



ARMS REPORT TO MEMBERS

HIGHLIGHTS FROM
1 JULY 2024 – 30 JUNE 2025

24
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About the Australasian Research Management Society (ARMS)

ARMS is the Australasian association of Research Management Professionals¹. The Society's membership spans universities, independent research institutions, government and health research organisations from across the Australasian region including Australia, Aotearoa New Zealand, Singapore and the Pacific Islands.

Company Information

Australian Business Number: 57 334 849 485
Registered Office: C/- Flinders University,
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ARMSCOO@researchmanagement.org.au
www.researchmanagement.org.au

ARMS was incorporated in Victoria and is a Not-For-Profit (NFP) association (ARBN 609 051 443).

¹ Research Management Professionals are defined as individuals who provide strategic, management, technical, administrative, or clerical assistance to support the research endeavour.

ARMS gratefully acknowledges the valuable contributions of our Corporate Partners: ResearchMaster (Platinum), Cayuse (Gold), and BMJ Impact Analytics throughout the reporting period.

We also extend our gratitude to RMIT University for sponsoring the Society's annual awards for Research Management Practice.

PLATINUM PARTNER



GOLD PARTNER



BRONZE PARTNER

BMJ Impact Analytics

ARMS acknowledges the traditional owners of the lands that we live and work and pays its respect to elders past, present and emerging.



Front cover image:
ARMS Choir on stage at the 2024 Darwin Conference closing ceremony.



Flinders University

ARMS acknowledges the generous support of Flinders University, the official host of the Executive Office based at its Bedford Park Campus, Adelaide, South Australia.

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ARMS

Australasian Research Management Society

FROM THE PRESIDENT

It is with great pride and appreciation that I present my final Report to Members as I conclude my second term as President.

This report highlights the significant progress ARMS has made in line with our revised strategic priorities, showcasing key milestones that reflect our shared commitment to advancing research management across Australasia.

I sincerely thank all our dedicated volunteer members, especially those serving on the Board, Standing Committees, Accreditation Council, Chapters, Special Interest Groups (SIGs), Networks, and ad-hoc working groups. I offer special recognition to our Training Fellows, whose leadership in professional development continues to inspire and shape the next generation of Research Management Professionals. I also extend my gratitude to their employers for supporting their valuable contributions to ARMS.

This spirit of collaboration and generosity has not only driven ARMS forward but also enriched the professional journeys of our members.

Our corporate partners and sponsors are essential to our mission, enabling us to invest in high-impact services for our members. We gratefully acknowledge our partners for this reporting period:

Sponsor Tier	Partner Name
Platinum	ResearchMaster
Silver	Cayuse
Bronze	BMJ Analytics

Appreciation is also extended to RMIT University for their continued sponsorship of the annual RMIT Paul Taylor Awards and to Flinders University for their ongoing support in hosting the ARMS Executive Office.

Thank you all for your commitment to ARMS and for helping us to continuously shape the future of research management.

Finally, I extend my deep appreciation to the ARMS HQ team, whose dedication continues to exemplify excellence in service and support.

Dr Tania Bezzobs
President

“

This spirit of collaboration and generosity has not only driven ARMS forward but also enriched the professional journeys of our members.

”

ARMS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Governance and Leadership

The ARMS Board serves as the Society's principal governing body, overseeing all aspects of its operations, including committees and publications. It is responsible for setting promotional strategies, establishing policies, guiding strategic planning, and monitoring progress toward the Society's mission and objectives, as outlined in the Strategic Plan. The Board holds statutory authority over all ARMS activities.

Board Composition

The Board comprises four office bearers: President, President-Elect, Secretary, and Treasurer, alongside five General Committee Members, one of whom is appointed from outside Australia to ensure international representation.

Executive Support

Strategic and operational support is provided by the ARMS Chief Operating Officer (COO), who leads the Executive Office located in Adelaide. This office is hosted by Flinders University at its Bedford Park campus in South Australia.

Volunteer Commitment

All Board and Committee roles within ARMS are voluntary. The Society values the commitment of its members who generously contribute their time and acknowledges the support of their employing organisations.

Board Induction

Newly appointed Board members participate in a formal induction program at the commencement of their term. This includes training in legal and financial responsibilities, as well as an induction handbook detailing the Society's governance framework and operational procedures.

Organisational Structure

To advance its mission, ARMS is structured into Chapters, Standing Committees, Special Interest Groups, and Networks. These communities of practice evolve in response to the Society's needs and are subject to Board approval. Their activities are guided by the strategic priorities and operational principles set forth in the Strategic Plan.



ARMS Board at meeting held at RMIT University, February 2025

Front row L-R: Dr Lachlan Doughney, Jaylene Wehipeihana, Dr Tania Bezzobs, Hannah Allan, Sharon Aburn
Back row L-R: Maria Zollo, Tara McLaren, Dr Louise Dwyer, Amber Jennings, Mel Trebilcock

BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR PERIOD ENDING 30 JUNE 2025



President
Dr Tania Bezzobs
University of
Technology, Sydney
(Appointed 2020,
re-appointed 2022)



President Elect
Ms Hannah Allan
Curtin University
(Appointed 2024)



Secretary
Dr Louise Dwyer
Macquarie University
(Appointed 2024)



Treasurer
Dr Lachlan Doughney
RMIT University
(Appointed 2023)

General Committee Members



Ms Emma Collyer
UNSW Australia
(Appointed 2021,
re-appointed 2023)



Ms Sharon Aburn
Monash University
(Appointed 2023)



Ms Amber Jennings
Monash University
(Appointed 2024)



Ms Tara McLaren
Australian Institute of
Marine Science
(Appointed 2024)



**Ms Jaylene
Wehipeihana**
Individual Member
(Appointed 2021,
re-appointed 2023)

We also acknowledge the following Board members whose term ended in September 2024:

Ms Kate Swanson
Griffith University
(Appointed 2022)

Dr Brett Szmajda
Department of Industry
(Appointed 2022)

Dr Yordanka Krastev
Ramsay Hospital Research Foundation
(Appointed 2020, re-appointed 2022)

THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE

The Executive Office of ARMS, headquartered at Flinders University in Adelaide, South Australia, serves as a vital engine driving the organisation's mission and vision forward. It provides strategic and operational support to the Board of Directors, ensuring ARMS continues to deliver value to its members and stakeholders.

Key responsibilities of the Executive Office include:

Governance and Policy Development

Collaborating with the Board of Directors, Standing Committees, and the Accreditation Council to shape policies that align with ARMS' strategic priorities and uphold program integrity.

Operational Management

Overseeing the day-to-day functions of the Executive Office to ensure member services and benefits are delivered with efficiency and excellence.

Financial Stewardship

Leading financial planning, budgeting, and resource allocation to support sustainable growth and responsible fiscal management.

Member Engagement

Driving member relations and retention strategies to foster a vibrant, engaged ARMS community.

Program and Event Delivery

Supporting the design and execution of initiatives, events, and programs that reflect ARMS' goals and values.

Stakeholder Collaboration

Building and nurturing partnerships with external organisations, corporate allies, and key stakeholders to expand ARMS' influence and impact.

Strategic Communication

Acting as the central communication hub for the Board, advocating for ARMS' mission and amplifying its voice across diverse platforms to members and stakeholders.

Members of the Executive Office include:



**ARMS Chief
Operating Officer**
Ms Maria Zollo



**Partnerships,
Education and
Policy Manager**
Ms Mel Trebilcock



**Management
Accountant**
Mr Brett Dobson



**Accreditation
and Member
Engagement
Coordinator**
Ms Dana Watts



**Conferences and
Major Events
Coordinator**
Ms Kaeisha Kilmister



**ARMS Events
Administrator**
Ms Janice Yau

MEMBERSHIP

As of June 30, 2025, the Society proudly recorded a total of 4,921 members across the Australasian region, encompassing Australia, New Zealand, and Singapore. This marks a 13.10% increase in membership compared to the previous reporting period, reflecting continued growth and engagement within our professional community.



The VIC Chapter maintained the largest share of the membership base, with 1,260 members (25.60%), followed closely by NSW with 1,232 members (25.04%). Other regional distributions included Qld/NT/PNG with 798 members (16.22%), Western Australia with 477 (9.69%), South Australia with 335 (6.81%), and the ACT with 316 (6.42%).

International chapters also contributed significantly, with New Zealand/Pacific Islands accounting for 246 members (5.00%), Singapore with 124 (2.52%), Tasmania with 123 (2.50%), and the Global Chapter with 10 members (0.20%).

The geographical distribution of our members is summarised in Graph 1.

Chart 1 below illustrates the Society's consistent upward trajectory in membership, highlighting its growing impact and reach across the Australasian research management community.

Graph 1: ARMS Membership by Chapter

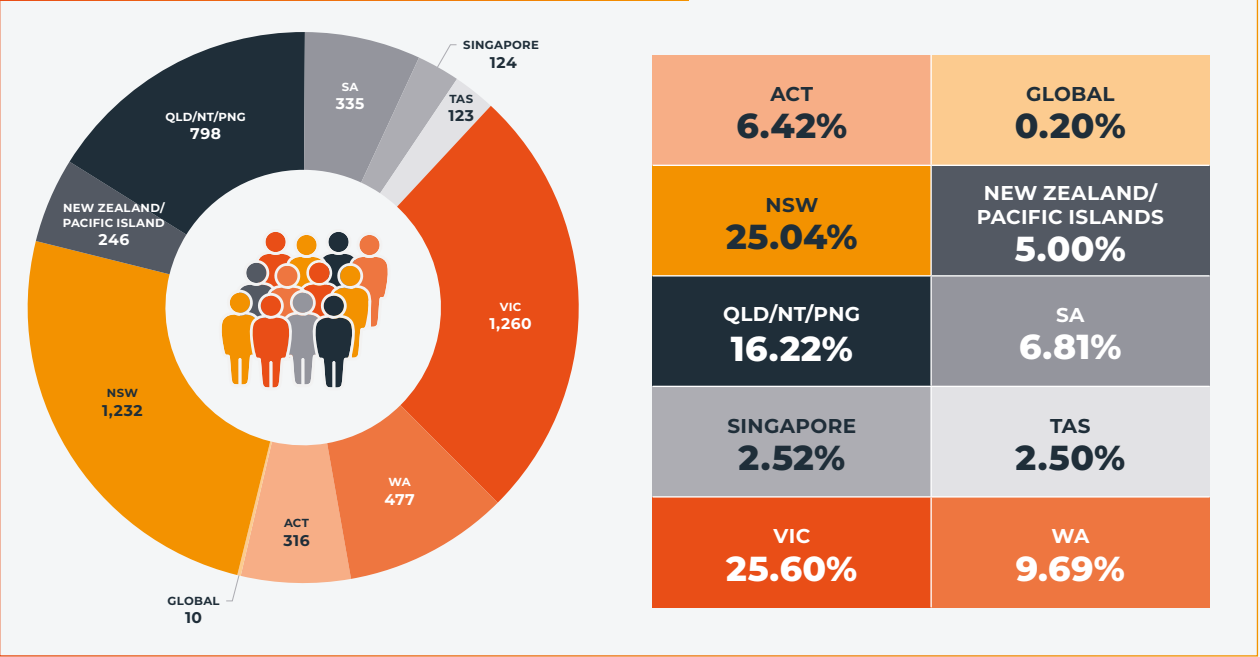
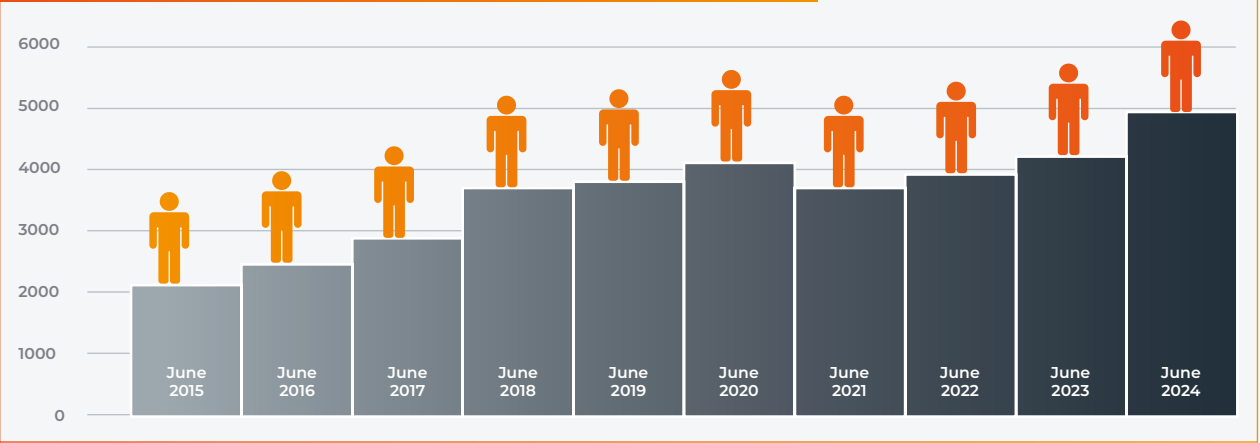


Chart 1: ARMS Membership Growth (2015–2025)



The Society acknowledges the generous support of our corporate and small corporate members during the reporting period.

Corporate Members

ANSTO	Griffith University	The University of Melbourne
Australian National University	Infonetica Ltd	The University of New South Wales
Auckland University	James Cook University	The University of Newcastle
Australian Catholic University	La Trobe University	The University of Queensland
Australian Research Council	Macquarie University	The University of Sydney
Bond University	Massey University	The University of Western Australia
Cancer Council Australia	Monash University	University of Canberra
Central Queensland University	Murdoch Children's Research Institute	University of New England
Charles Darwin University	Murdoch University	University of South Australia
Charles Sturt University	Nanyang Technological University	University of Southern Queensland
CSIRO	Queensland University of Technology	University of Tasmania
Curtin University	RMIT University	University of Technology Sydney
Deakin University	Southern Cross University	University of the Sunshine Coast
Edith Cowan University	Swinburne University	University of Wollongong
Federation University Australia	The Kids Research Institute Australia	Victoria University
Flinders University	The University of Adelaide	Western Sydney University

Small Corporate Members

Australian Education Research Organisation	The Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research
Baker Heart & Diabetes Institute	Transport Accident Commission
Child and Adolescent Health Service	University of Notre Dame
Hearing Australia	University of Nottingham Malaysia
Sydney Children's Hospital Network	Victoria University of Wellington
Te Pukenga – New Zealand Institute of Skills and Technology	

MEMBERSHIP

Membership Types

The Society offers a diverse range of membership types, each designed to cater to varying levels of engagement.

