
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Administration	\$10,178.41
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Bank charges	\$ 30.00
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Professional development costs	\$28,853.51
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Total	\$57,269.92
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Loss	\$11,459.26
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Total equity as of 30 June 2018:	\$42,459.23
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Committee and Sub-Committee reports

Professional Membership Committee

I would like to begin this report with a big thank you to the hardworking members of the PMC:



Alberto Dimarucut, Philippines



Eileen McDonald, NSW



E. Connor Kelly, Guam, NZ



Anna Schlusser, Victoria

I realize this report is intended to cover just the past fiscal year, however, I feel it is important at this point to acknowledge the inordinate amount of work they have done in the membership review process. Over the past two years, these Professional DM therapists have reviewed over sixty applications from Provisional and Professional Member applicants. They have examined these applications in a timely manner and provided me, the PMC Convener, with thoughtful observations and opinions regarding each application. Their efforts have been an integral part of the growth of DTAA into a professional organization with a vibrant Professional Membership.

The increase in membership applicants has not just come from application reviews, but from an active encouragement of Associate level members as well as those who have never joined DTAA to claim their expertise and training by applying for a level of professional membership. The PMC contacted potential Professional Members by phone, letters and emails and offered assistance in navigating the complexities of the membership application. The energy of the PMC's efforts in this regard is reflective of their passion for our profession. I congratulate them heartily.

However, membership has not been the sole pursuit of the PMC. This past year we have created the **Register of Professional Members**. The register is designed to provide accessible and reliable information to the public, institutions, and government bodies as to whom is accredited to practice as a Dance Movement Therapist.

The privileges, rights and obligations of a registered Professional member were defined and implemented by the PMC. Included are:

- Highly visible placement of photo and personalized listing on the DTAA website
- Use of the DTAA logo in signature blocks and business cards
- Assignment of a personal registration number to signify registration
- Use of the title DTAA (Prof DMT) next to their name
- Voting privileges at AGMs and Special General meetings
- Access to a closed Professional members page on the DTAA website, containing resources and important information for professional members
- Opportunity for election or nomination for leadership roles in DTAA
- Requirement to abide by CPD and supervision reporting rules
- Compliance with financial and ethical requirements set by DTAA

The Register will be promoted in the coming year to increase our visibility as well as credibility as a profession.

The obligations of a Registrant include continuing professional development (CPD) reporting, so this year the PMC instituted the DTAA's first process of CPD reporting. This was followed by an audit of 30% of the memberships' completion of the forms. This will happen each year, so that each member's CPD report will be audited once every three years. Feedback on issues with, and questions about, the process, as well as suggestions for the improvement of the report form will be examined in the current financial year.

A third action undertaken by the PMC was a review of the membership levels. The confusion previously experienced by those applying for Associate Membership has been addressed. Additionally, clearer criteria for Provisional and Professional Membership have been developed. However, once the professional competencies are completed, the membership levels and their criteria will be revisited.

A membership level for retired Professional members was also created. This membership



level allows DTAA to align with many other professional organizations. A professional member who chooses to cease practicing, must notify DTAA. At this time, they can shift to the Retired Professional Membership level and are released from CPD and supervision auditing obligations and offered a reduced membership fee. Their new title is DTAA (Ret DMT).

Photo: Presentation to new Professional and Provisional Members, AGM October 2017

The PMC looks forward to developing policy in a number of membership areas in the coming financial year as well as encouraging and supporting new Professional Members.

New senior level members this year

The DTAA congratulates new members at senior levels achieved in this year:

Professional Members: Our first member from Hong Kong Angela Leung (Hong Kong); Eileen McDonald, Sharon Todd-Miller, Virginia Woods, Esther Edwards and Mary-Claude Vienet (NSW), Lesley Hawkins (NZ), Mary Rose Nicol, Mandy Agnew, Sharon Paetzold and Teri McNeil (Vic); Alex Jordan (NT) and Alice Owen (Qld).

Provisional Professional Members: Anna Crooks (Qld).



