

Annual Report 2023 – AUSIT VIC Branch

Committee for 2022–2023

Chair	Dina Kerr (until March 2023); Karine Bachelier (from April 2023)
Secretary	Karine Bachelier (until April 2023) Henry Lam (from April 2023)
Treasurer	Fatih Karakas (from February 2023)
Branch delegate to NC	Henry Lam (until April 2023) Karine Bachelier (from April 2023)
PD coordinators	Roksan Lashin, Epperly Zhang
Membership Liaison Officer	Hwee Ping Teo (from March 2023)
Communications officer	Elvira Bianchi (from March 2023)
Committee members	Ahmed Zeed, Jean Deklerk

Committee to be elected at branch AGM, 23/09/2023

- VIC Branch Committee Chair
- VIC Branch Committee Professional Development Coordinator
- VIC Branch Committee Treasurer
- VIC Branch Committee Secretary
- VIC Branch Committee Membership Liaison Officer
- VIC Branch Committee Communications Officer
- VIC Branch Delegate to National Council
- VIC Deputy Branch Delegate to National Council
- VIC Branch Committee Ordinary Committee Members

Professional Development Activities

This year we organised both virtual and face-to-face events, while some events were in a hybrid mode.

Date	Event	Attendees
27/08/2022	A Mental Health and Well-being workshop: Coping with Vicarious Trauma and More	70
18/02/2023	VIC Linguists and the law	72
13/05/2023	Translating the law: Languages across legal systems.	71
13/06/2023	Understanding Police interviewing for interpreters	83

Social and Community Awareness Activities

Moving into 2023, the Branch has sought to offer more regular meet up as a platform for members to meet and socialise. These efforts are delivered through a Culture on a Plate event and monthly social drinks.

Date	Event	Attendees
10/09/2022	AGM	43
18/03/2023	Culture on a Plate	15
21/03/2023	AUSIT presentation for RMIT students	10
25/05/2023	After-work social drinks	15
22/06/2023	After-work social drinks	20

Thanks and additional comments

Greetings everyone. Dear all,

The past year has been one of succession at the Victorian Branch. The departure of our former chair Dina Kerr and a few long-term members of the Victorian Branch Committee has highlighted the need for the branch to introduce new volunteers.

This need has been underpinned by the national direction for membership growth, and the upcoming National Conference scheduled to take place in Melbourne in 2024.

In April, the team came together to rethink how the branch can create efficiency and impact in serving the profession and AUSIT members. With some efforts, we have learned and progressed in creating a robust team to meet our objectives in serving your interest. That being said, the Victorian Branch will continue to benefit strong engagements from our members and volunteers.

Ahead of the AGM, we are making a call for expression of interest from volunteers. Volunteering at AUSIT can be flexible – featuring one-off, short term projects, as well as longer-term commitments. If you are interested in getting involved, we will very much welcome you to get in touch and speak with us. We can use all the help we can get.

I am proud of the progress we've made and would like to acknowledge our recently departed members for their long-lasting contribution especially Dina Kerr, Véronique Bergeron, and Jonathan Beagley, who served as Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer of the AUSIT Victorian Branch respectively.

Karine Bachelier
Branch Chair

2022 AUSIT Victorian Branch AGM – Financial Statement

As official financial figures are released nationally at the national AGM, these figures are only indicative of our financial status at a Victorian branch level. For full details, please refer to the official financial report which will be made available in time for the National AGM.

In total, the Victorian branch generated a surplus of \$6,315.04 for the 2022-23 financial year. We expect that this figure will stay relatively stable in the coming financial year. This surplus will go into the national coffers as a contribution to the running costs of AUSIT in general.

The branch ran four paid PD events with good attendance numbers, resulting in both high income and net earnings. Introduction of opening some of the events to sponsorship also helped reduce cost. In addition to these paid events, several unpaid social events were hosted to help increase visibility and membership connection.

I will be stepping down as Branch Treasurer at the end of the year. It will be my pleasure to welcome a new Treasurer to the Victorian Branch Committee.

Fatih Karakas
Treasurer
Victorian Branch Committee

2023 AUSIT Victorian Branch AGM – Membership statement

Here are the membership figures as at 30 June 2023:

Senior Practitioners	5
Associate Members	21
Honorary Members	2
Life Members	1
Retired Members	4
Ordinary Members	443
Ordinary Members (Approved Training)	11
Senior Members	1
Student Members	57
Total membership number	545

Last year's membership at 30 June 2022, as reported in our branch AGM report at the time, was 584 so we have a slight drop this last financial year. On the other hand, student membership has risen, and we have noticed that students have joined right after attending the monthly VIC Branch social drinks in particular. Our branch continues to have the second-highest numbers of members behind NSW with 699. We at the committee are hopeful that our social activities will continue to draw new members as well as volunteers to contribute to running the Branch.

Final membership figures for the year will be released by National Council at the AUSIT National AGM in November and these are only indicative figures. Please ensure that you consult the final figures when they are made available.

24/08/2023