



CHAIR NEWSLETTER

15 December 2017

Season Greetings PACE members!

As usual this time of year has suddenly arrived and is keeping us busy with those last-minute tasks that need to be completed before the end of the year. I hope you are managing to take time in your busy schedule to enjoy the festive cheer that this time of year brings and are getting along to Christmas parties or end of year events.

Your Management Team are working very hard pulling together an interesting, diverse and fun range of meetings for next year. We will distribute the events calendar early in the New Year so you can secure the dates in your diary. In the meantime, please note that **our first meeting takes place on 30 January** – this will be an opportunity to catch up with your PACE colleagues at an event hosted by the Intercontinental Hotel.

A big thank you to members who have provided feedback on our meeting topics. There have been some great ideas come forward. Some of these ideas have raised the question of what PACE can provide versus what your employer could (or should) be providing. It is hard to meet everyone's expectations when it comes to meeting topics, but we hope you will enjoy and engage in what we are setting up for next year.

Please keep the feedback coming and don't forget that the management team are always happy to meet for a coffee and a chat if you would like to meet with any of us. Your Management Team are listed [here](#) on our website.

I would like to give a big thanks to Rebecca Dobbs (outgoing Chair) and the 2017 Management team for the fantastic schedule of meetings, professional development and fun events that have taken place this year. A special thank you also to the Professional Development Forum organisers who worked extremely hard to pull together an amazing event.

The increased attendance at meetings and rising membership figures are a good indication of a job well done from this year's Membership Team. Thank you all for your personal time and the energy you have given to the organisation.

These figures are also a reflection of the benefits of belonging to PACE, you can't beat those face to face catch ups, the sharing and support we provide each other – and of course the laughs we have along the way. If you haven't managed to get along to many meetings this year I encourage you to make it a priority for 2018. The benefits of networking are really important in our roles and PACE provides the perfect opportunity for you to network in a non-threatening, friendly environment. We're all in this together.

This time of year is often a time when we reflect on what has passed and think about opportunities and changes for the coming year. I recently came across this [article](#), (it's on an American website, so not everything here is relevant to us in the land-down-under), but it does

have some good ideas and activities for this time of year and links to some useful information that you might find interesting.

As Assistants to the head of an organisation we work very hard in our roles, it is in our nature to give and work (often thanklessly) for others – it's just what we do. I encourage you to take the time during the holidays to rest and relax – put yourself first for a day or two and do whatever it is that fills your cup! You deserve it!

Have a very Merry Christmas everyone, enjoy the fabulous weather we are having, take care if you are travelling and we will see you on the 30th of January for the start of another successful year of PACE.

Philippa Shierlaw
Chair

