



Small Enterprise Association of Australia and New Zealand

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Appendix 1

President's Report - September 2008 Annual General Meeting Study Group Australia, Darlinghurst, Sydney, Australia

Firstly – welcome to you all and thanks to the SEAANZ Committee for all their efforts.

Margaret Drever for ALL her efforts; Rosemarie Dawson for her continual input; Joss Evans for her perspective; Stuart Locke for his enthusiasm; Howard Frederick for his assistance; Kate Lewis for her ongoing help; Hermina Burnett for her dedication and Victoria Wise for her wisdom.

I would also like to thank all SEAANZ members and the ICSB – we are a community that requires Management – and for that we all need to thank Allison Taranchokov.

2007/2008 has been a challenging year for SEAANZ – the Secretariat was moved; the journal is in the final stages of relocating; we have reformatted the Networker; the committee has adapted to VoIP, digital opportunities – the future is bright if we continue to integrate the digital age into our objectives, enabling communication of information between the four pillars – so our website needs to become Web 2.0 compliant – to the extent that will open communication by the global research, policy, educator and practitioner communities be managed via our SEAANZ website – then SEAANZ is the conduit.

Secretariat

There was a need to transfer all the information, historical to financial.

There was a need to educate to enable efficiency – there is still a need in relation to financial and accounting – we have to fund this activity to ensure that our member's funds are invested, enabling our objectives, targets to be achieved.

Thank you Allison Taranchokov & Claire Massey for ALL your efforts, and I think that over the next few years you will develop into a great asset for the global SME community. SEAANZ stakeholders are wide and varied – communication with them about research, policy – distribution via the Media is essential to achieve advancement – the SEAANZ Board's objective to help Allison achieve must be uppermost in our minds.

Journal: Small Enterprise Research

We are in the final stages of making the SEAANZ Journal more globally relevant – with great efforts from Stuart Locke and others within the Waikato Management School and the ongoing support from Brian Gibson, advice from Michael Schaper – I am sure ranking is just around the corner.

Annual Conference

Challenges are a norm – (SEAANZ committee has decided, Margaret Drever will explain more over the next few days) in the future we will decide on the city, find partners and sponsors – rather than seek expressions of interest. This will enable SEAANZ to do what it wants, and where it wants.

The new committee will announce more information about 2009, 2010 and the conferences thereafter on Wednesday.

Portfolios

The main point I wish to make at this moment in time is that for the committee to set measurable objectives and goals that we are responsible for.

SEAANZ membership has not grown over the last few years – this has to be achieved – SEAANZ has to be relevant to the global SME community.

SEAANZ's website has to become the conduit, the portal, the discussion forum, the history and the future of SME, Entrepreneurship – the four pillars – research, policy, education and practitioner – if we are the Google, the Wikipedia, if people need our website, our information, if the business community benefits from our intelligence, SEAANZ will control information others in the local and global SME community seek, demand.

SEAANZ's database must reflect our stakeholders – and we have to communicate with this database.

The committee must have kpis, we must be accountable to our members – to the Australasian SME community.

Wednesday will clarify the Portfolios and the committee members responsible – more about the goals thereafter.

ICSB Activity

SEAANZ is very lucky to have a number of members and committee members on the ICSB Board – this allows us to have very strong and positive participation with the ICSB, allowing SEAANZ to be a leader in the SME global entrepreneurship industry.

Upcoming conferences are scheduled to take place June 21-24 June in Seoul (2009) & 24-27 June in Cincinnati (2010).

Finally, as I could go on about the future and SEAANZ's needs – but that is up to the new committee.

I would just like to say thank you to SEAANZ. I have lectured locally and internationally, marketing and advertising is my focus. I have just sold my SME – the importance of SEAANZ to the business community is yet to be fully understood.

TV programmes about SMEs have been very successful over the last few years, and these are opportunities we need to develop – our members are the font – we have to be their portal where information flows.

We have to develop a suite of products that are sponsored because they are demanded by the business community – then SEAANZ can invest more into policy development in conjunction with the Government and other not-for-profit organisations.

COSBOA is a success; we have to retain our independence; focus on our member assets; and achieve our agreed goals in the short and long term.



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