



Message from the CEO and ED

#3 - March 27, 2025

Today (February 27, 2025) we received an update from the newly established (February 1, 2025) National Student Ombudsman (NSO) –

OFFICIAL



27 February 2025

Good afternoon,

Launch of the National Student Ombudsman

As you are aware, the National Student Ombudsman (NSO) jurisdiction commenced on 1 February 2025. As the nominated complaints contact for your higher education provider, I am writing to introduce myself and to provide you with some further information about the NSO.

In my role as the Senior Assistant Ombudsman for the NSO, I have been working with the NSO team to ensure that we are in a strong position to receive complaints via our online webform at www.nso.gov.au, via telephone (1300 395 775) as well as through our face-to-face service.

It is evident that the NSO is wanting to develop strong collaboration - which is good to see.

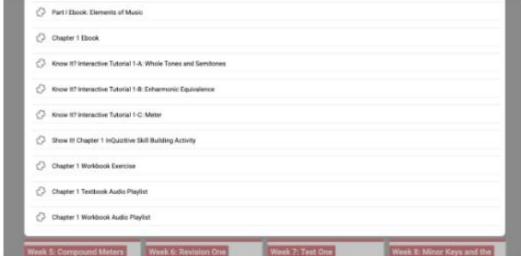
A launch kit is available for viewing - NSO-e-kit-complaint-handlers.pdf

NSO also has in place a useful website - National Student Ombudsman (NSO)

As we move into F2F teaching on campus - with international students - this contact will be quite important moving forward.

Introducing The Musician's Guide to Theory and Analysis by WW Norton and Company –



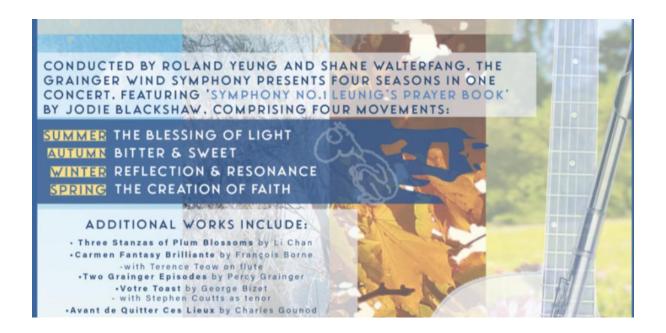


AGE is pleased to announce the introduction of **The Musician's Guide to Theory and Analysis**.

The platform utilises interactive and online elements. A powerful solution designed to <u>enhance the learning outcomes</u> of our students across their Musicianship subjects. This will also <u>Equip students for the creative industries</u>.

Thank you to **Christopher** for his work in putting this great initiative together.

Congratulations to **Christopher** on his recent performance (01.03.2025) of Jodie Blackshaw's *Symphony No.1 Leunig's Prayer Book* -



The work was performed by the *Grainger Wind Symphony*. For more detail see - <u>Concert 1</u> 2025: The Four Seasons 1st March – The Grainger Wind Symphony

Christopher is currently President of the *Grainger Wind Symphony*.

This is another good example of scholarship (one of many elements). For more about Scholarship at AGE see –

Scholarship at AGE - 87330e b5d6caffc17c434495912c99ce3acd47.pdf

Academic Scholarship Policy - Academic Scholarship Policy

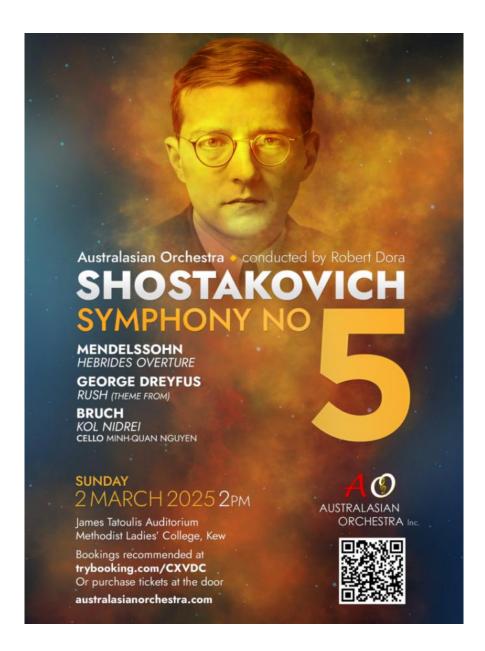
Academic Scholarship Procedure - <u>Academic Scholarship Procedure (S2)</u>

