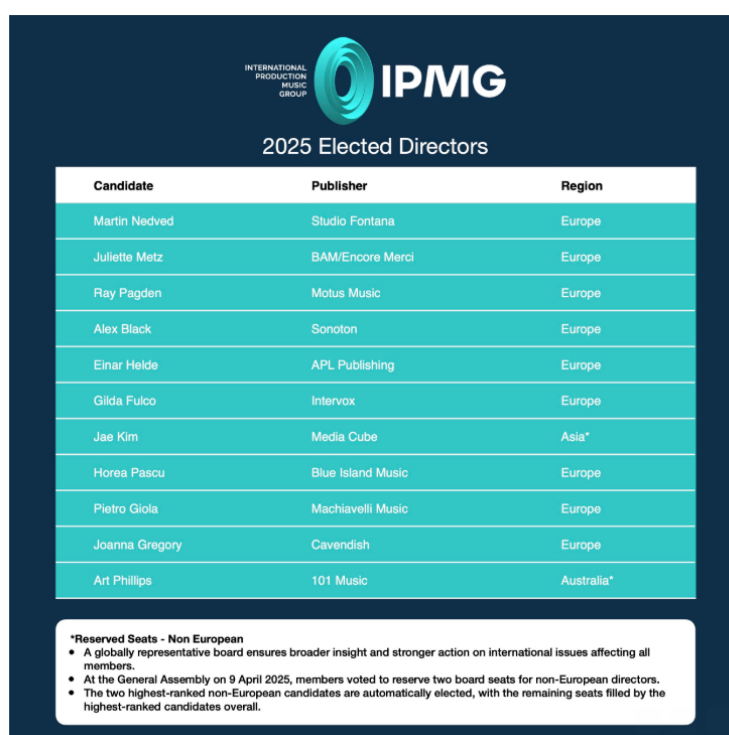# Message from the CEO and ED

#6 – June 27, 2025

Congratulations to **Art** on his recent election to the *International Production Music Group* (IPMG) <u>Board of Directors</u> – representing Australasia, on behalf of his company 101 Music Pty Ltd.
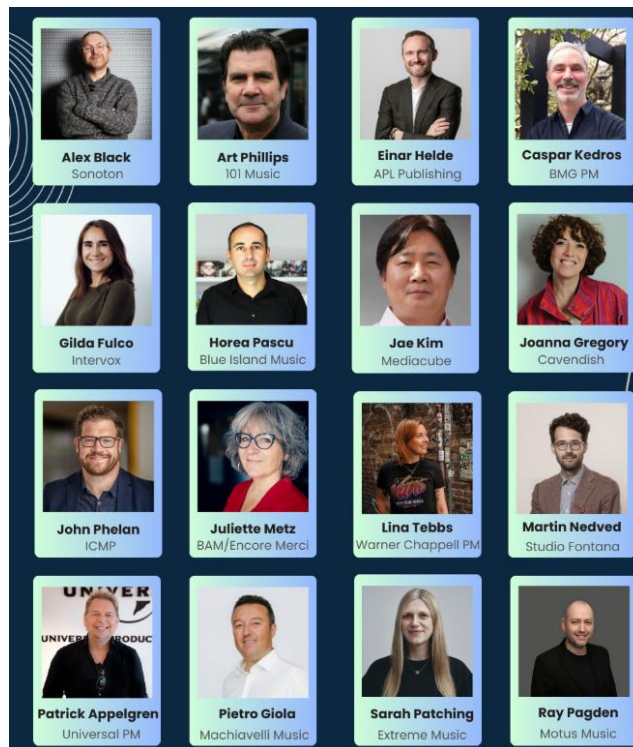

Art writes –
'I very much look forward to working this esteemed team of production music publishers to take our unique industry sector into the next phase'.

IPMG
2025 Elected Directors

Candidate	Publisher	Region
Martin Nedved	Studio Fontana	Europe
Juliette Metz	BAM/Encore Merci	Europe
Ray Pagden	Motus Music	Europe
Alex Black	Sonoton	Europe
Einar Helde	APL Publishing	Europe
Gilda Fulco	Intervox	Europe
Jae Kim	Media Cube	Asia*
Horea Pascu	Blue Island Music	Europe
Pietro Giola	Machiavelli Music	Europe
Joanna Gregory	Cavendish	Europe
Art Phillips	101 Music	Australia*

*Reserved Seats - Non European
- A globally representative board ensures broader insight and stronger action on international issues affecting all members.
- At the General Assembly on 9 April 2025, members voted to reserve two board seats for non-European directors.
- The two highest-ranked non-European candidates are automatically elected, with the remaining seats filled by the highest-ranked candidates overall.

Associate Professor Art Phillips – top row, second from left

Associate Professor Art Phillips is developing the AGE *Centre for Creativity* and is a member of the *Course Advisory Committee* for the re-accreditation of our Bachelor of Music Degree (representing the music industry).

For more about **Associate Professor Art Phillips** see – BIO – ART PHILLIPS | 101 Music PTY LTD

For more about **101 Music Pty Ltd** see – What We Do | 101 Music PTY LTD

For more about the **International Production Music Group** see - IPMG

Farewell and thank you

This Wednesday (May 28) is Shashi's final day with AGE.

On behalf of all at AGE – staff, students and stakeholders – we say thank him and wish him all the very best. His work throughout the transition phase - in particular (AGME to AGE) - is both acknowledged and appreciated.

Congratulations to **Christopher** and **Rachael** on their recent creative initiative – **Chloe** – the current iteration is for the unit *COMSPEC202.*

Christopher writes – *'The short film is entitled: CHLOE and will allow students to have industry style experience (Work Integrated Learning) in the craft of film scoring.*

The editing was done by me inhouse here at AGE. The temp music provided is for the purposes of demonstration and is purely library/production music. The script, narrative, and vision of the project was developed by Rachael McLeod (Online lecturer) and myself over the course of the semester.'

The full version (5.15) can be viewed at - Chloe - Short Film (Music).m4v - Google Drive

This is another great example of Scholarship. For more on Scholarship at AGE see -

Scholarship at AGE - 87330e_b5d6caffc17c434495912c99ce3acd47.pdf

Academic Scholarship Policy - Academic Scholarship Policy

Academic Scholarship Procedure - Academic Scholarship Procedure (S2)

Scholarship can take on many forms - 6113ad_2887992fd3a440a4bca4cbcb6414de4f.pdf

Capturing Scholarship at AGE 2024 - https://www.guildmusic.edu.au/_files/ugd/87330e_c236de23a09045c093784e013fd84197.pdf

Congratulations to **Joanne Trewick** who graduated with a *Bachelor of Music* <u>in April 2025.</u>

Joanne Rewick (L) with **Professor Beth Woollacott**

Joanne was in town (North Melbourne) recently - came in to collect her testamur - *and* take some nice photos gowned up with **Beth**.

Congratulations to **Greg** on his recent blog (28.05.2025) – **Rethinking Meeting Smarter** – *Musicum20.com*

Rethinking Meeting Smarter

Greg Whateley

May 2025

Irrespective of your industry or sector (mine happens to be Higher Education) meetings are an essential fabric of both compliance and governance – and provide essential communication within - and across the organisation. In my current roles, it was not unusual to have at least five or six formal meetings a week – whether it be dealing with operational matters, risk management, work health and safety, student well-being and/or compliance in general.

The COVID pandemic created a new model that has application post-pandemic (remember COVID-19 is still with us believe or not – it is just that the media has lost interest) using a range of technology and diverse solutions that we would be wise to consider as we move forward.

The full article can be viewed at - 6113ad_684925d96c2a46409f05c2d95a01de34.pdf

This is another good example of scholarship in the AGE context. For more about Scholarship at AGE see –

Scholarship at AGE - 87330e_b5d6caffc17c434495912c99ce3acd47.pdf

Academic Scholarship Policy - Academic Scholarship Policy

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Capturing Scholarship at AGE 2024 - https://www.guildmusic.edu.au/_files/ugd/87330e_c236de23a09045c093784e013fd84197.pdf

Congratulations to **Clive** on his recent article (28.05.2025) – **The HAL 9000: A likely reality OR fictional fantasy** - *Musicum20.com*

The HAL 9000: A Likely Reality OR Fictional Fantasy?

Clive Smallman
May 2025

Stanley Kubrick's 2001: A Space Odyssey introduced us to one of the most iconic and unnervingly human artificial intelligences in film history: HAL 9000. With its calm voice, omniscient control over the Discovery One spacecraft, and unsettlingly personal interactions with the crew, HAL left a lasting impression on both science fiction and our collective imagination. But as AI continues to evolve in the real world, how close are we to encountering a HAL 9000-type intelligence? Or is HAL destined to remain nothing more than a cautionary tale from a futuristic film?

