



Our vision is that action learning, action research and related processes and approaches are widely used and publicly shared by individuals and groups creating local and global change for the achievement of a more equitable, just, joyful, productive, peaceful and sustainable society

ABN: 41 587 420 126

Issue 2, June 2012



### ***From the President***

The end of the financial year is upon us and ALARA is gearing up for a big Conference in September. We are also implementing other initiatives which we discuss in this newsletter.

We have received advice that Informit has received the last few volumes of *Action Learning, Action Research Journal*, which means they will soon be searchable from their database.

ALARA has signed an agreement with Sydney University Press (SUP) that will allow Print on Demand for ALARA's publications. Members and non-members can order printed copies of the publications listed with SUP. Once these publications become available, anyone will be able to order one or more copies from SUP's website. We are commencing the arrangements with the Monograph series. We have provided Issue 3, and will soon provide issues 1 and 2. Visitors to the site will also be able to purchase pdf version of the Monograph (and members know that they can get that file for free from the ALARA website).

We will also be asking SUP to print and send the latest ALAR Journal to members (see below).

Colin Bradley  
President  
[president@alara.net.au](mailto:president@alara.net.au)



**ALARA 2012 Conference Bookings  
now open – [www.alara.net.au](http://www.alara.net.au)  
Early Bird closes 2 July**

**Distribute to your networks!**

**2012 ALARA Australasian Conference  
Achieving Sustainable Outcomes  
through Dialogue and Engagement  
Sydney, Australia – 2 and 5 September**

This year's conference has grown into a great event with three pre-conference workshops, one post-conference workshop, over 25 presentations and half-a-dozen panels. The Conference will facilitate opportunities for delegates to learn and discuss great ideas on Action Learning and Action Research, and their use in organisational, educational, societal and personal settings.

We are pleased to have Australian Institute of Business as the principal sponsor for the Conference.



### **Workshops**

- *Introduction to Action Learning and Action Research* with Bob Dick
- *Discovering Creative Approaches to Sustainability using Soft Systems Methodology* - Dr John Molineux
- *So They Know They Need Us: Influencing Policy Maker's Understanding of Action Research* - Drs Susan Goff and Ross Colliver

- *Life as Action Research - Dr Yoland Wadsworth*

**Presentations** (include)

- *Stakeholder Voices: turning the Responsibility pyramid upside down*
- *Action Research for Sustainable HIV Prevention*
- *Developing a Science Based Curriculum Framework for a Flexible Learning Centre Context*
- *So you think you are doing Action Research. Indicators of Enactment of Participatory Action Research in Higher Education*
- *The Researcher Participants relationship in Action Research*

**Panels** (include)

- *Action Learning in the Community Services Sector*
- *Educational Research*
- *Capacity Development of Action Researchers at Tertiary Institutions*
- *Action Research for Sustainable Development in a Turbulent World*

This list shows that we will have a very interesting and diverse conference.

We are also very pleased to have Emerald Insight sponsoring the cocktail party launch of *Action Research for Sustainable Development in a Turbulent World* edited by Ortrun Zuber-Skerritt, with contributions by several members of ALARA.



**Early Bird Bookings close 2 July**

Register by going to the ALARA website, [www.alara.net.au](http://www.alara.net.au) and clicking the “register here” link.

Colin Bradley at [president@alara.net.au](mailto:president@alara.net.au)

**Request for billeting**

If you live in Sydney and can offer accommodation to conference delegates in your home we would love to hear from you.

Please contact Robyn with your details on: [academic\\_discourse@hotmail.com](mailto:academic_discourse@hotmail.com)



**Membership**

ALARA has decided to use a third party service, offered by the organisation that provides the Conference registration website, to support membership applications and renewals. The transition to this new service is complex as ALARA has many different types of membership and offers a reduced rate when people join later in ALARA’s membership year. This transition will take a couple of months to complete, but renewals are available via this service.

You have recently received an email providing the details for renewal for the 2012/2013 year.

Membership provides you with many benefits, such as

- Supporting collaborative learning, research and action
- Significant fee reduction for ALARA events such as the Sydney Conference
- Biannual ALAR Journal
- Monograph series, with Issue 4 due later this year
- Fortnightly updates on AL / AR activities
- Involvement in the growing international AL / AR network – some of our Management Committee members are contacting like-organisations to expand that network

and much more!

Please renew and continue to support ALARA, and gain the above benefits.

Colin Bradley [president@alara.net.au](mailto:president@alara.net.au)



**Publication News**

**Journal**

You will have received notification of the electronic link to Issue 1 for 2012 of the Journal. We are arranging the printing of that Issue through Sydney University Press and you will receive that copy in July.