The DTAA warmly welcomes those members, not only, but especially, because many of them are situated outside Victoria. This helps us achieve our major strategic objective of: Expanded reach of DMT services.

Photo: Ceremony to welcome new senior members AGM October 2017



Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Kay Lauffenburger
Convener and Members –Anna Schlusser, E Connor Kelly, Alberto Dimarucut, Eileen McDonald

Professional Development Committee

This has been a very busy year for DTAA's Professional Development Committee.



Dancing in Space workshop with Mary-Lee Hardenbergh, Melbourne

At last year's AGM weekend in October, we had a workshop by Sandra Lauffenburger on 'Somatics, Effort/Shape, Self Psychology and Supervision: Foundations for Dance Movement Therapy', and a writing skills workshop by Kim Dunphy and Sue Mullane.

In December, a second 'Body as Voice' trauma training series with Amber Gray began, followed by the second instalment in April 2018 and the third to be held in December 2018.

This event is an example of events run by us attracting people from other modalities, with Amber's work also attracting counsellors and psychotherapists as well as DM therapists. More and more people working in the area of trauma, from a range of backgrounds are seeking movement activities they can use, such as movement drawn from the theory of DMT.

In January 2018, a two day workshop on 'Dancing in Space and Dancing in Community' workshop was led by US-based DM therapist and dance artist Marylee Hardenbergh. This wonderful workshop at Abbotsford Convent in Melbourne culminated in a performance in the Convent's beautiful grounds. This workshop was very popular, attracting dancers as well and those interested in organising community dance events.

This was followed in February by a presentation from another visitor to Australia, English DM therapist and coach Sara Boas. She presented the very exciting 'Body as Storyteller' workshop in Sydney, drawing in people from the creative arts therapies along with DM therapists from as far afield as New Zealand.



'Body as Storyteller' workshop with Sara Boas, Sydney

'Movement and dance as a resource in therapy-expressing the body's wisdom' also took place in June this year, presented by DTAA Professional Member Virginia Woods in Sydney. This event enjoyed good attendance numbers and received excellent feedback.

Two other activities were offered: a catch-up 'supervision day' and grant-writing workshops. The former was offered to assist people to accumulate their supervision hours and the latter to assist people with making grant applications to the Hanny Exiner Memorial Foundation.

Neither of these workshops ran in this financial year, with few people wanting to attend, but they will continue to be offered in future in case they are needed.

Events to come in 2018-2019 are an Authentic Movement weekend in Sydney in November led by Connor Kelly, and US-based DM therapist Nana Koch in Melbourne in January, presenting on the work of pioneer Liljan Espanek. Sara Boas will once again lead a workshop in Sydney, possibly in February 2020. More information available from www.dtaa.org.au/events.

These events have been well supported by the membership, and also by interested other professionals. This has happened partly because what has been offered has been attractive to people from other modalities as well. It has been great to be working with Robyn Price to move towards a better geographical coverage of professional development events on offer. We would welcome suggestions for CPD from members that we can follow-up on.

Jane Guthrie and Robyn Price, Professional Development Committee

Publications Committee



In 2017-2018 financial year, one edition of our journal *Moving On* was published. A major focus for this group was the DTAA's fourth edited volume, *Dance Therapy Collections 4*, which draws largely on presentations from our 2015 conference. This was a major undertaking for the editorial team of myself, Sue Mullane and Elizabeth Loughlin, and was launched at last year's AGM. Many members also contributed as reviewers.

Photo: launch of DT Collections 4, AGM October 2017

Another major achievement this year has been the completion of uploading of all our journals and DT Collections books on-line, so that they are all now available for sale as single articles, and journal articles are available free to members. DTAA books continue to be offered as a resource with sales slow, but steady. DTAA books are so reasonably priced that we would suggest members think about purchasing copies as gifts for colleagues, or even potential employees. This would be a good way of spreading information about DMT. And, particularly if you have had an article published in one – what better way to showcase your work and impress. Be sure to take advantage of purchasing at DTAA events where there is no extra cost for postage involved.