Scholarship can take on many forms - 6113ad 2887992fd3a440a4bca4cbcb6414de4f.pdf

I encourage all staff to record their scholarly activity using the harvest template – ideally located on your desktop and updated as you go – this makes the task of collecting data so much easier at the end of the year –

Positions held	
Memberships	
Conferences and Symposia	
Articles and papers	
Public performances/exhibitions	
Recordings	
Compositions	
Benchmarking activities	
Self-education	
Teaching at other like institutions	
Formal courses	
Other	

Congratulations to **Christopher** on his recent performance (02.03.2025) of the Shostakovich Symphony No 5 -



The work was performed by the *Australasian Orchestra*. For more detail see - <u>Next Concert</u> – Australasian Orchestra Inc.

The performance also included Felix Mendelssohn's *Hebrides Overture*, Australian composer George Dreyfus' *Rush* (theme from the Australian TV show), and Max Bruch 's *Kol Nidrei -* with AO's **Minh-Quan Nguyen** as the cello soloist.

The concert was conducted by the orchestra's Chief Conductor and Artistic Director **Robert Dora**.



Christopher took a photo during the sound check – he is not MIA – rather behind the camera

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Other	

Congratulations to **Greg** on his recent blog (03.03.2025) – **Normal distribution of academic grades** - *Musicum20 (2025)*

Normal Distribution of academic results

Greg Whateley

March 2025

'The process of **standardisation** adjusts the raw mark so that students are not advantaged <u>or</u> disadvantaged based on the trimester/semester/year they sit the assessment or by their subject choice. After standardisation the distribution of marks is the same from year to year and subject to subject – this is the ideal consistency'.

In truth it is a *fair and appropriate process*. It is often referred to as **normalisation** (normal distribution) and/or moderation.

The full article can be viewed at - 6113ad 390e76564862424da16c838488c0a2b8.pdf

This is another good example of scholarship (one of many elements). For more about Scholarship at AGE see -

Scholarship at AGE - <u>87330e b5d6caffc17c434495912c99ce3acd47.pdf</u>

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Scholarship can take on many forms - 6113ad 2887992fd3a440a4bca4cbcb6414de4f.pdf

Capturing scholarship at AGE - 87330e 456bf6a9c2fb45738f1ae2c9bcf079c6.pdf

Congratulations to **Christopher** on his latest article (published 03.03.2025) – **Disrupting** analogue spaces -

Disrupting Analogue spaces

Christopher McLeod February 2025

The physical and digital worlds have become increasingly complex over the past three decades. The internet is one of the biggest industry disrupters in recent memory. Industries, technologies, and ways of being that had existed for centuries shifted overnight. New technologies further heightened the transition from a manufacturing to a services-based economy almost overnight, harkening new employment opportunities whilst destroying existing industries.

There is nothing new in this notion. The emergence of the industrial revolution in the 1800s had a similar effect on work and the populace. Largely agrarian populations became industrialised overnight. What did shift was the emergence of a digital space where the human began to exist in two parallel spaces. The analogue world that has existed for all human history suddenly found itself disrupted in ways that had never existed before.

The full paper can be viewed at - 6113ad fb064f57b97d4a138705461e0e15291c.pdf

The paper has been accepted as <u>Chapter 26</u> in an upcoming book titled - **The Next 5** (years) - hopefully out <u>in April/May 2025.</u> The book will serve as the focus of the October 2025 Musicum20 symposium in London at *Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance* - <u>Home | Trinity Laban</u>

This is another good example of scholarship (one of many elements). For more about Scholarship at AGE see -

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Congratulations to **Greg** and **Beth** on their recent publication (03.03.2025) **Admissions at AGE** (v2).