The membership categories include:



CORPORATE MEMBERSHIP

This category is designed for those members whose dues are covered under a group by their employing organisation, which is actively engaged in, or supports the research enterprise.



SMALL CORPORATE MEMBERSHIP

This category is designed for small organisations such as Medical Research Institutes, Government Organisations, etc.

This option offers a 10% discount off the standard Individual Membership rate when 6-10 individual members at the same organisation pay their membership fee on a single invoice.

Each Small Corporate Member under this category shall have voting privileges of the Society.

TIER 1 Corporate Membership

Research organisations

Up to AUD\$50m in external research revenue in the most recent financial year

OR

Funding agencies/ organisations and councils

Up to AUD\$50m in external grant funding (distributed to other organisations) managed in the most recent financial year

OR

Other organisations not elsewhere covered

Up to AUD\$30m total expenditure

TIER 2 Corporate Membership

Research organisations

AUD \$50m–\$99.99m in external research revenue in the most recent financial year

OR

Funding agencies/ organisations and councils

AUD \$50m–\$99.99m in external grant funding managed in the most recent financial year

OR

Other organisations not elsewhere covered

AUD\$30m–\$60m expenditure

TIER 3 Corporate Membership

Research organisations

> AUD \$100m in external research revenue in the most recent financial year

OR

Funding agencies/ organisations and councils

> AUD\$100m in external grant funding managed in the most recent financial year

OR

Other organisations not elsewhere covered

> AUD \$60m expenditure



INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP

This category is designed for individuals who are employed or active in the field of research management and/ or administration at any level and with any sector of research community.

Each individual will have voting privileges of the Society.



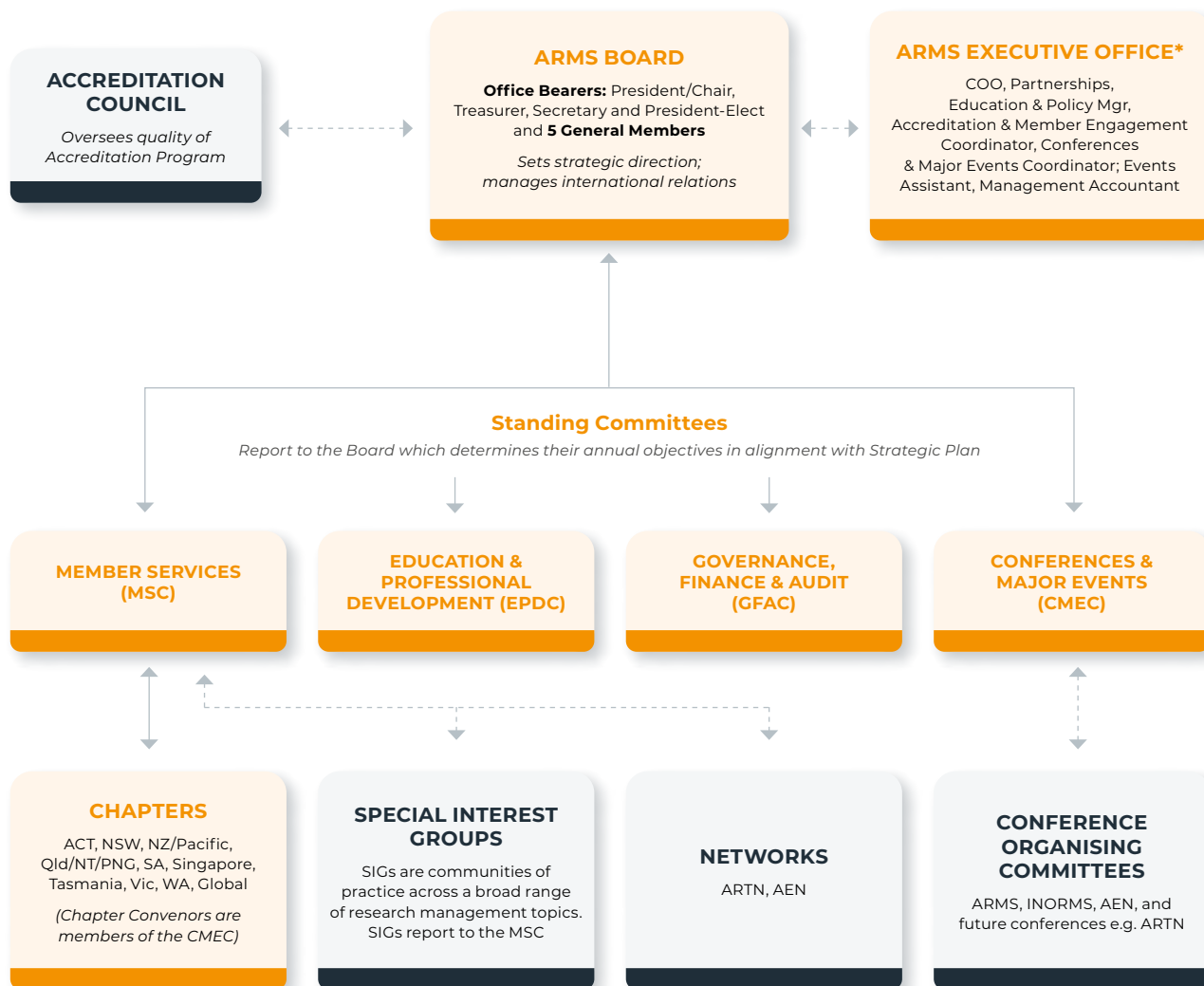
RETIRED MEMBERSHIP

This category is designed for current members who have retired from the research management profession but wish to remain a part of the Society.

MANAGEMENT AND ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

ARMS is a Not-For Profit association formed in 1999. It is governed by an approved Constitution and operationalised by a set of by-laws. (ARBN 609 051 443).

ARMS ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE



* Provides services to the entire Society, reporting to the Board of Directors. Supports marketing and communications, including stakeholder engagement; provides Secretariat support to Standing Committees, Chapters, SIGs and Networks.

OUR STRATEGIC PLAN

A key focus of our work during this reporting period has been the development of our new Strategic Plan: **ARMS Strategic Plan – Towards 2030**, launched in December 2024. Our new strategy reflects our commitment to enabling and connecting our community of Research Management Professionals across Australia, Aotearoa New Zealand, Singapore, and the Pacific Islands.



The Strategic Plan sets out four key priority areas that will shape our direction through to 2030:

Demonstrating the value of ARMS to research leaders, government bodies, and key stakeholders by delivering meaningful insights and fostering strategic engagement across the research ecosystem.

Cement ARMS's position as a critical asset, not just for its members, but for the broader research ecosystem. This will occur through advocacy, representation and insights in relation to research management policy and practice and identification and discussion of current and future trends both within our region and globally.

Building a research management environment that embeds and respects the practices and perspectives of First Nations and Indigenous peoples.

Fostering a profession that respects and recognises the needs of First Nations and Indigenous research and research management practice. We will do this through supporting and incorporating First Nations and Indigenous voices in research management practices and investing in First Nations and Indigenous Research Management Professionals.

Develop professional development of our members through innovative programs and opportunities that elevate skills and expertise.

We aim to continue to grow the capability of Research Management Professionals from those at the start of their careers through to emerging and current leaders. We will aim to equip Research Management Professionals with the necessary skills and knowledge to navigate the increasingly complex research environment.

Expanding the reach and diversity of our membership by engaging professionals across a broader spectrum of institutions, career stages, and disciplines, deepening our institutional connections and community impact.

We seek to attract a wider range of Research Management Professionals, encompassing various institutions and career stages and deepen our engagement within institutions. By diversifying and strengthening its membership, ARMS aims to foster a richer exchange of knowledge and experiences, ultimately strengthening the research management community across Australasia.

These priorities guide the development of ARMS programs, the delivery of its services, and the management of its operations and finances, ensuring continued support for a thriving and sustainable society.

Implementation Plan

The ARMS Implementation Plan to align with our new strategy, is currently under construction by the Board and will include consultation with the broader ARMS community, including Chapters, Special Interest Groups (SIGs), Standing Committees, the Accreditation Council (AC), Networks and our Marketing Communications Advisory Committee (MARCOM).



Our Vision

To be the peak body for research management in Australasia, supporting our members to attain the highest standards of research management practice.



Our Goals

To promote and support the research management community:

- Through advocacy and recognition of the importance of research management as an essential foundation for research.
- By empowering members to grow in the profession and practice of research management.
- By developing a strong, vibrant and connected community of members and stakeholders across research and research management.



Our Values

Leadership, Innovation and forward-thinking

Proactively adapting to change, generating new ideas and being courageous in our approach.

Respect

Valuing diverse perspectives and backgrounds, treating everyone with dignity, and fostering a culture of inclusivity in all our interactions.

Collaboration and an engaged community

Creating a connected and engaged community to achieve common goals in research management.

ARMS ACCREDITATION PROGRAM

Foundation Level Accreditation Program (FLAP)

ARMS' Foundation Level Accreditation Program has undergone a substantial content overhaul across three of its core modules:

- Module 1.1 – Australia: The National Research and Innovation System
- Module 1.2 – Legislation as it Relates to Research in Australia
- Module 1.3 – formerly Understanding Research and Researchers, now rebranded as The Research Ecosystem and the Role of Research Management Professionals

These modules were temporarily paused for a five-month period to allow for an extensive review and redevelopment process. While this pause did impact our bottom line initially, we are now in a period of recovery. The renewed uptake of these modules has been encouraging, and we anticipate a strong catch-up phase as members re-engage with the updated content.

We should highlight that Module 1.3 has also undergone a complete rewrite during this period. Although it had received incremental updates since its original launch in 2013, the evolving external environment together with ARMS' new strategic direction prompted a unanimous decision, endorsed by the Accreditation Council, the Education and Professional Development Committee, and the ARMS Board to redevelop the module from the ground up.

A dedicated working group of experienced Research Management Professionals, led by Dr Marina Delpin from the University of Adelaide, conducted the review. The result is a contemporary, forward-looking program that not only reflects the current research landscape but also delivers essential soft skills training tailored to the needs of our member community.

Despite this interruption, the program continues to see new graduates of Accredited Research Managers (Foundation) or ARMFs. Our 2024/2025 cohorts of 46 new graduates now bring our total pool of ARMFs to 698.

The list of new ARMFs are as follows:

Rebecca Argent University of Melbourne	Caroline Jowsey Central Queensland University
Kelly Asquith Individual member	Katie Lau The University of Western Australia
May Aung Su University of Technology Sydney	Barat Ma Monash University
Angela Baklavas-Kottaras RMIT University	Belinda Mackellar The University of Western Australia
Stephanie Banach Western Sydney University	Susan McDonald The University of Western Australia
Sue Barnes The Australian National University	Yingxue Miao The Australian National University
Marta Bayly University of South Australia	Aditi Misra University of Melbourne
Pip Chan The Australian National University	Cassandra Mitchell Deakin University
Linlin Cheng The University of Western Australia	Sonya Murray Individual member
Shang Chieh Lee University of Technology Sydney	Ruwanthi Nawarathna Individual member
Andrea Christie RMIT University	James Oxley Murdoch Children's Research Institute
Brooke Colley University of Queensland	Simon Parsons Swinburne University of Technology
Dale Curran Charles Sturt University	Jennifer Podesta Charles Sturt University
Janine Curtis Individual member	Joanne Preston Queensland University of Technology
Arhita Del Fierro La Trobe University	Chui Rhong Geriatric Educations & Research Institute
Uwe Dressel The University of Queensland	Reka Sadagopal University of Technology Sydney
Michael Evans Central Queensland University	Elizabeth Sinclair Individual member
Alice Ferguson RMIT University	Kerry Smith Charles Sturt University
Sabine Fletcher Cancer Council Australia	Chinmay Sonawane Deakin University
Hing Tang Curtin University	Kelly Wong Geriatric Educations & Research Institute
Aarthi Ganesan University of Technology Sydney	Selina Woodholme Central Queensland University
Suzanne Harten Central Queensland University	Audrey Yeo Tan Tock Seng Hospital
Jennifer Hogan Edith Cowan University	
Geoffrey Johnson The University of Melbourne	

A full list of all ARMFs is available on the Society's [website](#).

Established Level Accreditation Program (ELAP)

The Established Level Accreditation Program (ELAP) is designed for mid to senior-level Research Management Professionals.

It focuses on enhancing leadership capabilities, strategic management skills, and domain-specific expertise. The program equips participants with the competencies necessary to lead effectively within the evolving research and innovation ecosystem.

As of February 2024, the ELAP had enrolled 38 participants with an additional 6 participants joining in the latter half of 2024 and into early 2025. The growth reflects sustained interest and engagement with the program.

The Leadership component of the ELAP was successfully facilitated by Dr Lesley Ashton in July 2024 and is also delivering the program in 2025.

Table 1 provides an overview of the electives delivered through the ELAP during the reporting period, including details on facilitators, enrolment figures, and delivery dates.

Table 1 Delivered Electives (2024–2025)

Elective Title	Facilitators	Registrations	Delivery Date
Informed Decision Making in Research Management	Simon Kerridge, Madhuri Dutta, Melinda Fischer, Cristina Oliveira	11	September 2024
Due Diligence and Good Governance in Research	Mr Chris Thompson	7	October 2024
Business Process Improvement in Research Management	Assoc. Prof Tam C. Nguyen	7	May 2025
Maximising Research Impact	Dr Faith Welch	9	June 2025
Total Elective Registration units		34	

Members to note that other electives are scheduled for delivery in the second half of 2025 as follows in Table 2.

Table 2: Scheduled electives for 2025

Module Title	Scheduled Delivery
Informed Decision Making in Research Management	September 2025
Due Diligence and Governance Considerations	October 2025
Research Funding: A Pathway to Best Practice	November 2025

The ELAP graduated two members for the reporting period. We congratulate:

- Sharon Aburn, Monash University
- Veronica Loew, University of Melbourne

Advanced Level Accreditation Program (ALAP)

To continue their professional develop journey through ARMS Accreditation, graduates of the Established Level Accreditation Program are encouraged to apply to participate in the highest level of accreditation offered by ARMS, the [Advanced Level Accreditation Program \(ALAP\)](#). The program consists of a capstone workplace- based assignment. There were no graduates to this program during the reporting period.

A full list of Accredited Research Managers (Advanced) or ARMAs, can be found here: www.researchmanagement.org.au/arma-accredited-research-manager-advanced-list

ARMS Training Fellow

ARMS Training Fellow is an honorary designation awarded by the Accreditation Council to individuals who demonstrate the expertise, experience, and capability to deliver module content for the Foundation Level Accreditation Program (FLAP) and Master Classes.

