GREATER THAN THE SUM OF OUR PARTS

ALT

@bryanMMathers

STRATEGY 2017-20

What we said and what we did...

#altc Impact Report 2017-20

Welcome

As the Chair of the leading professional body for Learning Technology in the UK, it is a great pleasure to introduce this report on the impact we have made over the past three years.

As you will see, the Association has grown in size and influence, serving our Members in all parts of the UK.

Close my heart is our commitment to being an open organisation which reaches from our governance and leadership to marketing and communications.

Our commitment to openness reflects the need for greater criticality and transparency when it comes to using technology for learning, teaching and assessment.

Our Membership includes practitioners, researchers and policy makers from all sectors and together with my fellow Trustees I want to thank everyone involved for helping take ALT from strength to strength.

Sheila MacNeill
Chair

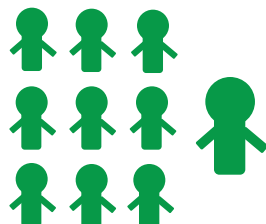# ALT's Board of Trustees

2017-20 in numbers #altc

WEBINARS

96

WEBINARS

With **1649** participants

DIGEST

133

issues of the Weekly Digest shared amongst our community

#altc BLOG

364

blog posts on the **#altc blog**

CONFERENCES

1049

Conference submissions
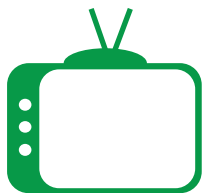
2864

Conference participants

ALT MEMBER'S LIST

4723 Jiscmail posts **from our members**

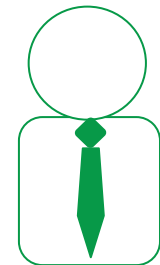An average of 143 posts per month

CC-licenced content

40,000 **YouTube views, equal to 183 days**

Special Interest Groups

2 special interest groups

with 365 members

Research in Learning Technology Journal

297 RLT Journal submissions