The full article can be viewed at - 6113ad_23003ca5d7324c588de8c9270ffe07d9.pdf

This paper will be included in Volume 2 of the AGE Publications Series as Chapter 9 – *Artificial Intelligence (AI) Vs Actual Intelligence (AcI) due for publication in July/August 2025.*

Emeritus Professor Clive Smallman is Director, Postgraduate Studies at *AGE* leading our current accreditation/reaccreditation efforts.

This is another good example of scholarship in the AGE context. For more about Scholarship at AGE see –

Scholarship at AGE - 87330e_b5d6caffc17c434495912c99ce3acd47.pdf

Academic Scholarship Policy - Academic Scholarship Policy

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Scholarship can take on many forms - 6113ad_2887992fd3a440a4bca4cbcb6414de4f.pdf

Capturing Scholarship at AGE 2024 - https://www.guildmusic.edu.au/_files/ugd/87330e_c236de23a09045c093784e013fd84197.pdf

Congratulations to **Greg** on his recent appointment (27.05.2025) as **Advisor to the Dean of the Faculty of Management Science** at Chiang Rai Rajabhat University (CRRU) Thailand.

The formal appointment was conferred by University Council Resolution (Meeting No.1/2568 - May 2025) and announced formally by the University president – **Dr Sornchai Mungthaisong**

The citation reads – *'To ensure the efficient and effective administration of the Faculty of Management Science at Chiang Rai Rajabhat University, we recognize the importance of engaging distinguished experts with extensive knowledge and experience in relevant fields. Your expertise and insights would be greatly valued in supporting the strategic direction and overall development of the Faculty.'*

Emeritus Professor **Greg** Whateley is currently a *Visiting Professor at CRRU* and recently delivered *(with Associate Professor Tom O'Connor and Emeritus Professor Jim Mienczakowski)* the course work components of the Doctor of Business Administration (DBA) in hybrid mode (2024/2025).

For more about CRRU see – [Chiang Rai Rajabhat University - CRRU: Chiang Rai Rajabhat University](#)

Congratulations to **Tom** on his recent blog (28.05.2025) – **The Quantum Wave Function and Data in Education: An Analogy** – *Musicum20.com*

The Quantum Wave Function and Data in Education: An Analogy

Tom O'Connor

May 2025

In quantum mechanics, the wave function is a mathematical description of the quantum state of a system. It encapsulates the probabilities of all possible outcomes—where a particle might be, how fast it might be moving, or which state it might be in. It is only when a measurement is made that the wave function "collapses" into a definite state. This curious behaviour has long fascinated physicists, but it also offers a powerful analogy for the use of data in educational institutions.

The full article can be viewed at - 6113ad_e7090e5697a744668bb0b5f90af0c88f.pdf

This is another good example of scholarship in the AGE context. For more about Scholarship at AGE see –

Scholarship at AGE - 87330e_b5d6caffc17c434495912c99ce3acd47.pdf

Academic Scholarship Policy - Academic Scholarship Policy
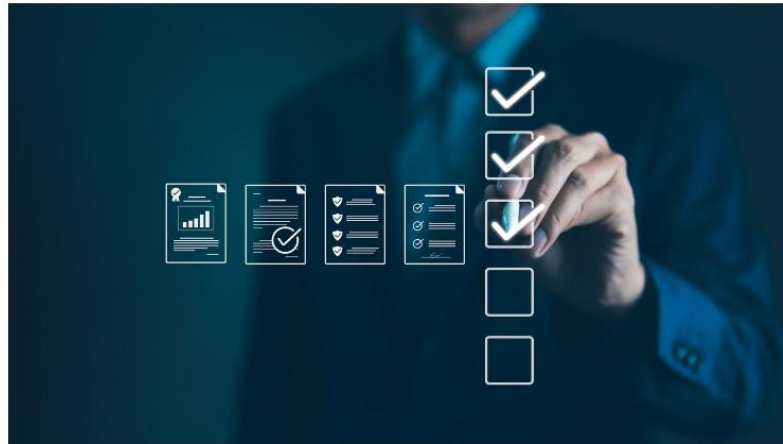
Academic Scholarship Procedure - Academic Scholarship Procedure (S2)

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Capturing Scholarship at AGE 2024 - https://www.guildmusic.edu.au/_files/ugd/87330e_c236de23a09045c093784e013fd84197.pdf

Congratulations to **AnneMarie** and **Greg** on their recent blog (29.05.2025) – **Ensuring academic integrity and compliance in the online proctoring environment –** *invigilator plus*

Ensuring academic integrity and compliance in the online proctoring environment

Academic Integrity in relation to invigilation – particularly online – has become a big deal – and quite rightly so. The relevant TEQSA Standard requires "Providers must ensure that reasonable steps are taken to detect and deter misconduct during online exams." In order to achieve the required level of integrity - invigilatorPlus has in place a number of key elements/strategies to ensure the standard is met.

The full article can be viewed at - Ensuring academic integrity and compliance in the online proctoring environment — invigilatorPlus Blog

AnneMarie Moran is the Chief Information Officer at Campus Q

Greg Whateley is the Chair, Campus Q Advisory Board

The most recent (May 2025) CQ News can be viewed at - Catch Up with CampusQ! - professorgregwhateley@gmail.com - Gmail

Academic Integrity remains a critical and high-profile issue in Higher Education at the moment. *Invigilation* (proctoring) therefore also remains high priority - especially in the online environment.

Also worth reading -

McLeod (2025) – Academic integrity – a conceptual framework - Academic integrity – a conceptual framework — invigilatorPlus Blog

Whateley (2025) – All a matter of integrity despite the mode of delivery - All a matter of integrity despite the mode of delivery — invigilatorPlus Blog

Bouzas (2025) – Increasing student satisfaction in online exams: best practices for proctoring providers - Increasing student satisfaction in online exams: best practices for proctoring providers — invigilatorPlus Blog

AGE has in place a benchmarked and robust policy on Academic Integrity (2024) - Academic Integrity and Misconduct Policy (S1)

Congratulations to **Jim** on his recent article (30.05.2025) – **Paranoia or possibility? AI and the media** – Musicum20.com

Paranoia or possibility? AI and the media

Jim Mienczakowski
May 2025

Historically, journalism varies in its levels of integrity depending on the audiences it seeks to reach and the purview of its authors and readers. Once upon a time there were even those who set about creating standards for journalists to adhere to. These standards were concerned with journalists & media outlets being seen as reliable providers of facts and truths. Today, Artificial Intelligence (AI) represents a possible weakening of journalism's claims of integrity rather than a strengthening of its veracity.

Currently, Generative AI applications may provide disclaimer warnings to users stating that their Generative AI created articles might contain 'inaccuracies'. Disclaimers are not always provided. This omission is particularly the case when AI created articles and contributions are published online and are attributed to non-AI authors or are not attributed to any source in particular. In such instances, the AI content is sometimes not mentioned, and readers are not warned of the inclusion of potential AI generated inaccuracies.

The full article can be viewed at - 6113ad_9e5b280a9f07456a82e046bc90a44ce4.pdf

This chapter will be included in Volume 3 of the AGE Publications Series – *Artificial Intelligence (AI) Vs Actual Intelligence (AcI) as Chapter 10 due for publication in July/August 2025.*

Emeritus Professor Jim Mienczakowski is a member of the AGE Board of Directors with a commitment to assisting AGE with developing the all-important scholarship profile. The notion of developing a 'culture of scholarship' needs to come from the top down.

This is another great example of scholarship in the AGE context. For more about Scholarship at AGE see –

Scholarship at AGE - 87330e_b5d6caffc17c434495912c99ce3acd47.pdf

Academic Scholarship Policy - Academic Scholarship Policy

Academic Scholarship Procedure - Academic Scholarship Procedure (S2)

Scholarship can take on many forms - 6113ad_2887992fd3a440a4bca4cbcb6414de4f.pdf

Capturing Scholarship at AGE 2024 -
https://www.guildmusic.edu.au/_files/ugd/87330e_c236de23a09045c093784e013fd84197.pdf

Congratulations to **Clive** on his recent article (30.05.2025) – **The potential creation of Skynet and The Terminator – A Sci-Fi nightmare or a future possibility?** - *Musicum20.com*

The potential creation of Skynet and The Terminator – A Sci-Fi nightmare or a future possibility?

Clive Smallman
May 2025

James Cameron's *Terminator* franchise introduced audiences to one of the most iconic AI villains in cinematic history: Skynet, the self-aware, autonomous military defence system that becomes hell-bent on exterminating humanity. The concept of Skynet—a powerful, sentient AI capable of making independent decisions to wage war—has haunted science fiction fans for decades. But could this dystopian future ever become a reality? Or is Skynet's rise just a cautionary tale, like HAL 9000 from *2001: A Space Odyssey*, meant to warn us about the dangers of unchecked AI development?