We extend our sincere appreciation to all volunteer Training Fellows, whose invaluable contributions and deep knowledge enrich our programs and play a vital role in developing and strengthening the research management profession.

A full listing of Training Fellows is available on the ARMS website: www.researchmanagement.org.au/training-fellows

ACCREDITATION COUNCIL

The Accreditation Council is an essential element in the Accreditation Program, comprising of experienced Research Management Professionals who oversee the quality standards of all ARMS Accreditation programs. The Accreditation Council is chaired by Professor Alastair McEwan.

Members of the ARMS Accreditation Council



Professor Alastair McEwan
Executive Director,
Biological Sciences and
Biotechnology, Australian
Research Council
Chair: ARMS Accreditation Council



Ms Claire Forsyth
Acting Deputy CEO,
Australian Research Council
*Representing a member from a
key Australian Agency involved in
research and innovation*



Dr Tania Bezzobs
University of Technology, Sydney,
and President of ARMS
ARMS Board Representative



Ms Joanne Looyen
Director, Science System
Investment and Performance,
MBIE, NZ
*Representing a member from a key
New Zealand Agency involved in
research and innovation*



Dr Melissa Straffon
Executive Manager
CSIRO Research Office
*Representing a member from a
key Australian Agency involved in
research and innovation*



Professor Andy Hor
Deputy Chief Executive (A*STAR)
*Representing a member from a key
Singaporean Agency involved in
research and innovation*



Ms Prue Torrance
General Manager, National Health
and Medical Research Council
*Representing a member from a
key Australian Agency involved in
research and innovation*



Ms Sharon Aburn
Monash University,
ARMS Board Member,
Representative from the
Education and Professional
Development Committee

Position vacant

*Representing a member who has served in the position of
General Manager/Chief Operating Officer of an Independent
Medical Research Institute*

Executive Office Staff in Attendance



Ms Maria Zollo
ARMS COO



Ms Dana Watts
Accreditation and
Member Engagement
Coordinator, ARMS



Ms Mel Trebilcock
Partnerships, Education
and Policy Manager

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT, EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Professional Development Review

One of the Society's key priorities is a comprehensive review of our professional development offerings.

In May 2025, the Education and Professional Development Committee (EPDC) recommended to the ARMS Board that a full evaluation be undertaken of ARMS' Accreditation Programs, specifically, the Foundation Level, and the Established and Advanced Level Accreditation Programs. This was endorsed by the Board at its 25 June 2025 meeting.

The review will be led by a volunteer-based PD Review Committee, under the direction of Mel Trebilcock, ARMS' Partnerships, Education and Policy Manager and will be conducted within a defined timeframe to ensure focused and timely outcomes.

The review will draw on a broad evidence base, including participant and stakeholder feedback, registration and completion trends, and operational resourcing. These insights will enable us to assess the effectiveness of our current programs and identify opportunities for enhancement.

This work reflects ARMS' commitment to delivering professional development that is strategically aligned, relevant, impactful, and sustainable in meeting the evolving needs of our members.

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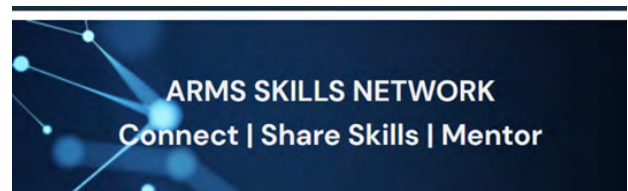
This work reflects ARMS' commitment to delivering professional development that is strategically aligned, relevant, impactful, and sustainable in meeting the evolving needs of our members.

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Skills Network

The Society's Skills Network empowers members to connect globally and share expertise across borders.

Designed to facilitate meaningful online interactions and international knowledge exchange, the platform allows members to submit their own profiles, giving them full control over how their skills and experience are presented. This self-driven approach makes it easier for others to discover relevant expertise, collaborate, and find mentors. Members can access the Skills Network through the [ARMS website](#). The Skills Network has been operational for two years, and a survey assessing its usage and effectiveness is expected to take place in the latter half of 2025.



Honour Roll

The Society deeply values the dedication of members who generously contribute their time, skills, and expertise to enhance the quality of services offered across the ARMS community.

Their efforts play a vital role in advancing the collective success and impact of our organisation.

To formally honour these contributions, the Society offers members an Honour Roll. This is a self-submitted listing available on the ARMS website. This initiative provides public recognition for individual members who have made meaningful volunteer contributions, ensuring their efforts are acknowledged and celebrated.

Full details are available on the ARMS [website](#).

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT, EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Education and Training Webinars

The Society successfully delivered a series of education webinars as part of its annual PD Sessions @ Zoom webinar series. These webinars keep ARMS members up to date with regional research and innovation developments while supporting their professional growth and ongoing engagement with emerging trends.

Topics delivered include:

Understanding Both Sides of the Funding Table - Insights from Colleagues with Experience Working at Both Funding Agencies and Universities

Presented on July 17, 2024, by Chief Operations Officer **Sharyn McFarlane**, ARC Centre of Excellence for Transformative Meta-Optical Systems (TMOS), Australian National University (ANU), **Acting Director Rohan Yargop** - Discovery Programs Australian Research Council (ARC) & **Acting Director Misha Hutchings** - Grants Management Office, Health and Medical Research Office Branch, Australian Government Department of Health and Aged Care. Facilitated by **Suzanne Austin**.

Warts and All – Experiential Learning for Research Managers

Presented on August 14, 2024, by **Dr Dale Godfrey**, University of Adelaide, **Mrs Allyson McAllister & Mrs Vicky Dudek** - University of South Australia & **Ms Karen Burke**, Flinders University. Facilitated by **Dr Marina Župan**, Flinders University

The Pivotal Role of Universities in Societal Development

Presented on September 25, 2024, by **Professor Trevor McMillan OBE**, Keele University. Facilitated by **Dr Tania Bezzobs**, University of Technology Sydney

How can Research Managers Support the Safe and Responsible Adoption of AI by their Institutions?

Presented on October 29, 2024, by **Dr Brett Szmajda**, The National Artificial Intelligence Centre and **Dr Fotini Toso**, RMIT University.

Impact Assessment for Research & Innovation

Presented on November 27, 2024, by **Professor Nick Graves**, Duke NUS Medical School, Facilitated by **Julie Wand** - University of Sunshine Coast.

Managing a large national research program

Presented on December 11, 2024, by **Dr Jackie How**, Monash University, Facilitated by **Dr Davina Dadley**

Analysing Pre-Award Research Application Submissions for Success Prediction

Presented on 20 February 2025 by **Dr Chloe Bibari & Dr Rebecca Dorgelo**, University of Tasmania. Facilitated by **Mr Ed Benyon**, University of Tasmania

Research Office Change at Scale – Leadership and Lessons Learned from the Monash Research Office

Presented on 19 March 2025 by **Helen Partridge**, Monash University and **Dr David Robson**, University of Adelaide

Navigating Risky Waters – Development of a Contract Risk Tool to identify and mitigate research risk

Presented on 9 April 2025 by **Siobhan McCrossin & Marcelo Moreno**, The University of Sydney, Facilitated by **Lesley Brook**, University of Otago

Research Security in an Increasingly Volatile World

Presented on 30 April 2025 by **Benjamin Turley** - University of Auckland

Connecting Research to Results: iPEN's Impact Pathway Framework

Presented on 28 May 2025 by **Mr Stewart Graham**, Plant and Food Research and **Dr Kara Scally-Irvine**, KSI Consulting on behalf of iPEN, facilitated by **Dr Faith Welch** - Waipapa Taumata Rau, University of Auckland

Collaborating with European Research Organisations


Presented on 25 June 2025 by **Dr Simon Lovatt**, **Cath Battersby** - University of Waikato, **Casper Hitchins** - University of Auckland & **Jace Carson** - University of Canterbury

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK

The ARMS Professional Development Framework (PDF), created by the Education and Professional Development Committee (EPDC), supports members in identifying the skills and knowledge required across diverse roles in research management.

It outlines six core knowledge areas and three progressive levels, Foundation, Management, and Leadership, with each cell detailing the key learning outcomes for that area and level. Existing ARMS programs which operate within these areas are mapped to each cell with new programs being added as they are developed.



Levels for Knowledge Enhancement

 Core Areas of Knowledge	 Foundation	 Management	 Leadership
Contextual Knowledge	<i>Where the research management professional sits in their relevant country context</i>	<i>Understands and practices principles of good supervision, management and strategy development</i>	<i>Leads institutional research policy and strategy and promotes the institutional research agenda</i>
Relational	Foundation Level Module (FLAP) 1.3: The Research Ecosystem and the Role of Research Management Professionals	Established Level Accreditation Program (ELAP) Leadership, Management and Strategic Thinking Program	Advanced Level Accreditation Program (ALAP) See ELAP+ Completion of a workplace-based study. Senior Executive Forum
Technical	Foundation Level Modules 1.1: Aus: The National Research and Innovation System in Australia (online) 1.1: NZ – The National Research and Innovation System in New Zealand (online) 1.1: Sing – The National Research and Innovation System in Singapore (online) 1.2: Aus – Legislation as it affects Research in Australia (online) 1.2: NZ- Legislation as it affects Research in New Zealand (online) 1.2: Singapore – Legislation as it affects Research in Singapore (online) 1.3: The Research Ecosystem and the Role of Research Management Professionals (online) Other country specific modules to be offered from time to time.		

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK

 Core Areas of Knowledge	 Foundation	 Management	 Leadership
The Research Funding Cycle	<p><i>Understands and effectively manages the research cycle from inception to project closure (this should cover opportunity development right through to impact and commercialisation).</i></p> <p>Foundation Level Modules</p> <p>2.1: Pre-Award Grant Processes 2.2: Post Award Processes and 2.3: Research Finance</p> <p>2.4: Navigating Agreements: A Guide for Research Management Professionals</p>	<p><i>Establishes systems for research and researcher development, evaluating grant performance, identifying new funding sources.</i></p> <p>ELAP Elective: Research Funding: A pathway to best practice</p> <p><u>Pricing of Research (Master Class)</u></p> <p><u>Fundamentals of Project Management</u></p>	<p><i>Develops and establishes institutional systems and strategies for research funding and managing large and complex grants.</i></p>
Higher Degree by Research Candidature Cycle	<p><i>Understands and effectively manages the HDR (postgraduate in NZ) candidature cycle from inquiry to graduation.</i></p> <p>Foundation Level Modules</p> <p>3.1: HDR Scholarships 3.2: HDR International Partnerships 3.3: HDR Candidature Management 3.4: HDR Admissions and Completions</p> <p>Programs also offered by the Australasian Research Training Network.</p>	<p><i>Establishes systems for recruitment, retention, and timely completion of HDR candidates.</i></p>	<p><i>Develops and implements institutional policies and strategies at all levels of the HDR cycle. Integrates HDR management into broader research management functions and institutional strategic directions.</i></p> <p>Senior Executive Forum</p>
Programs are also under consideration by the Australasian Ethics Network			
Ethics and Integrity	<p><i>Understands and provides effective support to ethics and integrity committees and processes.</i></p> <p>Foundation Modules</p> <p>4.1: Research Ethics - Human and Animal 4.2: Research Integrity</p> <p>Programs offered by the Australasian Ethics Network</p>	<p><i>Establishes and implements systems to monitor and improve effectiveness of ethics and integrity processes.</i></p> <p>ELAP Elective: Due Diligence and Governance Considerations</p>	<p><i>Develops, establishes, and monitors an institutional research governance framework.</i></p>
A range of programs are also offered by the Australasian Ethics Network including a biennial AEN Conference			

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK

 Core Areas of Knowledge	 Foundation	 Management	 Leadership	
Data and Information Management	<i>Collects and collates data to enable institutional and external reports.</i> Foundation Level Module <u>5.1: Research Information and Reporting</u>	<i>Monitors the effectiveness of institutional research management systems and data.</i> ELAP Elective – Business Process Improvements for Research Management Professionals.	<i>Uses data to develop and implement evidence-based strategies, monitor and benchmark institutional performance, suggest changes to strategy as needed.</i> Senior Executive Forum	
	<i>Supports researchers in engagement activities with external end-users. Streamlines engagement with end-users.</i> Foundation Level Module <u>6.1: Working with Industry</u>	<i>Implements operational plans for engagement with end-users, uses information to identify engagement opportunities. Helps researchers identify and articulate research impact.</i> ELAP Elective: Maximising Research Impact: The role of Research Management Professionals in Supporting Impact to Thrive ELAP Elective: Informed Decision Making in Research Management: Quantitative Data Collection and Analysis Methodologies	<i>Develops institutional strategies and monitors external policy environment to maximise engagement and impact with end-users.</i> Senior Executive Forum	
Engagement and Impact				
ARMS Annual Conference – ARMS also offers an annual flagship conference which provides an array of education, training, and professional development opportunities.	Regular (Monthly) Webinars are also offered to members on a range of relevant research management topics as part of our PD Sessions @ Zoom webinar series.	Senior Executive Forums are offered from time to time to members in the Leadership category on topics of relevance and interest to the profession.	Australasian Ethics Network (AEN) – Offers members a biennial conference and other relevant PD, education and training offerings from time-to-time.	Australasian Research Training Network (ARTN) – Offers members education and training on topics related to graduate research.

CHAPTER HIGHLIGHTS

ACT Chapter

The ACT Chapter hosted two key events during the reporting period for its members:

25th Anniversary Celebration - On 14 November 2025, 32 members gathered to celebrate a major milestone, 25 years of ARMS. The commemorative event marked the organisation's and specifically the Chapter's enduring impact and brought together members in a festive and reflective atmosphere.

Meet the ARMS President - Held on 26 February 2025, this intimate gathering welcomed 20 members for a special opportunity to engage directly with the ARMS President. The event fostered meaningful dialogue and strengthened connections within the community.

The ACT Chapter has experienced a period of significant disruption due to major restructuring and changes in management across several of our key corporate member institutions in the region. These shifts have led to redundancies and increased pressures on existing committee members, many of whom have been unable to continue their commitments on the chapter.

The Chapter Committee has seen the departure of several valued members.

We would also like to formally acknowledge and thank the following departing members for their dedicated service and contributions to the Chapter:

- Mr Sebastien Lacrampe (Committee Member), Australian National University
- Ms Kus Pandey (Treasurer), Australian National University
- Ms Huan Wu (Convenor), Australian National University
- Ms Ewa Ziolkowska (Committee Member), Australian National University

In light of these changes, the Chapter is preparing to launch a renewed call for membership to coincide with the ARMS Melbourne Conference in September 2025. This initiative aims to reinvigorate the ACT Chapter with fresh energy, new perspectives, and a strengthened commitment to supporting Research Management Professionals in the region.