78 RLT articles published
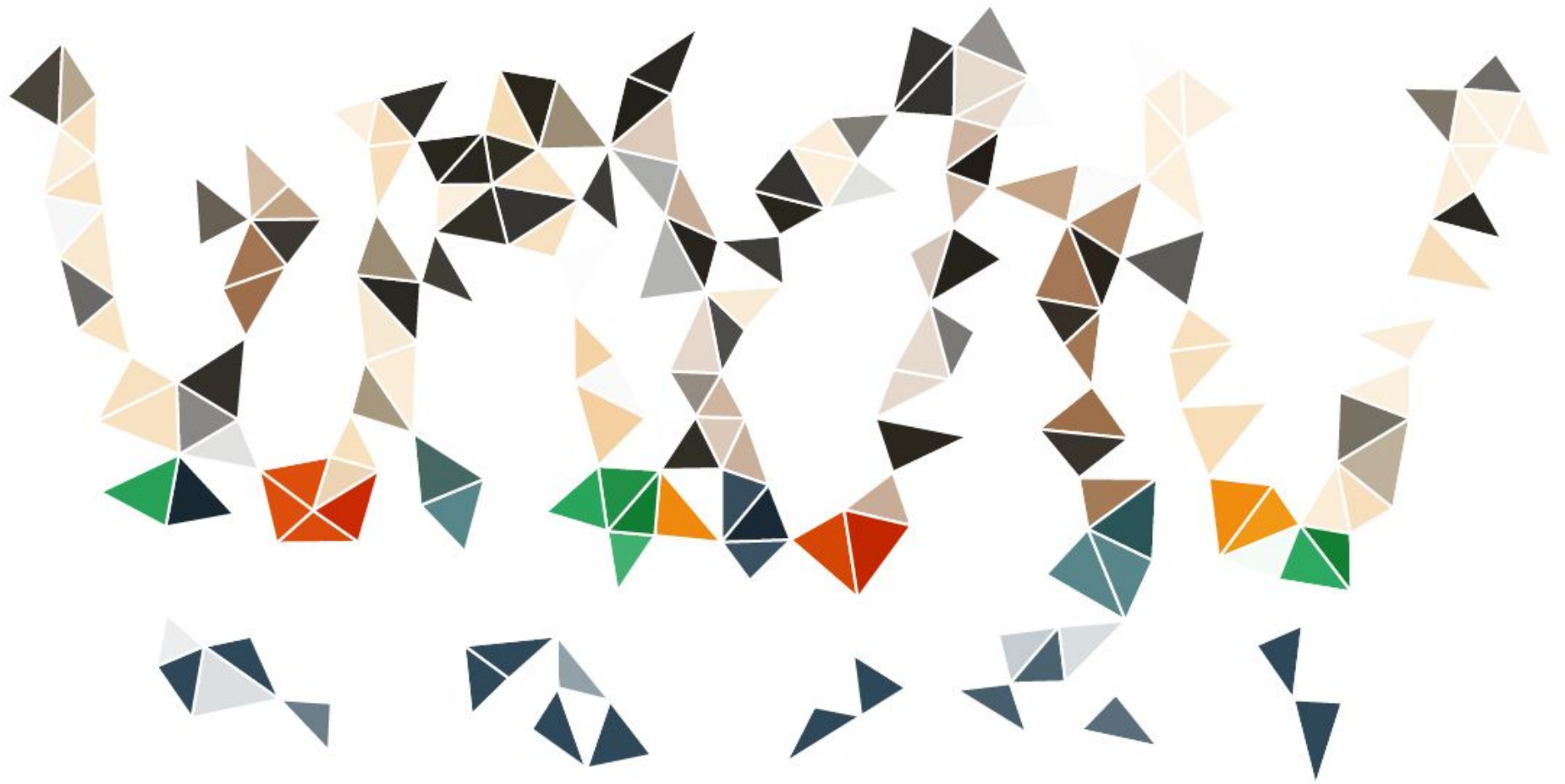
1.5

MILLION VIEWS

www.alt.ac.uk

1.5 million views on the Association for Learning Technology website during this time period.

70k **12.4k** **+37.8%**

2017-20 in numbers #altc

Where we started in 2017…

The biggest change in ALT's history

Independent CIO

During 2017 ALT successfully undertook to transition to become a fully independent organisation for the first time.

During the transition period services for Members remained fully operational and disruption was minimal.

- The Board of Trustees and the Chief Executive led the transition and created a new partnership with our former host institution.
- Staff were at the heart of the TUPE transition process and were consulted at every stage.
- Specialist legal and HR advice was put in place to ensure the process was completed on time and on budget.

A new operational model that
benefits our charitable aims

Since 1 February 2018 ALT is an employer and employs its small staff team directly.

We now have internal processes for recruitment, staff development and staff support that fit our organisational structure and benefit our charitable aims.

We have been able to allocate resources to create and additional staff role, increasing support for our Members' activities.

Leading a successful **virtual team**

We are now digitally and geographically distributed organisation and our staff team is spread across the UK.

With nearly two years of successfully leading our virtual team under our belt, we have a track record of operating successfully in this way, delivering day to day member services, large innovation projects and our flagship events.

