

Postgraduate Representatives Report AHA Annual General Meeting – 10 July 2014

As at 28 June, the AHA had 243 active postgraduate members.

Our two year term on the Executive Committee comes to a close with this AGM. During that time we have shown how well sharing the position can work, alternating our attendance at the quarterly executive meetings, and liaising about conference planning and other events over email.

Our agenda for this year was driven by our engagement with the postgraduate community during and after the 2013 Conference. At the conference in Wollongong we organised a postgraduate discussion forum, and the students who participated in the forum indicated that they desired greater opportunities for networking with senior academics. Our response to this was to invite some senior academics to the Postgraduate Social Event at this year's conference. Frank Bongiorno, Richard White, Stuart Carroll and Joan Beaumont came along to meet some of the postgraduate students at the Red Bar on Tuesday night, and it was such a success that we hope it will be repeated in future years – although that will be a decision for our successors. We would like to thank Frank, Richard, Stuart and Joan for their support.

The first postgraduate skills session at the conference in 2013 was well attended and well received, so this year we organised a session looking at post-PhD pathways. The aim of this session was to highlight the range of careers available to those with postgraduate qualifications in history. Leigh Boucher spoke about his career as a lecturer at Macquarie; Rebecca Jones discussed her experience as a DECRA recipient at ANU, as well as her background in public history; Laila Ellmoos also represented the experience of a public historian; and Rosalie Triolo offered insight into the life of the history teacher. This was a great event, and we would like to thank all the speakers for their insights.

The AHA [Facebook group](#) continues to grow, and now has around 326 members. The [LinkedIn group](#) has 174 members. Information about conferences, job opportunities, and events is posted regularly in both groups, with the Facebook group seeing more activity than LinkedIn at the moment.

At this AGM, we hand over to our successors. We hope they enjoy the role as much as we have. We would like to thank the Executive Committee for their support over the past two years, and for taking

Anne Rees and Kate Matthew
July 2014