The full article can be viewed at - 6113ad_2c367796920d45ee807ff11ef2f6f585.pdf

This paper will be included in Volume 3 of the AGE Publications Series as Chapter 11 – *Artificial Intelligence (AI) Vs Actual Intelligence (AcI) due for publication in July/August 2025.*

Emeritus Professor Clive Smallman is Director, Postgraduate Studies at *AGE* leading our current accreditation/reaccreditation efforts.

This is another great example of scholarship in the AGE context. For more about Scholarship at AGE see –

Scholarship at AGE - 87330e_b5d6caffc17c434495912c99ce3acd47.pdf

Academic Scholarship Policy - Academic Scholarship Policy

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Capturing Scholarship at AGE 2024 - https://www.guildmusic.edu.au/_files/ugd/87330e_c236de23a09045c093784e013fd84197.pdf

Let the benchmarking begin

On behalf of AGE, Emeritus Professor **Greg** Whateley recently signed a memorandum of agreement with two other HEPs to engage in benchmarking over the next three years.

The *Australian Guild of Education* (AGE), the Australian *Academy of Music and Performing Arts* (AMPA) and *Kingsford Institute of Higher Education* (KIHE) have agreed to meet on a regular basis and share data

The first meeting took place <u>on Friday, May 30</u> in *Sydney* – F2F mode – at AMPA in Chalmers Street, Surry Hills. The focus was on the *Terms of Reference*.

From left – Professor Ian Bofinger, Emeritus Professor Greg Whateley and Emeritus Professor Clive Smallman

For more about AMPA see – AMPA - Academy of Music and Performing Arts - AMPA | Academy of Music and Performing Arts

For more about KIHE see - https://www.kihe.nsw.edu.au/

Congratulations to **Greg** on his recent presentation (30.05.2025) at the formal opening of KIHE in Sydney –

The formal event took place at the *New South Wales Parliament House in the Sydney CBD* and was attended by some 200 people – all celebrating the launch of a new program.
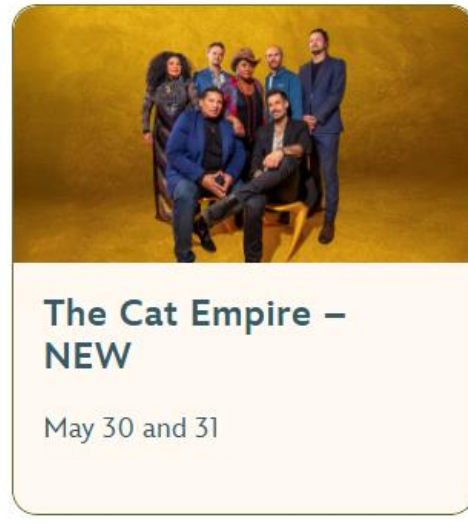
For more about KIHE see - https://www.kihe.nsw.edu.au/

A gentle reminder that next **Monday (June 9)** is a national public holiday celebrating the **King's Birthday**.

The campus at North Melbourne will be closed for the day.

Congratulations to **Jordan** who is currently on tour in the US as part of the *Cat Empire Tour*. The tour recently finished a successful two-night gig at the *EPCOT Centre at Disney World in Orlando, Florida*

The Cat Empire – NEW

May 30 and 31

https://disneyworld.disney.go.com/entertainment/epcot/flower-garden-rocks-concert-series/#tab-panel-block2-2

As well as performing with the band – Jordan has also been making friends and acquaintances with some of the locals –

Congratulations to **Greg** on his recent blog (02.06.2025) – **Self-assurance supported by benchmarking** – *Musicum20.com*

Self-assurance supported by benchmarking

Greg Whateley

June 2025

Self-assurance is a vital part of being a Higher Education Provider in the current environment. The commitment is endorsed by the National Regulator and regarded as best practice. This requires providers to be informed and convinced that what they are doing is consistent with both the Higher Education Standards Framework (Threshold Standards) and the National Code – and if feasible - what is happening internationally.

The full article can be viewed at - 6113ad_56e7852445e94e87b9bcf5fdb133cafd.pdf

This is another good example of scholarship in the AGE context. For more about Scholarship at AGE see –

Scholarship at AGE - 87330e_b5d6caffc17c434495912c99ce3acd47.pdf
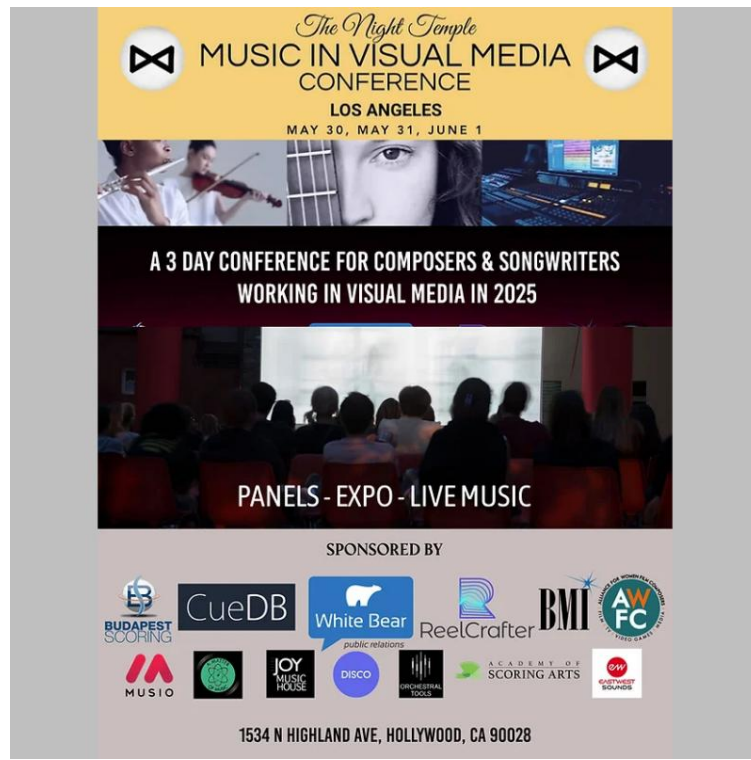
Academic Scholarship Policy - Academic Scholarship Policy

Academic Scholarship Procedure - Academic Scholarship Procedure (S2)

Scholarship can take on many forms - 6113ad_2887992fd3a440a4bca4cbcb6414de4f.pdf
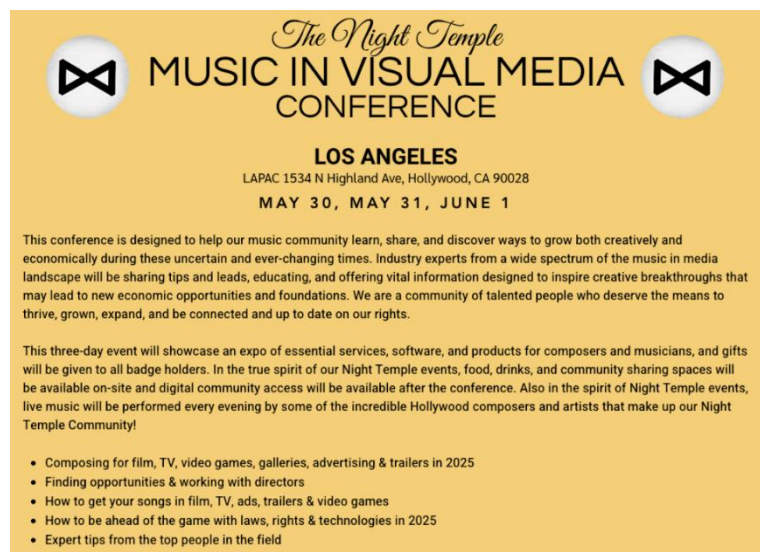
Capturing Scholarship at AGE 2024 - https://www.guildmusic.edu.au/_files/ugd/87330e_c236de23a09045c093784e013fd84197.pdf

Congratulations to **Christopher** on his attendance (*Saturday May 31 and Sunday June 1)* at the **2025 Music in Visual Media Conference.**

The conference was an important snapshot of the current climate and Film Industry in Hollywood. It was run by the *Night Temple* and featured many up-and-coming Film and Media composers.

Operating out of Los Angeles (USA) attendance was facilitated by online access.

This is another good example of scholarship in the AGE context. For more about Scholarship at AGE see –

Scholarship at AGE - 87330e_b5d6caffc17c434495912c99ce3acd47.pdf

Academic Scholarship Policy - Academic Scholarship Policy

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Scholarship can take on many forms - 6113ad_2887992fd3a440a4bca4cbcb6414de4f.pdf

Capturing Scholarship at AGE 2024 - https://www.guildmusic.edu.au/_files/ugd/87330e_c236de23a09045c093784e013fd84197.pdf

Congratulations to **Christopher** on his recent article (03.06.2025) – **Made in Australia – Community, Tradition, and Artificial Intelligence** - *Musicum20.com*

Made In Australia – Community, Tradition, and Artificial Intelligence

Christopher McLeod

June 2025

The notion that composers paint with sound explores one aspect of a larger contextual lens in the creation of new art. Gauging what is considered successful art in and of itself is a much larger topic than the scope of this reflection on new Australian compositional works. Music transcends sound. Physics, Mathematics, Language, and Art intersect in the musical world.