We are really still in the same position as we were in last year, needing people to come on to the editorial committee, and /or to come up with ideas for other special issues that they would be prepared to work on. Please put up your hand to assist or email us on info@dtaa.org.au

I would like to thank all those who have assisted me personally in getting out Vol 15, 1&2, Naomi Aitchison, Heather Hill, Anna Schlusser and Faith Bolton.

Jane Guthrie, Convenor.

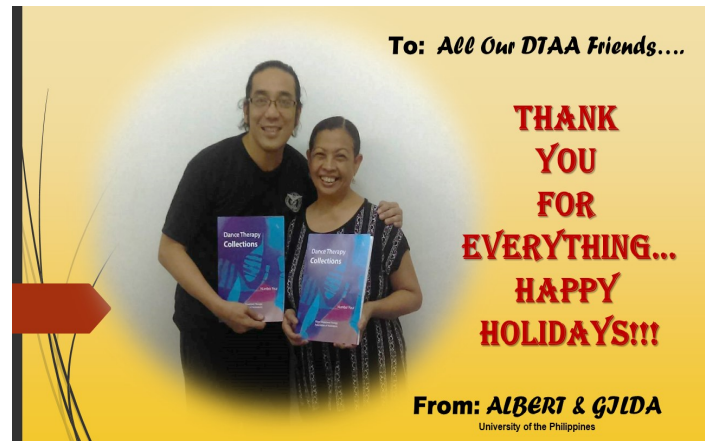
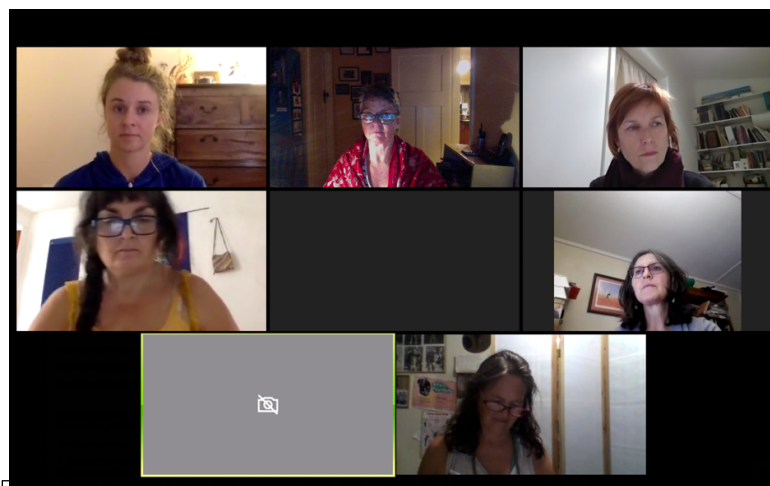


Photo: Proud DTC 4 authors from the Philippines Alberto Dimarucut and Gilda Uy

Research Committee

After successfully launching its monthly online Forum discussions in February 2018, the Research Committee has continued to enjoy hosting regular meetings on the last Wednesday of each month. Five meetings were held to June, with between 5-10 participants attending from Melbourne and regional Victoria, Sydney, regional NSW, New Zealand, and Guam. It has been particularly pleasing for the Forum convenors to have our regional and overseas members attend discussion via Zoom, given the Australian capital city centric nature of much of our usual professional development. We have enjoyed lively discussions around a variety of research topics including arts-based research, embodied research processes, and reading and evaluating qualitative research. The Research Committee was fortunate to have visiting DM therapist and researcher Prof. Sherry Goodill attend our June meeting as special guest. Sherry led the group through an engaging discussion on case studies, and how we might approach both reading and understanding case studies, as well as writing our own case studies as DMT practitioners.



Research webinar by Zoom, May 2018

Within many of our monthly meetings, attendees have reflected on the way in which the Forum provides for greater connectivity amongst DMT practitioners, and it has been terrific to see some new faces over the months. Going forwards, the Research Committee intends to continue with the monthly meetings and welcomes new attendees to join at any stage throughout the year.

