



## Advisory Committee Minutes

[www.homemods.info](http://www.homemods.info)

### Meeting of the HM Information Clearinghouse Advisory Committee

Date: 3 Sept 2009

Commenced: 2.00 p.m.

CHAA Meeting Room

Level One Red Centre, West Wing,  
The Faculty of the Built Environment

University of NSW

#### **Present**

Amelia Starr  
Claudia Kennedy  
Nina Darling  
Ian Maxwell  
Mark Ellis  
Nicholas Loder  
Robyn Chapman  
Ruth Robinson  
Shalla Thomas  
Stacey Sheppard-Smith  
Steve Malvern  
Susan Dinley  
Anne-Marie Elias  
Margaret Kay

#### **Apologies**

Sandi Lightfoot-Collins

#### **Chair**

A/Professor Catherine Bridge

#### **Note taker**

Lyndal Millikan

## Notes

### 1. Welcome, introduction & apologies

A/Professor Catherine Bridge opened the meeting at 2.00 p.m.

Apologies were noted.

Minutes from the last meeting were accepted without alteration.

### 2. Clearinghouse update

#### Webstats

The quarterly webstats report was tabled and spoken to, including:

- Evidence of increase in user uptake i.e. 4,500+ users; and
- An increase in visits compared to the same period last year
- Increase in registration over the same period last year
- Increase in access from NZ, USA, UK and Canada, although Australia still majority of user group.
- Increased activity from India and Singapore, (note: 2 countries with a government looking at change in areas of accessible environments).

Please see the printed reports for more details.

There have been a few issues with some browsers not being the optimal browsers for HMinfo. In particular Netscape is still being used although it is quite old, demonstrating that our user group, while early tech adoptees, are also loyal users of their chosen product.

Top 10 Publications downloaded in the last quarter;

1. Industry Checklist: Designing home environments for people with problems with cognition who display aggressive or self-injurious (1534)
2. Designing home environments for people who experience problems with cognition and who display aggressive or self-injurious behaviour (925)
3. Orientation: Industry Factsheet: Effectiveness of Grabrail Orientations During the Sit-to-Stand Transfer (741)
4. Orientation: Industry Checklist: Effectiveness of Grabrail Orientations During the Sit-to-Stand Transfer (656)
5. Orientation: Consumer Factsheet: Effectiveness of Grabrail Orientations During the Sit-to-Stand Transfer (642)
6. Lighting Your Way into Home Modifications (612)
7. Doorbells: Industry Factsheet: Selecting Doorbells for People with Hearing Impairment (595)
8. Diameter: Consumer Factsheet: Selecting diameters for grabrails (590)

Robyn C suggested that the Aboriginal Home Visiting publication be forwarded to the NDS Aboriginal resource site for cross promotion of each agency.

## Actions

- This is being investigated by our IT consultant who will make some recommendations regarding optimal browsers for the HMinfo site.

- LM to follow this up with Robyn / NDS

### **3. Deliverables**

A/Prof Bridge explained that the recurrent money received by HMinfo is used to maintain the website while any research and publication activity is funded by non-recurrent (and usually targeted) money.

Currently DADHC has funded 4 non-recurrent projects;

1. Waged Care: led by CB – has an economic analysis component and is looking at a housing / economist specialist as a research partner.
2. Training and Education: led by LM – currently looking at supporting and working with existing agencies (such as the HMMS OT reference group), developing screen casts for the HMinfo site, working with the HACC development forums and Housing NSW to look at best practice and the evidence base that can support home modification specialists.
3. Aboriginal housing: led by LM – mapping the territory and the current situations regarding guidelines and consideration for housing for ageing and disabled Aboriginal Australians. Currently reviewing published and grey literature and developing relationships for case studies; currently contact with Groote Eland MJD Foundation and Wilcannia to highlight innovation / or issues.
4. Cost benefit analysis of lifts and ramps: led by YMJ – lit review in progress. Looking at what variables impact the decision making process on each item etc.

### **4. Non HMinfo Projects**

1. AHURI: Reverse Mortgage Project – to be published October 2009.
2. AHURI: Age specific Housing Project – first study of its kind in Australia.

### **5. Website**

- Upgrade to Drupal 6 complete.
- LM and consultant meeting weekly to get phase 2 signed off – documentation process.
- Now have Facebook and Twitter presence – links to be put on hminfo site home page this month.

