Welcome
Hi Everyone,
The AARE annual conference is almost upon us and we are very much looking forward to catching up with you in Sydney from Dec 2 - 6th!

There is a wonderful schedule of presentations in the AEPR SIG which will certainly enhance the profile of the Arts at this year’s conference.

Thank you again to all members who assisted in refereeing the papers this year. Your feedback and support was greatly appreciated!

This is a brief update on activities related to the AEPR SIG.

Thank you also for your continued encouragement and support of the AEPR SIG, Margaret, Georgina and Abbey.

The AEPR SIG’s Purpose
The Arts Education Practice & Research (AEPR) SIG has been established to provide support and professional networking for arts educators across a range of disciplines such as: visual art, drama, music, dance and media. The aim of the AEPR SIG is to encourage and enhance high quality research in arts education and to provide opportunities to disseminate this more broadly to both the academic and wider community.

The AEPR SIG’s Aims
The aims of the Arts education practice and research SIG for AARE are to:

- Promote, encourage and facilitate research in Arts education and practice
- Foster collaborative research in Arts education among AARE members, friends and other academics or practitioners
- Develop strong networks of researchers interested in Arts education and practice and
- Establish a forum of discussion within AARE membership to share current research and encourage future research activity

Your convenors are:
Dr Margaret Baguley - University of Southern Queensland, Margaret.Baguley@usq.edu.au
Dr Georgina Barton - Griffith University, g.barton@griffith.edu.au
Abbey MacDonald - University of Tasmania Abbey.MacDonald@utas.edu.au
Conference Update

AEPR SIG Meeting and Dinner

- The AEPR SIG Meeting will be held on **Monday 3 December** from 2 - 3 pm at the University of Sydney in **EASR405**
- The AEPR SIG Dinner will take place on **Monday 3 December** at **7pm**. The venue for our dinner is Almustafa Lebanese Restaurant. The address is 23 Glebe Point Road, Glebe. Please see the following link for more information: [http://almustafa.com/joomla25/](http://almustafa.com/joomla25/)

Conference Sessions and Symposia

- It is wonderful to see a wide range of topics related to the arts presented through the AEPR SIG this year including individual papers and symposia. Please refer to your conference program to ensure you support our members where possible.

Exhibitions

- **Aphasia** opens on the 30th November at the Australian Centre for Photography in Sydney. This work has been inspired by a residency at Arthur Boyd’s Bundanon and has been created by David Sudmalis and Darragh O’Callaghan. Please see the following link for further information: [http://aphasiaocallaghansudmalis.blogspot.com.au/](http://aphasiaocallaghansudmalis.blogspot.com.au/)

4th World Summit of the World Alliance for Arts Education in Rovaniemi, Finland (7 – 10 November, 2012)

- WAAE has been an informal alliance of InSEA, IDEA (drama and theatre), ISME (music) and WDA (dance). However, the summit provided an occasion for the WAAE President’s to officially sign a Memorandum of Agreement among the four organizations, a task that has been in under development for the last two years. There is now an agreement on how these four associations will work together to advance arts education on the world stage. **The third week of May is the UNESCO declared International Arts Education Week.**
- Georgina and Margaret attended the World Summit and will be able to provide an update at the AEPR SIG meeting.
The date for the Call for Papers has been extended – please pass on to anyone you think might be interested

http://www.balance-unbalance2013.org

CALL DEADLINE EXTENDED: DECEMBER 8, 2012

Balance-Unbalance is an International Conference designed to use art as a catalyst to explore intersections between nature, science, technology and society as we move into an era of both unprecedented ecological threats and transdisciplinary possibilities. We are thoroughly looking forward to hosting artists, scientists, economists, philosophers, politicians, sociologists, engineers and policy experts from across the world to engage in dialogue and action towards a sustainable future. Balance-Unbalance 2013 will also host a diversity of virtual components allowing global accessibility and significantly reducing the carbon footprint of a major international conference. One of the main goals of Balance-Unbalance is to develop the role of the arts and artists in dealing with environmental challenges. The previous events held in Buenos Aires in 2010 and Montreal in 2011 (http://balance-unbalance2011.hexagram.ca) provided a powerful platform for reflection, debate, and ideas leading towards Balance-Unbalance 2013, hosted in the UNESCO Noosa Biosphere Reserve on the Sunshine Coast of Australia. The 2013 conference theme, Future Nature, Future Culture[s] is aimed to provoke discourse around what our elusive future might hold and how transdisciplinary thought and action could be used as tools for positive change. Submissions are now being accepted for the International Balance-Unbalance 2013 conference to be held at Central Queensland University in Noosa, Australia from May 31 - June 2, 2013. Balance-Unbalance 2013 is being held in the beautiful resort town of Noosa, in parallel with the Floating Land 2013 Green Art festival and just prior to the ISEA 2013 (International Symposium on Electronic Art) conference in Sydney, so participants can maximise their time in Australia by attending all three events. For more information see our website on www.balance-unbalance2013.org. Facebook www.facebook.com/balanceunbalance

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Food for thought: is identity the missing link in HE?

What really motivates students? Dawn Bennett at Curtin University has suggested that learners’ personal and professional identities are crucial to their success as both students and future workers, and that the explicit development of these identities within higher education is for the most part absent.

Dawn’s work has illustrated the damaging impact of polarised and undeveloped salient identities. It has resulted in a series of simple, practical and well-grounded strategies that encourage students to consider their future lives and to make vital links between self and learning. The work has become known as The TILE Approach in light of its four key themes of Teaching, Identity, Learning and Engagement. Working with a growing number of interested educators Dawn has so far developed, trialled and published 24 new resources known as TILE tools. The tools have been adopted by academics in 16 countries and are likely to engage over 3,000 students in 2013.

It goes without saying that there is much more to the tools than meets the eye; these are highly complex issues! However, Dawn recognised the challenge of embedding identity within already crowded curricula; limitations of time, knowledge and resources; increasing casualisation; increasing staff-student ratios; and decreasing student contact. Freely available tools backed by rigorous research seemed a logical starting point.

Dawn would like to invite everyone in the Arts Education SIG to join the TILE Approach community and to access the tools. She has even offered to visit and work with our students!

TILE tools can be found on the website at www.thetileapproach.ning.com.