Listings of the monthly topic for discussion and related journal article, discussion questions and Zoom link will continue to be made available on the DTAA website.

The Research Committee wishes to thank everyone who has so far engaged with the monthly forum discussions. Special thanks to Laura for her assistance with the monthly website updates.

Convenors Sue Mullane and Ella Dumaresq.

Regional Liaison



Photo: NZ members get together to plan progress

As Regional Liaison Convener, I send out regular emails to enquire about the area and often send a summary email after each General Committee meeting. The areas with the most members and activity include: New South Wales, Melbourne/Victoria, New Zealand/Aotearoa, Northern Territories and Queensland has sent in reports as well. Occasionally a regional member has attended the meeting including Queensland, New Zealand and New South Wales.

Future project: establishing structures and guidelines through the by-laws for proposed branches in northern Australia (NSW and Qld) and New Zealand after the new Constitution is adopted

Convenor E. Connor Kelly

Hanny Exiner Memorial Foundation



This year we were pleased to welcome four new members on our committee: Jennifer Helmich, Dr. Mandy Agnew, and Drs. Steve Harvey and Jan Deans who are our consultants. There have been major changes made to our application process and criteria in response to the helpful advice and correspondence that HEMF Committee had with Dr Heather Hill and Sandra Lauffenburger.

Photo: 2017 HEMF Award Recipient Jennifer Helmich, with Co-Convenor Naomi Aitchison

The changes in the application process will allow dance movement therapists to apply within a broader range of expertise, such as development of tools, education material and archival material, as well as research.

We have had two grant applications submitted this year. These are being evaluated by our panel. Currently there are three outstanding reports from previous years and these are expected soon. The inaugural mentorship program from last year is still in progress.

The 2017-2018 Annual Achievement Award was made to Jennifer Helmich and presented at the AGM in October 2017 in recognition of her exceptional and significant contributions to the development and advancement of dance movement therapy in Australia. Jennifer's entire working career has involved promoting and working for dance movement therapy in one way or another, and combining it with her nursing career.

HEMF expenditure exceeded income largely due to the Committee determining that larger grants would be offered in 2017/18. This is regarded as sustainable in the medium term due to the stable value of the share portfolio and the average annual granting levels. HEMF will review its portfolio during 2018-19 once the process of moving to a new stockbroker, which is currently underway, is completed."

I would like to thank all the member of the HEMF Committee for their hard work and willingness to contribute.

A summary of the financials for 2017/2018, submitted by Ron Exiner, appears below;

Opening balance 1/7/17: Cash at bank \$5265.29 and share portfolio value \$22877.63

Expenditure: \$3147

Income: \$1050.72

Net result: \$-2096.28

Closing Balance 30/6/18: \$5265.29: Value of share portfolio @ 4 October 2018 \$22622

Convenor Bouthaina Mayall

NDIS Sub-Committee



The NDIS Sub-Committee was established in June 2017. Members are experienced in the disability population. We got together to explore the opportunities for dance movement therapists in the NDIS (National Disability Insurance Scheme) market.

With the leadership of the President, we initiated a request to have DMT to be registered as a profession with NDIS. A meeting was held with NDIA to discuss the NDIA review outcome. A plan was developed to address

issues raised during this meeting. A member, Cecilia Lau, also explored the process of registering as an NDIS service provider. She has started providing services for NDIS participants.

Convenor Jennifer Au (Vic), with members, Dr Heather Hill (Vic), Dr Kim Dunphy (Vic), Dr. Mandy Agnew (Vic), Cecilia Lau (NSW) and Sandra Perrin (NSW).

Constitution Sub- Committee

As part of work on the strategic objectives of DTAA, clear governance procedures must exist. Until now DTAA has only been registered as an Incorporated Association in the state of Victoria, and we have therefore had no formal mandate for operations across Australia, let alone internationally. Thus our national and international jurisdiction has been legally hampered. We have also been operating under Model Rules adopted in 1994, when the DTAA was a small committee of members in Victoria. The rules have provided us with only a basic structure for our operations, that have become much more complex since that time, with larger numbers of members in much wider geographic area. We also now have a registration process for the first time whereby we are formally self-regulating our profession by offering members recognition of their qualifications.