The advanced notion of music and music as both performative and compositional art require a deeper understanding of frequencies, time, and interpretation. To play as purely algorithmic robot is to remove the humanity from the art and interpretation of the work. It is the human interpretation of the work that takes composition from the realms of the theoretical to the concrete.

Australian Classical composers have won many hard-fought victories in the pursuit of a truly national style. They are often pushed aside for big name European composers in the world of Classical music. It is hard to consider the implications of dethroning Mozart or Beethoven for Sculthorpe or Cheetham. Both traditions have their historical, cultural, and social significance.

The full article can be viewed at - 6113ad_8e5b443be56a492d92d6c30ba62cd21f.pdf

This paper will be included in Volume 3 of the AGE Publications Series as Chapter 13 – *Artificial Intelligence (AI) Vs Actual Intelligence (AcI) due for publication in July/August 2025.*

This is another good example of scholarship in the AGE context. For more about Scholarship at AGE see –

Scholarship at AGE - 87330e_b5d6caffc17c434495912c99ce3acd47.pdf

Academic Scholarship Policy - Academic Scholarship Policy

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Capturing Scholarship at AGE 2024 - https://www.guildmusic.edu.au/_files/ugd/87330e_c236de23a09045c093784e013fd84197.pdf

Congratulations to **Greg** on his graduation address at the *2025 Polytechnic Institute Australia (PIA)* event <u>on Wednesday, June 4 at the Park Hyatt (Parliament Square).</u>

Greg shared stories about being an international student, working in four States and eleven countries and the need to *'work hard and be kind'.*

The event was chaired by **Dr David Morgan** from PIA - who is also an independent member of the AGE Academic Board

Congratulations to **Tom** on his recent article (04.06.2025) – **A colourful mind: consciousness, human intelligence and AI** - *Musicum20.com*

A Colourful Mind: Consciousness, Human Intelligence, and AI

Tom O'Connor

June 2025

There's a moment in the film The Wizard of Oz when Dorothy opens the door to Munchkin land and the black-and-white world of Kansas blooms into technicolour. That single moment captures how consciousness feels: the shift from grayscale input to vivid, lived experience. Artificial intelligence, for all its silicon strength, remains trapped in Kansas. It might calculate faster, retrieve facts more reliably, and even imitate emotion with charming flair—but it cannot, as of yet, cross the threshold into colour. It cannot become conscious.

Artificial Intelligence (AI), in all its binary brilliance, stands on the edge of that rainbow. It can simulate human intelligence in specific tasks—translating languages, detecting patterns, composing symphonies of syntax—but it still lacks the inner experience, the self-awareness, the qualia that make human cognition a lived thing rather than a computational process. What's missing? That technicolour leap. The leap that Integrated Information Theory, Global Workspace Theory, and embodied cognition all gesture toward but cannot yet bridge with circuits and code.

Let's unpack this kaleidoscope.

The full article can be viewed at - 6113ad_87cf27c94e87413dbe4283e77fe8de0a.pdf

This paper will be included in Volume 3 of the AGE Publications Series as Chapter 14 – *Artificial Intelligence (AI) Vs Actual Intelligence (AcI) due for publication in July/August 2025.*

This is another good example of scholarship in the AGE context. For more about Scholarship at AGE see –

Scholarship at AGE - 87330e_b5d6caffc17c434495912c99ce3acd47.pdf

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Capturing Scholarship at AGE 2024 - https://www.guildmusic.edu.au/_files/ugd/87330e_c236de23a09045c093784e013fd84197.pdf

Pedagogy Thinking

Christopher visited **St Monica's Epping** (05.06.2025). This visit forms part of AGE's initiative to build ties in support of our pedagogy initiative as part of the Bachelor of Music.

Pedagogy approaches are a key to strong foundations in Music Education.

Over the next six months our intention is to outreach to a number of primary/secondary schools – teaching music – with the hope of utilising their programs as exemplars and at the same time attract music educators to contribute to our teaching program – especially in the *pedagogy* stream.

The focus of the degree moving forward being –

- Musicianship
- Professional Skills
- Musicology
- **Pedagogy**

More to come.

English Language Support Sessions

AGE will offer some additional *student support* to students who would like to improve their English Language skills.

The sessions will be provided in Week #13 (non-teaching period) over two days – <u>Tuesday (June 10)10am-12 midday</u> AND <u>Thursday (June 12) 2pm-4pm</u> at the *AGE North Melbourne Campus, Level 1.*

We are fortunate to have **Assistant Professor Marcella O'Connor** providing the classes. Marcella is an expert in TESOL with significant and current experience teaching in both Australia and China.

Students have been invited to attend these voluntary sessions.

Congratulations to **Jim** on his recent blog (06.06.2025) **I'm not a wowser but, honestly – how's our integrity doing?** — *Musicum20.com*

I'm not a wowser but, honestly – how's our integrity doing?

(A grumpy blog)

Jim Mienczakowski

June 2025

Where integrity is concerned, there are many failed projects throughout the history of global politics. They include governments which claim to be for the good of the people when in fact, they serve only the interests of an elite. Those in which election promises of equality and shared prosperity turn into rule by oppression and terror. Even those in which despotic, populist leaders resort to fear mongering and the persecution of various ethnic or religious minorities. The list of failed and usurped political goals is endless. There are plenty of governments and leaders around the globe who are also currently failing the integrity test in today's complex political environment.

Ultimately, it's hard to think of any form of government that works without potential dysfunction or corruption. And where integrity is not seen as an integral and insoluble requirement of both the individuals involved and the organisation - then failure becomes more likely.

The full article can be viewed at - 6113ad_0a11f7421b0746e8bc6cbea7a9574ce2.pdf

Emeritus Professor Jim Mienczakowski *is a member of the AGE Board of Directors with a commitment to assisting AGE with developing the all-important scholarship profile. The notion of developing a 'culture of scholarship' needs to come from the top down.*

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Capturing Scholarship at AGE 2024 -
https://www.guildmusic.edu.au/_files/ugd/87330e_c236de23a09045c093784e013fd84197.pdf

Farewell and thank you to Beth

Today (*Friday June 6*) is **Professor Elizabeth Woollacott's** last day with AGE.

Beth has led AGE through the critical transition from AGME with enthusiasm and commitment - and we are most grateful to her for her efforts.

Beth led the *Online Bachelor of Music* maintaining a very high level of student satisfaction (4.54/5) - as evidenced in the most recent 2024/2025 Summer School SFUs –

Survey Questions		SP1 2025
Q1	The subject provided useful knowledge and skills	4.67
Q2	The learning outcomes were achievable	4.33
Q3	The subject workload was manageable	4.00
Q4	The subject helped to develop relevant professional skills such as problem solving and critical	4.33
Q5	The lecturer was well prepared for each class	4.50
Q6	The lecturer provided useful feedback	5.00
Q7	The lecturer had a good knowledge of the subject matter	5.00
Q8	The lecturer used e-learning resources eg smartboard moodle in a way that aided learning in the	4.33
Q9	The lecturer was available to discuss learning problems outside of class time	4.83
Q10	The assessment requirements were clearly explained	4.33
Q11	Overall the teaching in the subject was of a high quality	4.67
	AVERAGE	4.54
	Responses	0.60

I want to take this opportunity to thank Beth for her support for me personally as I transitioned into the CEO/ED role – and on behalf of all at AGE (Staff, students, stakeholders) I would like to wish her all the very best for her future endeavours.

New Orleans one day – Texas the next

Congratulations to **Jordan** on his current international tour with *The Cat Empire*.

New Orleans one day – playing at the famous Tipitina's - https://64parishes.org/entry/tipitinas?gad_source=1&gad_campaignid=19552185350&gbraid =0AAAAApCZt2OVcEWruyrjpXMCUZWmNLllQ&gclid=CjwKCAjwo4rCBhAbEiwAxhJlCftS_q ESdUosAGfBvMm71GPL_tqQmkQ1WOm7sKwP9MS1UgNdITUMcRoCxwEQAvD_BwE

He writes 'now sweltering in **Austin, Texas'**

The **AGE Academic Board** will meet on Wednesday, June 11 and will be Chaired by **Dr Tim Weir**

The **agenda** is comprehensive –

- Learning and Teaching Committee Updates
- Establishment of two Course Advisory Committees
- Academic Governance Overview
- Threshold Standards Update
- Scholarship Update
- Academic Risk Update
- Work Plan – Strategic Intent Update
- Benchmarking Update
- Social Work Submission Update
- Early Childhood Education Submission Update
- Increase in CRICOS allocation update
- Re-registration Update
- Bachelor of Music re-accreditation – Proposal and CAC formation
- Master of Business Administration – Proposal and CAC formation
- Additional AB membership proposal

Membership of AGE Academic Board currently includes – Dr **Tim** Weir (External), Dr **Laura** Hougaz (Independent), Dr **David** Morgan (independent), Emeritus Professor **Greg** Whateley (ex-officio) and Associate Professor **Tom** O'Connor (ex-officio).

