



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Throughout 2018 ASID has continued to provide a unique voice and platform for 'research to practice' in Intellectual Disability across Australasia. We have resourced, connected with and supported our members and stakeholders through our journals, workshops, webinars, podcasts, IDA magazine, e-blasts, representation to government, a new position statement and of course our annual conference which is a highlight of the year for many.

My first year as the President of ASID Ltd has flown by. It has been a steep learning curve to lead our organisation through a year marked by achievements and hurdles. The disability sector across Australia and New Zealand continues to endure rapid and significant change, which presents both challenges and opportunities for us.

Some of our highlights for year include:

Strategic Direction ([see board report on page 32](#))

Influence:

Throughout the year ASID Ltd has made representation to Australian State Governments on matters including the treatment of people with intellectual disability in prisons, the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS), and access to mental health services (and broader health services) for people with intellectual disability.

Our new position statement on 'Addressing the shortcomings of Dedifferentiation' has been published on our website. The literature review which informed the paper is also available via open access.

In response to invitations we've attended the 2018 National Roundtable on Mental Health of People with Intellectual Disability and the Right Here, Right Now symposium on preventing abuse and promoting personal safety for young people with disability. In November 2018 we also participated in a think tank focused on improving health and life expectancy of people with intellectual disability.

Communication:

We continue to grow and strengthen our communication strategies. Our email e-blasts have a growing readership and our presence and engagement on social media is increasing with leaps and bounds. You can find us on Twitter, Facebook and LinkedIn.

After a very successful Series 1, 2018 has been the launch of Series 2 of the ASID Podcasts. At last

count our audience was well over 700 and the feedback has been glowing. A huge thank you to Hilary Johnson, Sophia Tipping and Ben Pawson (otherwise known as the Podcast team) for all your hard work arranging and then working the ASID Story Booth and Podcast recordings at ASID2018. I know many conference delegates (myself included) will be tuning into the next episodes of the podcast series.



Laura Hogan

2018 ASID President
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ASID 2018 'Shaking it up, Human Rights for Everyone'

From the 14th – 16th November almost 300 delegates from Australia, New Zealand, SE Asia, UK, America and Canada came together at the Gold Coast Convention Centre to shake things up and SHAKE IT they did! We look forward to providing you with a full conference report soon but in the meantime a few tidbits:

- ASID2018 had a record number of delegates with a lived experience of disability
- We live tweeted 5 of the 7 keynotes (a first for us)
- We captured many self-advocate stories via our Story Booth
- We are producing a podcast of conference highlights
- Verbal feedback from many delegates said that it was one of the best ASID conferences they have attended

With thanks

The above is a small snapshot of some of our achievements and what we have been working on over the past 12 months, however none of this is achieved without an excellent team. A sincere thank you to the ASID Board of Directors for 2018 – Angus Buchanan, Ben Crothers, Allyson Thomson, Bernadette Curryer, Sharon Brandford, Hilary Johnson, Richard O'Loughlin, Morrie O'Connor, Christine Bigby, Paul O'Dea, Ruth Firstbrook, David Treanor and Debbie Espiner.

Our work is also supported and progressed by our wonderful Executive Officer, Dee Sidhu. The appointment of an EO has provided us with a significant increase to our capacity and output.