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## Report from the AUPN Chair – Marc Diaz

Welcome to the second AUPN newsletter for 2010. Since you received the last newsletter, the AUPN Executive Committee elected me as the new Chair replacing Bill Aukett who stepped down at the end of 2009. I would like to pay tribute to Bill for his leadership during his tenure as Chair - I believe we have been very fortunate to have had Bill amongst us. I have truly appreciated working with Bill - he has contributed tremendously to the sector as well as to the procurement profession in Australia.

The AUPN Executive Committee has been very active behind the scenes during the first part of this year putting in place plans and laying the foundations for work to be undertaken over the next 2-3 years; plans consistent with our mission statement "to significantly improve strategic procurement practices in Australian universities". This has been achieved by concentrating on the three themes of:

- Procurement Capabilities;
- Sustainable Procurement; and
- Business Process Improvement.

These have been ably led by the chairs of the respective Standing Committees, being Harry Banga, Trish Thomson and Bill Aukett respectively. These individuals were well supported by a cross-section of the AUPN membership and the Australasian Procurement and Construction Council (APCC). The result is three separate activity schedules that have been approved by the Executive Committee. The challenge is to now deliver on those plans and the membership to involve itself to ensure it gets full value from the opportunities that will present. Details of the activity schedules are available on the AUPN section of the HES website. I would welcome comments on these as would the Chairs of the respective Standing Committees.

Supporting these activities, we will create a Calendar of AUPN Professional Development Workshops and Forum opportunities for the benefit of members. We expect to be able to provide more information on these over the next couple of months.

I am pleased to announce that there are thirty member universities. A good proportion of the membership has already involved itself through its procurement professionals taking an active role in the work of the Executive Committee and the three Standing Committees.

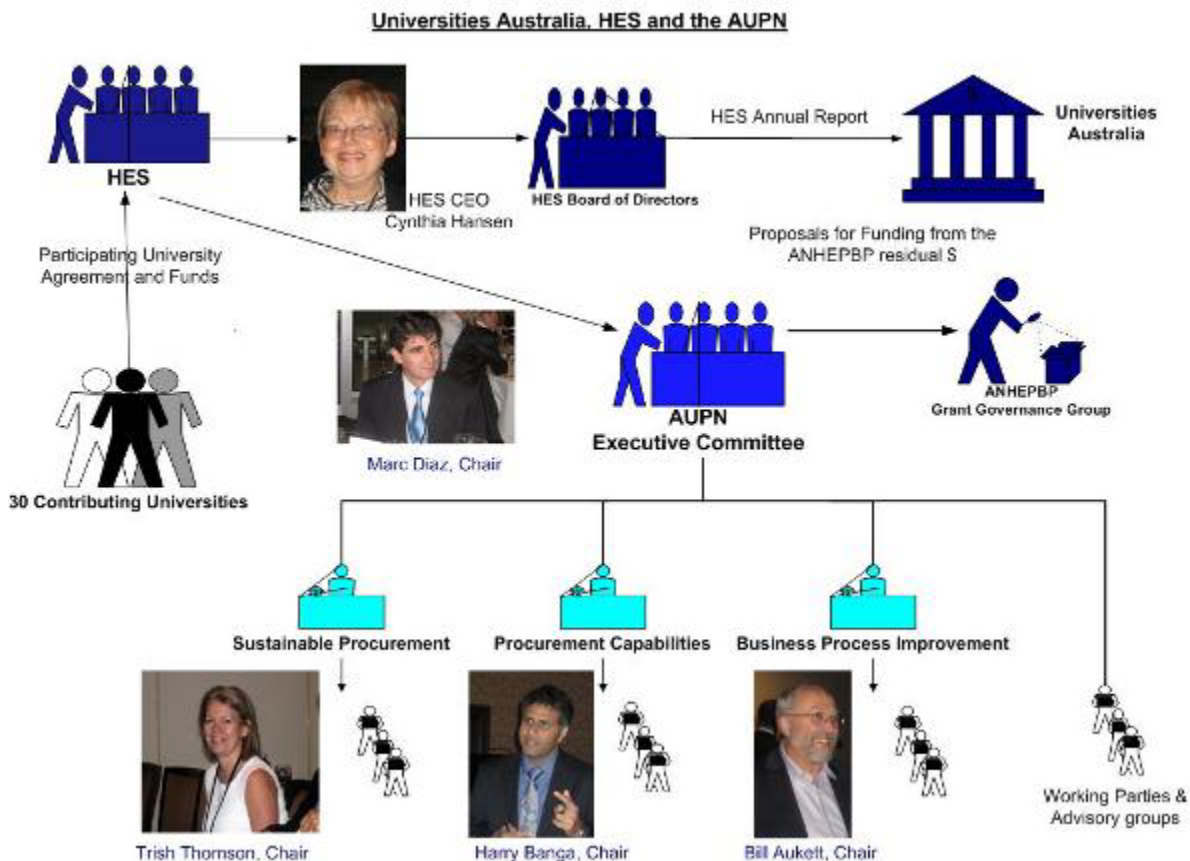
I would like to take the opportunity to thank Millie Raskov (UTS) and Elaine Hanlon (ECU) for their contribution - both recently resigned to pursue a different direction in their careers and I wish them both well. This has provided the opportunity for others to get more involved and I welcome Tim MacPherson (ANU), Michelle Paul Davie (Murdoch) and Craig Lehman (Newcastle) to the Executive Committee who join a very committed group.