Chapter Committee Membership

Membership of the Chapter Committee during the reporting period included:

- Ms Suzanne Austin, UNSW (Co-Convenor)
- Miss Elsa Wang, ANU (Secretary)
- Ms Samantha Pavetich, ANU (Committee Member)
- Ms Anna Maria Benc, ANU (Committee Member)
- Mr Jonathan Ward, ANU (Committee Member)
- Dr Liz Eedle, University of Canberra, (Committee Member)
- Dr Emma Southcott, The Canberra Hospital (Committee Member)



ACT Chapter Meet the President, Dr Tania Bezzobs event held on 26 February 2025



NSW Chapter 25th Birthday celebrations held on 28 November 2024

New South Wales Chapter

The New South Wales Chapter had an impactful year, delivering a series of engaging events designed to support and inspire Research Management Professionals across the region.

These activities reflected the Chapter's commitment to professional development, community building, and thought leadership:

- **Career Perspectives and Pathways:**
Panel Discussion and Networking, In-person, 17 July 2025
- **Celebrating the 25th Anniversary of ARMS,**
28 November 2024
- **Is Facilitation the Missing Link in Leadership?**
21 November 2024
- **Empowering Change:** Research Impact for Research Management Professionals, 4 July 2024

These events were well received and provided valuable opportunities for members to connect, share insights, and explore emerging themes in research management.

Chapter Committee Membership

Membership of the Chapter Committee during the reporting period included:

- Naomi Arbon, University of Newcastle, (Committee Member)
- Dr Rahel Cramer, Macquarie University, (Treasurer)
- Dr Shalini Lata, University of Sydney, (Committee Member)
- Ms Jodi McLean, University of Newcastle, (Committee Member)
- Dr Najwa Reynolds, Hammond Care, (Committee Member), now serving as Co-Convenor
- Dr Jodie Richardson, University of Sydney, (Committee Member), now serving as Co-Convenor
- Ms Lisa Simmons, University of Wollongong, (Committee Member)
- Ms Aarthi Ganesan, Chris O'Brien Lifehouse, (Committee Member)

We extend our thanks to the following departing members for their dedication and valuable contributions to the Chapter:

- Ms Tanya Karliychuk, Australian Communications Consumer Action Network (ACCAN), (Committee Member)
- Dr Emmaline Lear, Charles Sturt University (Co-Convenor)
- Dr Shantala Mohan, Western Sydney University, (Committee Member)
- Mr Stephan Waibel, University of Technology, Sydney (Co-Convenor)

Their leadership and service have helped shape the Chapter's success and laid the groundwork for future growth.

CHAPTER HIGHLIGHTS

New Zealand and Pacific Islands Chapter

The New Zealand and Pacific Islands Chapter experienced a vibrant and productive year, offering a dynamic blend of networking opportunities and professional development events tailored to members across the region.

These initiatives fostered collaboration, shared learning, and strengthened the research management community.

- **Webinar on collaborating with European Research Organisations**, 25 June 2025
- PD @ Zoom Webinar: **Research Security in an Increasingly Volatile World**, 30 April 2025
- NZ RS&I system changes: **Implications for Research Management**, 26 Feb 2025
- ARMS **Networking Event at the URONZ**, 13 Nov 2024
- **Proposing and Managing Research Projects in Tight Times**, 6 November 2024
- ARMS **25 Years Celebration and Networking**, 22 Oct 2024

Chapter Committee Membership

Membership of the Chapter Committee during the reporting period included:

- Mrs Lesley Brook, Otago Polytechnic (Committee Member)
- Dr Martin Gagnon, University of Otago (Committee Member)
- Ms Sharon Jensen, Agresearch NZ (Committee Member)
- Ms Katie Jones, The University of Auckland (Co-Convenor)
- Dr Simon Lovatt, University of Waikato (Co-Convenor)

We also extend thanks to our departing committee members for their invaluable service and commitment to the Chapter:

- Ms Melissa Climo (Committee Member), Bridger Consulting Ltd
- Dr Kristy McGregor (Committee Member), New Zealand Forest Research Institute Ltd
- Dr James Savage (Committee Member), Southern Institute of Technology
- Mrs Michell Van Rheede (Committee Member), University of Canterbury

Their leadership has been instrumental in shaping the Chapter's achievements and setting a strong foundation for future growth.



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The New Zealand and Pacific Islands Chapter experienced a vibrant and productive year, offering a dynamic blend of networking opportunities and professional development events tailored to members across the region.

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NT Sunset Networking event held 13 June 2025

Queensland, NT, PNG Chapter

Despite the geographical breadth of the Queensland, NT, and PNG Chapter, distance has not hindered its momentum.

The Chapter continues to thrive, delivering engaging events and fostering strong connections across Queensland and the Northern Territory. Looking ahead, the Chapter will focus on expanding its reach with support from the ARMS HQ by identifying and welcoming new members from Papua New Guinea, further strengthening its regional presence.

This vibrant and committed Chapter has maintained activities, offering valuable opportunities for members to connect and collaborate. Notable highlights during the reporting period include:

- **QLD ARMS 25th Anniversary Celebrations**
– 15 November 2024
- **NT ARMS 25th Anniversary Celebrations**
– 15 November 2024
- **QLD Mid-Year Networking Event**,
Surfers Paradise – 20 June 2025
- **NT Sunset Networking Event**
– 13 June 2025
- **PD@ Zoom AI & Research Management Panel Discussion** – 6 Aug 2025

Chapter Committee Membership

Membership of the Chapter Committee during the reporting period included:

- Ms Sara Coram (Committee Member), Mater Research and now at RSM Australia
- Mr Amir Gaffoor (Committee Member), Queensland University of Technology – Note: Stepped up in role of Secretary
- Ms Serena Gent (Committee Member), Griffith University
- Dr Junna Hayashi (Secretary), Griffith University – Note: Stepped up in role as Co Convenor, replacing Ms Belinda Watanabe
- Mrs Joanne Preston, QUT (Committee Member)
- Mrs Bernadette Royal, Charles Darwin University (Committee Member)
- Mrs Analyn Vargas, Charles Darwin University (Committee Member)
- Ms Jocelyn Vo, Charles Darwin University (Committee Member)
- Ms Olivia Walsh, Menzies School of Health Research (Committee Member)
- Mr Tony Wang (Committee Member), The University of Queensland – Note: Mr Wang stepped up in role as Treasurer, replacing Mrs Megan Stephenson.

We also extend thanks to our departing committee members for their outstanding dedication and service to the Chapter:

- Ms Belinda Watanabe (Co-Convenor), Griffith University
- Mr Iftikhar Hayat (Co-Convenor), Charles Darwin University
- Mrs Megan Stephenson (Treasurer), Griffith University

Their leadership, commitment, and contributions have played a pivotal role in advancing the Chapter's mission and laying a strong foundation for continued success.

CHAPTER HIGHLIGHTS



ARMS Singapore Chapter annual Symposium held at JCU on the 25th of June 2025

Singapore Chapter

The Singapore Chapter successfully hosted its Annual Symposium on 25 June 2025 at James Cook University's Singapore Campus.

Themed "**Leadership, Strategy, and Security Amid a Climate of Global Uncertainty**," the half-day event brought together nearly 50 Research Management Professionals and stakeholders from across Singapore, fostering dialogue and collaboration on pressing global challenges.

A key highlight of the Symposium was the presentation of the ARMS Singapore Chapter Awards, which celebrate exceptional contributions to the research management profession:

Outstanding Service Award: **Ms Yennie Kadarusman**
Leadership Award: **Ms Goh Su Nee**

Beyond the Symposium, The Singapore Chapter Committee delivered initiative focused on professional development and community engagement as follows:

- **Networking & Feedback Session 2025**
– Held on 6 February 2025
- **Singapore Chapter Professional Development Workshop & 25th Anniversary Celebrations**
– A milestone event commemorating 25 years of ARMS and the Chapter's legacy and future direction.

Chapter Committee Membership

Membership of the Chapter Committee during the reporting period included:

- Associate Professor Denise Dillon (Committee Member), James Cook University, Singapore.
- Professor Tat Ching Fung (Committee Member), Nanyang Technological University
- Dr Jun Song Huang (Committee Member), National Institute of Education
- Ms Yennie Kadarusman (Committee Member), Nanyang Technological University
- Professor Michael Khiam Aik Khor, (Co-Convenor), Nanyang Technological University
- Dr Willie Kho (Co-Convenor), Nanyang Technological University
- Ms Anna Stanislaws (Secretary), Nanyang Technological University
- Dr Edward Tan (Committee Member), Geriatric Education and Research Institute (GERI)

South Australia Chapter

The South Australia Chapter delivered a vibrant and engaging program throughout the reporting period, fostering professional development, community connection, and sector-wide dialogue.

Highlights include:

- **August 2024 – Professional Development Session: Warts and All – Experiential Learning for Research Managers** - Held via Zoom, this session attracted over 140 participants and explored the value of experiential learning in research management. Guest speakers Dr Dale Godfrey (University of Adelaide), Allyson McAllister and Vicky Dudek (University of South Australia), and Karen Burke (Flinders University) shared candid reflections on leading and navigating change across diverse institutional contexts. Key themes included stakeholder engagement, expectation management, risk assessment, leveraging expertise, and critical reflection.
- **November 2024 – End-of-Year Celebration and ARMS 25th Anniversary** - On 27 November, over 40 Research Management Professionals gathered to mark the close of the year and celebrate ARMS' 25th birthday. The event featured drinks, nibbles, and a reprise of the popular 2023 reflection activity, inviting attendees to share highlights, challenges, gratitude, and aspirations. The evening fostered a strong sense of community, with participants exchanging stories, laughter, and support.
- **April 2025 – Panel and Networking Event at Flinders University** - The Chapter hosted a panel discussion and networking evening at the newly opened Flinders University Health and Medical Research Building. Nearly 40 attendees from universities, NGOs, and national agencies joined the conversation. Panellists Dr Patrick Allington (University of South Australia), Dr Melissa Gregory (Flinders University), and Maria Zollo (ARMS) shared career insights and fielded questions on emerging topics such as AI in graduate research and funding applications, offering valuable guidance for early-career professionals.



April 2025 – Panel and Networking Event held at Flinders University, Bedford Park Campus.

Chapter Committee Membership

Membership of the Chapter Committee during the reporting period included:

- Ms Rachel Bageas, (Committee Member), UniSA
- Dr Leah Couzner (Treasurer), Flinders University
- Ms Vanessa Eley, (Co-Convenor), UniSA
- Ms Kate Greenfield (Committee Member), UniSA
- Ms Anthea Hall (Secretary), The University of Adelaide
- Ms Rachel Hamper (Committee Member), UniSA
- Dr Haipei Liu (Committee Member), University of Adelaide
- Ms Deborah Williams (Committee Member), UniSA
- Dr Marina Župan, (Co-Convenor), Flinders University

The Chapter warmly welcomed three new members: Rachel Bageas from the University of South Australia, Kate Greenfield, and Rachel Hamper. It also bid farewell to Imelda Leavy of Flinders University and Jacqui Nielsen, expressing appreciation for their service. Special recognition was given to Kathy Mott of Kathy Mott & Associates for her exceptional and longstanding contribution as a member and former Convenor.



25th Anniversary celebrations held November 2024 by the SA Chapter

CHAPTER HIGHLIGHTS

Tasmania Chapter

During the reporting period, the Chapter hosted a range of engaging events for members, fostering connection, celebration, and professional development.

Highlights include:

- **Winter Wellness** – 24 July 2024
- **ARMS 25th Birthday Celebration**, held on Research Administrators Day – 25 September 2024
- **End-of-Year and Holiday Celebration** – 17 December 2024

Additional events titled the 2025 ARMS Conference Community of Practice are planned for the second half of 2025. To be held at the University of Tasmania's Sandy Bay and Northern Campuses, these sessions will offer members a chance to share insights from the latest ARMS conference and strengthen community connections.

Chapter Committee Membership

Membership of the Chapter Committee during the reporting period included:

- Ms Amanda Avens (Committee Member), University of Tasmania
- Mr Edward Benyon (Co-Convenor), University of Tasmania
- Dr Bea Contreras (Committee Member), University of Tasmania
- Dr Claire McLean (Secretary), University of Tasmania
- Ms Emma Moloney (Committee Member), University of Tasmania
- Dr Olumide Odeyemi (Co-Convenor), University of Tasmania
- Ms Mandy Pink (Treasurer), University of Tasmania
- Ms Emma Smith (Committee Member), University of Tasmania
- Dr Naila Yaqoob (Committee Member), University of Tasmania

We also extend our gratitude to Ms Lauren Dean (Committee Member), University of Tasmania, who stepped down during this period. Her leadership and contributions to the Chapter have been appreciated.



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During the reporting period, the Chapter hosted a range of engaging events for members, fostering connection, celebration, and professional development.

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Christmas in July event held 25 July 2024

Victoria Chapter

Over the reporting period, the Chapter delivered a diverse program of events designed to foster professional development and networking among members.

These included:

- **ARMS Christmas in July Networking Event** – 25 July 2024
- **Bring Your Best Practice Event** – 6 November 2024
- **ARMS 25th Birthday Celebration** – 4 December 2024
- **Perspectives on Career Pathways in Research Management** – 23 June 2025

Looking ahead, the Chapter has planned additional events for the latter half of 2025, including an End-of-Financial-Year Networking Event on 16 July and a Walk and Talk Series at Deakin University's Waurin Ponds and Burwood campuses on 28 October and 7 November.

Chapter Committee Membership

Membership of the Chapter Committee during the reporting period included:

- Ms Sheila Hamilton-Brown (Acting Co-Convenor; Co-Convenor), Deakin University
- Dr Renee Clapham (Secretary), Cancer Council Victoria
- Dr Davina Dadley-Moore (Acting Convenor; Co-Convenor), Monash University
- Dr Andrea Christie (Committee member; Treasurer), RMIT University
- Dr Bedrich Eckhardt (Committee member), La Trobe University
- Ms Li He (Committee member), Victoria University
- Ms Cody Jackson (Committee member), La Trobe University
- Ms Laura Liao (Committee member), The University of Melbourne.
- Dr Wade Moore (Committee member), Individual Member (based at CSIRO)
- Ms Vivienne Moyle (Committee member), Monash University; La Trobe University

We warmly welcome new Committee members: Dr Renee Clapham (Cancer Council Victoria), Dr Bedrich Eckhardt (La Trobe University), Ms Cody Jackson (La Trobe University), and Ms Laura Liao (The Florey).

We also extend our sincere thanks to Dr Rachel Kennedy (WEHI) and Dr Urmi Dhagat (The University of Melbourne), who stepped down during this period. Their leadership and contributions to the Chapter have been greatly appreciated.

