

Autism Council of Australia (ACN 085 018 408)

Communiqué from the General Meetings of the Board – October & December and the AGM, November 2005

- The Autism Council of Australia welcomed **Autism NT Inc.** as the Corporate Member representing the Autism Spectrum Disorder community in the Northern Territory. The Autism Council of Australia is now a voice for Autism Spectrum Disorder in each state and territory of Australia.
- Alison Bird, Executive Officer Autism NT Inc, and Judy Brewer Fischer have been appointed to the Board of the Autism Council of Australia. The ACA Board comprises (left to right) Mick Clark, Amanda Golding, Judy Brewer Fischer, Alison Bird, Val McKelvey, Jon Martin, Verity Bottroff, Adrian Ford & Penny Beeston (absent – Shane Garoni)
- The next **Biennial National Autism Conference** will be convened by Autism Queensland and will be held at Royal Pines Resort, Gold Coast from 14 – 16 April 2007.
- The Apex Foundation **Trust for Autism Grants** for 2006 were confirmed. Dr Umesh Sharma from Monash University, Melbourne and Dr Robyn Young from Flinders University Adelaide were awarded grants. Dr Sharma's project is entitled "*Empowering parents of children with Autism to manage disruptive behaviour*", and Dr Young's project is entitled "*A two year follow up of the children of the university's Early Intervention Research Program.*" The grants were co funded by The Apex Foundation and the Autism Council of Australia using funds from a Thomas and Friends corporate donation.
- The Autism Council of Australia welcomed the formation of the Autism Research Alliance Australasia, convened by Dr Deb Keen, and a dialogue established.
- The Autism Council of Australia and Autism Asperger's Advocacy Australia (A4) have developed a joint response to the Autism Forum convened in Canberra in June 2005 by Christopher Pyne, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Health.
- National Autism Week will be held from 14th to 20th May, 2006.
- The Autism Council of Australia Board Members participated in a process to develop a work plan for 2006, including the establishment of a part time Secretariat.
- The next meeting of the Board will be held in Albury on 31st March and 1st April 2006.



Autism Council of Australia – www.autismaus.com.au

Contact can be made with the Autism Council of Australia via your respective state or territory Autism organisation -

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