In closing, I encourage members to consider attending the upcoming National University Finance & Procurement Conference on 26 - 28 July, 2010 (see the HES website for details). This is a great opportunity to pursue our common objectives, have a say in the direction of the AUPN and attend a short morning meeting on 27 July with the Executive Committee. An Invitation Notice to this meeting appears in this Newsletter. I hope to see you at the meeting and Conference.

**Marc Diaz**  
AUPN Executive Committee Chair

## How does the AUPN fit with HES and Universities Australia

Higher Ed Services often gets asked about the relationships behind the AUPN, particularly as they relate to Universities Australia, so here's a diagram. I have taken the opportunity to include some photos so you can readily identify the Chairs.



## AUPN Committees at a Glance

### Executive Committee

A call for Nominations went out midway through April as two valuable members of the Executive left the higher education sector. Elaine Hanlon (ECU) has joined the ever-increasing band of mining-related companies that thrive in WA. Elaine was the Chair of the BPI Standing Committee and a member of the Sustainable Procurement Standing Committee and will be greatly missed. Sadly, the AUPN also lost the Deputy Chair, Millie Raskov (UTS). The Executive has had the benefit of Millie's contributions at many levels, including on the BPI Standing Committee.

The AUPN is delighted to welcome as a result of nomination, three new members to the Executive - Tim MacPherson Procurement Manager at the Australian National University, Michelle Paul Davie, Manager of Strategic Procurement at Murdoch University and Craig Lehman, Associate Director, Commercial Services at The University of Newcastle.

Being a member of the Executive is an ideal opportunity to participate alongside a great group of people in working towards an active, valuable Network for Procurement in the sector. We shall be calling for nominations again in October as places become vacant for the 2011-2013 period.

If you would like more information, check the HES website, review the Terms of Reference or contact Jan Rose directly [Jan@HES.edu.au](mailto:Jan@HES.edu.au).

#### *AUPN Executive Committee Members*

- |                            |                             |  |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|--|
| - Marc Diaz Chair (Curtin) | - Bill Aukett (Adelaide)    | - Harry Banga (Sydney)                     |
| - Craig Lehman (Newcastle) | - Tim MacPherson (ANU)      | - Michelle Paul Davie (Murdoch)            |
| - Henry Sammut (Melbourne) | - Trish Thomson (Griffith)  | - Ross Williams (UNE)                      |
| - Claude Urquhart (JCU)    | - Cynthia Hansen (CEO, HES) | - EProf Rob Coombes<br>(HES Board nominee) |

### Standing Committees

A considerable amount of work has been done since November 2009 when the operating budget for the Standing Committees was finalised. For various reasons, contributions to the AUPN were delayed well into November 2009 and slightly delayed the 2010 budget planning. The Activity Schedules are now available on the website and work has begun to address the tasks. Surveys will be sent progressively to member universities over the next few weeks to provide additional input and relevance into the frameworks under consideration by the Standing Committees. The surveys will not be onerous and we urge everyone to make sure their university's interests are represented.

We will be seeking opinions from everyone about what they consider to be the Top 5 HOT TOPICS in Procurement for universities at this time and, based on responses, the AUPN will finalise the Professional Development and Workshops/Forums schedule.