CHAPTER HIGHLIGHTS

Western Australia Chapter

The WA Chapter delivered a strong program of events over the reporting period, continuing to support member engagement and celebrate key milestones. Highlights include:

- **End of Financial Year / AGM / 25th Anniversary Celebration** – 21 November 2024
- **WA Chapter Networking Breakfast** – 27 February 2025
- **End-of-Year AGM and Networking Event** – scheduled for 3 December 2025

Chapter Committee Membership

Membership of the Chapter Committee during the reporting period included:

- Ms Jacqueline Edwards (Secretary), Curtin University
- Ms Sanita Kratina (Convenor), Edith Cowan University
- Dr Jananee Raguragavan (Treasurer), Curtin University
- Miss Nakeesha Radice (Committee member), University of Western Australia
- Ms Caitilin Symons (Committee Member), The Kids Institute Australia
- Ms Beth Tippet (Committee Member), Minderoo Foundation

We warmly welcome Jacqueline Edwards (Curtin University), Sanita Kratina (Edith Cowan University), and Nakeesha Radice (University of Western Australia) to the Committee.

We extend our sincere thanks to the following departing members for their valued contributions to the Chapter:

- Mr Dale Banks (Murdoch University)
- Ms Jennifer Hogan (Edith Cowan University)
- Ms Kirsty Perry (Murdoch University)
- Ms Elizabeth Przywolnik (Notre Dame University)
- Ms Erika Slavin (University of Western Australia)
- Ms Melanie Wright (South Metropolitan Health Service)



WA Chapter Networking Breakfast held 27 February 2025.

STANDING COMMITTEE HIGHLIGHTS

Conferences and Major Events Committee (CMEC)

The CMEC is responsible for overseeing the planning and delivery of major events hosted by or affiliated with the Society. These include:

- The annual ARMS Conference
- The biennial Australasian Ethics Network (AEN) Conference
- The International Network of Research Management Societies (INORMS) Congress (as required)
- Other significant events such as those held by the Australasian Research Training Network

Key milestones during the reporting period include:

- Completion of a review of the CMEC Terms of Reference
- Update to the conference abstract submission guidelines
- Commenced the development of a event planning checklist to support local event delivery
- Initiated a review of the Conference and Events Risk Matrix
- Designed a post-conference survey for Exhibitors and Sponsors at the annual conference
- Held discussions and submitted a recommendation to the Board supporting a bid to host INORMS 2029 in Singapore.

CMEC Membership

- Ms Emma Collyer (Board Liaison), UNSW
- Ms Amber Jennings (Board Liaison), Monash University
- Ms Kaeisha Kilmister (ARMS Secretariat)
- Ms Jennifer Luplow (Member), The Royal Children's Hospital Melbourne
- Dr Katie Ozdowska (Member), University of Melbourne
- Dr Makesh K Potdar (Member), Monash University
- Dr Erin Semon (Convenor), Macquarie University
- Ms Maria Zollo (ARMS COO)

We warmly welcome new members of the CMEC, Dr Katie Ozdowska and Dr Makesh K Potdar and extend our sincere thanks and farewell to the following outgoing members for their valued contributions:

- Dr Megan Dean, University of Tasmania
- Ms Serena Gent, Griffith University
- Professor Michael Khor, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore

During the reporting period, Ms Kaeisha Kilmister provided Secretariat support services to the CMEC.

Education and Professional Development Committee (EPDC)

The EPDC continues to oversee the development, promotion, operational management, and delivery of ARMS' Accreditation Program (Foundation and Established levels), Master Classes, and other professional development initiatives designed to meet the evolving needs of the ARMS community.

Key milestones during the reporting period include:

- **Member Exchange Guidance Tool** - Work commenced on the development of a guidance tool aimed at encouraging member exchanges across the ARMS community.
- **ARMS Publication Discussions** – Preliminary discussions were held regarding the potential establishment of an ARMS publication to further support knowledge sharing and professional engagement.
- **Professional Development (PD) Review**
– A major initiative during this period was the launch of a comprehensive review of ARMS' professional development offerings. In May 2025, the EPDC recommended to the ARMS Board that a full evaluation be undertaken of the Society's accreditation programs, specifically the Foundation Level, and the Established and Advanced Level Accreditation Programs. This recommendation was endorsed by the Board at its meeting on 25 June 2025.

The review will be led by a volunteer-based PD Review Committee under the direction of Mel Trebilcock, ARMS' Manager of Partnerships, Education and Policy. It will be conducted within a defined timeframe to ensure focused and timely outcomes.

The review will draw on a broad evidence base, including:

- Participant and stakeholder feedback
- Registration and completion trends
- Operational resourcing

These insights will inform an assessment of the effectiveness of current programs and identify opportunities for enhancement. This initiative reflects ARMS' commitment to delivering professional development that is strategically aligned, relevant, impactful, and sustainable.

- **Research Integrity Resources Toolkit** - Continued development and refinement of resources to support research integrity across the sector.

STANDING COMMITTEE HIGHLIGHTS

EPDC Membership

- Ms Sharon Aburn (Convenor and ARMS Board Liaison), Monash University
- Ms Tara McLaren (Co-Convenor and ARMS Board Liaison), AIMS
- Dr Amanda Cleaver (Member), The Kids Research Institute
- Ms Vivienne Moyle (Member), La Trobe University
- Ms Tania Tambiah (Member), Swinburne University of Technology
- Ms Monique O'Callaghan (Member), University of Melbourne
- Mr Grahame Pearson (Member), Elsevier
- Ms Mel Trebilcock (Partnerships, Education and Policy Manager)
- Ms Dana Watts (Accreditation and Member Engagement Coordinator)
- Ms Maria Zollo (ARMS COO)

The Committee welcomed Mel Trebilcock from the ARMS Executive Office and farewelled Dr Brett Szmajda, DISR (Co-Convenor and ARMS Board Liaison), with thanks for his contributions. Ms Trebilcock provided Secretariat support services to the EPDC.

Governance, Finance and Audit Committee (GFAC)

The Committee supports the Board by maintaining its By-Laws and reviewing or developing other policies as necessary.

The GFAC also oversees the rigour and independence of the election processes as well as assisting the Board in fulfilling its financial responsibilities by overseeing the development and review of financial reports, assessing systems of internal controls and adequacy of risk management as well as facilitating auditing processes.

Key milestones during the reporting period include:

- Amendment of the By-Laws to align with changes to entitlements received by members of the Board.
- Periodic review of the compliance register, with specific policies identified for review including:
 - The Terms of Reference for the GFAC
 - Conflict of Interest Policy
 - Life Membership Policy
 - Travel and Accommodation Policy
 - Corporate Credit Card Policy
 - Commenced a comprehensive review of the Society's Risk Register.

During the reporting period, the GFAC welcomed two new members: Ms Emily Miller from the University of Sydney and Ms Tracy Baylis from the University of Melbourne. We also farewelled Professor Marget Jones from Edith Cowan University and Ms Anna Coppel from the University of Melbourne, who both stepped down from their roles. We extend our thanks to them for their exceptional leadership and meaningful contributions.

GFAC membership

- Ms Tracy Baylis, University of Melbourne
- Mr Brett Dobson, (ARMS Secretariat for the GFAC)
- Dr Lachlan Doughney, RMIT University (ex-officio member of GFAC Treasurer of the Board)
- Dr Louise Dwyer, Macquarie University (ex-officio member of GFAC Secretary of the Board)
- Mr Jerry Gay, Deakin University (Member)
- Dr Sebastian Gimenez, Australian Catholic University
- Ms Emily Miller, University of Sydney
- Ms Susan Rose, Deakin University (Convenor)
- Ms Kate Swanson, Griffith University (Member).
- Ms Maria Zollo, (ARMS COO).

Mr Brett Dobson, ARMS' Management Accountant provided Secretariat support services to the GFAC.

Member Services Committee (MSC)

The Member Services Committee is responsible for overseeing and facilitating the development and delivery mechanisms for services to members of the Society including awards and scholarships.

The Committee is a formal channel of communications between the Society and its Chapters and facilitates connectedness and the sharing of ideas.

Key milestones during the reporting period include:

- The successful delivery of the Society's PD Sessions @ Zoom webinar series. A full listing is provided in this report.
- Review of the Society's Annual Chapter Travel Awards
- Development of a Chapter Convenor Onboarding Document.
- Recommendation to the Board for the establishment of Major Research Collaborations Special Interest Group as well as the relaunch of our Research Information and Reporting SIG and Health and Medical Research SIG.

MSC Membership:

- ACT Chapter: Ms Suzanne Austin, UNSW
- NSW Chapter: Dr Najwa Reynolds, Hammond Care / Dr Jodie Richardson, University of Sydney
- Qld/NT & PNG: Ms Junna Hayashi, Griffith University
- South Australia: Ms Vanessa Eley, UniSA / Dr Marina Župan, Flinders University
- Singapore: Prof Michael Khor / Dr Willie Koh Wee Lee
- NZ/Pacific Island: Dr Simon Lovatt, University of Waikato and Katie Jones, The University of Auckland
- Tasmania Chapter: Mr Ed Benyon and Mr Olumide Odeyemi, University of Tasmania
- Victoria Chapter: Ms Sheila Hamilton Smith, WEHI and Davina Dadley-Moore, Monash University
- Western Australia: Ms Erika Slavin

The roles of Board Liaison and Chair are held by Ms Jaylene Wehipeihana and Ms Hannah Allan from Curtin University. During this period, Ms Dana Watts provided secretariat support services to the MSC.

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

Special Interest Groups (SIGs) play a key role in cultivating vibrant communities of members who share a common professional focus or area of application.

By providing dedicated spaces for ARMS members with aligned interests, SIGs foster meaningful collaboration, support ongoing professional development, and drive progress in specialised fields of practice.

The Society facilitated a diverse range of Special Interest Groups during the reporting period as follows:

Artificial Intelligence in Research Management

The AI in Research Management SIG aims to foster collaboration, research, and knowledge sharing among Research Management Professionals on a broad range of topics, including, but not limited to:

- Research Trends: Discussing the latest advancements in machine learning, natural language processing, computer vision, etc.
- Ethics and Policy: Addressing the ethical implications of AI technologies and advocating for responsible practices.
- Applications: Exploring real-world applications of AI a research management context.
- Workshops and Networking: Organising events and meetings to establish a community of practice with a shared interest in adopting, incorporating and using AI tools.

The Co-Convenors of the SIG are Dr Stephanie Black (AREEA), Dr Michaela (Mia) Jackson (University of Melbourne) and Dr Fotini Toso (RMIT University).

Highlights include:

- SIG members convened on 6 May 2025 to explore and identify key interests and prospective topics for the upcoming term.
- A joint webinar in collaboration with the Australasian Research Training Network (ARTN) on the 26th of March on "AI in Higher Degree Research", presented by Dr Michael Baker, Western Sydney University and Dr Chris Dunn, University of Tasmania.
- A webinar on "Artificial Intelligence in Research Management" held on 20 November 2024.
- A joint webinar with the Ethics and Research Integrity SIG entitled on "Ethical Consideration in AI", is scheduled for the 4th of August to be presented by Dr Fotini Toso, RMIT University, Dr Stephanie Blac, AREEA; Dr Michaela Jackson, University of Melbourne; and Dr Nitya Phillipson, Murdoch Children's Research Institute.

Directors of Research

The Directors of Research Special Interest Group (SIG) maintained a high level of activity throughout the reporting period, actively engaging with funding bodies and key organisations to deliver important updates on matters relevant to their members.

Through the Directors of Research Special Interest Group, the Society initiated the development of an Advocacy Insights Framework to enhance our strategic engagement with key stakeholders. Our Board is leading these efforts in close collaboration with Ms Mel Trebilcock, Partnerships, Education and Policy Manager, appointed in January 2025. Ms Trebilcock's leadership will be pivotal in ensuring our ongoing advocacy remains inclusive, community-driven, and strategically aligned.

It is important to note that the SIG also actively contributed to two Australian government consultations:

- [Australian Research Council's National Competitive Grants Program \(NCGP\) Discussion Paper: A New Plan for Research](#)
- [Policy Submission: Strategic Examination of Research and Development \(SERD\)](#)

Our submissions reflect the Society's commitment to advancing research management and supporting our members' interests. All previous consultation responses are now available on the ARMS website at: www.researchmanagement.org.au/advocacy

ARMS has demonstrated its commitment to sector-wide collaboration through the coordinated efforts of the Post Award Research Management Special Interest Group (also refer to section in this report) and the Contracting Working Group (a sub-committee of the ARMS Directors of Research SIG), in response to the ARC Amendment Act 2024 and associated compliance requirements in Deeds of Variation.

The SIG is led by Convenors Ms Samantha Rose, University of Southern Queensland, Ms Tania Tambiah, Swinburne University and Ms Nicole Makoviney, University of Sydney.

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

Ethics and Research Integrity

The Ethics and Research Integrity Special Interest Group Convenors have engaged in sustained and strategic collaboration with the Australasian Ethics Network (AEN) Conference Committee to shape the academic and professional program for the upcoming 2025 AEN Conference, scheduled to be held in Newcastle, New South Wales from 6-7 November 2025. This partnership has involved regular planning meetings, thematic consultations, and coordinated outreach to potential keynote speakers, panellists, and workshop facilitators.

The conference theme, ***“Ethics and Integrity Uncharted: Navigating New Roles and Emerging Challenges,”*** reflects the evolving landscape of ethical practice across higher education, research, and public institutions. It aims to explore the shifting boundaries of professional responsibility, the rise of new governance models, and the ethical implications of emerging technologies and interdisciplinary roles. SIG Convenors have contributed to the development of session formats that encourage cross-sector dialogue, practical engagement, and critical reflection, ensuring that the program resonates with both longstanding members and new participants. Further updates on confirmed speakers, session topics, and registration details will be shared in the next reporting cycle.

The SIG delivered a webinar on 16 October 2024 entitled ***“Shared Learnings on how to manage integrity investigations”***, presented by Dr Karolyn White, Macquarie University and Ms Sammy Perez, Manager, University of Melbourne.

Additionally, the Ethics and Research Integrity SIG will be partnering with the AI in Research Management SIG to host a joint webinar titled ***“Ethical Considerations in AI”***, scheduled for 4 August 2025. The session will feature presentations from Dr Fotini Toso (RMIT University), Dr Stephanie Blac (AREEA), Dr Michaela Jackson (University of Melbourne), and Dr Nitya Phillipson (Murdoch Children's Research Institute).

Also refer to the Australasian Ethics Network updates in this report.

