# AGENDA ITEM #12: CEO UPDATE

# *A copy of the most recent CEO Update (September 2021). The next will be sent out December 2021.*

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| **Quality Assurance Advocacy**  As the international education sector continues to be impacted by the pandemic, our priority is to support everyone in the ELT community by providing ongoing advice, information, guidance and innovation. NEAS is dedicated to evolving to meet the everchanging needs of our members and implementing new methods and services to suit our community.  NEAS Australia continues with our mission to be the global leader in Quality Assurance for the English Language Teaching Community. Recently, NEAS was pleased to provide a response to a consultation paper from the Department of Education Skills, and Employment (DESE)  titled ‘ Foundation Program Standards: Positioning for Quality, Success and Competitiveness'. The current Foundation Program Standards are being recreated and NEAS was able to provide expertise and insights to enhance the quality of the standards to benefit students studying the English language.  With students at the forefront, the Council of International Students Australia (CISA) recently launched their inaugural Secretariat Pilot Project, appointing HES as the provider of secretariat services to the CISA Executive Committee. NEAS has a longstanding relationship with CISA and was proud to be a financial supporter of this project.  **NEAS International**  NEAS was recently awarded a dedicated grant from the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), as part of the  Australia-Vietnam Enhanced Economic Engagement Grant (AVEG) Program. The grant supports NEAS in demonstrating Australian expertise in quality assurance, online delivery, and teacher professional development.  In response to this, NEAS was pleased to announce the launch of the [NEAS Australia - Vietnam Workshop Series](https://neasaustralia.cmail20.com/t/d-l-aphhx-jdtiddtdij-y/). This consists of two virtual workshops, the first held on 1 October and the second to be held on 5 November 2021. The first workshop in the series was a huge success with over 120 people attending and positive feedback from participants. NEAS Australia is proud to highlight the exciting teaching and learning innovations and quality assurance activities of 14 English Language Centres who are either operating in Vietnam or interested in partnering with Vietnamese organisations. In addition to the Virtual Live Panels on 1 October and 5 November, 15 pre-workshop presentations have been curated on various topics centred around ‘Quality Management of English Language Centres’ and ‘Online Delivery and Teacher Professional Development’. Access to everything under this series is free, and I encourage you to peruse the content [here](https://neasaustralia.cmail20.com/t/d-l-aphhx-jdtiddtdij-j/).  **NEAS 2022 Conference - Sneak Peak!** |

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| I am excited to announce that the theme for the 2022 NEAS Management Conference is 'Going Glocal: Embracing ELT Communities of Practice'. The two day event (5-6 May 2022) will be held at Doltone House, Darling Island, Sydney and also livestreamed as it was this year. Please save the date! The opening plenary presentation will be delivered by Mr Stan Grant, followed by an array of local and international speakers covering the topics of Glocalisation and embracing the six [NEAS ELT Communities of Practice](https://neasaustralia.cmail20.com/t/d-l-aphhx-jdtiddtdij-i/). Keep your eyes peeled for further conference announcements, including more information about the theme and program in NEAS News during October. The official conference announcement will be sent out on 7 October, including a call for speaker abstracts.  **Setting the Standard(s)**  NEAS has been developing and working on additional sets of areas of standards for the ELT community over the past 12 months. We recently released two new Quality Standard Areas to complement the existing 12 Quality Standard Areas in our Quality Assurance Framework. These are [Area M: Transnational Delivery](https://neasaustralia.cmail20.com/t/d-l-aphhx-jdtiddtdij-d/) and [Area N: Foundation Programs](https://neasaustralia.cmail20.com/t/d-l-aphhx-jdtiddtdij-h/). In a period of challenge and flux, NEAS works closely with our members to set aspirational quality standards for innovative practices and to help them grow their businesses. We are currently finalising operational details to pilot these new Quality Areas.  **Community**  NEAS was thrilled to host its first online agent conference (NEAS-ST Alphito) on 15 July, in partnership with StudyTravel. Seven participating NEAS Member Centres engaged with decision makers from 24 education agents hailing from around the world, including Asia and the Pacific, Europe, Central Asia, and the Americas.  Since expanding our [quality assurance services](https://neasaustralia.cmail20.com/t/d-l-aphhx-jdtiddtdij-k/) to include new areas and community endorsements, NEAS now supports more than 400 individuals and organisations across the sector. The number of listings continues to grow, demonstrating the sector’s commitment to quality assurance, so well done!  We have also refreshed the NEAS Online portal, introducing various ‘tracks’ for ELT professionals to take to meet all their professional development needs.  With over 80 pieces of content including webinars, masterclasses and workshops – there is something for everyone! Check them out [here.](https://neasaustralia.cmail20.com/t/d-l-aphhx-jdtiddtdij-u/)  **NEAS Annual General Meeting 2022**  Please save the date for the NEAS Australia AGM, which will be held via a virtual meeting on Thursday 11 November from 2.00-3.00pm. Further communications regarding the AGM will be issued to members in due course. The notice of AGM will be sent to members on Monday 11 October, including a link to vote in Board member election. Thank you to the candidate who have nominated for election for the three positions Katherine Olston, (Nominated for re-election), David Yoo (Nominated for re-election), David Ferguson, Dr Pamela Humphreys, Svetlana Lukovic and Prof. Thomas Roche. I encourage all members to make their vote after elections open on 11 October 2022. |