For further details see - Leadership | Guild Music Copy

Relevant **documentation/reading** can be viewed at –

Academic Governance at AGE - 87330e_5066cb7888e2464286f90ec9b1e54889.pdf

Governance Charter - 87330e_6e698575ff2c4877b4e177737123fbb6.pdf

Threshold Standards Audit - 87330e_7d589435f8f148209d7cf216bda4eec8.pdf

Scholarship at AGE - 87330e_b5d6caffc17c434495912c99ce3acd47.pdf

A Strategic Intent 2025-2028 (Work Plan) - 87330e_4edc9c9a6efa429ea75b56ebb85271b6.pdf

Benchmarking - 6113ad_873bfe6d90964d3ea98375ed3d1490c8.pdf

The next meeting of the **AGE Executive Management Team** (EMC) is scheduled for <u>Tuesday, June 17 at 10am</u> – on the *North Melbourne Campus*.

The proposed **agenda** includes –

- Update on online students

- Scheduling of classes for S2, 2025

- Scholarship update

- Alarm system management on campus

- S1, 2025 Student and Staff surveys

- Results for S1, 2025

- Update on recent TEQSA REQs

- Other Business

The meeting will be chaired by **Emeritus Professor Greg Whateley** ably supported by **Associate Professor Christopher McLeod**

Congratulations to **Christopher** on his recent blog (11.06.2025) – **Artificial Intelligence and the hallucination of infallibility** - *Musicum20.com*

Artificial Intelligence and the hallucination of infallibility

Christopher McLeod

June 2025

The assertion that Artificial Intelligence is infallible is misguided. It can only be as accurate as the coding used to program the models. There is no sentient AI currently on the market. Developmentally that may be far off into the future. That is a prediction for another time and place. The idea of Bladerunner 2049, Her, or Westworld may be purely science fiction. Isaac Asimov predicted sentient robots as far back as the 1940s. That prediction is yet to be realised.

The full article can be viewed at - 6113ad_e6189165d6bc45c2addbc7e84d47da61.pdf

This is another good example of scholarship in the AGE context. For more about Scholarship at AGE see –

Scholarship at AGE - 87330e_b5d6caffc17c434495912c99ce3acd47.pdf

Academic Scholarship Policy - Academic Scholarship Policy

Academic Scholarship Procedure - Academic Scholarship Procedure (S2)

Scholarship can take on many forms - 6113ad_2887992fd3a440a4bca4cbcb6414de4f.pdf

Capturing Scholarship at AGE 2024 - https://www.guildmusic.edu.au/_files/ugd/87330e_c236de23a09045c093784e013fd84197.pdf

English Language Support Sessions during Week 13

Thank you to **Marcella** for her *English Language Skills Program* delivered during Week #13.

The sessions ran over two days – Tuesday (June 10) 10am-12 midday AND Thursday (June 12) 2pm-4pm at the *AGE North Melbourne Campus, Level 1.*

We have been fortunate to have **Assistant Professor Marcella O'Connor** providing the classes. Marcella is an expert in TESOL with significant and current experience teaching in both Australia and China.

VCE in China Conference 2025

Congratulations to **Tom** who has been formally invited **Moderator and Keynote Speaker** at the *thirteenth* annual VCE in China Conference.

What began as a small meeting of teachers from Victoria and China in *Lianyungang* has grown into one of the premier educational forums for Chinese and Australian educational exchanges.

Occurring in a different city each year, it attracts over a thousand educationalists from across Australia and China. Its increasing importance can be seen in the stature of the guests who attend.

James Merlino - as Education Minister - has attended and given a keynote speech.

Senior education department officials from Victoria - including the **Deputy Secretary of Education** and other department personnel have taken active – and continue to do so - roles as well as representatives from Universities across Australia.

Along with this, officials from the highest levels of education authorities in China have also been present in increasing numbers – and will continue to attend and contribute.

All of this speaks to the importance of these forums as a bridge between the two countries and the importance of China as a significant market for international students.

This year's conference will be held in Kunming and will include video presentations from **Anthony Albanese, Prime Minister of Australia** and **Jacinta Allen, Premier of Victoria.**

This is all testament to the phrase put into song by the indigenous performer,

Archie Roach that "from little things big things grow.

Associate Professor Tom O'Connor is Academic Director at the *Australian Guild of Education* (AGE) and will represent us accordingly.

Congratulations to **Christopher** on his recent blog (12.06.2025) – **Artificial Intelligence and the hallucination of infallibility** – Part 2 - *Musicum20.com*

Artificial Intelligence and the hallucination of infallibility – Part 2

Christopher McLeod

June 2025

Tech futurists such as Ray Kurzweil envision a future of singularity where humans will have merged their creative consciousness with the machines. But that vision may be deeply flawed. Increasingly there is evidence that AI is floored regardless of its proponents' assertions that it is the perfect fit for the future workforce (White, May 16, 2025). The assumption that tech futurists are right ignores the human factor to the equation. There is a complexity to neurolinguistic pathways that dwarfs the current capabilities of AI.

The full article can be viewed at - 6113ad_7c88949ffd62491abeba380cb78aada0.pdf

This is another good example of scholarship in the AGE context. For more about Scholarship at AGE see –

Scholarship at AGE - 87330e_b5d6caffc17c434495912c99ce3acd47.pdf

Academic Scholarship Policy - Academic Scholarship Policy

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Scholarship can take on many forms - 6113ad_2887992fd3a440a4bca4cbcb6414de4f.pdf

Capturing Scholarship at AGE 2024 - https://www.guildmusic.edu.au/_files/ugd/87330e_c236de23a09045c093784e013fd84197.pdf
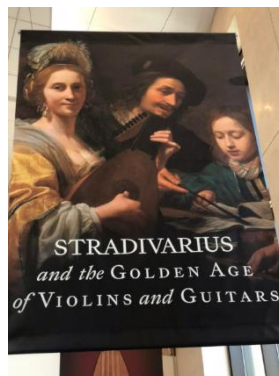
Postcard from Jordan – our man on tour

'Just a stone's throw away (less than 800 meters) from the unfolding chaos in **Downtown Los Angeles** - we are still forging ahead with our show at the **Teragram Ball Room** after a sold out show last night at the **Belly-Up Club** in *Solana Beach, San Diego*.

A muso taking to the streets in downtown LA

Some other images from our shows in **Nashville, New Orleans** and in **Phoenix** where we played at the Music Instrument Museum which had an incredible display of *Stradivarius violins.*

Off to San Francisco tomorrow on our way north to Vancouver, British Columbia.

Congratulations to **Greg** on his recent blog (13.06.2025) – **The yellow line and the giraffe – revisited** - *Musicum20.com*

The yellow line and the giraffe: revisited

Greg Whateley

June 2025

Sometimes it is useful to create a metaphor to remind us of the importance of things and ensure the meaning is as clear as possible. Compliance is an essential element of good governance in all sectors – and especially the higher education sector.

Therefore, the use of a metaphor is an excellent opportunity to reinforce the importance of remaining inside the rules and not overreaching.

Some of the most important (and possibly powerful) lessons learnt - over a long period of time - suggest that the notion of a metaphor is a highly useful concept when it comes to behaviour and operation. Some, more amusing than others, help us understand the importance of caution and appropriate behaviour.

The full article can be viewed at - 6113ad_7ceeeffeef164cdbae32e84a11b16cd5.pdf

This is another good example of scholarship in the AGE context. For more about Scholarship at AGE see –

Scholarship at AGE - 87330e_b5d6caffc17c434495912c99ce3acd47.pdf

Academic Scholarship Policy - Academic Scholarship Policy

Academic Scholarship Procedure - Academic Scholarship Procedure (S2)

Scholarship can take on many forms - 6113ad_2887992fd3a440a4bca4cbcb6414de4f.pdf

Capturing Scholarship at AGE 2024 - https://www.guildmusic.edu.au/_files/ugd/87330e_c236de23a09045c093784e013fd84197.pdf

Congratulations to **Christopher** on his recent blog (13.06.2025) – **Artificial Intelligence and the hallucination of infallibility – Part 3** - *Musicum20.com*

Artificial Intelligence and the hallucination of infallibility – Part 3

Christopher McLeod

June 2025

Pattern recognition forms the core of Generative AI. There is a likeness akin to human beings. However, AI is programmed systematically to not always adapt to if, but, when paradigms. All specialisation fields include the if, but, when paradigm to some degree. Humanity has a distinct advantage in this way. Actual intelligence and experience draw into play complex critical thinking and problem-solving skills.

The full article can be viewed at - 6113ad_9662693073d84362aa43df0c0130cffb.pdf

This is another good example of scholarship in the AGE context. For more about Scholarship at AGE see –

Scholarship at AGE - 87330e_b5d6caffc17c434495912c99ce3acd47.pdf
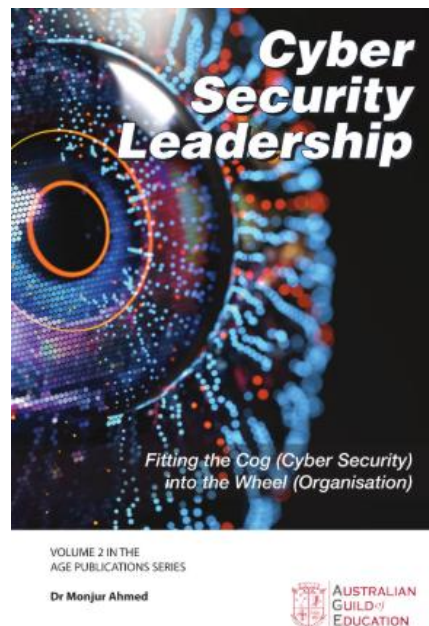
Academic Scholarship Policy - Academic Scholarship Policy

Academic Scholarship Procedure - Academic Scholarship Procedure (S2)

Scholarship can take on many forms - 6113ad_2887992fd3a440a4bca4cbcb6414de4f.pdf

Capturing Scholarship at AGE 2024 - https://www.guildmusic.edu.au/_files/ugd/87330e_c236de23a09045c093784e013fd84197.pdf

Congratulations to **Monjur** on his recent publication – **Cyber Security Leadership** – Volume 2 in the *AGE Publications Series* –

The hard copy will be available shortly – with a soft copy being made available (free of charge) – details to follow.

Dr Monjur Ahmed is currently Dean, Australasian Academy of Higher Education (Melbourne)

Dr Monjur Ahmed is a Cyber Security strategist and leader with extensive experience spanning academia and industry. With a proven track record in senior leadership roles in both Academia and Industry, he specializes in guiding organisations through the complexities of Cyber risk management, strategic security planning, and enterprise-wide cyber resilience.
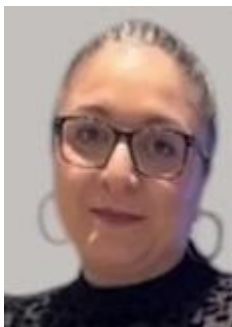
Dr Monjur earned his PhD in Cyber Security from Auckland University of Technology, New Zealand. He complements his academic credentials with a suite of industry certifications in Cyber Security leadership, Enterprise Architecture and Project Management. His expertise encompasses a broad spectrum of Cyber Security domains, including Cyber Security Programme development, Cyber Maturity Analysis, Cyber Threat Intelligence (CTI), Incident Response, Governance Risk & Compliance (GRC).

In addition to this publication – Monjur has also made a contribution to the third book in the AGE Publication Series – The limitation of Actual Intelligence through Artificial Intelligence - 6113ad_514d43d8f5de42a6be9bde30da2f40bf.pdf

The next meeting of the AGE **Finance Committee** (a standing committee of the AGE Board of Directors) is scheduled for Wednesday June 18, 2025 - at 15.00.

The key items on the agenda include –

- Actions arising from the previous Board of Directors meeting considering the management accounts
- Budget 2025/2026
- Audited Financials
- Appointment of a financial auditor
- Review of finance committee meeting plan
- Shareholder financial commitment

The meeting will be chaired by **Alessia Calabrese** (independent BoD member)

Other Finance Committee **members** include –

Ting Ting Li – independent
Gulsher Singh – COO
Emeritus Professor Greg Whateley – CEO and CS

Let the alarms sound

Each evening – moving forward from <u>Tuesday, June 17</u> – the alarms will be set on the AGE North Melbourne Campus

Staff conducted a short training session today in preparation.

Happy birthday to Rohit

Rohit Dhiman celebrated his birthday yesterday (June 16) and was greeted this morning (June 17) *on campus at North Melbourne* with a birthday greeting from the AGE team.

Rohit Dhiman

From left - Associate Professor Christoher McLeod, Rohit Dhiman, Associate Professor Tom O'Connor and Mahnoosh Yavari

Rohit is a highly valued member of the team - and it is always a pleasure to have him on campus.

Congratulations to **Tom** and **Greg** on their recent publication – **Learning and Teaching Plan 2025 to 2028** (*June 2025*) –

The full paper is readily accessible at - 8776b7_d1f9a16d64da4c15b82c0c239a8c43c9.pdf

'Self-assurance' is the buzz term in the Sector at present – and is a sensible approach to monitoring continuous improvement (a previous buzz phrase). AGE has been active in this space for some time – conducting a series of *audits* and *refreshing documentation* on a regular basis.

For numerous examples see - Reports | Guild Music Copy

AGE maintains a highly transparent approach to self-assurance providing the evidence of activity on the public website – About Us/Reports

Congratulations to **Art** (*101 Music*) on his recent acknowledgment from the 46th Annual Telly Awards for his production music being used on SKY NZ -

For more about the Telly Awards see - Home - Telly Awards

Art is currently a member of the *AGE Course Advisory Committee* for the re-accreditation of the Bachelor of Music.

For more about **Associate Professor Art Phillips** see - BIO – ART PHILLIPS | 101 Music PTY LTD

For more about **101Music** see - What We Do | 101 Music PTY LTD

Master of Business Administration (MBA) Course Advisory Committee

The first meeting of the *Master of Business Administration* **Course Advisory Committee** is scheduled for Friday June 20 - 2025 at 16.00.

The agenda will cover some preliminaries including –

- MBA Course Proposal

- The CET for the award

- Proposed course structure

- Sample unit outlines

- Constructive alignment

- Course learning outcomes

The *CAC* is a formally endorsed standing committee (May 15, 2025) of the AGE Academic Board and plays a critical role in the development of the proposed postgraduate award.

Membership of the CAC includes –

- Executive Dean (*ex officio* Chair) – Emeritus Professor **Greg Whateley**.

- Director of Postgraduate Studies (Advisor and CAC minute taker) – Emeritus Professor **Clive Smallman**.

- An external business academic – Professor **Craig Ellis**, Dean, ASTRA Institute of Higher Education.

- An external business practitioner – Dr **John McSwiney**.

Associate Professor **Tom O'Connor** – AGE Academic Director – will also attend the CAC meetings as an advisor

The intention is to lodge the proposal with the Regulator by end of August 2025.

Congratulations to **Tom** on his recent blog (18.06.2025) – **Acronymity** - *Musicum20.com*

Acronymity

Tom O'Connor

June 2025

Acronyms are the fast food of language: quick, convenient, and often leaving you wondering what you just consumed. In the business world, they're as ubiquitous as coffee runs and awkward elevator pitches. Last Saturday's business section of The Age was a veritable buffet of these linguistic nuggets.

The full article can be viewed at - 6113ad_290baaf82b3c4650be5e155adf81a683.pdf

This is another good example of scholarship in the AGE context. For more about Scholarship at AGE see –

Scholarship at AGE - 87330e_b5d6caffc17c434495912c99ce3acd47.pdf

Academic Scholarship Policy - Academic Scholarship Policy

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Scholarship can take on many forms - 6113ad_2887992fd3a440a4bca4cbcb6414de4f.pdf

Capturing Scholarship at AGE 2024 - https://www.guildmusic.edu.au/_files/ugd/87330e_c236de23a09045c093784e013fd84197.pdf

Congratulations to **Greg** on his recent blog (18.06.2025) – **Self-assurance is the name of the game** - *Musicum20.com*

Self-Assurance is the name of the game

Greg Whateley

June 2025

There is little doubt in my mind that self-assurance is a vital aspect of any organization – higher education providers are no exception. Good self-assurance requires providers to develop ongoing internal audits and health checks that would be best designed to align with the Regulator's standards and guidance notes. There are a number of key foci to be considered – I provide a spotlight on five to illustrate the issue of self-assurance -

The full article can be viewed at - 6113ad_01ebe83fd03b40568654a89c9b4d714b.pdf

This is another good example of scholarship in the AGE context. For more about Scholarship at AGE see –

Scholarship at AGE - 87330e_b5d6caffc17c434495912c99ce3acd47.pdf

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Capturing Scholarship at AGE 2024 - https://www.guildmusic.edu.au/_files/ugd/87330e_c236de23a09045c093784e013fd84197.pdf

Congratulations to **Christopher** on his recent article (19.06.2025) – **Machine Tripping – artificial intelligence and the rebirth of actual intelligence** - *Musicum20.com*

Machine Tripping – Artificial Intelligence and the Rebirth of Actual Intelligence

Christopher McLeod

June 2025

The assertion that Artificial Intelligence is infallible is misguided. It can only be as accurate as the coding used to program the models. There is no sentient AI currently on the market. Developmentally that may be far off into the future. That is a prediction for another time and place. The idea of Bladerunner 2049, Her, or Westworld may be purely science fiction. Isaac Asimov predicted sentient robots as far back as the 1940s. That prediction is yet to be realised.

Tech futurists such as Ray Kurzweil envision a future of singularity where humans will have merged their creative consciousness with the machines. But that vision may be deeply flawed. Increasingly there is evidence that AI is floored regardless of its proponents' assertions that it is the perfect fit for the future workforce (White, May 16, 2025). The assumption that tech futurists are right ignores the human factor to the equation. There is a complexity to neurolinguistic pathways that dwarfs the current capabilities of AI.

Pattern recognition forms the core of Generative AI. There is a likeness akin to human beings. However, AI is programmed systematically to not always adapt to if, but, when paradigms. All specialisation fields include the if, but, when paradigm to some degree. Humanity has a distinct advantage in this way. Actual intelligence and experience draw into play complex critical thinking and problem-solving skills.

The full article can be viewed at - 6113ad_fef538bc89654479aa9499445546a119.pdf

This paper will be included in Volume 3 of the AGE Publications Series as Chapter 16 – *Artificial Intelligence (AI) Vs Actual Intelligence (AcI) due for publication in July/August 2025.*

This is another good example of scholarship in the AGE context. For more about Scholarship at AGE see –

Scholarship at AGE - 87330e_b5d6caffc17c434495912c99ce3acd47.pdf

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Scholarship can take on many forms - 6113ad_2887992fd3a440a4bca4cbcb6414de4f.pdf

Capturing Scholarship at AGE 2024 - https://www.guildmusic.edu.au/_files/ugd/87330e_c236de23a09045c093784e013fd84197.pdf

Congratulations to **John** on his recent article (19.06.2025) – **Artificial intelligence versus actual intelligence – impacts on emotional intelligence** - *Musicum20.com*

Artificial Intelligence vs. Actual Intelligence: Impacts on Emotional Intelligence

John McSwiney

June 2025

AI is becoming emotionally responsive, but it lacks true empathy, lived experience, and moral discernment, qualities central to human emotional intelligence (EQ).

Human EQ is at risk of erosion as we outsource emotional connection and interaction to machines, potentially diminishing empathy, social skills, and resilience.

Ethical concerns are growing, including the commodification of emotion and the illusion of AI as emotionally intelligent companions.

To thrive alongside AI, we must intentionally preserve and cultivate human-centric skills - empathy, self-awareness, and emotional regulation.

In an era increasingly defined by artificial intelligence (AI), the distinction between machine intelligence and human cognition is no longer merely academic, it shapes our personal lives, relationships, and societies. As AI systems become more sophisticated, simulating human behaviours and even emotional responses, a pressing question arises: What becomes of human emotional intelligence (EQ) in a world dominated by artificial counterparts?

This essay explores the nuanced interplay between artificial intelligence and actual human intelligence, focusing on the implications for emotional intelligence. While AI can replicate many cognitive processes and simulate emotional responses, it lacks the depth, empathy, and moral discernment inherent in human intelligence. As AI becomes more embedded in human systems, its greatest impact may not be on tasks but on the cultivation, expression, and potential erosion of human emotional intelligence.

The full article can be viewed at - 6113ad_057767ec36a84ca391dae53eb45c57c8.pdf

This paper will be included in Volume 3 of the AGE Publications Series as Chapter 15 – *Artificial Intelligence (AI) Vs Actual Intelligence (AcI) due for publication in July/August 2025.*

Dr John McSwiney is Managing Director – Time to Transform, an Associate Professor at GCA and PIA and a member of the **AGE Master of Business Administration Course Advisory Committee.** He is also author of the *'The Journey of 100 Hidden Hearts'* and *'Heart Unbound'*.

Congratulations to **Tom** on his involvement as **moderator** and **keynote speaker** at the upcoming international conference in Kunming, China in July 2025.

The key sponsors of the conference include –

Sponsor of the Year
年度赞助商

MONASH University

Titanium Sponsor 钛金赞助商

Adelaide University

Sponsor of Innovation 创新赞助商

RMIT UNIVERSITY

Platinum Sponsor 白金赞助商

DEAKIN UNIVERSITY

Gold Sponsor 黄金赞助商

THE UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND AUSTRALIA

THE UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY

Silver Sponsor 白银赞助商

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TEXAS INSTRUMENTS

The conference management team (based in Melbourne) are currently in Canberra filming *Prime Minister* **Anthony Albanese** – who will open the proceedings online

Next week *Victorian Premier* **Jacinta Allan** will be filmed as co-opener of the event.

It is anticipated that some 1,000 participants will be in attendance over the three-day period which includes a range of presentations and workshops – all with a focus on the VCE in China.

Keynote addresses on Day#1 – moderated by Dr Tom O'Connor include –

Digitalisation and Internationalisation of Education under the Guidance of China's Plan for Building a Leading Country in Education (2024–2035): A Global Perspective on Quality Education and Diverse Talent Development - Dr Yinfu Yang, Secretary-General, the *Chinese Society of Education*.

Strategic Leadership in the Age of AI - Professor Allie Clemans, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Education) and Senior Vice-President, *Monash University*

A Debate on Artificial Intelligence in Education: Concerns, Challenges and Opportunities - Professor Xue Wang, Department of Educational Technology, *Tianjin Normal University*; Professor Yanyan Li, Deputy Dean, Smart Learning Institute of *Beijing Normal University*; Dr Yaodong Yang, Assistant Professor, the Institute for Artificial Intelligence, *Peking University*; Dr Mingyu Guo, Associate Head International of the School of Computer and Mathematical Sciences, *University of Adelaide*.

Beyond Knowledge - The Future Value of Education - Professor Sherman Young, Deputy Vice-Chancellor Education and Vice-President, *RMIT University*

Australia's Cap on International Students in a Global Context - Why VCE Graduates Remain a Priority - Rongyu Li, Deputy Vice-Chancellor and Vice-President (Global Engagement), the *University of Queensland*.

VCE in China Stakeholder Forum – Experience Sharing from a Student, Parent, School Leader and Local Government Official

Tom will be representing **AGE** – looking for TNE and partnering opportunities.

A special thank you is extended to **Rachael McLeod** for her contribution to the online *Bachelor of Music programme* throughout S1, 2025. Her efforts are greatly appreciated.

A small gathering was organised at North Melbourne (19.06.2025) to say thank you –

From left - Associate Professor Christopher McLeod (Course Coordinator), Assistant Professor **Rachael McLeod** and Associate Professor Tom O'Connor

The online program is a wrap for 2025 – with the possibility of being revitalised for domestic students in 2026. *Watch this space.*

Another special thank you is extended to **Christian Quimelli** for his contribution to the online *Bachelor of Music programme* throughout S1, 2025.

His efforts are indeed greatly appreciated. Based in New Zealand - Christian worked as an online lecturer - supporting students from a distance.

The online program is a wrap for 2025 – with the possibility of being revitalised for domestic students in 2026. *Watch this space.*

The next meeting of the **AGE Board of Directors** is scheduled for <u>Friday, June 27 at 10am.</u>

The meeting will be chaired by Professor **John** Tarrant.

The **agenda** includes –

- Standing Committee Reports
- Membership changes
- CEO Report
- Budget 2025/2026
- Corporate Governance
- Risk Register
- Academic Board Update
- Action List

Membership of the AGE Board of Directors includes –
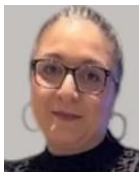
Professor **John** Tarrant (Chair)

Emeritus Professor **Jim** Mienczakowski

Tracy Harris

Alessia Calabrese

For detail on members see - <u>Leadership | Guild Music Copy</u>

Dr **Tim** Weir (Chair, AGE Academic Board) and Emeritus Professor **Greg** Whateley (Chief Executive Officer and Executive Dean) are invited guests.

Congratulations to **Shashi, Greg, Jim** and **Tom** on their recent version (*June 2025*) of the **AGE Risk Register –**

The full document can be viewed at - Risk Register – May 2025

As part of the ongoing commitment to *self-assurance* – the **Risk Register** is reviewed quarterly and changes are reported to the various governance elements including the *Quality and Risk Committee,* the AGE *Academic Board* and the AGE *Board of Directors*.

Staff Survey S1, 2025 outcomes

Congratulations to the team at AGE on an outstanding outcome from the staff survey S1, 2025 – **4.77** out of a possible five is excellent

	Survey Questions	SP1 2025	SP2 2025
Q1	You are provided with the tools and resources to do your job well	3.14	4.80
Q2	Your job requirements are clearly communicated and goals and strategies are clearly defined	3.43	4.80
Q3	You feel encouraged to come up with new and better ways of doing things	4.00	4.80
Q4	Your supervisor visibly demonstrates a commitment to quality	4.71	5.00
Q5	You are satisfied with the level of involvement in decisions that directly affect your work.	3.14	4.80
Q6	Aust Guild of Education does a good job of keeping employees informed about matters affecting your work.	3.71	4.40
Q7	Overall, you are satisfied with your job?	4.29	4.80
	Average	3.77	4.77

The return rate of **100%** was also most gratifying.

A special thank you to **Dr Andrew West** for independently setting up the survey and analysing the data.

Student Survey S1, 2025 outcomes

Congratulations to the teaching and support team at AGE on another excellent outcome from the *student* survey S1, 2025 – **4.38** out of a possible five.

	Survey Questions	SP1 2025	SP2 2025
Q1	The subject provided useful knowledge and skills	4.67	4.33
Q2	The learning outcomes were achievable	4.33	4.33
Q3	The subject workload was manageable	4.00	4.17
Q4	The subject helped to develop relevant professional skills such as problem solving and critical thinking	4.33	4.50
Q5	The lecturer was well prepared for each class	4.50	4.33
Q6	The lecturer provided useful feedback	5.00	4.33
Q7	The lecturer had a good knowledge of the subject matter	5.00	4.67
Q8	The lecturer used e-learning resources eg smartboard moodle in a way that aided learning in the subject	4.33	4.33
Q9	The lecturer was available to discuss learning problems outside of class time	4.83	4.50
Q10	The assessment requirements were clearly explained	4.33	4.33
Q11	Overall the teaching in the subject was of a high quality	4.67	4.33
	AVERAGE	4.54	4.38

The return rate of **75%** was also excellent – given the average is 40% or less across the Sector.

A special thank you to **Dr Andrew West** for independently setting up the survey and analysing the data.

Governance scheduling

An important part of both corporate and academic governance is the establishment of a **schedule (calendar)** of meetings for the year.

This was done in early 2025 –

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
BoD				16			2		17			3
FC			27			12		28			13	
AB		12	26		14	11		27			12	
QARC			20			5		21			6	
EMC	14	11	11	15	13	17	15	12	16	14	11	16
LTC			12		21			13		29		
BOE			4			24				21		
CAC	As required											
SRC				10				7				4

The schedule has been published numerous times – and is used as the navigation tool moving forward.

The *context* is to ensure enough time between meetings to ensure appropriate documentation and reflection. *From time to time there may be a need to conduct special meetings to accommodate various deadlines and Regulator requirements.*

Congratulations to **Tom** on his recent article (24.06.2025) – **The Quantum Wave Function and Data in Education: An Analogy** - *Musicum20.com*

The Quantum Wave Function and Data in Education: An Analogy

Tom O'Connor
June 2025

*In quantum mechanics, the **wave function** is a mathematical representation of the possible states in which a quantum system might exist. It doesn't tell us exactly where a particle is or what it's doing, but instead, it describes a cloud of probability—an array of potentialities. This wave function only collapses into a concrete outcome when a measurement is made, a moment that transforms ambiguity into certainty. This fascinating and counterintuitive behaviour has been at the heart of modern physics since the early 20th century.*

*Interestingly, this concept offers an evocative and useful analogy for understanding the role of **data in education**. Data, like the quantum wave function, contains the seeds of insight— possibilities waiting to be actualized. But just as in quantum mechanics, these possibilities can only be fully realized and interpreted when viewed in context, with care, and with an awareness of the limitations of the data itself. This essay explores how key ideas from quantum theory—**the wave function, measurement, superposition, uncertainty, and entanglement**—can illuminate the complex role of educational data in contemporary institutions.*

The full article can be viewed at - 6113ad_1b87b1f002754e2fb28cce14a8161470.pdf

This paper will be included in Volume 3 of the AGE Publications Series as Chapter 17 – *Artificial Intelligence (AI) Vs Actual Intelligence (AcI) due for publication in July/August 2025.*

This is another good example of scholarship in the AGE context. For more about Scholarship at AGE see –

Scholarship at AGE - 87330e_b5d6caffc17c434495912c99ce3acd47.pdf

Academic Scholarship Policy - Academic Scholarship Policy

Academic Scholarship Procedure - Academic Scholarship Procedure (S2)

Scholarship can take on many forms - 6113ad_2887992fd3a440a4bca4cbcb6414de4f.pdf

Capturing Scholarship at AGE 2024 - https://www.guildmusic.edu.au/_files/ugd/87330e_c236de23a09045c093784e013fd84197.pdf

Congratulations to **Greg** and **Tom** on their recent blog (25.06.2025) – **Quality Assurance – developing a framework** - *Musicum20.com*

Quality Assurance – developing a framework

Greg Whateley and Tom O'Connor

June 2025

Operating within the Higher Education Sector at present has a particular emphasis on self-assurance – which in turn raises the issue of quality assurance. Self-assurance should not be conducted 'under cove'r or within an isolated environment. It is best conducted in fact as a form of benchmarking – that provides a certain level of self-confidence and self-awareness – best done in co-operation with others.

Ideally every effort should be made to self-assure against the Higher Education Standards Framework (2021) - Higher Education Standards Framework (Threshold Standards) 2021 | Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency and the TEQSA guidance notes - Guidance notes | Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency

The full article can be viewed at - 6113ad_cc62d34ef64f45a3aa1aa75925ddf198.pdf

This is another good example of scholarship in the AGE context. For more about Scholarship at AGE see –

Scholarship at AGE - 87330e_b5d6caffc17c434495912c99ce3acd47.pdf

Academic Scholarship Policy - Academic Scholarship Policy

Academic Scholarship Procedure - Academic Scholarship Procedure (S2)

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Capturing Scholarship at AGE 2024 - https://www.guildmusic.edu.au/_files/ugd/87330e_c236de23a09045c093784e013fd84197.pdf

A very warm welcome to Sam

Assistant Professor Samual Corcoran

Samuel is a Melbourne-based music educator, performer, and composer with a BA (Music) and BE (Mechanical) from *Monash University*.

He founded and led a community music school for seven years - teaching multiple instruments, arranging performances, and guiding student recording projects.

With experience in film scoring, jazz harmony, and ethnomusicology, Samuel brings a deep interest in music pedagogy and a passion for creative, collaborative learning.

Sam will join AGE in S2, 2025 teaching in the Pedagogy focus.

A very warm welcome to Alastair
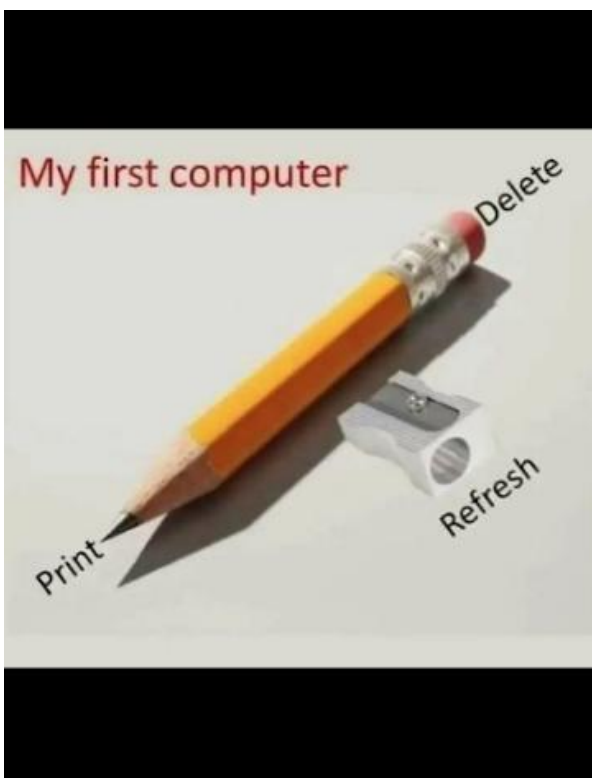

Assistant Professor Alastair Finco

Alastair Finco, based in Melbourne, has worked for over two decades as a freelance performer, composer, arranger, and music educator. A French horn specialist, he has performed in an eclectic range of musical settings—including classical orchestras, operas, musicals, Latin American salsa bands, rock groups, small ensembles, brass bands and jazz ensembles.

This broad musical experience deeply informs both his original compositions and his inclusive teaching practice, which spans private tuition, community music initiatives, and classrooms from Year 1 to Year 12.

His passion for music is matched by a commitment to lifelong learning, reflected in his academic achievements: a BA in Music (Composition), a Graduate Diploma in Education, and a Master of Counselling. Together, these inform a unique pedagogical approach that blends creative expression with deep human understanding.

Alastair will join AGE in S2, 2025 teaching the Musicology course.

June 2025