

MOU

A Memorandum of Understanding was sent out to member societies in April. The societies have agreed in principle with its contents, but negotiations have continued to refine the terms of the MOU. The main area of concern was a need for further clarification of some clauses regarding:

- equity across all societies and individuals within the new direct membership model
- division of responsibilities between the central administration and branches
- the opportunity for societies that don't approve the plan in the first vote to have a second vote within four months of the IPEd Council vote
- other operational and policy matters referred to WP4 project teams.

As a result the MOU has been reissued to societies with some minor alterations and the IPEd Council is awaiting the return of signed copies.

PROJECT TEAMS

Each of the five project teams has been working towards the production of a Green Paper that will contain a summary of their feedback from member societies, with a set of recommendations for the transition.

It is difficult to predict accurate timelines due to the complexity of working with volunteers in seven different societies, each with competing personal priorities as well as those of the society members to whom they report. However, we expect that these green papers will be ready for distribution to societies on a rolling basis between September and December this year.

Following a period of discussion by each society and its members, we anticipate that a final Transition Plan will be ready for a national ballot in May 2015, with a view to the actual transition taking place on 1 July 2015.

Summary of progress to date

Project team roles and objectives	Progress to date
<p>1. Legal and governance (L&G)</p> <p>The team's role is to define and develop the overall legal, regulatory and governance framework for the national direct membership organisation, its branches and members. Its role does not cover operating procedures, but the governance structure,</p>	<p>Team members: Charles Houen Vic, Team leader; Col Roberts, CSE; Roberta Blake, Qld; Rob Sheehan, Vic.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - obtained legal advice on deregistration/winding up of societies and transfer of funds according to state/territory legislation - developed principles of governance

<p>constitution and policies that will enable and regulate those procedures. Its objective is to define how the societies will transfer members and assets to the new national body, and to develop the constitution and policies needed for the effective operation of that body.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - obtained legal advice regarding a draft constitution <p>Next steps will be to distribute the revised Principles of Governance paper which will underpin the formulation of policies and procedures.</p>
<p>2. Finance and operations (F&O)</p> <p>The team's role is to define and develop the operating procedures for the national direct membership organisation's board or council, branches and national office. Its objective is to define how all activities of the national body's council, branches and national staff will operate, within the rules established by the constitution and policies paper; to achieve fairness for both small and large societies; provide sufficient income for IPEd; and minimise administrative complexity where possible.</p>	<p>Team members: Charles Houen, Vic, Team leader; Maree Petersen, CSE; Karl Craig, Qld; Wendy Elks, Vic.</p> <p>This group's work will be framed by the work of the other project teams, so much of their work is still to be done. Policies and procedures will be developed around central and branch activities, record keeping, staff selection, budgeting and accounting across all areas of activity.</p>
<p>3. Membership</p> <p>The team's role is to define and develop national membership levels, fees and benefits. A national freelance register will also be considered by this team, in tandem with F&O, and with reference to the national website (Communication team). The Membership team should also have input to the membership record system and degree of involvement of branches in application approvals and other operational matters related to membership, which would be dealt with under F&O and/or L&G.</p>	<p>Team members: Kerry Davies, Qld, Team leader; Anna Boots, CSE; Bronwen Perry, Vic; Adele Walker, SA; Alexandra Davies, WA.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - conducted survey of current membership criteria - developing draft membership structure including voting and non-voting membership criteria and categories, and suggested annual fees. <p>Next steps will be to finalise the membership structure draft for distribution and ensure all comments and feedback are addressed.</p>
<p>4. Communication</p> <p>The team's role is to define and develop the communication framework for the national organisation and the processes for transition to this framework. Its objectives are to define the communication channels and methods the national organisation will employ to communicate with members, branches, industry and the general public, to define the nature of information to be disseminated through these channels and the frequency of publication, and to recommend processes for transition from the current member society communication models to the</p>	<p>Team members: Katy McDevitt, SA; Deborah Singerman, NSW; Sue Pavasaris, CSE; Rebecca Harris, Qld; Iaan Wiltshire, Vic; Tina Mattei, Vic.</p> <p>Team leader position is being undertaken by WP4 Project manager at present due to recent resignation of Denise Holden.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - detailed scoping and survey of existing newsletters, websites and social media - sub-groups of websites, newsletters and social media working on separate task lists. - Developing draft policies for central and branch communications

national communication model.	
<p>5. Professional development</p> <p>This team is responsible for developing a strategy and a mechanism for delivery of an equitable, cost-effective professional development program for IPEd members. Professional development includes: provision of training for editors through face-to-face workshops and online courses (including those provided by similar overseas organisations, such as SfEP); conferences; accreditation; mentoring; provision of information on professional development opportunities (including tertiary courses) to present and prospective editors.</p> <p>Recommendations made by this team may be the seeds of an IPEd policy of focusing on continuing professional development for editors.</p> <p>The team's objectives are to recommend a strategy and a mechanism to achieve equitable advancement of the quality, skills and expertise of Australian editors via nationally coordinated professional development programs.</p>	<p>Team members: Robin Bennett, Qld, Team leader; Elizabeth Murphy, CSE; James Dixon, CSE; Hilary Cadman, NSW; Meryl Potter, NSW; Trischa Mann, Vic; Renee Otmar, Vic; Marianne Hammat, SA.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - conducted survey of training priorities - updating existing database of each society's training and aligning individual training to <i>Australian Standards for Editing Practice</i> in order to prioritise. <p>Next steps will be to analyse survey data to make recommendations for future training programs; develop policies to ensure equity of training opportunities, including development of online training programs; review and develop as required, policies regarding accreditation, national conferences and mentorship.</p>

Thank you to all those councillors, committee members and other individuals who have contributed to this project. A special thanks also to project team members who have already put in many hours of voluntary work to get us to this stage.

I trust we will continue to receive your feedback, all of which will be considered most respectfully and gratefully. I urge you all to spread the word and involve as many editors as possible in our future deliberations

Rosemary Noble
Project Manager