



Message from the CEO and ED

#8 – August 29, 2025

Congratulations to **John** and **Christopher** on their recent (31.07.2025) media production – **1 – Coming Home to the Breath: The Anchor to Your Heart – Heart Unbound Program – Meditation**



The recording is available at - https://soundcloud.com/dr-john-mcswiney/meditation-1-breathing/s-fJd9ghNYdrM?utm_source=clipboard&utm_medium=text&utm_campaign=social_sharing&si=183c092772414186b7d411402cf91811

Before words, before thoughts, before action, there is breath. Your breath is your ever-present companion, a quiet rhythm that reminds you: you are here, you are alive. In this opening part of the Heart Unbound journey, you are invited to come home to your breath, not just as a function of the body, but as a sacred doorway to the heart.

By breathing gently and mindfully, you learn to calm your nervous system, soften your internal world, and create space for presence and clarity. As you inhale, you remind yourself: "I am here." As you exhale: "I am safe." These simple affirmations are more than words, they become anchors that help you regulate emotions, settle the noise, and return to yourself.

This practice prepares you for the deeper emotional work ahead. In your everyday life, this connection to breath becomes a refuge. It supports you when stress rises, grounds you when you feel scattered, and reminds you of the strength and wisdom within.

Let your breath guide you, gently, steadily, back to your heart. Back to you.



Dr John McSwiney is currently a member of the Course Advisory Committee for the *Master of Business Administration* accreditation project at AGE and contributing to the 'culture of scholarship'.



Associate Professor Christopher McLeod is currently Course Coordinator (Music) at AGE.

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

Scholarship at AGE (v2 January 2025) - [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 (v2 March 2025) -

https://www.guildmusic.edu.au/files/ugd/87330e_c236de23a09045c093784e013fd84197.pdf

Capturing Scholarship and Professional Development at AGE 2025 (v1 July 2025) -

[8776b7_3566ca435f39435aa0eb3f6813dcbbd5.pdf](#)

Farewell and thankyou to Jordan

Sadly, *Associate Professor Jordan Murray* is leaving AGE at the end of August 2025.



Since joining the *Australian Guild of Education* (formerly the Australian Guild of Music Education) in January 2022, Jordan has contributed significantly to curriculum development and academic leadership.

Initially appointed to review and refine the Pianoforte Examination Syllabi, his role quickly expanded to include online teaching units in *Technology and Composition*, *Musicology*, *Pedagogy*, and *Musicianship*, with responsibilities for continuous review and enhancement of these units.

Following the Guild's transition to face-to-face delivery, Jordan was promoted to Academic Director, where he oversaw the development and implementation of six Professional Skills units, shaping the program to meet the evolving needs of music students and the wider industry.



Jordan's contribution to the scholarship profile of AGE – certainly in 2024 and again in 2025 has been exemplary – and greatly appreciated see –

Capturing Scholarship at AGE 2024 - [87330e_c236de23a09045c093784e013fd84197.pdf](#)

Capturing Scholarship and Professional Development at AGE January – June 2025 – [8776b7_3566ca435f39435aa0eb3f6813dcbbd5.pdf](#)



Jordan's final day with AGE was scheduled for Wednesday, 27 August 2025.

Congratulations to **Christopher** on his recent performance (Tutti Horn) at the recent (03.08.2025) presentation by the *Surrey Hills Orchestra*.



The program included -

- Rosamunde Overture - **Schubert**
- Trumpet Concerto - **Hummel**
- Violin Concerto - **Mendelssohn**
- Concerto for Two Flutes – **Cimarosa**



For more about the **Surry Hills Orchestra** see - [Community Orchestra in Surry Hills, Melbourne.](#)

For more about **Associate Professor Christopher McLeod** see - [Associate Professor Christopher McLeod | musicum20](#)

Congratulations to **Jim** and **Greg** on their recent blog (04.08.2025) - **University Quality Explainer (Part 3) - Quality and Questionability** - *Musicum20.com*

University Quality Explainer (Part 3) - Quality and Questionability

Jim Mienczakowski and Greg Whateley

August 2025

In the previous blogs we have touched upon concepts of ranking quality and considerations around how universities determine quality and elite status. Typically, quality is perceived and interpreted through research affiliations and productivity coalescing with academic entry barriers and gaining ingress to those pathways which facilitate entry into particular (elite status) institutions. Not atypically, wealth, social class and schooling also play a part in helping accomplish admission into the most highly ranked academic institutions.

The full article can be viewed at - [6113ad_8bd81dfa52834a5ea70519b8915749c2.pdf](#)

The *Executive Management Committee* met on **Tuesday August 12 at 10am**

The agenda included –

S2 Update

Summer School option 2025/2026

Early Childhood Education Update

Social Work Update

Master of Business Administration Update

Bachelor of Music update

Renewal of Registration update

CRICOS Increase Update

Learning and Teaching Plan - [8776b7_d1f9a16d64da4c15b82c0c239a8c43c9.pdf](#)

Quality Management Framework - [8776b7_7da2bb6677e04aaea4371da4105141b4.pdf](#)

Workforce Plan

Other Business

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

The AGE **Learning and Teaching Committee** (*a Standing Committee of the Academic Board*) was scheduled for Wednesday, August 13 at 10am on the *North Melbourne Campus*.

Agenda items included –

Learning and Teaching Committee Terms of Reference -
[87330e_6e698575ff2c4877b4e177737123fbb6.pdf](#) (pp26-39)

Learning and Teaching Plan 2025-2028 -
[8776b7_d1f9a16d64da4c15b82c0c239a8c43c9.pdf](#)

Academic Governance at AGE - [8776b7_9442f41d2af54a7e952651bb27c63430.pdf](#)

Capturing Scholarship and Professional Development at AGE January-June 2025 -
[8776b7_3566ca435f39435aa0eb3f6813dcbbd5.pdf](#)

Quality Assurance Framework - [8776b7_7da2bb6677e04aeea4371da4105141b4.pdf](#)

AGE Higher Education Standards Framework (Threshold Standards) Audit -
[8776b7_b259b8d2f2be4448bd4c2c3bda0a0fa2.pdf](#)

Risk Management at AGE - [8776b7_c0c8681f3ffa45969085699a5dd6a6f8.pdf](#)

Board of Examiners' Report (Results) – Semester 1, 2025 -
[8776b7_60b2862ad9564f4baecbbefc52e6c0e0.pdf](#)

Membership of the LTC includes –



Dr Laura Hougaz (Independent Chair)

Emeritus Professor **Greg** Whateley (Secretary)

Associate Professor **Christopher** McLeod

Associate Professor **Tom** O'Connor



Emeritus Professor Jim Mienczakowski (independent)

Congratulations to **Jim** and **Greg** on their recent blog (06.08.2025) - **University Quality Explainer (Part 4) – Standard Quality** - *Musicum20.com*

University Quality Explainer (Part 4) – Standard Quality

Jim Mienczakowski and Greg Whateley

August 2025

When COVID 19 showed how ill-prepared (and inadequate?) most world governments were in respect to dealing with a sudden (but not entirely unanticipated) major epidemic our higher education providers were also plunged into a quandary.

The full article can be viewed at - [6113ad_d2d4e20affed43549be5ef5d5a194072.pdf](#)

Congratulations to **Greg** on his recent blog (06.08.2025) – **Good governance is about leadership not management** - *Musicum20.com*

Good governance is about leadership not management

Greg Whateley

August 2025

There is so much chatter about governance – ‘good governance’ specifically. A great deal of emphasis is put on the somewhat superficial format of reports and documents – sometimes the emphasis is somewhat childish. Governance is not about the look and feel, it is about the relationship between elements of the business and the supportive nature of that interface.

My observation is that one of the negative elements of governance is ‘staying too long’ in the job. A three-year stint in key governance roles (chairs, committee leads, memberships and the like) is probably ideal. Anything beyond that point usually leads to tensions and losing sight of the actual role specifics – providing support to the business personnel and mechanisms.

Ideal duration of governance roles – three years – and move on.

The full article can be viewed at - [6113ad_4a2ffc930bcf4f8c81f115677e00326a.pdf](#)

Congratulations to **Christopher** on his recent blog (06.08.2025) – **Teaching with Intention: The Focus on Core Learning Outcomes** - *Musicum20.com*

Teaching with Intention: The Focus on Core Learning Outcomes

Christopher McLeod

August 2025

The previous entry in this series discussed the process of Minimalism and outlined core areas that could be adapted for the tertiary learning environment. Minimalism in education is designed to filter the course to its essence. A sense of utilising important information for the purposes of core learning outcomes. We seek to distil the important information for our students. A move to impart things that matter.

The full article can be viewed at - [6113ad_c71deb22125640dfb823af6d437dcb82.pdf](#)

Congratulations to **Greg** on his recent blog (06.08.2025) – **Moderation and benchmarking – powerful tools** - *Musicum20.com*

Moderation and benchmarking – powerful tools

Greg Whateley

August 2025

Two powerful tools to ensure quality of delivery and consistency within the given sector are moderation and benchmarking. These can be undertaken on a formal basis or alternatively informal – though still very effective.

The full article can be viewed at - [6113ad_5c4f0a72138c4fb699e3fe51050905e3.pdf](#)

Congratulations to **Tom** on his recent blog (06.08.2025) – **Revolutionizing Education: Avatars, Holographic Teachers, and Historical Visitors in the Classroom** - *Musicum20.com*

Revolutionizing Education: Avatars, Holographic Teachers, and Historical Visitors in the Classroom

Tom O'Connor

August 2025

In the late 70's in West Berlin I went to see Kraftwerk the avant-garde rock group. However, on this tour they sent models of themselves, and the music was a recorded playback. Being cool progressive rock aficionados, we all thought it was edgy. Now however with a holographic ABBA touring the world, we have to face the reality that technology is blurring the lines between reality and the virtual world. Education is undergoing a profound transformation. Imagine a classroom where students converse with Albert Einstein about relativity or witness Cleopatra recounting her reign—all without leaving their desks. Avatars and holographic teachers are no longer science fiction; they're emerging as viable tools that enhance learning, making it more interactive, personalized, and accessible. These innovations, including "historical visitors," are reshaping classrooms and why they're worth embracing.

The full article can be viewed at - [6113ad_a2f4cb2c5bc6484c826554132fb9944f.pdf](#)

Congratulations to **Jim and Greg** on their recent blog (06.08.2025) – **Standards in Higher Education** - *Musicum20.com*

Standards in Higher Education

Jim Mienczakowski and Greg Whateley

August 2025

Australia operates its Australian Qualifications Framework levels as a way of standardising qualifications across the Australian education and training system.

The policy framework of the AQF provides the structures required for Australian qualifications. Ostensibly, the aim is to warrant that qualifications are consistent and equivalent across the various education and training sectors (higher education, vocational education and training, and schools).

The AQF - in regard to degree level qualification - leaves large gaps in ensuring that qualifications are standardized meaningfully in their true equivalence.

The full article can be viewed at - [6113ad_4c21e5652e9244558f001e5e243cc634.pdf](#)



A special thank you to **Emeritus Professor Jim Mienczakowski** for his ongoing support of Scholarship at AGE and his regular contribution to same.

In order to develop a genuine 'culture of scholarship' within an organisation it is important to have senior input on a regular basis. Jim is a Director at AGE (Board of Directors) and demonstrates support from the top down.

See – Scholarship can take on many forms (August 2024) - [6113ad_2887992fd3a440a4bca4cbcb6414de4f.pdf](#)

Associate Professor **Christopher McLeod** was re-elected - for his second term - as **President** of the *Grainger Wind Symphony* (06.08.2025).

GWS is a community ensemble founded in the 1980s. It aims to provide high quality musical experiences for musicians, composers - and the broader community. Christopher implemented a *blue ocean strategy* during his first term and will carry the strategy forward into his second term as President.

He recently wrote about the group (including its core mission) in a recent (June 2025) Musicum20 article **Made in Australia: Community, Tradition, and Artificial Intelligence** – [6113ad_8e5b443be56a492d92d6c30ba62cd21f.pdf](https://musicum20.com/6113ad_8e5b443be56a492d92d6c30ba62cd21f.pdf)



GWS Horn Section – Christopher McLeod second from the left

For more about the **Grainger Wind Symphony** see the 2024/2025 GWS Annual Report is available at - <http://graingerwindsymphony.asn.au/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2025/08/GWS-AGM-Report-2024-25-2025-08-06-final-reduced.pdf>



For more about **Associate Professor Christopher McLeod** see - [Associate Professor Christopher McLeod | musicum20](#)

Congratulations to **Christopher** on his recent blog (07.08.2025) – **Teaching with Intention: Streamlined Lesson Planning** - *Musicum20.com*

Teaching with Intention: Streamlined Lesson Planning

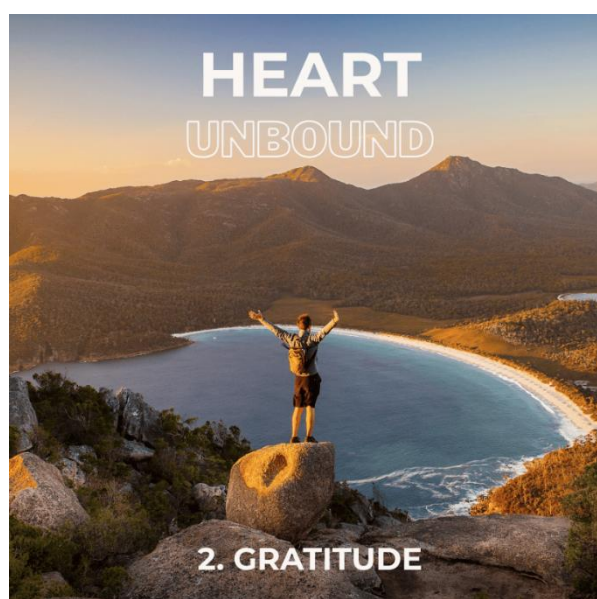
Christopher McLeod

August 2025

There is a concept in Essentialism that looks towards only to core elements of a concept and process. Essentialism is in its essence an offshoot of Minimalism and is rooted in many of the same philosophical concepts. Japanese Minimalism is rooted in the traditions of Zen Buddhism. An astute example of this is the Tea Ceremony. Every form and function of the ceremony follows a ritualistic albeit formulaic mode of approach towards the process of serving tea.

The full article can be viewed at - [6113ad_c8dee52b7b004fe58aef1b34362c60cb.pdf](#)

Congratulations to **John** and **Christopher** on their recent (07.08.2025) media production — **Gratitude – Your bridge to Emotional Awareness – Heart Unbound Program – Meditation**



The recording is available at - https://soundcloud.com/dr-john-mcswiney/meditation-2-gratitude/s-l6sfWKCC50G?utm_source=clipboard&utm_medium=text&utm_campaign=social_sharing&si=19f571d1d76b4990a6eb96e9160fa4e1

This guided meditation is your invitation to slow down, breathe deeply, and open your heart to the quiet power of gratitude. In Part 2 of the Heart Unbound journey, you will be gently guided to reflect on the people, moments, and simple gifts that bring light to your life. Through soothing breathwork and heart-focused reflection, this meditation helps you shift from the noise of your mind to the wisdom of your heart, where gratitude naturally lives.

This meditation is designed to awaken appreciation for yourself, others, and your life's quiet blessings, it encourages you to shift from mental busyness to heart presence. Let this practice ground you, soften you, and reconnect you with the beauty that already surrounds you. One breath, one moment, one thankful heartbeat at a time.

Dr John McSwiney is currently a member of the Course Advisory Committee for the *Master of Business Administration* accreditation project at AGE and contributing to the 'culture of scholarship'.

Associate Professor Christopher McLeod is currently Course Coordinator (Music) at AGE.

Congratulations to **Greg** on his recent blog (11.08.2025) – **Diversification and associated risk taking** - *Musicum20.com*

Diversification and associated risk taking

Greg Whateley

August 2025

I have for many years proffered the notion that growth is keenly aligned with multiple products, multiple sites and multiple modes of delivery – essentially diversification. Within the Higher Education Sector - the notion of single offerings, sites and modes would likely end up in a stalled organization – I have seen this happen on numerous occasions. The opposite – also seen happen on many occasions – is the best way to go - assuming the institution wants growth.

The full article can be viewed at - [6113ad_7c082a9805854a2c87febbcced619a31.pdf](#)

Re-accreditation process for the Bachelor of Music

The AGE *Bachelor of Music* was accredited some seven years ago without conditions. This was great achievement at the time. The re-accreditation process now (*due April 2026 but submitted in October 2025*) is well underway.

With the support of the Academic Board a **Course Advisory Committee** was established in May 2025 and has met on three occasions to date – 27 June, 18 July and 22 August 2025.

Membership of the BMus CAC includes –



Emeritus Professor **Greg** Whateley (Chair)



Associate Professor **Tom** O'Connor (Secretary)



Professor **Ian** Bofinger (Academic)



Associate Professor **Art** Phillips (Industry)

With additional expert support provided by



Emeritus Professor **Clive** Smallman



Associate Professor **Christopher McLeod**

An important part of the process involved the input and advice from an *Industry Expert*. In this instance we have been extremely fortunate to access the expertise of **Professor Robert Constable AM** who agreed to overview the re-accreditation proposal and provide any advice/support needed.



[Microsoft Word - Robert Constable - CV - February 2020-2.doc](#)

Congratulations to **Greg** and **Tom** on their recent blog (12.08.2025) – **Developing a business plan** - *Musicum20.com*

Developing a business plan

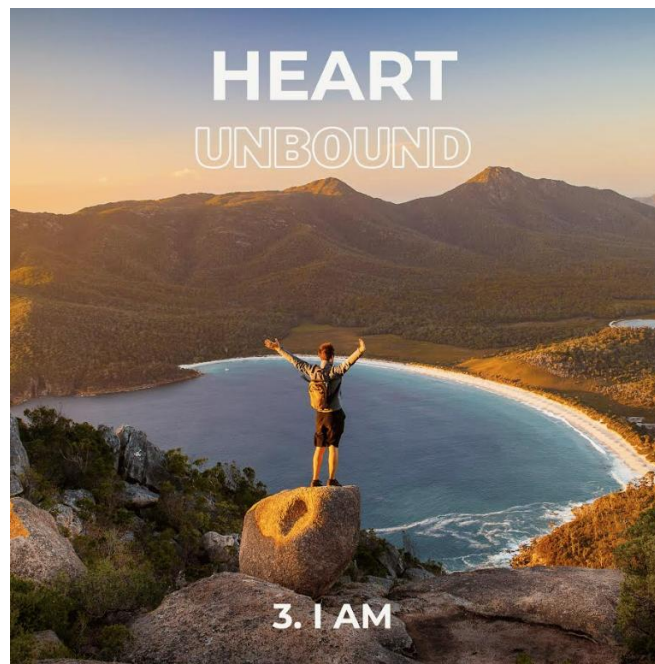
Greg Whateley and Tom O'Connor

August 2025

A valuable exercise for any business – this includes Institutes of Higher Education – is the development of a business plan. The Business plan should sit comfortably with a Strategic Plan that collectively provide the projection for the future and a blueprint on how to have that projection materialize. There is always a degree of optimism embedded in these types of plans – and that is a good thing. However, it is important to be realistic throughout the process and not to create such stretch targets/goals – that cannot be achieved.

The full article can be viewed at - [6113ad_e60c9a7919d14e09a9adbe55f9af6ad2.pdf](#)

Congratulations to **John** and **Christopher** on their recent (12.08.2025) media production – **I AM** – Affirming Self Worth – *Heart Unbound Program – Meditation*



The recording is available at - <https://on.soundcloud.com/w0E4ZG9bU87CWNr7Th>

This powerful guided meditation invites you into a quiet and sacred space where you can meet the truth of who you are, beyond roles, expectations, and noise. I Am is more than an affirmation; it is a declaration of essence, a remembering of self that arises not from the mind, but from the heart.

Through breath, presence, and gentle prompting, this meditation helps you reconnect with the still voice within, the one that says, I am worthy. I am enough. I am here. As you anchor into your true identity, the practice supports emotional grounding, clarity of self-concept, and deeper self-compassion.

Whether you are new to heart-centred practices or deepening your journey, this meditation offers a space to let go of who you think you should be and rest in the powerful simplicity of I Am. Let this be your turning point. Let it be your homecoming.

Dr John McSwiney is currently a member of the Course Advisory Committee for the *Master of Business Administration* accreditation project at AGE and contributing to the 'culture of scholarship'.

Associate Professor Christopher McLeod is currently Course Coordinator (Music) at AGE.

Congratulations to **Christopher** on his recent blog (12.08.2025) – **Teaching with Intention: Reduction of Cognitive Load** - *Musicum20.com*

Teaching with Intention: Reduction of Cognitive Load

Christopher McLeod

August 2025

Cognitive load or overload is a significant factor in mental burnout. The notion of extreme productivity and hustle culture whilst at times helpful may also lead to burnout and illness. The age of adage of work smarter and not harder may yield more beneficial results in the classroom and preparation of learning materials for students' success. It is easy with the abundance of information the Internet offers to overload our students with readings, videos, and purposeful signposting for knowledge and skills acquisition.

The full article can be viewed at - [6113ad_d1bce337bbd049bf9565e8a01a220fef.pdf](#)

Congratulations to **Sam** on his recent performance in **Handan, China**.



He commented that it was an incredible opportunity performing a two-hour set.



This is a great example of the fact that music speaks all languages – irrespective of global location

Assistant Professor **Sam Corcoran** teaches pedagogy at AGE within the Bachelor of Music program.

A very warm welcome to Melbourne to **Jenny Dang** (Vietnam). Jenny was in Melbourne this week on business and took the opportunity to visit AGE.



Jenny works across a number of Sectors – including *international education*. Discussion ranged across future offerings by AGE (Early Childhood Education, Social Work and Business Administration) – all with potential to attract both international and domestic students – both F2F and online.



From left – Associate Professor **Tom** O'Connor, Associate Professor **Christopher** McLeod, **Jenny** Dang and Emeritus Professor **Greg** Whateley

Of particular interest was our current **Bachelor of Music** – seen to be a highly desirable product given the emphasis on pedagogy – and with potential for F2F, online and TNE options.



The initial connection with Jenny was her association with the Musicum20 think tank that hosted a symposium in Vietnam (Hanoi) in 2023.

Preparations for the **2025 Musicum20 symposium** in **London** are underway for October 21-23, 2025.



[London 2025 | musicum20](#)

Emeritus Professor Greg Whateley (ably supported by Professor *Ian Bofinger* - Sydney and Dr *Aleksander Szram* - London) will be chairing the conference.



[Emeritus Professor Greg Whateley | musicum20](#)

The location in 2025 is **Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance** (King Charles Court, Old Royal Naval College, London SE109JF) in a hybrid format with participants both on location and online – over a three-day period.



[Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance](#)

The importance of benchmarking - locally, nationally and internationally - is vital and AGE is fortunate to be included in a range of opportunities.

See - Self-assurance supported by benchmarking (June 2025) - [6113ad_76a97e2709b64a2880055366e6b4ef48.pdf](#)

Congratulations to **Christopher** and **Tom** on their paper/presentation inclusion in the 2025 International Musicum20 symposium to be held in London.



Christopher is scheduled (online) at 11am (London time) on Tuesday October 21. His paper titled - **Composing from anywhere – emergence of the handheld composition studio** – can be viewed at - [6113ad_fe8032db0e524cbd87971d25df1ab8b4.pdf](https://doi.org/10.6113ad_fe8032db0e524cbd87971d25df1ab8b4)



Tom is scheduled (F2F) at 14.00 (2pm - London time) on Wednesday October 22. His paper titled - **Integrity in a digital age** – can be viewed at - [6113ad_e32b81bd38ad4941bfd6218a7e77e79d.pdf](https://doi.org/10.6113ad_e32b81bd38ad4941bfd6218a7e77e79d)

All refereed symposium papers are published in –

The Next 5 (Years)

Whateley, G., Bofinger, I., Kopanakis, D. and Szram, A. (2025) *The Next 5 (Years) AMPA Publishing* Volume 1 ISBN 978 1 7640856 1 8

This publication places the emphasis on predicting what the next 5 years will look like from a number of perspectives. The challenge this time around is to look closely at what we have achieved to date - and then, using a longer lens, predict what our future (within a number of industries) will actually look like. It is not so much about 'crystal ball gazing' as an informed (and possibly optimistic) projection of both ourselves and the world around us



The publication is readily available (free of charge) at - [The Next 5 Years](https://doi.org/10.6113ad_e32b81bd38ad4941bfd6218a7e77e79d)



For more about the London Symposium see - [London 2025 | musicum20](https://doi.org/10.6113ad_e32b81bd38ad4941bfd6218a7e77e79d)

Congratulations to **Christopher** on his recent blog (14.08.2025) – **Teaching with Intention: Efficient Use of Resources** - *Musicum20.com*

Teaching with Intention: Efficient Use of Resources

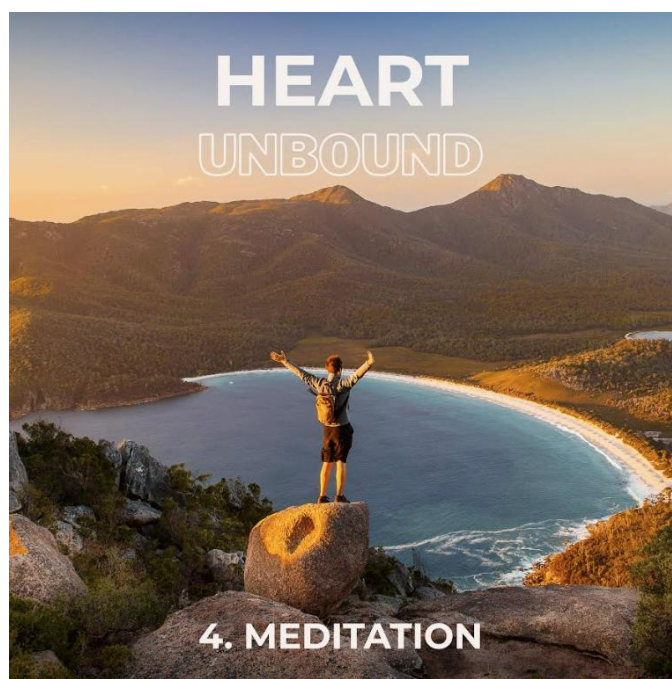
Christopher McLeod

August 2025

Our resources are finite. We have limited time and energy in which to accomplish a task. It therefore becomes imperative to tailor our approach in the classroom to the most efficient use of resources possible. This allows for our surplus time and energy to be redirected towards our students and their learning outcomes. The streamlined approach to resource acquisition and dissemination can therefore lead to a process of targeted learning materials and activities.

The full article can be viewed at - [6113ad_8e01d7c767854708a8f195cdec161eff.pdf](#)

Congratulations to **John** and **Christopher** on their recent (14.08.2025) media production - **Meditation – Returning to your still centre – Heart Unbound Program – Meditation**



The recording is available at - <https://on.soundcloud.com/Cav75l89wEgVkdLEfG>

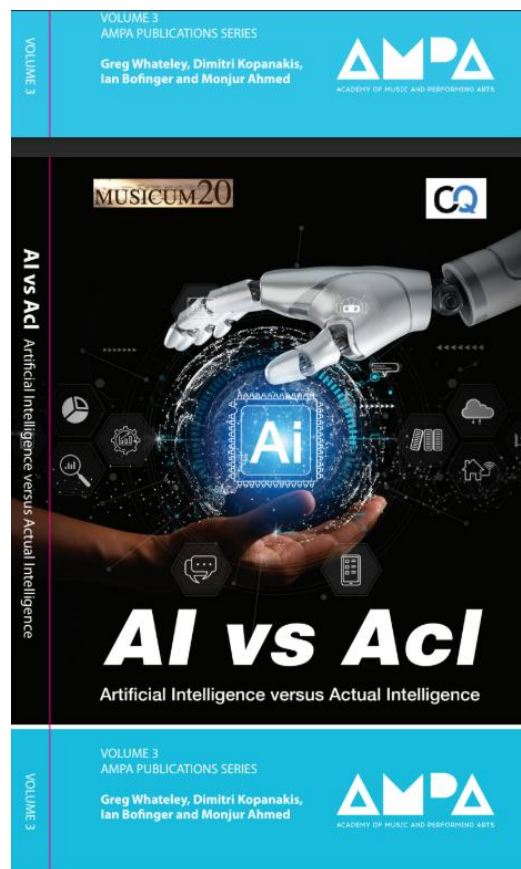
This guided meditation is an invitation to slow down, step out of the noise, and reconnect with your truest self. You will be gently led through mindful breathing, soft awareness, and heart-centred visualisation to dissolve self-judgment and be open to compassion. As you listen, you will learn how to meet yourself with love in the stillness, release tension stored in your body, and create space for clarity and healing to emerge.

Whether you are carrying emotional weight, seeking peace of mind, or simply longing for a quiet moment to breathe, this meditation will help you come home to yourself. It is not about striving to be different, it is about remembering who you already are beneath the noise. Take this time for you. Breathe deeply. Listen fully - and let your heart speak.

Dr John McSwiney is currently a member of the Course Advisory Committee for the *Master of Business Administration* accreditation project at AGE and contributing to the 'culture of scholarship'.

Associate Professor Christopher McLeod is currently Course Coordinator (Music) at AGE.

Congratulations to **Greg**, Dimitri, Ian and Monjur on their latest book – **Artificial Intelligence (AI) versus Actual Intelligence (Acl)** -



The book is proudly sponsored by **Campus Q**, **Musicum 20** and the **Academy of Music and Performing Arts (AMPA)**

AGE staff who have contributed chapters include –

Greg

Artificial Intelligence (AI) versus Actual Intelligence (Acl) -

[6113ad_0a2ccde8e81d4e638c2f59d30553c0eb.pdf](https://doi.org/10.6113ad_0a2ccde8e81d4e638c2f59d30553c0eb.pdf)

Christopher

Redefining the Zeitgeist – Artificial Intelligence Incognito -

[6113ad_8ab09984ea5749c0bb4a1348fba52483.pdf](https://doi.org/10.6113ad_8ab09984ea5749c0bb4a1348fba52483.pdf)

Made In Australia – Community, Tradition, and Artificial Intelligence -

[6113ad_8e5b443be56a492d92d6c30ba62cd21f.pdf](https://doi.org/10.6113ad_8e5b443be56a492d92d6c30ba62cd21f.pdf)

Machine Tripping – Artificial Intelligence and the Rebirth of Actual Intelligence -

[6113ad_fef538bc89654479aa9499445546a119.pdf](https://doi.org/10.6113ad_fef538bc89654479aa9499445546a119.pdf)

Jim

Permissive Permission: Artificial Intelligence Needs Boundaries - [6113ad_0f2dfb3c8ef342e7956e562e402f5832.pdf](#)

Paranoia or possibility? AI and the media - [6113ad_9e5b280a9f07456a82e046bc90a44ce4.pdf](#)

Clive

AI vs Real Stupidity: A comparative exploration of machine and human intelligence - [6113ad_4fa6ca26536c4592aed238c117878fd4.pdf](#)

The HAL 9000: A Likely Reality OR Fictional Fantasy? - [6113ad_23003ca5d7324c588de8c9270ffe07d9.pdf](#)

The potential creation of Skynet and The Terminator – A Sci-Fi nightmare or a future possibility? - [6113ad_2c367796920d45ee807ff11ef2f6f585.pdf](#)

Tom

A Colourful Mind: Consciousness, Human Intelligence, and AI - [6113ad_87cf27c94e87413dbe4283e77fe8de0a.pdf](#)

The Quantum Wave Function and Data in Education: An Analogy - [6113ad_1b87b1f002754e2fb28cce14a8161470.pdf](#)

John

Artificial Intelligence vs. Actual Intelligence: Impacts on Emotional Intelligence - [6113ad_057767ec36a84ca391dae53eb45c57c8.pdf](#)

For more about **Campus Q** see – [Campus Q | Australian education software solutions | Sydney | CampusQ](#)

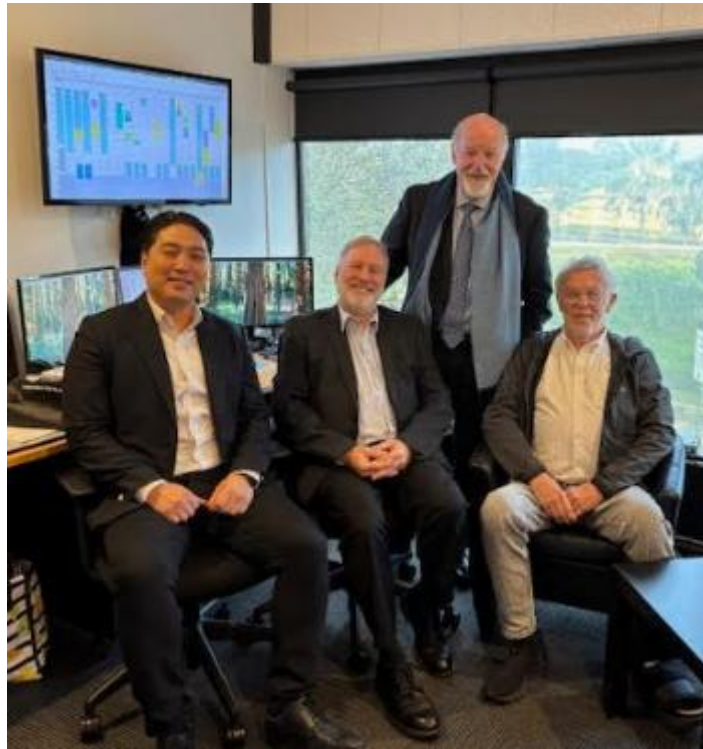
For more about **Musicum20** see – [Home / | musicum20](#)

For more about **AMPA** see - [AMPA - Academy of Music and Performing Arts - AMPA | Academy of Music and Performing Arts](#)

Benchmarking is a key element of self-assurance. AGE is involved in a three-level program.

See - Self-assurance supported by benchmarking - [6113ad_76a97e2709b64a2880055366e6b4ef48.pdf](#)

Level 1 involves KIHE and AMPA – both based in Sydney.



From left – Professors **Issac** Chung-Lee (AMPA COO and Marketing; **Ian** Bofinger (AMPA CEO and ED), **Greg** Whateley (AGE CEO and ED) and **Jamie** Rigg (AMPS Chair, Academic Board).

Greg attended benchmarking Session #2 at AMPA (Sydney) with a wide-ranging discussion and focus on – **timelines** for re-registration; re-accreditation; and **marketing** to domestic students.

Associate Professor **Tom** O'Connor represents AGE at Level 2 benchmarking.

Emeritus Professor **Greg** Whateley and Associate Professor **Tom** O'Connor represent AGE at Level 3 benchmarking (scheduled for London in October 2025).

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/>

I am delighted to report that AGE has been granted accreditation (7 years) for a **Graduate Certificate in Early Childhood Studies** and a **Graduate Diploma of Early Childhood Education**.

Decision Notice – Accreditation

I write to advise that on the date of this letter, TEQSA accredited, under section 49 of the *Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency Act 2011* (TEQSA Act), the following courses offered by Australian Guild of Education Pty Ltd (AGE), for a period of 7 years until 14 August 2032:

- Graduate Diploma of Early Childhood Education
- Graduate Certificate in Early Childhood Studies

This is an excellent outcome.

A special thank you to Dr **Tim** Weir, **Alessia** Calabrese and **Sunny** Singh for their efforts in developing and documenting TEQSA requirements associated with the application.

Annual staff reviews

As part of our commitment to quality and support we are encouraged to do annual reviews of staff. As a *starting point* I contracted an independent reviewer to complete a leadership/management anonymous review of my own work *over the last 12 months at AGE*.

I commenced as a consultant in August 2024 and completed a range of audits – [Reports | Guild Music Copy](#) – and assumed the role of consulting CEO and ED in late December 2024.

The review of *my performance* to date took the form of 10 specific leadership/management skills that are identified in the literature as critical -

Communication	4.9
Problem solving	4.7
Respect for others	4.9
Strategic thinking	4.9
Active listening	4.8
Empathy	4.8
Support	4.8
Conflict management	4.8
Team development and empowering	4.9
Adaptability	4.8
OVERALL	4.83

This is a satisfying outcome based on a 90% return

I will commence rolling annual reports in September/October of this year - for staff reporting directly to me. The purpose is to support staff members – and give them the opportunity to establish some KPIs moving forward.



A special thank you to **Dr Andrew West** (UTS) for his collection and analysis of the survey data - [Andy West | About | University of Technology Sydney](#)

Pedagogy in China

In his recent travels to China – **Sam** participated in a numerous cultural music exchange sessions and events.



Some very generous and talented local musicians in Handan China shared their music and instruments with the visitors from Australia.





He was taught how to play the pipa (pear shaped lute), guzheng (zither), hulusi (free reed gourd flute) and the erhu (Two stringed violin).

He, in turn, demonstrated a range of western styles and techniques on both the piano and guitar. This was warmly received.





He was thrilled to be given a beautiful ornate hulusi to mark these fruitful sessions – not to mention a wonderful memory.



Assistant Professor Sam Corcoran is currently teaching pedagogy within the *Bachelor of Music* at AGE.

Congratulations to **Art** on his invitation to both present and moderate at the Production Music Association Conference on 7 October 2025 at the Hilton, Universal City, Los Angeles.



The 'best of the best' will be presenting. Art writes -

'Mitigating the Risk: The 3L's Legalities, Liabilities & (the art of) Listening. This session will provide key attributes to better understand how to do business rightly, safely and free of unwanted liabilities in our marketplace - and how to avoid such an unfortunate position to find oneself in, waiting for the 'copyright shark' to strike.'

**Mitigating the Risk:
The 3L's Legalities, Liabilities
& (the art of) Listening**

TUESDAY 10.07 | 3:15pm-4:15pm HILTON UNIVERSAL CITY

MODERATOR:

 ART PHILLIPS Owner, Director & CEO, 101 Music Pty Ltd®	 JUDITH FINELL Musicologist & President, Judith Finell MusicServices Inc.	 PETER ANDERSON Partner, Davis Wright Tremaine LLP	 BRAD MARRAPODI VP, Sync Catalogue Services & Music Production, BMG	 ALEX BLACK CEO, Sonoton Music
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Sponsored by **101** emotional solutions through music

PMC 2025
Presented by 



For more about **Associate Professor Art Phillips** – [BIO – ART PHILLIPS | 101 Music PTY LTD](#)

For more about 101 Music Pty Ltd - [What We Do | 101 Music PTY LTD](#)

For more about the PMA Conference – [PMC 2025 - PMA](#)

This is another good example of scholarship in the AGE context.

Congratulations to **Greg** and **Tom** on their recent blog (18.08.2025) – **The path to re-accreditation** - *Musicum20.com*

The path to re-accreditation

Greg Whateley and Tom O'Connor

August 2025

Re-accreditation is the process of having an existing program – in this case in the higher education sector – re-approved for use for up to seven years. Our own institution is not self-accrediting and as such needs to be re-accredited by the Sector Regulator. There has been a shift in recent times away from completing a Confirmed Evidence Table (CET) to a self-assurance model. Our personal view is that this is a positive move in the right direction.

The full article can be viewed at - [6113ad_4c6a56c142584b73ba27602ccdab04be.pdf](#)

Re-accreditation process for the Bachelor of Music

The next meeting of the *Bachelor of Music Course Advisory Committee* is scheduled for Friday, August 22 at 10am.

Membership of the BMus CAC includes –



Emeritus Professor **Greg** Whateley (Chair)



Associate Professor **Tom** O'Connor (Secretary)



Professor **Ian** Bofinger (Academic)



Associate Professor **Art** Phillips (Industry)

The focus of this third meeting is to consider the recommendations of the **Constable Report** (August 2025) and recommend the suggestions to the Academic Board accordingly.

The suggestions are five-fold –

- Tweak the Musicianship subjects re content
- Develop a bridging course
- Provide accessible information about campus and resources
- Put in place an ongoing review of units/course in partnership with CAC
- Expand the teaching team to include Fellows

The full re-accreditation package is near complete for lodging in early September 2025. Benchmarking has suggested that the Regulator may take up to 18 months to complete the process.

Congratulations to **Tom** on his recent blog (19.08.2025) – **The Human Heart and AI: Two Very Different Notions of Creativity** - *Musicum20.com*

The Human Heart and AI: Two Very Different Notions of Creativity

Tom O'Connor

August 2025

*Now I understand
What you tried to say to me
And how you suffered for your sanity
And how you tried to set them free
"Vincent" – Don McLean*

These words are about the person who perhaps who uniquely embodies the archetypal tortured artist, Vincent van Gogh, and certainly his work contains a power informed by his emotional struggles which speaks to people, generations after his death.

Creativity has long been considered the spark that makes us most human. In music, poetry, and art, the creative moment often arrives unannounced—a flash of inspiration that moves from the heart to the hand, from emotion to expression. Increasingly, however, we hear that artificial intelligence can also "create." It can generate paintings, compose melodies, and write verse. But is this the same thing as the deep, mysterious work of the human heart?

The full article can be viewed at - [6113ad_5808540ca5c6454f906445fb8b4ff9c8.pdf](#)

Congratulations to **Greg** on his recent blog (20.08.2025) – **Understanding self-assurance on a personal level** - *Musicum20.com*

Understanding self-assurance on a personal level

Greg Whateley

August 2025

Self-assurance is a quality that radiates from within, shaping interactions, ambitions, and the ability to weather life's inevitable storms. It is not arrogance, nor is it complacency; rather, self-assurance is the quiet, steady belief in one's own abilities and worth. To understand self-assurance is to delve into the intricate weave of psychology, experience, practice, and self-acceptance that produces a mindset both resilient and adaptive.

The full article can be viewed at - [6113ad_3969d8b1c6f74ef2a7564ce257ec5d67.pdf](#)

The meeting of the **AGE Academic Board** was scheduled for Wednesday, 27 August 2025.

Agenda items include –

- Learning and Teaching Committee Update
- Bachelor of Music Course Advisory Committee update
- Board of Examiners Report
- Academic Governance (v4 July 2025)
- Threshold Standards Audit (v3 July 2025)
- Scholarship and Professional Development (July 2-25)
- Work Plan (2025)
- Postgraduate Social Work update
- Early Childhood Education Update
- Increase in CRICOS allocation Update
- Re-registration Update
- Bachelor of Music Re-accreditation Update
- Master of Business Administration Update

Membership of the Academic Board includes -



Dr Tim Weir (External Chair)



Dr Laura Hougaz – Independent member



Dr David Morgan – Independent member



Emeritus Professor Greg Whateley (ex-officio) – internal



Associate Professor **Tom** O'Connor – (ex-officio) – internal and Secretary

For member **profiles** see - [Leadership | Guild Music Copy](#)

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 **Greg** on his invitation to be a keynote speaker at the two-day professional development program at *Chiang Rai Rajabhat University, Thailand* on Saturday August 23, 2025.



The topic requested is **Self-Assurance** – *both in terms of personal and organisational.*

Greg's presentation is based on 6 short articles on the topic sent to participants as pre-reading –

Understanding self-assurance on a personal level -
[6113ad_3969d8b1c6f74ef2a7564ce257ec5d67.pdf](#)

Understanding self-assurance at an organisational level –
[6113ad_77fe58912c6a4a7ab91de7696116a391.pdf](#)

Self-assurance is the name of the game -
[6113ad_01ebe83fd03b40568654a89c9b4d714b.pdf](#)

Self-assurance supported by benchmarking -
[6113ad_76a97e2709b64a2880055366e6b4ef48.pdf](#)

An approach to corporate governance self-assurance -
[6113ad_5ab4136aafbe4afcb7f95cd32ebaaaf9.pdf](#)

An approach to academic governance self-assurance -
[6113ad_427070e6ddec4f58bd57dd7cfe3daa61.pdf](#)

Greg is a visiting professor at *CRRU* and advisor to the Dean of the *Faculty of Management Sciences*

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

For more about the **Faculty of Management Sciences** see - ms.crru.ac.th

Congratulations to **Greg** on his recent blog (20.08.2025) – **Understanding self-assurance at an organisational level** - *Musicum20.com*

Understanding self-assurance at an organisational level

Greg Whateley

August 2025

Self-assurance, often described as an individual's confidence in their abilities and judgments, is a quality that can be cultivated collectively within organisations. When translated to an organisational scale, self-assurance becomes a powerful force – essentially a culture of trust, resilience, and empowered decision-making that permeates every level of the structure.

The full article can be viewed at - [6113ad_77fe58912c6a4a7ab91de7696116a391.pdf](#)

Congratulations to **Greg** on his recent blog (10.08.2025) – **On being a good leader**
- *Musicum20.com*

On Being a Good Leader

Greg Whateley

August 2025

*Leadership is both an ancient calling (some would argue) and – and yet modern necessity. Across cultures and eras, the traits of effective leaders have been debated, studied, and celebrated. Yet, despite countless theories and models (not to mention my own years of teaching leadership and management) the essence of good leadership remains rooted in the timeless human desire to inspire, guide, and elevate others. Good leadership is not about titles or positions – it is about **actions**, **influence**, and oddly enough - **heart**.*

The full article can be viewed at - [6113ad_2c220d567e0f48099a4b89a57269c100.pdf](#)

Benchmarking in action

Benchmarking has become a critical aspect of self-assurance (itself now embedded into our psyches) and evident in the HESF 5.3.4. To this end AGE remains active accordingly.

See –

self-assurance supported by benchmarking -

[6113ad_76a97e2709b64a2880055366e6b4ef48.pdf](#)

self-assurance is the name of the game -

[6113ad_01ebe83fd03b40568654a89c9b4d714b.pdf](#)

We are actively involved in *benchmarking at three levels* – including a smaller project (Level 1) with AMPA and KIHE – two meetings have been held to date exploring key issues including the *terms of engagement, re-registration/re-accreditation timelines* and *marketing to domestic students*.

Intended foci further includes – *documentation, resourcing, IT management, academic integrity, data collection and sharing, scholarship*



Greg is our representative

A second robust benchmarking activity (Level 2) involves a larger consortium (we were invited to join in June 2025) including PIA, SISTC, SIHE, UBSS, SMC, EIA and AAHE. We have attended two of these meetings. The key issues/foci include *grade distribution, EFTSL, attrition, overall passes, academic integrity breaches* and *moderation*.



Tom is our representative – the group meets monthly.

Both projects are sector 'typical' and we are in the right space.



Unique to the Sector, though, is our involvement in an international project (*commencing October 2025*) putting AGE on the international stage (Level 3). AGE is being inducted into the Musicum20 international consortium (and think tank) providing both national and international benchmarking and co-operative activities. Members include institutions from Australia, Japan, France, South Korea, Hong Kong, Germany, Singapore, Thailand, UK and China.

The initiative was established in 2013 with representatives from Japan, France, Australia, Korea and Hong Kong. It has expanded over the years and now includes an eJournal, books, blogs, podcasts and masters' level research papers – as well as an annual international symposium.

The key *benchmarking* foci include – grade distribution, scholarship, moderation and internationalisation.

Greg and **Tom** are our representatives.

The October 2025 symposium at Trinity Laban in Greenwich (London) is scheduled and the draft program can be viewed at - [London 2025 | musicum20](#)

The theme of the symposium is the Next 5 (Years) - [Books | musicum20](#)

Greg will be attending as moderator/presenter along with **Tom** as presenter/participant.

Congratulations to Al (with Susie Kennedy) on his recent podcast – **Spiritual Conversations – for everyday life** ([Episode 1](#))



The full podcast (23:28) can be viewed at - [Spiritual Conversations for everyday life Episode 1](#)

'Spiritual conversations for everyday life' - is a new podcast that shares diverse perspectives to help people build self-awareness, reflect on life challenges, and recognise they are not alone in the difficulty of navigating life.

We are all trying our best to navigate life to the best of our ability. Sharing insights lets us know we are not alone.

Exploring everyday existential challenges and unravelling the issues underpinning our challenges - can help us have better insight into how we can take steps forward in our own lives.

We can create a better world through collaboration, through generous sharing of our insights, by listening, supporting each other and taking small steps to make a difference in our lives and the lives of those around us.



Assistant Professor Alastair Finco is currently teaching musicology in the Bachelor of Music program.

Also see – The fragile art of communication: narrative, emotion, and the courage to hear (July 2025) - [6113ad_dd7397e61abd49cd99ecc4044e692d4f.pdf](#)

Congratulations to **Greg** and **Tom** on their recent blog (21.08.2025) – **Reviewing governance at Higher Education Institutes** - *Musicum20.com*

Reviewing governance at Higher Education Institutes

Greg Whateley and Tom O'Connor

August 2025

An essential part of self-assurance (and a requirement of re-registration for that matter) is the formal review of both corporate and academic governance. Ideally this should be done on an ongoing (rolling) basis – and should not be neglected for long periods of time - as is often the case. Certain elements of governance would ideally be considered (audited) at least yearly – preferably more regularly. In terms of self-assurance auditing a quarterly regime would be ideal – or at least every time any significant change or variation takes place.

The full article can be viewed at - [6113ad_58310dddfff046cf8bb6b6a683ff7a25.pdf](#)

Congratulations to **Greg** and **Tom** on their recent blog (25.08.2025) – **The path to renewal of registration** - *Musicum20.com*

The path to renewal of registration

Greg Whateley and Tom O'Connor

August 2025

Renewal of Registration is the process of having an existing institution – in this case in the higher education sector – re-registered for up to seven years. Our own institution having been registered for the maximum seven-year period in April 2019 is due for renewal in April 2026 by the Sector Regulator (TEQSA). There has been a shift in recent times away from completing a Confirmed Evidence Table (CET) to a self-assurance model. Our personal view is that this is a positive move in the right direction.

The full article can be viewed at - [6113ad_6c2b4e88f4b74d3ab7f0f7053e0ce7e8.pdf](#)

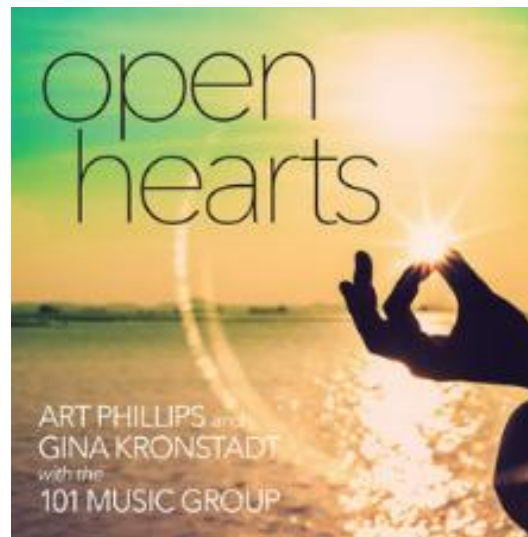
Emeritus Professor Clive Smallman is in Melbourne this week – arriving Wednesday afternoon (August 27) and departing Saturday morning (August 30).



Clive is Director, Postgraduate Studies at AGE and a key member of the team putting together the BMus re-accreditation, the renewal of registration, and the accreditation of both an MBA and a Master of Social Work (Qualifying).

For more about **Emeritus Professor Clive Smallman** see - [Prof Clive Smallman](#)

Congratulations to **Art** on his latest album release – **Open Hearts**, 101 Music Pty Ltd.



This is a collaborative work between Art Phillips (APRA) and Gina Kronstadt (ASCAP)

The album features a classic six-piece acoustic ensemble featuring Hollywood's finest studio musicians consisting of baritone electric guitar, cello, violin, bass clarinet, flute, percussion and ethereal female vocals – evoking warmth, sensitivity, sincerity, and natural beauty.

Credits include –

- Baritone Electric Guitars: *Art Phillips*
- Vocals: *Gina Kronstadt*
- Flute, Clarinet & Bass Clarinet: Bob Sheppard
- Violin: Joel Derouin
- Cello: Stefanie Fife
- Acoustic Piano: *Art Phillips*
- Keyboard Bass: *Art Phillips*
- Percussion: Felipe Fraga
- Drum Kit on Midnight Blue: Julia Day (Blue Mountains, Australia)
- Mixed & mastered by Kathy Naunton, dB Mastering (Blue Mountains, Australia)
- Executive Producer: *Art Phillips, for 101 Music Pty Ltd® (Sydney, Australia)*

- Recorded at Stagg Street Recording Studios (Van Nuys, California USA) & *101 Music Studios (Sydney, Australia)*
- Recording Engineer: Steve Shepherd (Los Angeles, California USA)
- Orchestrations: *Gina Kronstadt*

To enjoy –

Spotify - [Open Hearts - Album by ART PHILLIPS and GINA KRONSTADT with the 101 MUSIC GROUP | Spotify](#)

Amazon - [Open Hearts by ART PHILLIPS and GINA KRONSTADT with the 101 MUSIC GROUP on Amazon Music](#)



Associate Professor Art Phillips is a member of the *AGE Bachelor of Music* Course Advisory Committee

For more about **Associate Professor Art Phillips** – [BIO – ART PHILLIPS | 101 Music PTY LTD](#)

For more about 101 Music Pty Ltd - [What We Do | 101 Music PTY LTD](#)

Congratulations to **Greg** on his recent blog (25.08.2025) – **Leadership self-assurance and self-evaluation** - *Musicum20.com*

Leadership self-assurance and self-evaluation

Greg Whateley

August 2025

Leadership is complex. Having taught leadership and management for many years in the higher education sector - and held numerous leadership roles myself - I understand the importance of ongoing self-assurance activities and the value of self-evaluation in the process of determining whether the leader is performing appropriately. There are many principles of quality leadership espoused by many authors (I have identified 10 for the purpose of this discussion) that can be used to measure performance.

The full article can be viewed at - [6113ad 138149399b834165901548f913640e9a.pdf](https://6113ad138149399b834165901548f913640e9a.pdf)



A further congratulations to Greg on his 200th blog –

Media Presentations	2020 -	85
Blogs	2021 -	200
Books and Creative Works	1975 -	46

Greg started writing *blogs* (short opinion pieces) in 2021 for a number of outlets. Many were further developed into magazine articles and book chapters – and cover a range of topics particularly relevant to higher education.

Congratulations to **Jim** and **Greg** on their recent blog (25.08.2025) – **The digital disruption facing higher education: opinion – Invigilator Plus**

The digital disruption facing higher education: opinion



Authors: Emeritus Professor Jim Mieczakowski and Emeritus Professor Greg Whateley

The new reality is upon us – whether we like it or not.

AI cheat ware and HE streaming are new challenges that we need to face head-on. There is no need for panic – just a sensible approach to dealing with these new (and sometimes imposing) issues.

Prior to COVID there was media panic over self-driving vehicles taking the jobs of global millions of human truck, bus and taxi drivers.

Self-Driving Cars? Not useably here yet - unless you're ambivalent about surviving your drive home. And the much-heralded arrival of the electric car? Far more traction on this issue due to valid ecological concerns and, as ever, hyper-promotion.

But EVs remain a work in progress.

And now, Chat Bot AI. Slipping into our lives overnight like an unanticipated technological ninja, AI threatens to derail the very fabric of our current education system, or so it is said by some.

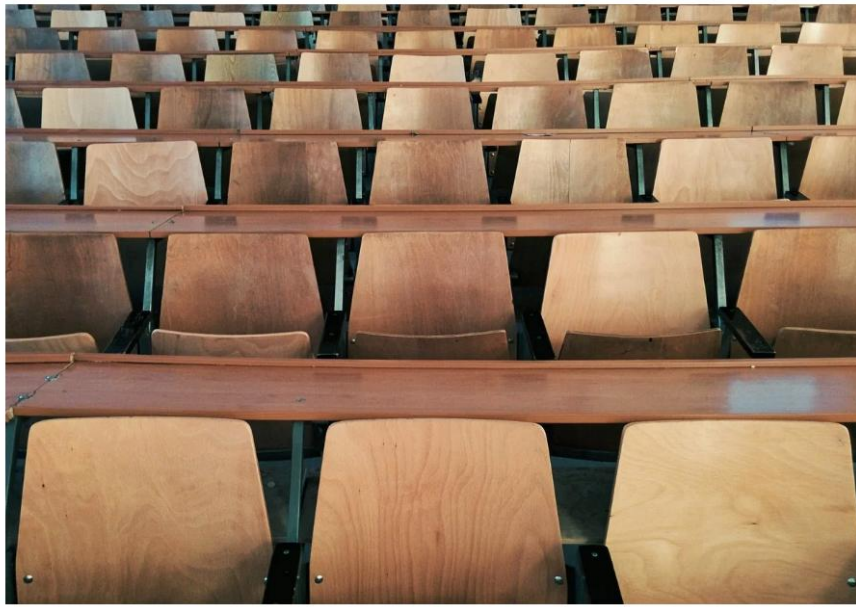
Unquestionably, it clearly does have huge potential to negatively impact both academic integrity and revenue.

The full article can be viewed at - [The digital disruption facing higher education: opinion — invigilatorPlus Blog](#)

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Congratulations to **Greg** on his recent blog (25.08.2025) – **The digital disruption facing higher education: opinion** – *Invigilator Plus*

Biggest HE challenges for 2025-26: Opinion



Author: Emeritus Professor Greg Whateley

There are always issues and challenges facing institutions in the Higher Education sector and although these do vary from year to year, some issues remain significant and longstanding.

In 2025 and 2026, there are high-profile issues that need to be at least considered – if not seriously addressed and supported.

Predicting the future is never an easy task, but certain trends provide some form of certainty.

The full article can be viewed at - [Biggest HE challenges for 2025-26: Opinion — invigilatorPlus Blog](#)

This article is republished from Campus Review under a Creative Commons license. [Read the original article.](#)

Congratulations to Greg on his invitation to provide a keynote address at the **6th Chapter of Asian Integration Initiative Series of Borderless Asia**



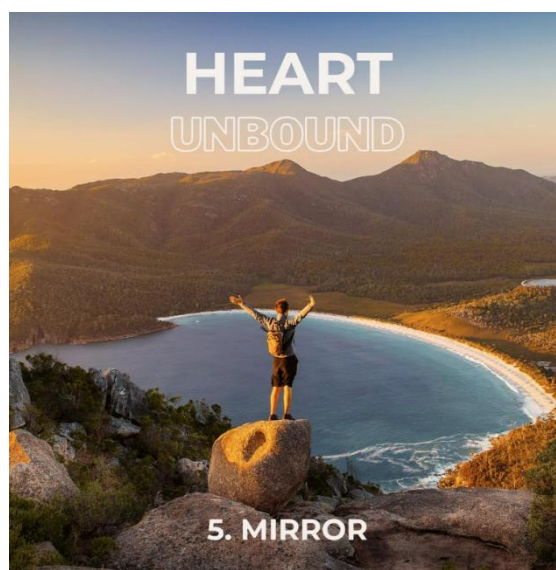
Hosted by **EIILM Kolkata** the conference (in hybrid format) will be held in Vietnam in October. Greg has been asked to focus on the topic of **transformational leadership**.



For more about the *Eastern Institute of Integrated Learning in Management* see - [EIILM-Kolkata, Jalpaiguri Campus](#)

Transformational leadership and the new reality (April 2025) - [6113ad_94f769b047444a0082b26903741fa569.pdf](#)

Congratulations to **John** and **Christopher** on their recent (26.08.2025) media production – **Mirror – Facing Yourself with Love – Heart Unbound Program – Meditation**



The recording is available at - [Meditation 5 - Mirror by Dr John McSwiney](#)

This guided meditation invites you into one of the most courageous and tender acts of emotional intelligence: seeing yourself clearly, through the lens of love.

Mirror is more than a visual exercise - it is a heart-centred practice of self-recognition and radical acceptance. In this meditation, you are gently guided to sit with your own reflection, not to critique or correct, but to acknowledge, honour, and embrace the person looking back at you. With breath as your anchor and presence as your guide, you will move beyond surface appearances and connect with the deeper truths within.

This practice develops self-compassion, softens inner judgment, and nurtures a kinder relationship with yourself. Over time, it becomes a pathway to healing old narratives, reconnecting with your worthiness, and building emotional resilience. Let this meditation be a turning point, a moment where your reflection becomes not a stranger, but a sacred ally on your journey back to your heart.

Dr **John** McSwiney is currently a member of the Course Advisory Committee for the *Master of Business Administration* accreditation project at AGE and contributing to the 'culture of scholarship'.

Associate Professor **Christopher** McLeod is currently Course Coordinator (Music) at AGE.

Congratulations to **Greg** on his recent blog (27.08.2025) – **What makes a good boss?**
– *Musicum20.com*

What makes a good boss?

Greg Whateley

August 2025

Leadership has evolved dramatically over the years (not a bad thing) and has been shaped by changing workplace cultures, technological advancements, and a deeper understanding of human motivation. Among the many roles in an organisation, 'the boss' stands somewhere between vision/execution – strategy/morale. But what truly makes a good boss? On careful consideration it is a multifaceted answer that encompasses a blend of personal qualities, professional skills - and emotional intelligence. Let's consider the big ones -

The full article can be viewed at - [6113ad_b93d1f028fb74fab8ddd969ce9e9ef5e.pdf](#)

Congratulations to **John** and **Christopher** on their recent (27.08.2025) media production – **Dance – Emotion in motion - Heart Unbound Program – Meditation**



The recording is available at - <https://on.soundcloud.com/JNUISSyEHbENLLfAhC>

"Welcome to Part Six of this meditation journey - Dance. In this practice, we invite the body to become an expression of the heart. Dance is one of the oldest and purest forms of meditation. It is movement without judgement, rhythm without rules, and freedom without boundaries. As you listen, allow yourself to release the weight of expectations. You do not need to know the steps. You do not need to look a certain way. All that matters is presence.

With each beat of the music, feel the energy flowing through you. With each breath, notice how your body longs to sway, to stretch, to move in harmony with life itself. This is not performance, it is permission. Permission to let go, to embody joy, to rediscover the rhythm that has always been within you. So, as we begin, I invite you to trust your body, trust your heart, and let your dance become a prayer, a meditation, and a celebration of your aliveness."

Dr John McSwiney is currently a member of the Course Advisory Committee for the *Master of Business Administration* accreditation project at AGE and contributing to the 'culture of scholarship'.

Associate Professor Christopher McLeod is currently Course Coordinator (Music) at AGE.

Congratulations to **Greg** and **Tom** on their recent blog (27.08.2025) – **How to maintain academic integrity** - *Musicum20.com*

How to maintain Academic Integrity

Greg Whateley

Tom O'Connor

August 2025

Academic integrity is the moral code and ethical policy that governs academic institutions and scholarly pursuits. It refers to the commitment to honesty, trust, fairness, respect, and responsibility in all areas of academic life. Upholding academic integrity is fundamental not only for individual credibility but also for the integrity of academic institutions and the value of qualifications earned. In a world where information is abundant and accessible, maintaining academic integrity can be challenging, yet it remains essential for intellectual growth, personal development, and professional success.

The full article can be viewed at - [6113ad_d55e1564f3774b89a4d85a05495f1c19.pdf](#)

Congratulations to **Christopher** on his recent performance on horn for the opening of *Norwood Secondary College's* production of **Oliver**.



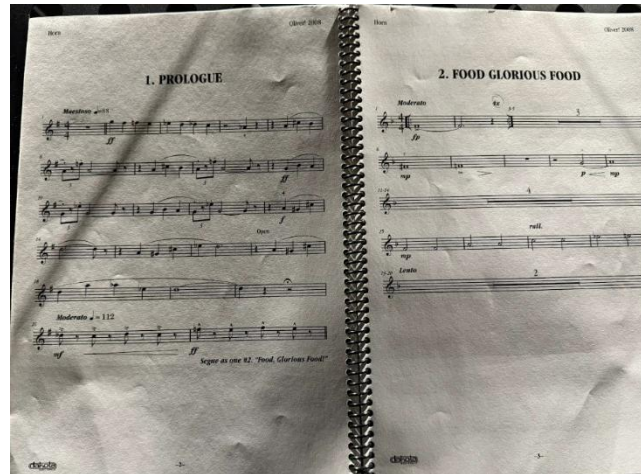
College Production – Norwood Secondary College

The production is being presented at the *Karralyka Centre* over three nights - [Home Karralyka](#)



The Horn (Brass) section members are all pro players. *Ash Bartley* and *Luke Dema* (former students of Associate Professor Jordan Murray), *Tom McCracken* (Plan B big band), and **Christopher** (AGE).





Given our current focus on **pedagogy** (Music/Early Childhood) – this kind of involvement in *school activities* is extremely valuable and will be very useful to our programming in the coming years.



For more about **Associate Professor Chistopher McLeod** see - [Associate Professor Christopher McLeod | musicum20](#)

Congratulations to **Greg** and **Tom** on their recent blog (29.08.2025) – **The working from home (WFH) debate and proposed legislation** - *Musicum20.com*

The working from home (WFH) debate and proposed legislation

Greg Whateley

Tom O'Connor

August 2025

The current debate (certainly in Victoria) rages around the government's announcement to introduce legislation to give workers the right to work from home at least two days a week. In recent years, the concept of working from home has transitioned from a niche arrangement to a mainstream reality for millions - across the globe. No doubt facilitated by technological advances and the COVID-19 pandemic, remote work has become an integral element of contemporary employment. Many celebrate the flexibility and autonomy that working from home provides - others voice concerns about productivity, work-life balance, and societal impacts. As a result, the debate surrounding remote work has intensified, prompting governments and organisations to consider new legislation and policies to address the evolving landscape.

The full article can be viewed at - [6113ad_3112f62365ec466b8d770e91dfdf7192.pdf](#)

When you look at the first line and think you could play that. But Chopin was just messing with you

Lento

Piano

p

pp

rit.

Allegro con brio. ($\text{♩} = 69$)

f *risoluto*

div.

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Report

August 2025