The membership of the Standing Committees has changed since the last Newsletter:

- ✦ **Strategic Procurement and Business Process Improvement** has a new Chair, Bill Aukett, who has kindly stepped into Elaine's shoes on her departure, and Craig Lehman (UoN) has joined Ted Beedell and Ross Williams in making up the Committee. If you are interested in joining this SC, please contact [Bill](#) , [Marc](#) or [Jan](#);
- ✦ With Marc's election as the Chair of the AUPN Executive Committee, the **Procurement Capability Standing Committee** is now in the capable (no pun intended) hands of Harry Banga, from the University of Sydney. Other members are Brian McFarlane (Griffith), James Hayes (UoS) and Teresa Scott (APCC).
- ✦ Trish Thomson continues in her role as Chair the **Sustainable Procurement Standing Committee** which has also had its number depleted with the recent departures. Current members include Bronwyn Rice (UNSW), Joes Arena (La Trobe) and Suzanne Grob (pp APCC). New members are welcome from any AUPN university; if you are interested, please contact [Trish](#), [Marc](#) or [Jan](#).

## AUPN Upcoming Events

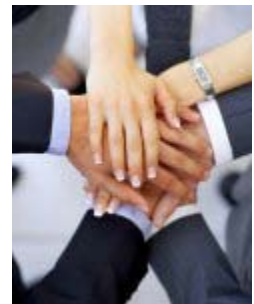
Now that the Activity Schedules are out there, the Executive and Standing Committees are preparing the Calendar of Events for 2010 and 2011. Watch this space (and the web pages, of course)!

### AUPN Open Forum - INVITATION

To all procurement staff in Australian Universities, the AUPN would like to invite you to join the Executive Committee for tea/coffee and pastries on Tuesday, 27th July 2010. The meeting will take place at the National Universities Procurement and Finance Conference being held in Coolool on the Sunshine Coast - by popular request.

The meeting will be at 7:30am - 8:30am to give you chance to have that extra coffee before the conference events start and to hear what is going on in the AUPN, to ask questions and get to meet the Executive members.

Attendance at this meeting is strongly recommended - it is your chance to meet those who are guiding the AUPN, to hear what is planned for the next year, express your opinion and to meet your counterparts from across the sector.



### The 10th National University Finance and Procurement Conference

The Annual National University Finance and Procurement Conference is now open for registrations. A Preliminary Program is available for download from the HES website. This is THE event of the year for networking, hearing some great speakers and for having an opportunity to discuss what is going on in the sector. The AUPN strongly encourages all its members to make this one of the highlights of the year for both value and networking.

26 - 28 July 2010, Hyatt Regency, Coolool, Qld



## AUPN Activities

The committees have had several face-to-face meetings and over a dozen teleconferences in their drive to establish the Activities Schedules and consider what workshops and speakers would offer value to the sector. Members of the Australasian Procurement and Construction Council (APCC) and others have contributed to the work of the Standing Committees and discussions continue with groups such as CIPSA, ACTS, TEFMA and CAUDIT.

The CEO of the North Eastern Universities Procurement Consortium (NEUPC) visited Australia from the UK and we had the opportunity to gain a better understanding of how the UK Consortia operate, specifically in the area of collaborative purchasing contracts.

## Libraries & Toolboxes and Green Options

*(AUPN Members Only)*

In the inaugural AUPN meeting of procurement people from across the sector, the one most important expectation of the AUPN was the opportunity to network and share knowledge. These pages on the AUPN website, available to all AUPN universities, have been specifically created to maximize the opportunities for this to happen.

Keep an eye on these - we are working hard to ensure they are kept relevant and give value.

The more content we have in these, the more value they present to everyone; we rely on all of you to contribute so if you have anything you feel might be useful to others and you are willing to share, please send to Jan Rose. There are processes in place to ensure the content is appropriate, has been authorised and there is no breach of copyright.

Anything posted to these areas are available to all AUPN member universities.

## AUPN Discussion Forums

In the same spirit of sharing, the [AUPN Discussion Forum](#) has been created so you can tap into the expertise across the sector.

The Forum has been in place for several months and many of you are already familiar with them but for those who are not, take a look! If you are seeking information from other universities, would like to add some knowledge to queries already out there or simply want to be included in responses on a topic, go to the Forum pages and have a go. To facilitate sharing, when replying to existing posts additional files may be attached, rather than emailing separately. This way those attached files are available to AUPN participants for future reference.

If you have any questions or are uncertain how to add your topic or response, contact [Leanne](#) or [Jan](#).



## AUPN Website

The [AUPN website](#) is hosted by HES and is constantly being updated. Here is a site map of the AUPN pages so you can see at a glance where everything is.

If you are from a member university and have forgotten, or do not have, your access codes, contact Jan or Leanne.



Legend:

