



Annual Report 2018-2019



Chairperson’s Report

Background

Centre for Universal Design Australia Ltd (CUDA) was founded 11 January 2016 and established itself as a virtual hub and clearinghouse for research and practice in the areas of universal design, inclusion and accessibility across a diverse range of disciplines. In January 2018 CUDA became a registered charity. All activities are currently undertaken voluntarily by board members.

Activities

CUDA relies on the goodwill of members and social media followers to keep universal design and inclusive practice front on mind in the wider world. Thank you for your persistence. Also, my sincere thanks my fellow board members for the hard work and continuous dedication throughout the year. I look forward to working with you all for yet another productive year. The next section lists CUDA’s activities for the year.

Education

CUDA developed its first online learning course, Introduction to Universal Design, which covers the seven classic principles, the eight goals, stereotyping and diversity. This course will continue to be open access. There are plans to develop modules that build on this entry level course. At the end of June 2019 there were a total of 440 students with 200 completing the course. If the 70 students who enrolled but did not start the course are omitted, this equates to a completion rate of more than 50%.

Preparation for the 3rd Australian Universal Design Conference in Brisbane was a major activity for the organisation this year. The theme was “Home and Away: Creating Inclusion Everywhere” with major strands for housing and tourism. We were delighted to have three notable keynote speakers for this two day event: Ms Nicki Hutley from Deloitte Access Economics, Ms Amy Child from Arup, and Mr Chris Veitch, UK Accessible Tourism Champion.



1: Final Panel Session at the 2018 conference: MC Lenna Klintworth and panelists L-R Emily Steel, Jane Bringolf, Penny Galbraith, and Chris Vietch.

Other educational and information activities included the following:

- Organised a Breakfast event with LendLease: [Universal Design: Revolution or Evolution?](#) Panel session speakers were Chris Vietch, Fiona Morrison and Jason Barker.
- Invited panel member for North Sydney Architecture and Access Event: [In Conversation: Architecture and Accessibility](#)
- Invited panel member for Queensland University of Technology Design for All Week Symposium: [visABILITY through Design](#)
- Invited panel member for Australian Hotel Industry Conference [Inclusive Tourism Workshop](#).



In Conversation Panellists: L-R Jane Bringolf, Mark Relf, Philip Graus with moderator Fenella Kernebone.

Papers and conference presentations

Directors presented papers at two conferences this reporting year.

- Community Housing Industry Association NSW: [Building in Accessibility: ABCB Accessible Housing Options Paper](#)
- UDHEIT2018 (Universal Design Conference) Dublin [Home Coming? A Story of Reassurance, Opportunity and Hope for Universally Designed Housing in Australia](#)
- UDHEIT2018 (Universal Design Conference) Dublin [From the Ground Up: Establishing a Centre for Universal Design in Australia](#)
- UDHEIT2018 (Universal Design Conference) Dublin [A Practitioner's Universal Design Approach Making a Difference to Distressed Assets in Sri Lanka](#)
- UDHEIT2018 (Universal Design Conference) Dublin [Universal Design in Housing in Australia: Getting to Yes](#)

Magazine articles

- Building Connection: [Livable Housing: We ain't getting any younger](#)
- Inner Sydney Voice: [Out and About with Universal Design](#)

Submissions and other contributions to public policy

CUDA made submissions to government inquiries on social inclusion, disability and ageing, and was invited to participate in numerous workshops, roundtables and other community consultations related to public policy. The list below serves to show the diversity of topics covered by CUDA.

- United Nations Conference of State Parties (COSP) to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (2018) side event on Policies and Practices Promoting innovation in ICT and enabling access to assistive technology
- Submission to Australian Building Codes Board Accessible Housing Options Paper (2018)
- New South Wales Government: Everyone Can Play guideline development and community consultation process.
- Submission to Commonwealth Science Council: Council of Learned Academies’ on artificial intelligence to ensure the inclusion of people with disability
- NSW Veterans Affairs Anzac Memorial extension – participation in community consultations
- National Disability Strategy and Indigenous People with Disability workshop consultation
- Australian Standards committees: ISO TSP 269 (Aging Societies) Leadership Group
- World-first Standards on cognitive accessibility published by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) (Technical Committee 173, Working Group 10)
- University of Technology Autonomous Vehicles Workshop – community consultation

Other activities:

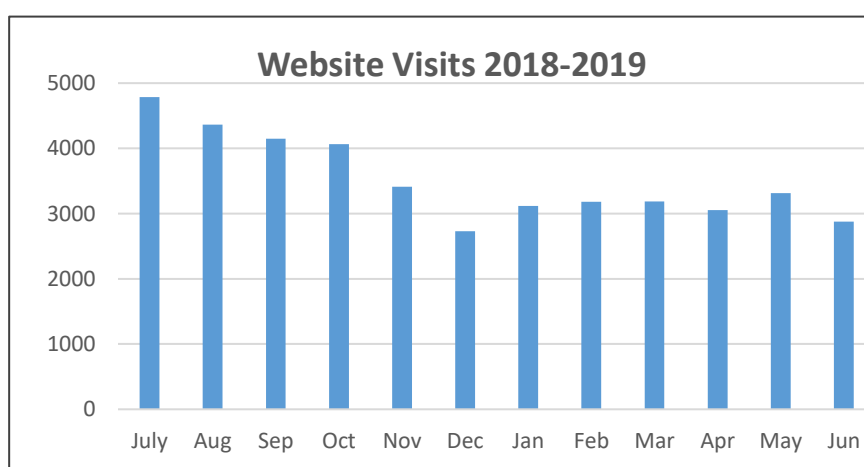
Directors participated in various community consultations, committees, roundtables and specialist workshops. These included the Greater Sydney Commission, Healthy Built Environment Working Group, Local Government NSW DIAP working party, NSW Veterans Affairs Anzac Memorial extensions, City of Sydney Inclusion Panel, Sydney Modern Art Gallery, and Sydney Olympic Park Authority.

Membership

The new Life Membership option has proved popular for individuals who want to have the convenience of not needing to renew each year. All members are eligible to use the CUDA logo on condition that it is used responsibly. And of course, members are entitled to a discount for the Universal Design Conference and other activities.

Website statistics for July 2018 to June 2019

Website views have levelled out with a small overall increase in traffic for the year (42,228 compared to 39,002 last year). The chart below shows a high visitor rate in the second half of 2018, which was likely due to the Conference in early September 2018. The monthly views continue to average between 3000-4000. The number of discrete visitors averages 1450 per month.



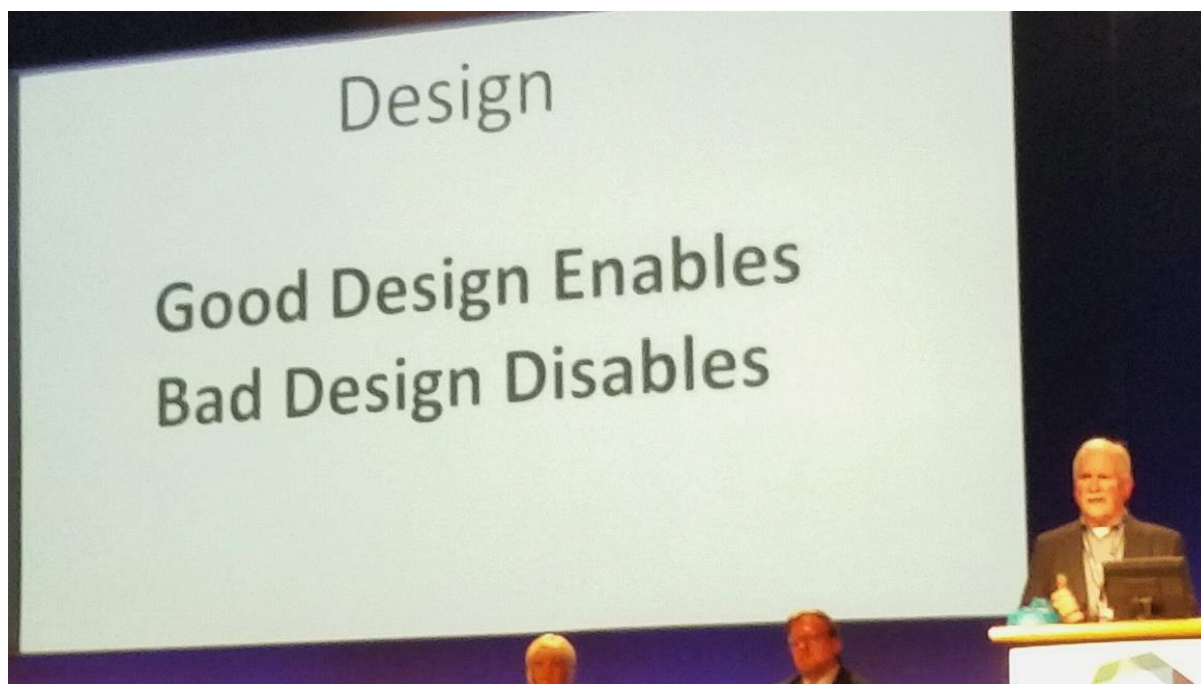
CUDA's website is an important part of operations as a repository of information covering research papers, news items, and opinion pieces on the topic of inclusive practice and universal design. At the end of June, the number of active posts totalled over 800. Apart from the Home Page and the page linking to Introduction to Universal Design e-learning, analysis of the most viewed posts revealed that no particular topic was more popular than another. However, the 8 Goals of Universal Design and the 7 Principles of Universal Design were once again in the top ten posts for the year. The regular posts on conferences and events were also popular.

Looking to the Future

Planning for the 4th Australian Universal Design Conference to be held in Melbourne 12-13 May has begun in earnest, and a new e-learning course on housing will be launched soon.

Dr Jane Bringolf

Chair, Centre for Universal Design Australia Ltd



Dr Ger Craddock from Centre for Excellence in Universal Design in Ireland opens the UDHEIT conference in Dublin with an appropriate statement.

Board of Directors 2018-2019



Jane Bringolf: BSSc, MBA, PhD, Churchill Fellow (Chair).

Jane has worked in community services for more than thirty years and has a broad understanding of the sector, particularly ageing and disability. A recipient of a Churchill Fellowship in 2004, Jane travelled overseas to investigate organisations pursuing universal design, accessible environments and assistive technology. She later completed a PhD in urban studies focusing on universal design in housing. Jane gained her grounding in universal design as Executive Director with the Independent Living Centre NSW, and put this knowledge to use more recently as Liveable Communities Project Manager with Council on the Ageing NSW (COTA NSW).

Jane attended 9 out of 10 meetings.



Phillippa Carnemolla: BIndDes, MDes, PhD

Phillippa is a Research Fellow and Industrial Designer with extensive experience in design practice, research and education. Phillipa has a Bachelor of Industrial Design and Masters of Design (Research) from University of Technology, Sydney, and a PhD from UNSW, Sydney. Her PhD, completed in 2015, investigated the impact of home modifications on caregiving and health-related quality of life. Phillipa's research interests are focused on human-centred and inclusive design of housing, urban infrastructure and new technologies for older people and people living with disability.

Phillippa attended 5 out of 7 meetings.



Phillip Taylor: BSc (Hons), MSc, PhD

Philip has almost 30 years of experience as an expert researcher, policy writer and governmental and NGO advisor on workforce ageing. His interests include individual orientations to work and retirement, employer behaviour towards older workers and international developments in public policy aimed at extending working life. He holds professorial positions with the University of Melbourne and Federation University Australia and is a research fellow in think tank Per Capita's Centre for Applied Policy for Positive Ageing (CAPPA).

Philip attended 5 out of 10 meetings



Queenie Tran: BArch, MArch

Queenie has developed extensive experience in architecture and access consulting. She has provided expert guidance in accessibility with relation to residential, health, commercial and industrial projects. In 2010, Queenie established 'Wall to Wall Design + Consulting' as an architectural design and consultancy practice with a commitment in developing functional and aesthetic solutions, inclusive of all people and their needs. More recently, Queenie has been working with the NFP sector to increase the supply and quality of housing for people with disability, including Summer Housing as the Housing Projects Manager.

Queenie attended 1 out of 2 meetings. Queenie resigned September 2018.



Lisa Stafford: PhD

Lisa is a social planner, social scientist, and a Lecturer at QUT in the School of Public Health and Social Work. She has 17 years of experience in the field of disability and inclusion with a specific focus on the social-spatial needs of children, young people and their families. Part of this work included the development and management of All Abilities Playground Projects across Queensland between State and Local Governments. Previously Lisa worked in practitioner, management and director roles in government and non-government organisations. As a researcher, Lisa specialises in person-environment studies and applied research in Inclusive Communities and Social-Spatial Justice. Specific areas of interest: universal design neighbourhoods, mobility, inclusive play spaces, and regional area perspectives.

Lisa attended 1 out of 2 meetings. Lisa resigned September 2018.



Penny Galbraith: FAIB, FRICS, PhD

Penny is a built environment professional with a career long interest in accessibility and universal design. Consultancy roles have covered a range of clients and built environment forms including: Underwater World, State Library of Queensland, Princes Pier, master planning senior living villages, NW Rail Link, and more recently helping the City for Greater Geelong determine 'what accessible looks like'. Strategy, research and futures thinking underpin Penny's work.

Penny attended 9 out of 10 meetings.



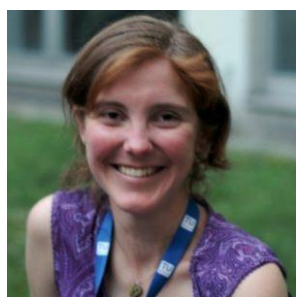
Sarah Davidson

Sarah has a strong background in education and training, particularly in the community sector, relating to health and ageing. Working for peak bodies she has extensive experience in working with volunteers, leading teams, and peer education. Sarah has worked in senior management roles and business development. She is particularly interested in consumer and stakeholder engagement and capacity building within an education framework. Sarah was appointed in August 2018 and attended 7 out of 9 meetings.



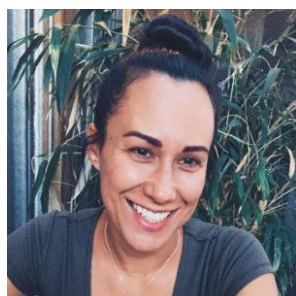
John Evernden: BSc (Tech) Civil Eng; BAppSc Ecotourism

Over many years John has used his civil engineering background at local government level to help create public domains that consider all aspects of equitable and dignified access for people of all ages, capabilities and backgrounds. His skills also include ecotourism and the sustainability of the natural environment as well as the built environment. John is also an accredited access consultant. John was appointed in September 2018 and attended 7 out of 7 meetings.



Emily Steel BOccThy, MSc(Hons), PhD

Emily is a Senior Lecturer in Human Services and Occupational Therapist who has worked as a clinician, manager and researcher in Australia, the United Kingdom and the Netherlands. Her research has investigated policies and practices for implementing disability rights and providing assistive technology in Europe and Australia. Emily is involved in the drafting of new international standards for cognitive accessibility, promoting universal design strategies to make products and systems easier to understand and use. Emily was appointed in September 2018 and attended 6 out of 7 meetings.



Tanisha Cowell BOccThy (Hons), AdvDip Interior Design

Tanisha is an occupational therapist who has turned her hand to access consulting and has a special interest in architecture and the built environment. She has a strong interest in universal, biophilic and active design and believes that should be the foundation of all built environments. Tanisha has direct experience working with individuals with disability, and indirect experience working in disability access. Based in Victoria, Tanisha is a consultant with Equal Access Group. Tanisha was appointed in January 2019 and attended 3 out of 4 meetings.

Centre for Universal Design Australia Ltd

Income and Expenditure Statement

for year ended 30 June 2019

	2018-2019	2017-2018
INCOME		
Bal b/fwd	1646.18	904.19
Membership fees	3115.62	2225.63
Donations	110.00	559.18
Other Income -		
Newsletter advertising	330.00	0
Workshop/event fees	465.48	800.00
Community consultations	0	210.00
Bank Interest	12.92	9.91
TOTAL INCOME	\$5680.20	\$4708.91
EXPENDITURE		
Meeting expense	349.19	510.45
Workshop/event fees	565.48	0
Travel expenses	386.96	0
ASIC fees	1224.00	1201.00
AGM room hire	0	253.00
Insurances	1098.28	1098.28
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$3623.91	\$3062.73
Income less Expenditure	\$2056.29	\$1646.18

Cash at bank as at 30 June 2019 was \$2056.29. GST owing to the ATO at the end of this period was \$180.00 and was paid in the following period.