This will be the last hard copy publication of the journal. We will provide you with the link to the electronic version of future issues, and if you prefer a printed copy, you will be able to obtain a copy from Sydney University Press. The Chief Editor role for Issue 2 this year moves to Phil Crane. Thank you Phil!

**2010 World Congress publication**

The publication is coming along well. We have 22 articles, which have been peer reviewed and resubmitted. The publication will depart from the Congress themes and be based on a more integrated approach to AR and AL. The texts are differentiated by approaches that are emergent and those that apply a pre-existing theoretical stance. We hope to launch the publication at the conference and to make it available for printing on demand.

We thank the authors and reviewers for your great contributions and patience.

Susan Goff  
Managing Editor

**Monograph**

Eileen Piggot-Irvine, the editor of the ALARA Monograph series, has advised that she is working on the next Monograph, which will be available later this year.

If you would like to publish a Monograph in this series, please contact Eileen at [Eileen.Piggotirvine@RoyalRoads.ca](mailto:Eileen.Piggotirvine@RoyalRoads.ca)



**ALARA on Facebook**

Last year, some members of the Conference Organising Committee set up an ALARA Facebook page. Recently, Robyn Taylor developed a group site for the 2012 Conference,

and Claudia Gillberg, Deb Lange and Cathryn Lloyd create a separate Facebook group site to enhance discussions amongst organisations with similar aims and interests to ALARA. These sites are an important complement to ALARA's communication with the World about AL and AR.

Why not join us in the conversations? The Conference site is at <http://www.facebook.com/groups/131822073618358/#!/groups/131822073618358/>

The Streams site is at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/218695368241066/>

Claudia Gillberg & Robyn Taylor



**History of ALARA**

In the last newsletter, I indicated that I was trying to compile the history of ALARA through the documents and publications it produced.

I have received some information and documents, and promises of more, but there are still gaps. Most surprisingly, I discovered that I do not have all of the Journals!

*Can You Help?*

Examples of the gaps include:

- Annual Reports (presented to AGMs or distributed to members)
- Annual statutory reports to the Queensland Department of Fair Trading (and its predecessors)
- Annual Auditors reports
- Publications, such as newsletters
- Journals from Issue 11 to 16
- Conference and World Congress Proceedings publications – there have been 15 Conferences and eight World Congresses, and I am missing much of the history, promotional material and presented papers / Proceedings from these events
- Promotional material for the Conferences and World Congresses, as well as any other event

- Lists of the Management Committees
- Minutes of meetings of the Management Committees

I would like to get any other examples of ALARA history. I can arrange transportation if required. If any item is your personal copy, we can discuss how I can gain a copy (for example, by scanning).

Please contact me if you discover anything that might be useful, even if you believe I probably already have the item.

Colin Bradley at [president@alara.net.au](mailto:president@alara.net.au)



**Group Contacts... If you want to get together with other action researchers and action learners – contact someone and do lunch (or Skype)!**

**Melbourne ALARA Network contact details: Jill Sanguinetti, [Jill.Sanguinetti@vu.edu.au](mailto:Jill.Sanguinetti@vu.edu.au); Bill Genat, [bgenat@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:bgenat@unimelb.edu.au)**

**Sydney ALARA network contact details: Susan Goff, [susan.g@cultureshift.com.au](mailto:susan.g@cultureshift.com.au)**



**Cairns ALARA network contact details: Robyn Lynn, [secretary@alara.com.au](mailto:secretary@alara.com.au); Michelle Redman-MacClaren, [michelle.maclaren@jcu.edu.au](mailto:michelle.maclaren@jcu.edu.au)**

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**Indigenous Action Research and Action Learning contact: Michael Wright, [michaelw@ichr.uwa.edu.au](mailto:michaelw@ichr.uwa.edu.au)**

**Asia Pacific Action Research and Action Learning contact: Amoy Ong, [aymong@aol.com](mailto:aymong@aol.com)**

**UK and Europe Action Research and Action Learning contact: Marian Naidoo, [marian@naidoo.org.uk](mailto:marian@naidoo.org.uk)**

We thank everyone who agreed to make themselves available as a friendly face for practitioners near and far.

If you want to add your name to this Group Contact list, please let [editor@alara.net.au](mailto:editor@alara.net.au) know!



**Management Committee Membership**

The Management Committee welcomed back Claudia Gillberg, who has re-joined to assist with the coordination of the Streams. Thanks Claudia.

We are approaching the time when ALARA calls for nominations for the Management Committee. If you would like to know what we do, how much time it takes and whether you should nominate, please contact one of the Committee members during the next month or so. We would welcome the inquiry and we hope you will want to join us. We will also welcome those who wish to provide assistance in a particular area, but not actually join the Committee.



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**ALARA Management Committee 2011-2012**

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