ADMISSIONS AT AGE

Greg Whateley Elizabeth Woollacott

> V2 March 2025

The full paper is available at - 87330e b47035ece4df4ca08b3026266bd6a35d.pdf

This is another important piece of work on a matter of significance in relation to both the *HESF Threshold Standards* and the *National Code of Practice*.

This is also another good example of scholarship (one of many elements). For more about Scholarship at AGE see -

Scholarship at AGE - <u>87330e</u> <u>b5d6caffc17c434495912c99ce3acd47.pdf</u>

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Capturing Scholarship at AGE 2024 - 87330e 456bf6a9c2fb45738f1ae2c9bcf079c6.pdf

Congratulations to **Greg** and **Beth** on their recent publication (03.03.2025) **Risk Management at AGE** (v2).



RISK MANAGEMENT AT AGE

Greg Whateley
Elizabeth Woollacott

V2 March 2025

The full paper is available at - 87330e d0b8fd8a2fd94bc586d6c725e357fec0.pdf

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The next meeting of the **Learning and Teaching Committee** (a standing committee of the AGE Academic Board) is scheduled for <u>Wednesday</u>, <u>March 12 at 10am</u>.

Membership includes -



Dr Laura Hougaz (Chair)



Emeritus Professor Greg Whateley (Executive Dean and Secretary)



Associate Professor Jordan Murray (Academic Director)



Emeritus Professor Jim Mienczakowski (Independent)



Associate Professor Tom O'Connor (Independent)

The draft agenda includes -

Learning and Teaching Committee Terms of Reference

Policy Reviews – Academic Integrity; Assessment and Grading; Exclusion from a Course and Unit; Student at Risk and Early Intervention and Course Development

Key Audits

Board of Examiners' Summer School 2024/2025 Report

The Agenda for the meeting will be distributed to members on Wednesday, March 5 in keeping with our usual timelines.

The **Learning and Teaching Committee** Terms of Reference can be viewed at - https://www.guildmusic.edu.au/ files/ugd/87330e 6e698575ff2c4877b4e177737123fbb6.pdf
Pp 26-29



For more about **Dr Laura Hougaz** (Chair, LTC and AGE Academic Board member) see - https://www.guildmusic.edu.au/leadership

Executive Management Committee Meeting – March 11, 2025

The next EMC meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 11 from 10am. This is a F2F meeting of the team on the North Melbourne Campus and will cover key topics (though not exhaustive) -

Finalisation of F2F timetable

Finalisation of Online timetable

Update on North Melbourne facility

Postgraduate Social Work proposal update

Committee System in operation

A second orientation session

Other Business

The meeting will be chaired by Emeritus Professor Greg Whateley

EMC Meetings for 2025 are tentatively scheduled for *Tuesdays - April 15; May 13; June 17; July 15; August 12; September 16; October 14; November 11; and December 16 (subject to variation as required).*

A gentle reminder that next $\underline{\text{Monday}} - \underline{\text{March 10}} - \text{is a public holiday in Melbourne} - \underline{\text{Labour}}$



The AGE North Melbourne campus will be closed for the day – reopening on Tuesday morning, March 11

For more details on other public holidays in Melbourne (Victoria) in 2025 see - <u>Victoria Public Holidays 2025 - Victoria Public Holidays</u>



Congratulations to **Christopher** on his recent creative work (05.03.2025) – **War and Decay** – **How close is the razor's edge** – *Medium.com*

Û

War and Decay

How close is the razor's edge?



Q



Photo by Alexander Zvir: https://www.pexels.com/photo/grayscale-photo-of-steam-locomotive-11941845/

The full work can be viewed at - War and Decay - Christopher McLeod - Medium

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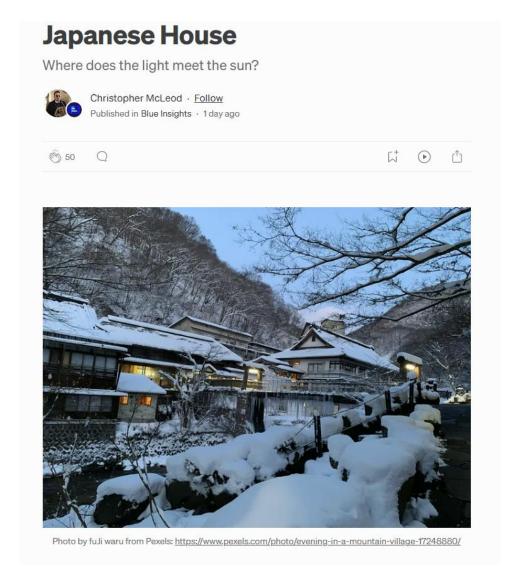
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Congratulations to **Christopher** on his recent creative work (04.03.2025) – **Japanese House** – *Medium.com/blue insights* –



The full work can be viewed at - <u>Japanese House - Blue Insights - Medium</u>

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Capturing Scholarship at AGE 2024 - 87330e 456bf6a9c2fb45738f1ae2c9bcf079c6.pdf

Congratulations to **Beth** on her latest article (10.03.2025) – **State Based Arts Funding in Asia – the next five years** -

State-Based Arts Funding in Asia - the next five years

Elizabeth Woollacott March 2025

Arts funding has long been a contentious and evolving issue across the world, reflecting deeper economic, political, and cultural priorities. In Asia, however, state involvement in the arts has historically been far more centralised than in Europe, where independent patronage, commercial markets, and philanthropic support played a more significant role in sustaining artistic production. From imperial courts and religious institutions in China, Japan, Korea, and India, to modern-day government-backed film, gaming, and cultural soft power initiatives, the role of the state in shaping artistic expression remains fundamental to understanding the trajectory of arts funding across the region.

The full paper can be viewed at - 6113ad_db39c1ae21f04cbcb3f07ff6d7e7b5dc.pdf

The paper has been accepted as <u>Chapter 27</u> in an upcoming book titled - **The Next 5** (years) - hopefully out <u>in May 2025.</u> The book will serve as the focus of the October 2025 Musicum20 symposium in London at *Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance* - <u>Home | Trinity Laban</u>

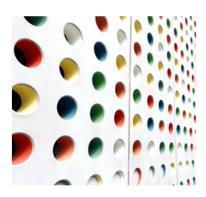
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Congratulations to **Greg** et al on the recent (12.03.2025) publication – **Management in the Arts** – Centre for Business Education, ISBN 1 86493 037 3



Management in the Arts

WHATELEY, JANKOFF, PHILLIPS AND BOFINGER

Refreshed February 2025

The book is available at - MANAGEMENT IN THE ARTS

'This is a dynamic and vitally important area of study for anyone considering working in the arts and - in particular a management role. This book is divided into eleven parts. The areas are complementary but for the purpose of this study, they are separated for convenience of study. A number of tasks have been established for you along the way to reinforce and revise the key concepts developed. You are encouraged to complete all the tasks or at least as many as you can. Some require written responses, others require that you read certain articles, and others ask you to reflect.'

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Congratulations to **Christopher** on his professional development work this week at LaTrobe University, Bundoora Campus -





Chris met with **Dr Dan Bendrups** (*Pro Vice Chancellor Graduate and Global Research*) - Dan Bendrups Profile | La Trobe University



The context of the meeting – a potential PhD or Professional Doctorate enrolment – hopefully commencing mid-2025.

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Congratulations to **Jordan** (and the team) on steering another successful orientation session (the third of 3) – Thursday, March 13



Associate Professor Jordan Murray in action

The key issues included -

- Moodle
- Student Hub
- Virtual Library
- Enrolling in teaching period
- Student Support Services Academic and Non-Academic
- North Melbourne Campus
- Course Planning
- Unit Outlines
- Health and wellbeing
- Student Representative Council
- Policies and Procedures
- Student Behaviour
- Sexual Misconduct Prevention and Response
- Attendance
- Complaints and appeals

- Fees, refunds and Visas
- Special consideration
- Deferment
- Suspension
- Working rights in Australia
- Academic Integrity
- Time management



Priyanka Deswal presenting one of the key segments

The full set of slides/content can be viewed at - 87330e 1dfff56814504ab7ae1bf1906523020e.pdf

Timetable – F2F program – Semester 1, 2025

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8.00-11.00		Group A	Group B	Group B	
		Music as Culture C McL Room 1.1	Professional Studies JM Room 1.1	Music as Culture C McL Room 1.1	
11.00-14.00		Group A Pedagogy BW Room 1.1	Group B Pedagogy BW Room 1.1	1pm-4pm* Group A Professional Studies JM Room 1.1	
14.30-17.30		Group A Musicianship C McL Room 1.1	Group B Musicianship C McL Room 1.1		

*By special arrangement – Thursdays 1-4pm

Level 1, North Melbourne Campus – Room 1.1

Teaching Team – Associate Professor Christopher McLeod (C McL); Professor Beth Woollacott (BW); Associate Professor Jordan Murray (JM)

Student Support - Priyanka Deswal

The S1, 2025 Academic Key Dates Calendar can be viewed at - <u>Key Dates | Guild Music Copy</u>

The first meeting of the AGE Quality and Risk Committee for 2025 is scheduled for this coming week – Thursday, March 20, 2025, at 10am.

The meeting is hybrid.

The focus of the meeting includes –

QARC Terms of Reference

Annual Risk Assessment 2023/Response
Risk Register

Compliance Framework

Additional membership

Membership of the Quality and Risk Committee includes
Emeritus Professor Greg Whateley (Chair)

The agenda and associated links/documents were distributed to members a week out – as is best practice.

Shashi Mathew (Secretary)

Emeritus Professor Jim Mienczakowski (Independent)

Online Offerings S1, 2025

The actual subject offerings for S1, 2025 are now finalised –

Musicology 201 and 302

Performance 202 and 302

Composition 202

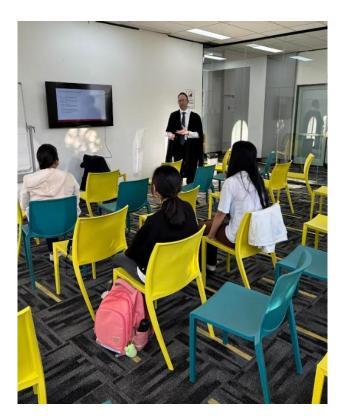
Technology Composition 202

Musicianship 201

Pedagogy 201

The timetable will be finalised this coming week along with staffing and costings.

Congratulations to **Christopher** on the official launch (8m, Tuesday March 18) of the *Bachelor of Music* for international students on the North Melbourne Campus.



Associate Professor Christopher McLeod in action

Students have been divided into two groups – A and B – and scheduled across the four subjects accordingly.

Chris bounced the ball with 'Music as Culture'

Anticipating the start of a new opportunity for AGE

In anticipation of the launch of the F2F program on the North Melbourne Campus Christopher wrote the following to all staff on Monday, March 17 –

Here's to the crazy ones!

'It was nearly two years ago that I was welcomed into an institution that had a proud history. An institution that whilst dealing with the tumultuous fallout of a rift was on its way to healing and rebuilding.

The last two years have been an amazing drive towards the rebirth and relaunch of our degree.

What we do here is unique. It may be the day of small beginnings. But we have planted the seed of a great Oak, and that tree will grow into strength over the coming years. Few people, places, or institutions get to do what we're about to embark on.

I'll leave you with the following thoughts:

Here's to the crazy ones, the misfits, the rebels, the troublemakers, the round pegs in the square holes... the ones who see things differently — they're not fond of rules... You can quote them, disagree with them, glorify or vilify them, but the only thing you can't do is ignore them because they change things...They push the human race forward, and while some may see them as the crazy ones, we see genius, because the ones who are crazy enough to think that they can change the world, are the ones who do.

— Steve Jobs. 1997

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5sMBhDv4sik

Good luck to all the Academic staff teaching this week. Thank you for all the administrative staff and the endless work you've done and continue to do.

See you tomorrow.

Congratulations to **Greg** on his recent (19.03.2025) blog – **All a matter of integrity despite the mode of delivery** – *Invigilatorplus.com.au*



The full article is available at - <u>All a matter of integrity despite the mode of delivery — invigilatorPlus Blog</u>

This is another good example of scholarship (one of many elements). For more about Scholarship at AGE see –

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The ten-minute rule

I wanted to share an initiative (I have used it elsewhere to good effect) best called the **10- minute rule.**



The idea is simple – every hour when you are teaching/working get up and wander around the campus for 10 minutes.

Wander into classrooms – sit at the back – shake hands with the lecturer – etc.
Essentially **BE SEEN** by the students. If they are not actually in class working – <u>say hello</u> and engage.

The overall impact – over time – is **very effective**.

I would love to see staff in their academic gowns (pop them on for the 10-minute slot) – we are milking the notion of boutique!

Congratulations to **Jordan** on <u>launching Day #2</u> of the first week - at the 8am *Professional Skills* class (Wednesday, March 19) –



Students have been divided into two groups – A and B – and scheduled across the four subjects accordingly. Group A on Tuesday and Thursday and Group B on Wednesday and Thursday.

Congratulations to **Jordan** on his upcoming performances with legendary composer **Hans Zimmer** – performing live at the *Rod Laver Arena* (Melbourne)



Performances are scheduled for Tuesday April 29 and Wednesday 30 April

For more about **Hans Zimmer** see - <u>Hans Zimmer - Wikipedia</u>



For more about Associate Professor Jordan Murray see - Leadership | Guild Music Copy

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Congratulations to **Greg** on his recent blog (20.02.2025) – **Multiple products, multiple** sites and multiple modes of delivery – the way forward – *Musicum20*.

Multiple products, multiple locations and multiple modes of delivery – the way forward

Greg Whateley

March 2025

I have held the view for many years – taught it, wrote about it and probably exhausted colleagues and friends with it – that success in the higher education sector is about three things specifically - multiple products, multiple locations and multiple modes of delivery. If all three can be worked in tandem – success is inevitable. The combination, though, is not as simple as it sounds. The infrastructure to sustain the three elements is significant and a high degree of expertise is required both at the operations and governance levels. I explore all three in turn –

The full paper can be viewed at - 6113ad_26dd3f1b903a47108787ec29badb7b4d.pdf



For more about **Emeritus Professor Greg Whateley** see - <u>Leadership | Guild Music Copy</u>

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Congratulations to **Greg** on his recent blog (20.02.2025) – **Normal distribution of academic results – ensuring integrity**– *Invigilator Plus*



Normal distribution of academic results – ensuring integrity

The use of normal distribution safeguards against challenges to academic integrity. The process ensures integrity throughout the assessment phase and ensures any form of favouritism or bias is avoided - at all times.

The full paper can be viewed at – Normal distribution of academic results – ensuring integrity — invigilatorPlus Blog

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Congratulations to **Greg** and **Professor Ian Bofinger** on their recent blog (20.03.2025) – **Integrity in business and academia**– *Invigilator Plus*

Integrity in business and academia



Authors: Greg Whateley and Ian Bofinger

February 2025

The term integrity is bandied around a bit these days – but it is a critical element of both business and academia. The more it is talked about – the better.

A recent book (Whateley, Kopanakis and Bofinger – 2024) goes into considerable detail on the topic with 29 chapters exploring a range of applications and contexts (both in business and academia) in which integrity plays a vital part in ensuring that standards are maintained and businesses flourish.

The full paper can be viewed at – <u>Integrity in business and academia — invigilatorPlus</u>
Blog

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The next **AGE Academic Board** meeting *for 2025* is scheduled for this coming week - <u>Wednesday, March 26 at 3pm</u> - the meeting is hybrid with some members on campus and others online. Agenda and associated materials have been sent out – and a starring approach is being used.