We share our journey to becoming a virtual team through open practice and open governance, sharing our insights with the sector and with charities making similar changes.
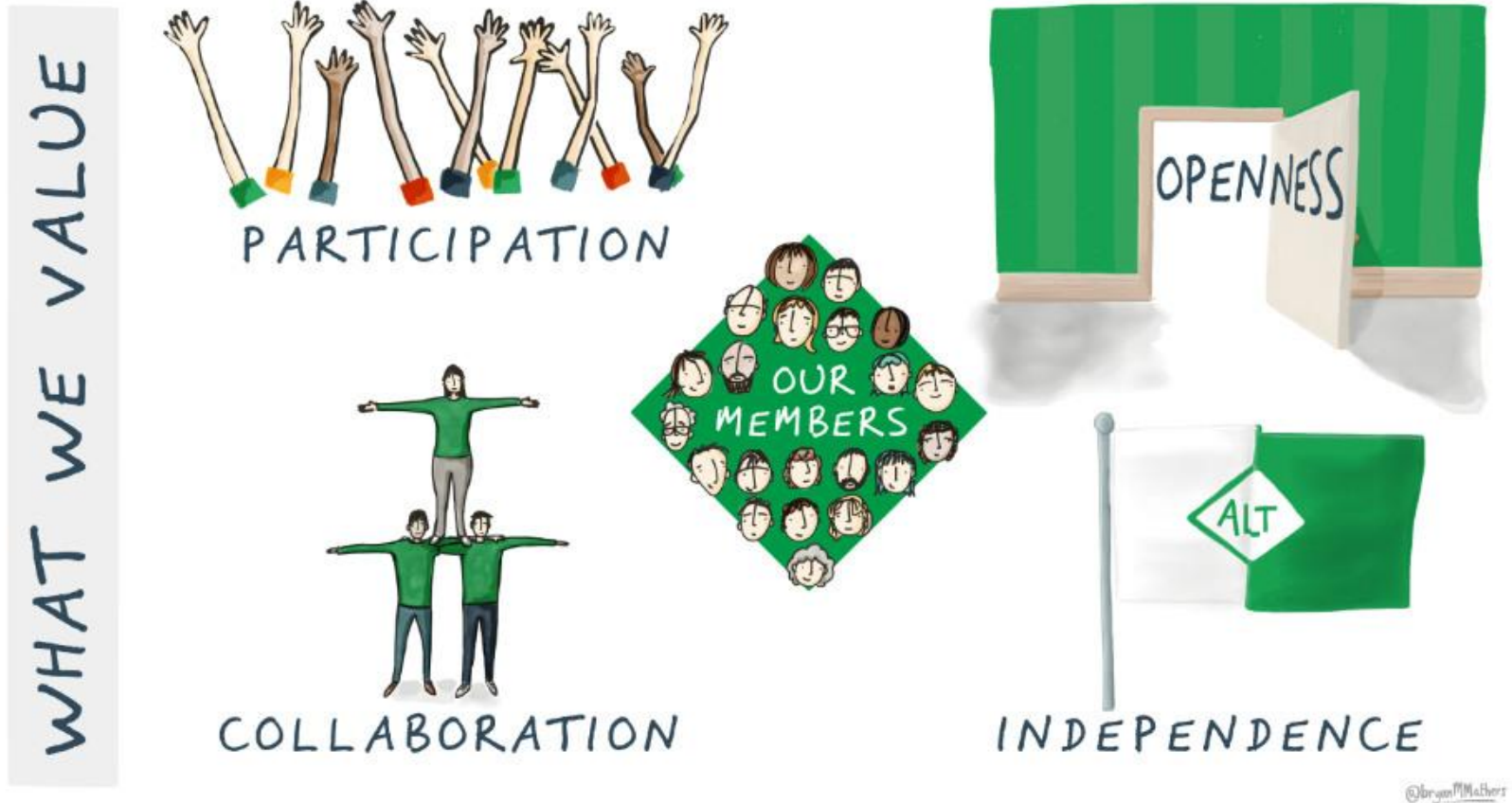
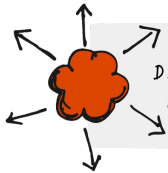How we are meeting our strategic aims and put our values into practice

AIM #1

FOR:
POLICY MAKERS & WIDER COMMUNITY IN THE UK AND INTERNATIONALLY

INCREASE THE IMPACT OF LEARNING TECHNOLOGY FOR PUBLIC BENEFIT

DISSEMINATE EXPERTISE

OPENLY PUBLISH RESEARCH & PRACTICE

SUPPORT OPEN SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

1 **Journal Research in Learning Technology**, ALT has taken direct ownership - publishing 79 Open Access articles including two special collections.

2 **New OER research and reports** have been published in the ALT Open Access Repository.

3 **The OER Conference** has continued to grow in impact and attendance engaging policy makers and researchers from the global south and north.