These rules are well overdue for review. There are two possibilities we could consider for this change: becoming either a Registrable Body under the Corporations Act of 2001 or a non-profit company limited by guarantee. Both of these structures would allow us to formally operate throughout all the states and territories within Australia.

The first step to making this change, is the development of a Constitution. The above-named committee was formed by General Committee members (listed below) with experience in non-profit governance. A new constitution, modelled on the constitution of our parent organization PACFA and also drawn from consultation across a number of professional organizations as well as the Australian Council of Professional Organizations, was in development throughout this financial year.

The consultation process included: a special meeting of the General Committee on 29 August; and a revised document based on that discussion that was circulated to all current financial members on 21 September. Feedback to that version was received from more than 50% of our current senior members. All of these comments have been considered in the version of the document provided here. Once accepted and implemented, this will enable DTAA to formally operate across Australia and qualify for a number of government initiatives.

It must be said that the Constitution is the first step. It forms the structural framework for the governance of DTAA. The processes and procedures occurring within this framework will be written into a set of By-Laws which will be developed in the coming year in consultation with DTAA's other working Committees and Sub-Committees.

The DTAA is also mindful that this step legitimises our governance across Australia, but not yet across the broader region. That is an issue to be tackled next!

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra Kay Lauffenburger, Convener with members: E Connor Kelly, Robyn Price, Kim Dunphy

Competency Standards Committee



The DTAA competency project commenced in late 2016. The project involved the development of competency standards for Australasian dance-movement therapists. **Competency standards** are an important professional benchmark for Australasian dance movement therapy. They are used to assess the skills and knowledge that a person must demonstrate in the workplace to be seen as competent. When finalised and endorsed, the DTAA Competency Standards will not only define the requirements for effective workplace performance of Australasian dance movement therapists and

the criteria for professional membership of DTAA, but they will also offer a platform for defining learning outcomes and assessment benchmarks for dance movement therapy training.

Project Team:

The work is being completed by a Sub-Committee of DTAA comprising:

- Sandra Lauffenburger (ACT)
- Dr Kim Dunphy (Vic)
- Dr Sally Denning (Vic)

Project Methodology:

The project team have drawn upon a range of methods to develop and validate the standards including:

- Literature review: including the review of existing dance-movement therapy standards developed within other countries.
- Widespread national and international consultation with practising dance-movement therapists in Australasia.
- Functional analysis with members to determine the broad range of activities undertaken by Australasian dance-movement therapists.
- Critical incident interviews with practising dance-movement therapists (involving beginner to experienced therapists).

Project Progress:

The project commenced in 2016, and the project team have been meeting regularly on a fortnightly basis. Drawing upon membership input into the initial functional analysis describing what dance therapists do and then the further feedback from membership on the first draft of the Standards, a refinement process has occurred to ensure the standards are clear, elements describe each competency and overall the standards are representative of what is required for entry level dance therapists in Australasia.

The draft set of Standards ready for endorsement by all members is being presented at the 2018 AGM. At this point in time the project team has completed:

- A literature review and review of existing dance-movement therapy standards from other countries
- Widespread consultation with practising dance-movement therapists across Australasia
- An initial functional analysis to inform the development of a first draft of the Standards
- Some interviews with dance movement therapists to further refine the Standards

- Presentation of the draft Standards to the wider DTAA membership for consultation and feedback
- Regular reports on progress together with requests for input at DTAA Committee meetings and in DTAA bulletins distributed to the wider membership
- An updated draft set of standards

Next Steps:

Next steps include presenting the Standards to DTAA members at the October 2018 AGM and seeking endorsement.

Dr Sally Denning, Sub-Committee Convenor, with members Sandra Lauffenburger and Dr Kim Dunphy.