The agenda is (as usual) comprehensive –

Board of Examiners Report

Learning Teaching Committee Report

National Code Audit

Threshold Standards Audit

Scholarship Update

Academic Risk

Strategic Intent Updated

Social Work Update

Early Childhood Education Update

Increase in CRICOS capacity Update

Reregistration/reaccreditation Update

Dr Tim Weir (external) will chair the meeting - ably supported by **Professor Elizabeth Woollacott** (internal Secretary)

Membership of the AGE Academic Board includes -



Dr Tim Weir (External Chair)



Dr Laura Hougaz - Independent member



Dr David Morgan - Independent member



Associate Professor Jordan Murray (ex-officio) - internal



Emeritus Professor Greg Whateley (ex-officio) - internal



Professor Beth Woollacott (Secretary) - internal

For member profiles see - <u>Leadership | Guild Music Copy</u>

The current *Academic Board 'Terms of Reference'* can be viewed at -87330e_6e698575ff2c4877b4e177737123fbb6.pdf - see pp20-25.

The Academic Board is a Standing Committee of the AGE Board of Directors and plays an essential role in the oversight of matters academic - supporting the work of the Executive Dean in particular.

Congratulations to **Christopher** on his ongoing effort to establish a production centre for us on Level 1 –



AGE is committed to the set–up referred to as a 'Composer's Sanctuary'. It is starting to shape up nicely.

Chris has written a number of related articles along the way -

McLeod (2025) Building the Composer's Sanctuary - 6113ad_69abfafbccea4fd89871632a6466d67f.pdf

McLeod (2025) Building the Composer's Sanctuary – Equipment - 6113ad 34cd8672b6c646c49c9c85549f0207a7.pdf

McLeod (2025) Building the Composer's Sanctuary – Colour, Texture and Sound - 6113ad _d1151c22dd1d47b69aa0e68385bd09f1.pdf

McLeod (2025) Building the Composer's Sanctuary – Keyboard, Desk and Peripheral - 6113ad f2268c78e7fc4516b34c8d37f13b11fd.pdf

Hopefully the project will be completed in the next couple of weeks and will serve AGE well in terms of a range of projected initiatives.

AGE warmly welcomes three distinguished fellows

A key element of our future expansion and development lies in attracting a range of high-quality supporters and advocates.

I am delighted to introduce three distinguished academics who have agreed to support our progress –



Emeritus Professor Jim Mienczakowski

Jim will be supporting AGE in a number of ways including involvement with our *Quality* and *Risk Committee* and *Learning and Teaching Committee* – he has also agreed to be part of our governance review. **Jim** has also agreed to head the proposed *Centre for Scholarship*.

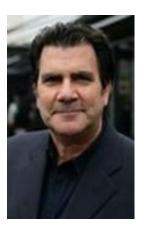
Em. Prof. Jim Mienczakowski | musicum20



Emeritus Professor Clive Smallman

Clive will be coming on board to assist the development of another postgraduate program that will hopefully provide a positive future.

Prof Clive Smallman



Associate Professor Art Phillips

Art has agreed to assist with the Work Integrated Learning (WIL) push and head the proposed *Centre for Creativity*.

BIO - ART PHILLIPS | 101 Music PTY LTD

I am sure all at AGE will warmly welcome our distinguished colleagues.

Congratulations to **Art Phillips** on his upcoming involvement in the **7**th **Annual BEST 2025 High School Startup Competition** as an international judge in the program and representing AGE.



Associate Professor Art Phillips on the far left

The event is international – based in Bangkok – and scheduled <u>for March 29, 2025</u>. The event is managed by the BEST Team – *learning without borders*



For more about Art see - BIO - ART PHILLIPS | 101 Music PTY LTD

Budget 2025 Talk

Tracy Harris (26.03.2025) provides a useful overview of the Budget 2025 and International Education

Budget 2025 and international education





The full paper is available at - Budget 2025 and international education

By way of summary -

- Incentives to Australians accessing early childhood, primary, TAFE and university education
- Net Overseas Migration (NOM) is likely to decline, before stabilising in 2026
- Exports are forecast to grow
- Funding is redirected from International Education Support
- Ties with India are being boosted
- Department of Education priorities employment of internal students and offshore education opportunities

Universities Australia has called for sustainability of Australia's international education.



March 2025