4 **Special Interest Groups** are actively working to disseminate expertise, e.g. activities during Open Education Week led by the Open Education SIG

5 **ALT policy work** including supporting the Copyright campaign, UNESCO OER consultation, Open Policy Forum, Global Creative Commons Summit and publishing the Open Education Action Call for Policy Makers.

Broadening access through the **Doug Gowan** Fellowship Fund

CMALT

The Doug Gowan Fellowship Fund was set up to fund 10 CMALT places for each financial year of the strategy.

Successfully accredited Certified Members contributed portfolios to the Portfolio register.

Unused funding was used to support participation in Open Education activities for candidates from Further Education and Vocational Education.

Events

12 Doug Gowan Fellowships for the Annual Conference were funded.

Successful applicants came from from Further and Vocational Education, health and policing, adult education and students.
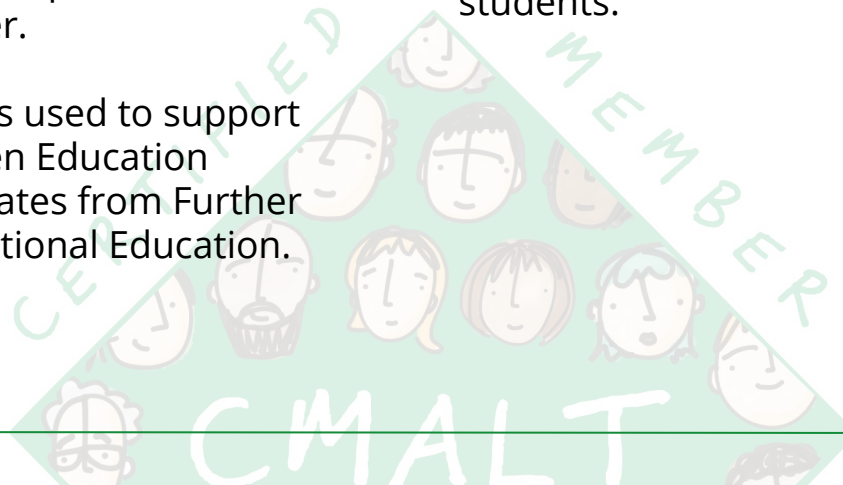
Reducing our impact on the **environment**

Events

We only work with venues who can demonstrate their green credentials and we include this as a criteria for all our venue searchers.

- We **no longer use plastic** badges for any of our conferences.
- We provide vegetarian and vegan only catering for all internal meetings and events.

Governance

We have moved all of our governance processes online, sharing reports for Members online.

- We no longer produce printed Board papers and reports and provide **digital** copies for Trustees.
- Monthly Board meetings are held online, saving travel across the UK.

Operations

We now operate as a fully geographically and digitally distributed charity, employing staff across the UK.

- Moving our operations fully online has **reduced the volume of printing** we do internally by over 50%.
- As a virtual organisation staff no longer commute, saving many commuting miles.

Financial and risk management at the heart of **open governance**

Strategy

We have met the aims our Financial Strategy set out to achieve a balanced outturn overall.

- The charity has been financially independent from project income for three years ensuring a strong focus on core business activities.
- We have invested in the development of new accreditation pathways, peer review and publishing platforms.

Audit

For all three financial years the auditor's report on the annual accounts was unqualified.

- We undertook an extra interim audit in the year ALT adopted virtual operations.
- This reports includes figures from the 2017-2020 financial years.
- Virtual audit fieldwork is now part of our standard annual audit.

Risk

The chief executive reports on risk management to the Board of Trustees and the risk register is reviewed by the Board for each quarter.

- The main risk relating to potential loss of income was managed successfully through conservative budgeting and enhancing our membership offer .
- Changes to the charity's constitution helped mitigate potential risk to the governance and leadership succession planning.
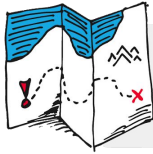
WHAT WE SAID:

AIM #2

FOR:
UNIVERSITIES
COLLEGES
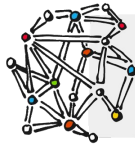SCHOOLS
INDUSTRY
PRIVATE TRAINING
    PROVIDERS

PROVIDE STRONGER
RECOGNITION OF AND
REPRESENTATION FOR
LEARNING TECHNOLOGY PROFESSIONALS
AT A **NATIONAL LEVEL**

LEARNING TECHNOLOGY AWARDS

STRATEGIC INFORMATION TO MEMBERS

SUPPORT & ENHANCE OUR NETWORK

WHAT WE DID:

1 **New Members Assembly** meeting monthly to share strategic developments, provide peer support & network.

