



**Australian
Citizen Science
Association**

Annual Report 2016

Chair's Report

22 November 2016

In my first report as Chair of the Australian Citizen Science Association (ACSA), I can report that the ACSA Management Committee has made great progress so far in terms of helping to drive and establish the citizen science agenda in Australia.

This report describes the many highlights from ACSA's work for 2015-2016. The Management Committee has also worked behind the scenes to comment on various initiatives and policy pieces. For example, we provided comment on the round of federal grant funding for citizen science which was announced this Monday by Minister Greg Hunt. We have also been very active on social media through our Facebook and Twitter accounts. A special thank you to Michelle Neil and Jessie Cappadonna for their tireless work in this space.

I've summarised a few of ACSA's achievements below.

- Finalised our 3 year Strategic Plan
- Became incorporated
- Secured establishment funding for ACSA and ongoing funding for 3 years thanks to Inspiring Australia
- Collaborated with Atlas of Living Australia to develop a national Citizen Science project finder
- Commenced design and development of a new ACSA website with Gaia Resources
- Introduced the Innovation in Citizen Science Eureka award
- Signed an MoU with associations in the US (CSA) and Europe (ECSA)
- Developed a draft ACSA Communication Plan
- Formed a National Projects working group
- Initiated a process of developing Regional Chapters
- Secured funding for a Support Officer (2 days/week)

These activities will stand ACSA in good stead for the future, supplemented, very importantly, by good day-to-day relationships with our membership and partner associations. I look forward to ACSA continuing to work to support the requirements of the growing field of citizen science. Priorities for the coming year include achieving the actions from our strategic plan for 2017, increasing the number of working groups and organising a citizen science conference for late 2017.

It has been my privilege to work with the Management Committee over the last year and a half and ACSA will no doubt have another busy and productive year ahead. A big thank you to the Australian Museum for continuing to host our association, through the provision of infrastructure and management of the ACSA funds subsequent to our incorporation. I'd also like to take the time to formally acknowledge the contributions of our former Chair Philip Roetman and Vice Chair Carla Sbrocchi. I am confident that ACSA has laid the foundations over the past year and will continue to grow and support citizen science within Australia and globally.

Erin Roger

Acting Chair/ Australian Citizen Science Association

Treasurer's Report

22 November 2016

I am very pleased to present the first Financial Report of ACSA. As Treasurer I have reviewed the accounts of ACSA as held by the Australian Museum as host organisation for ACSA – and they represent a true and fair view of the financial position of ACSA and I reasonably believe that ACSA will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

ACSA has been very fortunate to receive grant funding from Inspiring Australia – with an initial grant of \$75,000 and then a 3 year grant to 2018 of \$112,500 (\$37,500 per year). This has meant we can support the strategic direction and ongoing development of ACSA – including funding a part-time support officer.

We currently have a healthy balance of \$103,127.61 in our account – and anticipate further expenditure associated with development of the new website, communications, the project finder portal, national conference preparation and membership/business model development.

Please find below the ACSA Financial Report of income and expenditure to date:

ACSA Inc - Financial Report

	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017 (to 17.11.16)	Description
Income				
Grants	75,000.00	37,500.00		Inspiring Australia Grants (Contract #1- \$95K; Contract #2 \$112,500 - \$37,500/yr for 3 years)
Expenditure				
Salary			-1,732.15	ACSA Support Officer (start 3.10.16 - 2 days/week)
Website			-1,273.64	Domain name transfer, website hosting
Catering			-115.00	Meeting catering
Subscription/Support			-344.60	Basecamp collaboration site subscription
Communications		-825.00	-3,410.00	Design- logo, style guide, banners; Consultancy comms plan (50%)
Fees			-1,672.00	Incorporation -application fee, solicitor-constitution drafting
Balance				
Balance (each year)	75,000.00	34,942.85	-6,815.24	
Running Balance	75,000.00	109,942.85	103,127.61	<i>(excluding GST)</i>

Stephanie von Gavel – Treasurer, Acting-Vice Chair - ACSA