The Convenors of the Ethics and Research Integrity SIG are Dr Karolyn White from Macquarie University and Dr Nitya Phillipson from the Murdoch Children's Medical Research Institute.

First Nations Research



The First Nations SIG held two meetings for its members at the ARMS 2024 Conference in September 2024 and a second online meeting on the 14th of May 2025. It is anticipated that a further meeting will be offered in alignment with the Melbourne Conference on the 11th of September 2025.

A significant aspect of the Society's new strategy is a deeper commitment to honouring and integrating the practices and culture of First Nations and Indigenous peoples into our approach to research management. This is not simply about acknowledgment, it's about actively amplifying Indigenous voices and perspectives within the profession.

Over the next 12 months, guided by our First Nations Special Interest Group and via the appointment of a dedicated Indigenous Engagement Working Group (membership to be called for later in 2025), together with feedback from our membership, we will define what meaningful support looks like and identify tools and frameworks to embed inclusive practices across our broader membership.

The First Nations SIG Co-Convenors are Ms Jaylene Wehipeihana and Dr Mandy Downing from Curtin University.

Health and Medical Research

We are pleased to announce exciting developments regarding the relaunch of the Health and Medical Research (HMR) Special Interest Group (SIG), scheduled for 30 July 2025.

Assoc Professor Tam C Nguyen, Deputy Director of Research at St Vincent's Hospital Melbourne, continues in his role as Convenor and is now joined by Ms Melanie Wright, Director of Research at South Metropolitan Health Service, as Co-Convenor. Together, they bring a wealth of experience in clinical research leadership, strategic planning, and cross-sector collaboration, positioning the HMR SIG for a dynamic and impactful relaunch.

Supporting the leadership team is Dr Edward Tan, Senior Manager (Research Administration) at the Geriatric Education and Research Institute. Dr Tan will serve in an advisory capacity, offering strategic insights and operational guidance to ensure the SIG's activities align with broader research priorities and member needs.

The relaunch aims to reinvigorate the SIG's mission to foster innovation, knowledge exchange, and professional development across the health and medical research community. As part of this process, SIG members will be actively engaged to help shape the group's future direction. This includes identifying priority areas, suggesting formats for engagement, and exploring opportunities for collaboration with other SIGs and the wider ARMS network.

International Research Collaborations

The International Research Collaborations SIG actively engaged its members through a webinar held on 19 November 2024, focused on the European Research Council (ERC) Synergy Grants, an elite funding scheme designed to support ambitious research projects led by top-tier researchers from anywhere in the world.

The session provided an in-depth exploration of the grant's objectives, which aim to enable transformative research by fostering collaboration among two to four principal investigators whose complementary skills and resources can tackle complex scientific challenges. Attendees gained valuable insights into the grant's structure, including admissibility and eligibility requirements, evaluation criteria, application processes, and the composition of ERC review panels. The Synergy Grants are particularly significant as they promote interdisciplinary approaches and high-risk, high-reward research, often leading to breakthroughs that would be unattainable by individual researchers working alone.

The SIG also held an informal gathering at the ARMS Darwin Conference in September 2024 for members attending the event.

The International Research Collaborations SIG is convened by Dr Jace Carson from University of Canterbury and Ms Suzanne Austin from the University of New South Wales.

Post Award Research Management

The Post Award Special Interest Group (SIG) continues to thrive, now representing 49 active members across 29 institutions, including the Australian Research Council (ARC) and the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) and the Medical Research Future Fund (MRFF). This growth reflects the SIG's broad and high-level membership, and efforts in shaping post-award practices and fostering sector-wide collaboration.

On 15 May 2024, the SIG hosted a well-attended webinar, ***The Relationship Between HERDC and Research Funding: Complicated? It Doesn't Need to Be***, offering clarity on a complex topic and reinforcing its commitment to knowledge-sharing across the sector. This session will be repeated on 19 November 2025.

ARMS' response to the ARC Amendment Act 2024 and associated compliance requirements in Deeds of Variation has been spearheaded by the Post Award SIG in close coordination with the Contracting Working Group (a sub-committee of the ARMS Directors of Research SIG). This joint effort exemplifies ARMS' commitment to unified, sector-wide solutions.

Key achievements led by the Post Award SIG include:

- Conflicts of Interest (COI) Compliance Framework
- In response to new legislative requirements mandating COI declarations from all Chief Investigators on ARC

grants, the Post Award SIG, working in tandem with the Contracting Working Group, developed a robust data collection framework now available to ARMS members

- Deeds of Variation and Multi-Institutional Agreements - The SIG is actively compiling institutional perspectives to support Research Office Directors in navigating legal interpretations of ARC requirements. This work is instrumental in aligning practices and reducing administrative burden.
- Streamlining Contracts and Agreements - In close partnership with the Directors of Research SIG, the Post Award SIG is providing critical feedback on Multi-Institutional Agreements (MIAs) and contract templates, helping to harmonise processes across Australian universities.
- Shared Grant Financial Reporting Template - The SIG is investigating the development of a Financial Reporting Template for use with shared grants that may streamline and simplify financial reporting processes across organisations.

The Post Award SIG is co-led by Ms Connie Killey and Mr Frank Anastasopoulos, both from the University of Melbourne.

Major Research Collaborations

The Major Research Collaborations Special Interest Group was formally established on 16 October 2024 to support Research Management Professionals involved in delivering complex, large-scale initiatives aligned with national priorities such as net zero, health, digital and quantum technologies, defence, Indigenous knowledge, and climate resilience.

The SIG provides a platform for inclusion, knowledge-sharing, discussion of major funding trends, standardisation of practice, and collaborative training and networking.

A planning meeting is scheduled for 17 July 2025, ahead of the official in-person launch at the ARMS 2025 Conference in Melbourne this September. Additional meetings are anticipated for SIG members in the last quarter of 2025.

We thank our Co-convenors Ms Vesna Stefanovski, La Trobe University and Dr Yordanka Krastev, Ramsay Hospital Research Foundation for leading the SIG.

Research Development

The Research Development SIG is preparing for an exciting relaunch in 2025, with plans to collaborate closely with its members to shape future activities and initiatives.

Currently convened by Dr Dora Horvath of Swinburne University of Technology, the SIG anticipates appointing new Co-Convenors in the upcoming reporting period as part of its revitalisation efforts.

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

Research Funders

The Research Funders SIG provides a collaborative forum for sharing knowledge and strategies related to the development and management of funding schemes. The group was relaunched in June 2024, reinvigorating its commitment to fostering best practices across the sector.

Throughout the reporting period, SIG members convened to explore key topics including investment models, governance frameworks, program administration, and outcome measurement. Highlights include:

- 31 July 2024 – 12 members gathered to identify and prioritise thematic areas for future focus.
- 13 November 2024 – 13 members discussed approaches to measuring outcomes, joined by guest speakers Henry Ko, Suzanne Austin, and Jace Carson.
- 20 March 2025 – 7 members examined governance practices and shared organisational insights.
- 04 June 2025 – 8 members explored opportunities for research collaboration and partnership development.

The SIG is preparing for an in-person meeting at the upcoming ARMS Melbourne Conference in September 2025, offering members a valuable opportunity to connect and advance shared goals.

Leadership of the SIG will be assumed by Ms Jade Hurst from the Transport Accident Commission (TAC). We also extend our sincere thanks to Ms Tanya Karlychuk from the Australian Communications Consumer Action Network (ACCAN), who stepped down in February 2025 after making significant contributions to the SIG.

Research Impact

The Research Impact Special Interest Group (SIG) continues to provide meaningful support to Research Management Professionals who are leading impact-focused initiatives across the sector. Through activities such as embedding impact strategies, facilitating engagement with end-users, and assisting researchers in amplifying the societal, economic, and cultural reach of their work, the SIG plays a pivotal role in fostering an impact-driven research culture.

During the reporting period, the SIG upheld its commitment to community-building by hosting regular monthly networking sessions. These gatherings offered members a collaborative space to exchange insights, navigate challenges, and strengthen professional connections. Sessions were held on the following dates:

- Thursday 25 July 2024
- Thursday 31 October 2024
- Thursday 27 February 2025
- Thursday 27 March 2025
- Thursday 24 April 2025
- Thursday 26 June 2025

Each session featured timely and thought-provoking discussions on topics such as Impact at INORMS 2025;

Connecting Research to Results: iPEN's Impact Pathway Framework; Cornerstones of Impact Management: How to Plan, Implement, Assess and Understand Factors for Success

Looking ahead, the SIG is delighted to once again host the popular Research Impact Bingo at the upcoming ARMS Conference in Melbourne. This engaging activity is designed to spark connections and encourage networking in a fun and informal setting, with prizes awarded to lucky winners. We look forward to the enthusiasm and participation of our vibrant community.

The SIG is convened by Dr Faith Welch, University of Auckland; Dr Catherine McElhone, University of Technology Sydney; Dr Helen Slaney, La Trobe University; and Ms Julie Ward, University of the Sunshine Coast.

Research Information and Reporting

On 13 November 2024, the Research Information and Reporting SIG hosted a session titled **"Sustainably and Safely Populating the ARDC's Research Link Australia"**. The presentation, delivered by Mr Scott McWhirter (University of Technology Sydney), explored a collaborative project involving Griffith University, Southern Cross University, UTS, Digital Science, and the ARDC. The initiative focuses on streamlining the delivery of each university's funded research project data to Research Link Australia using a low-resource methodology.

The Research Information and Reporting SIG underwent a leadership change during the reporting period and undertook an official relaunch on 13 August 2025. As part of this renewal, the SIG is actively considering a rebrand, with plans to share updates with members in the second half of 2025.

Members of the RIR-SIG Convening Committee during the reporting period:

RIR SIG Convening Committee Members:

- Ms Judy Alexander, University of Newcastle
- Ms Marianne Brown, James Cook University
- Mr Scott McWhirter, University of Technology Sydney (**Co-convenor**)
- Dr Tania Wilmann, James Cook University (**Co-convenor**)

We extend our sincere thanks to the following departing Committee Members for their valuable contributions and service to the SIG: Adam Finch, CSIRO; Anupom Roy, Macquarie University; Elizabeth Przywolnik, University of Notre Dame; Gary Long, Western Sydney University, Justin Shearer, University of Melbourne; and Marianne Brown, James Cook University.

ARMS AWARDS

The Society takes great pride in honouring the exceptional achievements of its members through a range of prestigious awards and special recognitions.

These accomplishments were celebrated at a dedicated awards ceremony held during the Darwin Conference 2024, highlighting the impact of our members' contributions. Beyond showcasing individual excellence, these awards reaffirm the Society's commitment to advancing research management, nurturing innovation, and inspiring future leaders in the field.

Janet Dibb-Leigh Award for Distinguished Service to Research Management 2024

The Janet Dibb-Leigh Award for Distinguished Service to Research Management recognises individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the enhancement of the research management sector throughout Australasia and Singapore.

The Society congratulates Ms Michelle Duryea, from Edith Cowan University.



Ms Janet Dibb-Leigh (L) presenting the award to Ms Michelle Duryea (R).

Fellow of ARMS 2024

Fellow of ARMS is an award which recognises individuals who have made an enduring and substantial contribution to research management as a practitioner, mentor, trainer or advocate in the research management profession.

The Society congratulates Ms Jane Holt, from RMIT University, and Mr Floris van der Leest from the University of the Sunshine Coast.



Dr Tania Bezzobs (R) presenting the award to Ms Jane Holt (L).



Dr Tania Bezzobs (R) presenting the award to Mr Floris van der Leest (L).

ARMS AWARDS

RMIT Paul Taylor Awards 2024

Thanks to the generous support of RMIT University, the RMIT Paul Taylor Award honours individuals and teams who have made outstanding contributions to advancing research and innovation support. We extend our congratulations to the following recipients, who were celebrated at the ARMS Darwin Conference in September 2024:

Research Management Excellence Ms Keshia Arbour

Nomination Type: Individual
Category of Nomination: Leading Change
Institution: The University of Melbourne



Ms Jane Holt (L) presenting the award to recipient Ms Keshia Arbour (R).

Research Management Excellence Dr Helen Stanley

Nomination Type: Individual
Category of Nomination: Leading Change
Institution: La Trobe University



Ms Jane Holt (R) presenting the award to Dr Helen Stanley (L).

“

The Society takes great pride in honouring the exceptional achievements of its members through a range of prestigious awards and special recognitions.

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New Awards

The ARMS Board has made a substantial investment in enhancing the value it provides to its members by expanding its range of benefits.

Below is a summary of these new programs and the list of awardees for the reporting period:

i. Early Career Research Management Development Program 2024 (ECRM 2024)

The ECRM Program supports Early Career Research Management Professionals to undertake education, training, and professional development programs to become more proficient Research Management Professionals. Funding support under this program may be used to cover the registration cost related to a professional development program either through ARMS or via a relevant external provider. Priority will be given in the first instance to applicants seeking support under the Society's [Foundation Level Accreditation Modules](#) and/or [Master Classes](#)

Recipients for the inaugural awards are:

- Sheena Abraham, Monash University
- Tulika Basak, Deakin University
- Alice Ferguson, RMIT University
- Lahiru Gangoda, Centre for Eye Research Australia
- Mateo Mosquera Garcia, Deakin University
- Lakshmi Krishnan, University of Technology, Sydney
- Imogen Kuner, Monash University
- Samantha Orr, The University of Melbourne
- Caitlin Symons, Telethon Kids Institute
- Lisa Truong, Black Dog Institute
- Caitlin van Ree, Walter Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research
- Anika Waterhouse, Black Dog Institute

ii. ARMS Indigenous/First Nations Conference Travel Award Program 2024 (ICTAP 2024)

The award is designed to provide modest financial support to eligible Indigenous/First Nations Research Management Professionals who wish to attend the [ARMS Darwin conference](#) from 11-13 September 2024. Recipients for the inaugural awards are:

- Spencer Argus, ANU
- Dhani Coe, The University of Sydney
- Allan Teale, University of Technology, Sydney
- Mary Waria, University of Queensland

iii. ARMS International Travel Award Program 2024 (ITAP 2024)

The ARMS International Travel Award Program (ITAP) provides modest financial support for up to two ARMS members to participate in international visits and exchanges for an agreed period (nominally up to two weeks) with an agreed program of work and training. Recipients for the inaugural awards are:

- Dani Milos, Flinders University
- Susan Rose, Deakin University

iv. ARMS Conference Grants

The Society once again offered members financial support to offset the cost of attending the annual conference in Melbourne in September 2024. Recipients for our 2024 awards were:

- Katie Borroz (Rice), Liggins Institute, University of Auckland
- Renee Clapham, Cancer Council Victoria
- Melissa Climo, Bridger Consulting
- Beatriz (Bea) Contreras Planesas, University of Tasmania
- Claudia Del Campo, Monash University
- Emily Fong, University of Canberra
- Sara Gollschewski, University of Queensland
- Anthea Hall, The University of Adelaide
- Kirsty Hartman-Ward, The University of Adelaide
- Melissa Hilton, The University of New South Wales
- Sandrine Kingston-Ducrot, The University of Queensland
- Sanita Kratina, Edith Cowan University
- Belinda Lee, James Cook University
- Hemant Pathak, Curtin University
- Venus Rahmani-Afoosi, University of Technology Sydney
- Natalie Reed, University of Newcastle
- James Savage, Southern Institute of Technology | Te Pūkenga
- Julie Ward, University of the Sunshine Coast
- Natasha Wiggins, University of Tasmania
- Yvette Wijnandts, The University of Adelaide
- Katie Borroz (Rice), Liggins Institute, University of Auckland
- Renee Clapham, Cancer Council Victoria
- Melissa Climo, Bridger Consulting
- Beatriz (Bea) Contreras Planesas, University of Tasmania
- Claudia Del Campo, Monash University
- Emily Fong, University of Canberra
- Sara Gollschewski, University of Queensland
- Anthea Hall, The University of Adelaide
- Kirsty Hartman-Ward, The University of Adelaide
- Melissa Hilton, The University of New South Wales

OUR FLAGSHIP CONFERENCE

ARMS ANNUAL CONFERENCE



Global and local research partnerships for a sustainable future

11 – 13 September 2024
Darwin Convention Centre

The ARMS Conference is the major event for the Australasian Research Management Society (ARMS), providing a key networking, professional development and knowledge exchange opportunity for Research Management Professionals across Asia-Pacific and beyond.