### **6. Events & Training**

- **Roundtable with the Commonwealth Minister of Housing**, 28<sup>th</sup> April, 2009 entitled '*What is the 'housing problem' for older Australians?*' Australian Housing & Urban Research Institute. Catherine Bridge and Andrew Jones.
- **World Congress on Design and Health**, Singapore, June 2009 – Jane Carthey chaired a session. Poster presentation entitled '*Universal Design in the Garden*' by Lyndal Millikan.
- **19th IAGG World Congress of Gerontology and Geriatrics Paris**, France 5-9th July 2009 – Presentation entitled '*An Australian Perspective on Home Equity Release Products for Older People: Panacea or Threat to Ageing In Place?*' Catherine Bridge, Peter Phibbs, Mark Mathews and Toni Adams; and Presentation entitled '*An Analysis of Informal care Across Six Asia-Pacific Countries*' Catherine Bridge, Miho Iwakuma, Liz Kiata, Nan Qiao and Erika Takahashi.

- **‘Australian Social Policy Conference 2009 - An inclusive society; Practitioners & possibilities**, 8-10 July UNSW, Sydney, Australia. Presentation entitled ‘Older homeowners and Reverse Mortgage products what are the implications for retirement decisions during an economic downturn?’ Toni Adams, Catherine Bridge, Peter Phibbs & Mark Mathews in partnership with SEQUAL
- **ACHSE- CHAA Conference** – Gold Coast 4-7 August 2009. A poster presentation on ceiling hoists by Yong-Moon Jung.
- **Asia-Pacific Network of Housing Researchers Conference**, Sydney, 5-7 August 2009. Presentation entitled “What is the housing problem for older Australians?: Building an evidence base for policy”. Catherine Bridge and Andrew Jones.
- **NSW HACC & Community Care Conference: Connecting our Community**, Sydney. August 25-26 2009. Presentation entitled ‘Translating Practice-Based research into improved Aged and Disabled Housing Services Catherine Bridge.
- **Aging in Place and Age Friendly Cities Conference**, Akita, Japan. October 10, 2009. Paper and presentation accepted ‘*Showing a “big picture” of what other countries are doing: A cross-cultural study of informal care policies across six Asia-Pacific countries*’, Miho Iwakuma & Mayumi Ono.

## 7. Media/Press:

- Interviewed for the Australian Ageing Agenda (Formerly National Healthcare Journal) by Tim Dixon. Here is a link to the story <http://australianageingagenda.com.au/2009/07/23/article/Prosthetic-housing-is-a-must-with-ageing-population/CQCXIHZPMF.html>
- Interviewed on ABC radio ‘Life matters’ Talkback: the family home 15<sup>th</sup> May Here is a link to the podcast <http://www.abc.net.au/rn/lifematters/stories/2009/2569066.htm>

## 8. Other Clearinghouse Projects

- My Virtual Home – CB ran a summer school in the Design Studio with great success and positive feedback from participants. CB in liaison with UNSW staff Tam Nguyen who will be in contact with Paul Condon (MVH) about next phase of this project. Hoping faculty will run the program again.
- Education: Universal Design as a core subject– possible partnership with Rosemary Keynes to apply for a National *Teaching Development* Grant to this – link with Nancy Marshall (FBE Associate Dean for Teaching/Learning) and Ed Steinfeld – may be visiting in end of year so could push the agenda further.
- Horiba-APRU Grant –Informal Care in the Asia-Pacific region / 6 countries (Aust/NZ/Nepal/Japan/Malaysia/China - 7 Universities. Similarities identified re: fragmentation of care / ageing in the community an issue re; planning etc.

## 9. Other business

- MOU between HMinfo and NSW HMMS signed. Copies made and sent to relevant bodies.
- HMinfo Strategic Plan presented by CB and spoke to Uni and HMinfo related goals for the next 12 months.
- General News:
  - Robyn advised the ILC website was being upgraded and was

being tested. Planned launch 23 November 2009. RC will send out pres release and invites for [AT@ILC](#). Apple are donating use of laptops for the day. CB to speak at this event.

- Amelia reported on National Summit on Univ Housing in Australia to be held at Kirribilli House, with Bill Shorten and Therese Rein. 20 influential people in the UD area to attend. CB to attend.
- All AdvComm members noted that the International Day of People with a Disability is December 3<sup>rd</sup> 2009.

### ***10. Next Advisory Committee Meeting***

The venue for the next meeting is will be held on Tuesday the 8th December 2009 at the Faculty of The Built Environment, University of NSW at 2pm.