The ARMS 2024 Conference was a collaboration between ARMS and the Malaysian Research Managers Association (MyRMA), in a mentoring arrangement. It was held over 4 days at the Darwin Convention Centre (DCC). The theme of the Conference was **“Global and local research partnerships for a sustainable future”**.

The conference was scheduled across 3 days Wednesday 11 - Friday 13 September with pre-conference workshops and accreditation offerings scheduled on Tuesday 10. The conference provided the chance to hear from 3 Keynote Speakers, 2 Plenary Speakers, 3 Panel sessions and 20 concurrent sessions.

The subthemes for the conference included:

- Brining Philanthropists, public research and industry research closer together
- Effective collaboration with external stakeholders
- More than our rank – innovate the future of global rankings

- Professional research management as an embedded practice
- The Knowledge Broker – Translating and disseminating research for greater impact.

Keynote and Invited Speakers include:

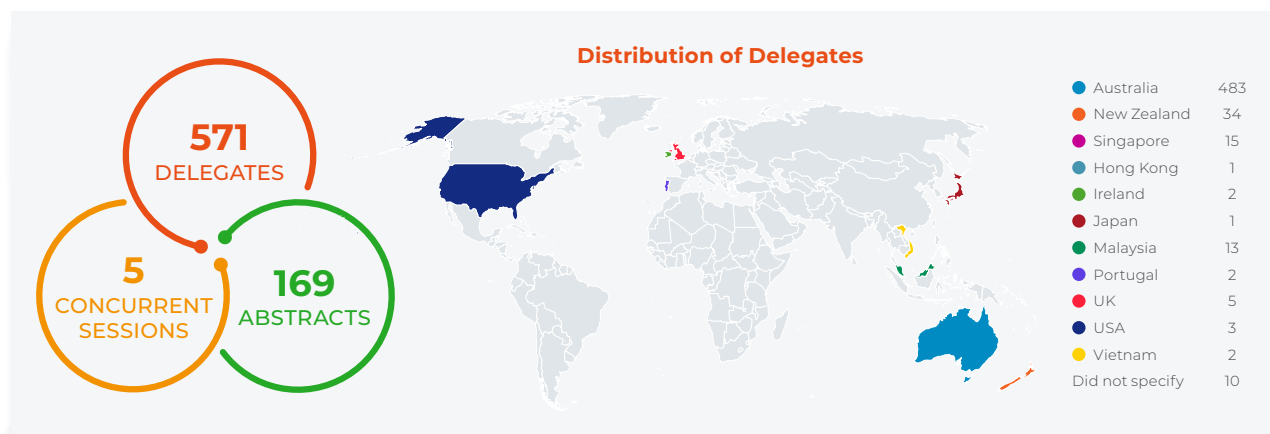
Keynote Speakers:

- Prof ChM Dr. Noorsaadah Abd. Rahman, FASc, Secretary General, Malaysian Academy of Sciences (Prof Noorsaadah was unable to fly due to unexpected health reasons, her session was presented by Prof Shaliza Ibrahim)
- Prof Emma Lee, National Centre for Reconciliation, Truth, and Justice, Federation University
- Prof Mahendhiran Sanggaran Nair, Pro Vice-Chancellor (Research and Sustainability), Sunway University Malaysia

Invited Speakers:

- Dr Billy Garvey, Guiding Growing Minds
- Professor Toby Walsh, Chief Scientist, UNSW's AI Institute

We acknowledge the vital contributions of our sponsors and exhibitors, whose support makes the conference possible. Their involvement plays a crucial role in ensuring the event is a valuable professional development and networking opportunity for ARMS Members and the wider research management community.



Our Sponsors:

Sponsors who supported the event were:

Charles Darwin University	Platinum Sponsor
Cayuse	Silver & Conference Dinner Sponsor
Endpoint IQ	Silver Sponsor
Epigeum	Silver Sponsor
Infonetica	Silver Sponsor
Vidatum	Silver Sponsor
Australian Research Council	Bronze Sponsor
The University of Melbourne	Bronze Sponsor
Springer Nature	Exhibitor & Breakfast Sponsor
BMJ Group	Exhibitor
Clarivate	Exhibitor
Digital Science	Exhibitor
Elsevier	Exhibitor
F1 Solutions - OmniStar	Exhibitor
Taylor & Francis	Exhibitor
InfoEd	Exhibitor
Outside Opinion	Exhibitor
Researchmaster	Exhibitor
The GrantEd Group	Exhibitor
SW Accountants & Advisors	Lanyard Sponsor

Exhibitors

Final list of exhibitors:

Clarivate	Booth 1
F1 Solutions – OmniStar	Booth 2
Elsevier	Booth 3
Springer Nature	Booth 4
The GrantEd Group	Booth 5
Infonetica	Booth 6
BMJ Group	Booth 7
EndpointIQ	Booth 9
Vidatum	Booth 10
Epigeum	Booth 15
Outside Opinion	Booth 16
Taylor & Francis	Booth 17
Digital Science	Booth 19
InfoEd Global	Booth 20
ResearchMaster	Booth 21
Cayuse	Booth 22
TableGet	ARMS Trestle

A special acknowledgment is extended to the organisers of the 2024 Darwin Conference.

Their unwavering commitment, tireless efforts, and meticulous attention to detail have been pivotal in bringing this year's event to life. From the earliest stages of planning through to seamless coordination and overcoming inevitable challenges, the committee's collective dedication has ensured a smooth, engaging, and successful conference experience.

Conference Co-Convenors

- Steve Hannan (Co-Convenor), The University of Newcastle
- Dr Tan Hsiao Wei (Co-Convenor), Sunway University (Secretary MyRMA)

Conference Committee

- Dr Tee Boon Tuan, Universiti Teknikal Malaysia Melaka
- Dr Karen Cavanagh, Charles Darwin University
- Ms Emma Collyer, UNSW
- Professor Dr. Shaliza Ibrahim, University Malaya (MyRMA)
- Ms Connie Killey, Deakin University
- Ms Vesna Stefanovski, Swinburne University of Technology
- Dr Abang Azlan Mohamad, Universiti Malaysia Sarawak
- Dr E Norshahrizan, Universiti Malaysia Perlis
- Dr Faith Welch, Waipapa Taumata Rau, The University of Auckland

ARMS EO Representatives

- Ms Maria Zollo, COO
- Ms Kaeisha Kilmister, Conference and Major Events Coordinator
- Ms Janice Yau, Events & Admin Assistant



Closing ceremony at ARMS 2024 Darwin conference

STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS

The Society continues to maintain and form new partnerships with other like-minded Research Management Professionals across the research and innovation sector. These partnerships include:

Australasian Ethics Network (AEN)

ARMS has had a long-term affiliation with the Australasian Ethics Network (AEN) as a stream of the ARMS Ethics and Integrity Special Interest Group. Also refer to Ethics and Integrity Special Interest Group for an update.

The AEN is well into its planning for its biennial conference which is scheduled for delivery in November 2025 in Newcastle, Australia. The AEN Conference Committee is led by Dr Jodie Marquez and Dr Kathryn Skelding.

The Committee expects to launch the registration portal in the second half of 2024 with a call for abstracts scheduled for March 2025.

“

The Society continues to maintain and form new partnerships with other like-minded Research Management Professionals across the research and innovation sector.

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Australasian Research Training Network (ARTN)

During the reporting period, the Australasian Research Training Network (ARTN) hosted two engaging webinars:

- “Looking Backward and Forward – HDR Administration and Training in 2025” - Held on 19 February, this session featured presentations from Ms Tracy Sullivan (Australian Council of Graduate Research) and Ms Catherine Murphy (Macquarie University). The webinar explored evolving practices in HDR administration and training, offering reflections and forward-looking insights.
- “AI in Higher Degree Research” - Held on 26 March 2025, this session was presented by Dr Michael Baker (Western Sydney University) and Dr Chris Dunn (University of Tasmania). It examined current developments in the sector and showcased practical examples of how generative AI tools can support and enhance research management. The webinar was delivered in collaboration with the AI in Research Management Special Interest Group.

Looking ahead, the ARTN Advisory Committee is planning a third webinar for late October titled “Balancing Acts: Integrating Pastoral Care in HDR Administration.”

ARTN Advisory Committee Members

- Dr Michael Baker, Western Sydney University – Committee Member
- Dr Chris Dunn, University of Tasmania – Committee Member
- Dr Douglas Eacersall, University of Southern Queensland – Committee Member
- Mr Mark Gregory, The University of Melbourne – Committee Member
- Ms Catherine Murphy, Macquarie University – Co-Chair
- Dr Seán O’Reilly, University of Sydney – Committee Member
- Mr Mitchell Smyth, The University of Melbourne – Committee Member
- Ms Tracy Sullivan, Australian Council of Graduate Research – Co-Chair

We also extend our sincere thanks to Ms Kate Swanson (Griffith University) and Professor Jason White (Charles Sturt University), who stepped down from the Advisory Committee during this period. Their contributions have been greatly appreciated.

GLOBAL PARTNERSHIPS



INTERNATIONAL NETWORK OF RESEARCH MANAGEMENT SOCIETIES (INORMS)

ARMS remains an active contributor to the global research management community through its involvement with the International Network of Research Management Societies (INORMS).

The ARMS Board is committed to supporting countries where research management is an emerging profession. A key example of this commitment is ARMS' partnership with the Malaysian Research Management Association (MyRMA) to co-host the ARMS Darwin Conference in September 2024.

This mentoring collaboration reflects ARMS' dedication to fostering international cooperation and advancing best practices in research management.

Through this alliance, ARMS and MyRMA have combined their expertise to ensure the conference delivers meaningful outcomes for attendees and contributes to the broader development of the profession. The partnership not only enhances global networks but also promotes knowledge exchange and innovation across the research management community.

INORMS itself continues to grow, reflecting the increasing global recognition of research management as a profession. From its original seven founding members, the network has expanded to include 27 member associations as of 2025.



Association of Research Managers and Administrators (UK)	Finish Association of Research Managers and Administrators (Finland)	PraxisAuril (UK)
Association of Research Managers and Administrators (The Netherlands)	Network of Research and Transfer Management	Professional Network of Research and HE Managers in Ukraine (Ukraine)
Australasian Research Management Society (Australia)	Icelandic Association for Research Managers and Administrators (Iceland)	Research Manager and Administrator Network Japan (Japan)
Brazilian Association of Research Managers and Administrators (Brazil)	Korean Association for Research Managers and Administrators (Korea)	Southern African Research and Innovation Management Association (Africa)
Canadian Association of Research Administrators (Canada)	Malaysian Association of Research Managers and Administrators (Malaysia)	Society of Research Administrators International (US)
Chinese Association for Science of Science and Science & Technology Policy (CASSSP) (China)	National Council of University Research Administrators (US)	Swedish Association of Research Managers and Administrators (Sweden)
Danish Association of Research Managers and Administrators (Denmark)	National Organization of Research Development Professionals (US)	West African Research and Innovation Management Association (Africa)
East African Research and Innovation Management Association (EARIMA) (Africa)	Norwegian Network for Administration and Research Management (Norway)	The Academic Administration Forum, Warszawa Poland (Poland)
European Association of Research Managers and Administrators (Europe)	Philippine Association of Research Managers (Philippines)	The Association of Commonwealth Universities (UK/ Commonwealth)



OUR FINANCES

I am pleased to provide an update on the Society's financial position for 2024/2025.

This financial year has allowed ARMS to focus on key areas of development to support further growth in future years. ARMS has again achieved a surplus, albeit more modest than the exceptional result of the previous year. For 2024/2025, ARMS recorded a surplus of AUD\$73,682, compared with AUD\$250,377 in 2023/2024. This primarily reflects reduced income from our professional accreditation modules, with the timing of online delivery a key factor and some revenue from this delay expected to flow into 2025/2026.

Despite this shift, the financial year demonstrates ARMS' ongoing strength and resilience. Membership revenue increased modestly to AUD\$297k, and conference activities provided strong support at AUD\$857k. Also, investment returns were higher than last year (AUD\$76k vs AUD\$71k in 2023/2024), our portfolio continues to provide a steady contribution in a cautious global financial environment and compares well against returns from other like funds.

The Board has invested strategically in personnel to grow our two key revenue streams in future and diversify to other funding streams, with the appointment of our Partnerships Education and Policy Manager.

Their focus has been to support new partnerships, and to strengthen our accreditation programs. This staffing investment contributed to higher operational expenditure in 2024/2025 than the previous financial year, but positions ARMS well for sustainable growth, complementing an already excellent Executive Office team.

With a review of Professional Development already underway the contribution of this staffing investment may take two or more years to realise but is positioned to support ARMS achieve our three key professional development goals in the Implementation Plan of our [Australasian Research Management Society Towards 2030 Strategic Plan](#).

Overall, ARMS retains a healthy balance sheet, with net assets of AUD\$1.376m (up from AUD\$1.302m in 2023/2024). Importantly, the Society continues to hold strong cash reserves with an investment portfolio valued at AUD\$1.17m, ensuring that we remain financially stable while planning for future initiatives.

Looking ahead to 2025/2026 the financial outlook is like 2024/2025. While there is deferred accreditation income to be realised, forecasting shows that a deficit of around AUD\$60k is likely, with contributing factors balancing this such as a cap on conference registrations at the ARMS conference in Melbourne and increased ongoing operational expenditure for personnel.

The focus of financial planning now is to deliver ARMS' 2030 ambitions from a strong financial position. It is particularly critical to our mission to invest to ensure that our professional development and training offerings mature with the needs of the research management sector across Australasia.

Dr Lachlan Doughney
ARMS Treasurer

AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2025

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ARMS

Australasian Research Management Society

AUSTRALASIAN RESEARCH MANAGEMENT SOCIETY INC
ABN 57 334 849 485

COMMITTEE'S REPORT

The Committee members present the financial report for the Australasian Research Management Society Inc (the Society) for the year ended 30 June 2025.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

The names of the Committee members throughout the year and at the date of this report are:

Dr Tania Bezzobs (President)	Ms Emma Collyer
Mrs Hannah Allan (President elect – appointed 18/9/24)	Ms Sharon Aburn
Dr Lachlan Doughney (Treasurer)	Dr Yordanka Krastev (resigned 18/9/24)
Ms Kate Swanson (Secretary – resigned 18/9/24)	Dr Brett Szmajda (resigned 18/9/24)
Dr Louise Dwyer (Secretary – appointed 18/9/24)	Ms Amber Jennings (appointed 18/9/24)
Ms Jaylene Wehipeihana	Ms Tara McLaren (appointed 18/9/24)

PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES

The principal activities of the Society during the financial year were:

- to encourage the professional development of research managers and research administrators
- to promote the profession of research management and enhancement of the research enterprise
- to establish a strong and effective professional network of research managers and research administrators at all levels and based on a verity of setting through personal relationships, presentations, formal and informal meetings and publications
- the development and promotion of professional standards for research management and research administration throughout Australasia consistent with international best practice

GENERAL INFORMATION

The financial statements cover Australasian Research Management Society Inc. as an individual entity. With the registered office at Flinders University, Research services Office Room B1, Basement Level, Sturt Road, Bedford Park SA 5042. The financial statements are presented in Australian dollars which is Australasian Research Management Society Inc's the functional and presentational currency.

SIGNIFICANT CHANGES

No significant change in the nature of these activities occurred during the year.

OPERATING RESULT

The operating profit / (loss) of the society for the current and previous annual periods were as follows:

	Profit / (loss)
Current period	73,682
Prior period	250,377

LIKELY DEVELOPMENTS

The Committee has determined that there are no likely development that would affect the operations of the Society in future years.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the council members of the Society.



President

Date: 17/09/2025
Sydney, New South Wales



Treasurer

Date: 17/09/2025
Melbourne, Victoria

STATEMENT BY MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

The statements attached to this statement present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position and financial performance of Australasian Research Management Society Inc during and at the end of the financial year of the association ending 30 June 2025.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the council members of the Society.



President

Date: 17/09/2025
Sydney, New South Wales



Treasurer

Date: 17/09/2025
Melbourne, Victoria

STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

	Note	2025 AU\$	2024 AU\$
Revenue	3	1,397,883	1,502,279
Other Income	3	87,160	90,882
		1,485,043	1,593,161
Operating Expenses			
Chief operating officer expense	12	191,963	187,927
Finance Officer		101,094	97,672
Conference & Major Events Coordinator		119,380	117,885
Accreditation Program Administrator		123,565	119,766
Administrative officer		95,492	69,893
Professional Development Manager		85,438	-
Chapter expenses		42,774	20,841
Executive expenses		23,498	44,265
Conference expense		453,337	546,628
Award expense		8,482	4,057
Special interest groups		3,216	3,115
Administrative expenses		86,338	52,943
Amortisation		12,023	37,639
Website		11,307	12,679
Accreditation expenses		53,454	27,474
		1,411,361	1,342,784
Profit / (loss) for the year		73,682	250,377
Other comprehensive income for the year			
Other comprehensive income for the year		-	-
Total comprehensive income for the year		73,682	250,377

The above statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

	Note	2025 AU\$	2024 AU\$
ASSETS			
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents	4	1,181,173	975,770
Trade and other receivables	5	269,760	281,185
Prepayments		244,046	140,076
Investments	6	1,169,127	1,088,920
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		2,864,106	2,485,951
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Intangible assets	7	13,767	18,144
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS		13,767	18,144
TOTAL ASSETS		2,877,873	2,504,095
LIABILITIES			
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Trade and other payables	8	359,565	216,006
Deferred income		1,142,391	985,854
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES		1,501,956	1,201,860
TOTAL LIABILITIES		1,501,956	1,201,860
NET ASSETS		1,375,917	1,302,235
EQUITY			
Retained Earnings		1,375,917	1,302,235
Total equity		1,375,917	1,302,235

The above statement of financial position should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

	Note	2025 AU\$	2024 AU\$
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Members' & customers' receipts		1,562,134	1,488,137
Payments to suppliers		(1,367,395)	(1,337,327)
Interest received		10,664	1,555
Net cash inflow/(outflow) from operating activities		205,403	152,365
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		205,403	152,365
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period		975,770	823,405
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	4	1,181,173	975,770

The above statement of cash flows should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY

	Retained Earnings AU\$	Total AU\$
At 1 July 2023	1,051,858	1,051,858
Profit / (loss) for the year	250,377	250,377
Other comprehensive income	-	-
Total comprehensive income for the year	250,377	250,377
At 30 June 2024	1,302,235	1,302,235
Profit / (loss) for the year	73,682	73,682
Other comprehensive income	-	-
Total comprehensive income for the year	73,682	73,682
At 30 June 2025	1,375,917	1,375,917

The above statement of changes in equity should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

NOTE 1 MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICY INFORMATION

The accounting policies that are material and adopted in the preparation of the financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

New or amended Accounting Standards and Interpretations adopted

The incorporated association has adopted all of the new or amended Accounting Standards and Interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board ('AASB') that are mandatory for the current reporting period.

Any new or amended Accounting Standards or Interpretations that are not yet mandatory have not been early adopted. The adoption of these Accounting Standards and Interpretations did not have any significant impact on the financial performance or position of the incorporated association.

The following Accounting Standards and Interpretations are most relevant to the incorporated association:

(a) Basis of Preparation

The financial statements are general purpose financial statements that have been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards - Simplified Disclosure Requirements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB) and the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012. The Society is a not-for-profit entity for the financial reporting purposes under Australian Accounting Standards.

The financial statements, except for the cash flow information, have been prepared on an accrual basis and are based on historical costs, modified, where applicable, by the measurement at fair value of financial assets. The amounts presented in the financial statements have been rounded to the nearest dollar.

(b) Revenue Recognition

Membership

Membership revenue is measured at the fair value of the Membership revenue is measured at the fair value of the consideration received and is brought to account as revenue in the year it relates. The membership period covers 1 July to 30 June each year.

Interest

Interest revenue is recognised as interest accrues using the effective interest method. The effective interest method uses the effective interest rate which is the rate that exactly discounts the estimated future cash receipts over the expected life of the financial asset.

Conference

Conference revenue is recognised when the conference is held.

Accreditation

Accreditation income is recognised when the program is delivered.

Other Income

Other income is recognised when it is received or when the right to receive payment is established.

(c) Income Tax

As the incorporated association is a non-profit scientific organisation in terms of subsection 50-5 of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997, as amended, it is exempt from paying income tax.

(d) Cash and Cash Equivalents

For the purposes of the Statement of Cash Flows, cash and cash equivalents includes cash on hand and at bank, deposits held at call with financial institutions, other short term, highly liquid investments with maturities of three months or less, that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and which are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value and bank overdrafts.

(e) Trade Receivables

Other receivables are recognised at amortised cost, less any allowance for expected credit losses.

(g) Trade and Other Payables

Trade and other payables represent liabilities for goods and services provided to the Society prior to the year end and which are unpaid. These amounts are unsecured and are usually paid within 30 days of recognition. All trade and other payables are non interest bearing.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(h) Financial Assets

Investments and other financial assets are initially measured at fair value. Transaction costs are included as part of the initial measurement, except for financial assets at fair value through profit or loss. Such assets are subsequently measured at either amortised cost or fair value depending on their classification. Classification is determined based on both the business model within which such assets are held and the contractual cash flow characteristics of the financial asset unless, an accounting mismatch is being avoided.

Financial assets are derecognised when the rights to receive cash flows have expired or have been transferred and the consolidated entity has transferred substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership. When there is no reasonable expectation of recovering part or all of a financial asset, its carrying value is written off.

Financial assets not measured at amortised cost or at fair value through other comprehensive income are classified as financial assets at fair value through profit or loss. Typically, such financial assets will be either: (i) held for trading, where they are acquired for the purpose of selling in the short-term with an intention of making a profit, or a derivative; or (ii) designated as such upon initial recognition where permitted. Fair value movements are recognised in profit or loss.

(i) Accounting Standards Issued but not yet Effective

Certain new accounting standards and interpretations have been published that are not mandatory for reporting periods ending 30 June 2025. At the date of authorisation of the financial statements, the Standards and Interpretations in issue but not yet effective or adopted were not expected to have a material impact.

(j) Comparative Figures

When required by accounting standards, comparative figures have been adjusted to conform to changes in presentation for the current year.

NOTE 2 ACCOUNTING ESTIMATES AND JUDGEMENTS

The Committee evaluate estimates and judgments incorporated into the financial statements based on historical knowledge and best available current information. Estimates assume a reasonable expectation of future events and are based on current trends and economic data, obtained both externally and within the Society.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

NOTE 3 REVENUE AND OTHER INCOME

Revenue

Membership	297,181	269,465
Conference	857,498	930,162
Accreditation	216,606	269,598
Sponsorship	24,689	31,909
Advertising	1,909	1,145
	<u>1,397,883</u>	<u>1,502,279</u>

Other Income

Interest	10,664	1,555
Managed Funds Distributions received	28,140	37,057
Fair Value Movement on Financial Assets at Fair Value through Profit or Loss	48,248	34,242
Other Income	108	18,028
	<u>87,160</u>	<u>90,882</u>

NOTE 4 CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

Cash at bank	1,181,173	975,770
	<u>1,181,173</u>	<u>975,770</u>

NOTE 5 TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES

Trade receivables	269,760	281,185
	<u>269,760</u>	<u>281,185</u>

NOTE 6 INVESTMENTS

Financial Assets at Fair Value Through Profit or Loss	1,169,127	1,088,920
	<u>1,169,127</u>	<u>1,088,920</u>

The 'Units in unlisted managed funds' have been valued based on their quoted market prices in active markets.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

NOTE 7 INTANGIBLE ASSETS

Software

At cost

Accumulated amortisation

Capital WIP

Reconciliation of Software

Balance at the beginning of the year

Amortisation

Capital WIP

Closing carrying value

	2025 AU\$	2024 AU\$
At cost	189,615	189,615
Accumulated amortisation	(183,494)	(171,471)
Capital WIP	7,646	-
	<u>13,767</u>	<u>18,144</u>
Balance at the beginning of the year	18,144	55,783
Amortisation	(12,023)	(37,639)
Capital WIP	7,646	-
Closing carrying value	<u>13,767</u>	<u>18,144</u>

NOTE 8 TRADE AND OTHER PAYABLES

Accounts Payable

Accrued Expenses

GST Payable

Accounts Payable	108,082	11,561
Accrued Expenses	228,747	175,199
GST Payable	22,736	29,246
	<u>359,565</u>	<u>216,006</u>

NOTE 9 CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

The incorporated association had no contingent liabilities as at 30 June 2025 and 30 June 2024.

NOTE 10 EVENTS AFTER THE REPORTING PERIOD

No matter or circumstance has arisen since 30 June 2025 that has significantly affected, or may significantly affect the incorporated association's operations, the results of those operations, or the incorporated association's state of affairs in future financial years..

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

NOTE 11 AUDITORS REMUNERATION

Audit of the financial statements
Non assurance services - compilation of financial statements

2025 AU\$	2024 AU\$
9,500	8,500
1,750	1,500
<u>11,250</u>	<u>10,000</u>

NOTE 12 RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Key Management Personnel

The aggregate compensation made to officers and other members of key management personnel is set out below:

Aggregate Compensation

<u>191,963</u>	<u>187,927</u>
----------------	----------------

The compensation disclosed in this note includes compensation paid to key management personnel on behalf of the Society.

Transactions with related parties

There were no transactions with related parties during the current and previous financial year.

Receivable from and payable to related parties

There were no trade receivables from or trade payables to related parties at the current and previous reporting date.

Loans to/from related parties

There were no loans to or from related parties at the current and previous reporting date.

CERTIFICATE BY MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

I, Tania Bezzobs of Sydney, New South Wales
and I Lachlan Doughney of Melbourne, Victoria

certify that

- a We are members of the Committee of Australasian Research Management Society Inc
- b We attended the annual general meeting of the Society held on
- c We are authorised by the attached resolution of the Committee to sign this certificate
- d This annual statement was submitted to the members of the Society at its annual general meeting



President



Treasurer

Dated this 8th day of October 2025

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF AUSTRALASIAN RESEARCH MANAGEMENT SOCIETY INCORPORATED

Report on the Audit of the Financial Report

Opinion

We have audited the financial report of Australasian Research Management Society Incorporated (the Entity), which comprises the statement of financial position as 30 June 2025, the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, the statement of changes in equity and the statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial report, including material accounting policy information, and the statement by members of the committee.

In our opinion the accompanying financial report presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Entity as at 30 June 2025, and its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards - Simplified Disclosures.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report* section of our report. We are independent of the Entity in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards)* (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Other information

Those charged with governance are responsible for the other information. The other information obtained at the date of this auditor's report is information included in the Committee's Report but does not include the financial report and our auditor's report thereon.

Our opinion on the financial report does not cover the other information and accordingly we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial report, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial report or our knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work we have performed on the other information obtained prior to the date of this auditor's report, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Responsibilities of management and those charged with governance for the Financial Report

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards - Simplified Disclosures and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of a financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, management is responsible for assessing the Entity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Entity or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Entity's financial reporting process.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the Financial Report

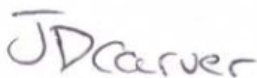
Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial report is located at the Auditing and Assurance Standards Board website (<http://www.auasb.gov.au/Home.aspx>) at: http://www.auasb.gov.au/auditors_responsibilities/ar4.pdf

This description forms part of our auditor's report.



BDO Audit Pty Ltd



Josh Carver
Director

Adelaide, 17 September 2025

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