2 **Launch Research Award** for greater national recognition for Learning Technology researchers.

3 **Student Makers** annual competition and prize creating unique Learning Technologist of the Year Awards.

4 **CMALT mappings** for the Jisc Digital Capabilities framework and Blended Learning Essentials curriculum were introduced.

5 **ALT Members responded to** the second Research Excellence Framework consultation, committee for data and ethics and the UNESCO OER consultation.

Strategic development of ALT's conferences

Annual Conference

Our flagship event celebrated its 25th anniversary in 2018 and continues to be the leading Learning Technology conference in the UK.

Winter Conference

ALT's "Festival of Learning Technology" has been celebrated online since 2015, facilitating international participation and appeal. The online conference continues to grow and support an innovative and inclusive environment.

OER Conference

Establishing OER as an ALT event leading in the UK Open Education landscape.

Celebrating the voices of Learning Technology

ALT ANNUAL CONFERENCE

WILL YOU BE A PART OF IT?

MANCHESTER
11–13 SEPT 2018

ALT's Annual Conference helps us **achieve** all of our strategic aims

ALT Annual Conference 2019

ASSOCIATION FOR LEARNING TECHNOLOGY ALT

Data, Dialogue, Doing
3–5 September 2019, University of Edinburgh

100+ VOLUNTEERS
make the conference happen

Chaired by the Conference Co-Chairs, the Committee helps shape the conference programme, reviews proposals, chairs conference sessions and plays an important role in making ALT's Annual Conference a success.

Number of attendees in 2019

476

We created…
426 **photos**
30+ **blog posts**
Radio shows, podcasts and
40 **conference videos**

CC

Number of programme sessions

Including:
159 **Research or practice presentations**

Workshops Gastas
Reflective sessions Posters

Countries represented by attendees:
Australia New Zealand
Belgium South Africa
Germany Sweden
Hong Kong Switzerland
Ireland United Kingdom
Italy United States
Japan

Engagement across sectors

12 **Doug Gowan Fellows** from across sectors joined the conference, funded by the Board of Trustees.

Research and Practice

64.5 Hours of programme over 3 days

Ensuring Academic Quality
All submissions are double blind peer reviewed.

Acceptance rates:
First Round 75%
Overall 80%

Diversity of roles

15 Most Popular Words in Job Titles:

Learning Head Developer
Manager Technology Officer
Technologist Education Development
Digital Lecturer Director
Senior Educational Professor

Social media impact

Twitter activity in September 2019
514.9K Tweet Impressions
199 new followers
687 tweets
2247 likes
10,267 Interactions
835 profile visits
799 retweets
898 URL clicks

Conference week activity:
1,242 individual accounts tweeted
9,394 #altc tweets

Progressional recognition

15 CMALT Awards Presented

The ALT Annual Conference 2019 was ALT's 26th Annual Conference. As the conference continues to develop it attracts a large international audience and speakers from across the learning technology community.

DATA DIALOGUE DOING ALT 2019

Stronger recognition for Learning Technology professionals

Global reach

We have had 84 awards entries from 10 countries, across the continents of Europe, Australasia, Asia, & Africa

Sectors

Entries included 6 colleges, 67 from Higher Education, and 11 others such as training providers, adult learning services, and NHS Trusts.

Dissemination

Hong Kong

United Kingdom

Turkey

South Africa

Italy

Ireland

Australia

Egypt

Singapore

Slovenia

AIM #3

FOR:
LEARNING TECHNOLOGY
PROFESSIONALS IN:
– LEADERSHIP
– MANAGEMENT
– RESEARCH
– ACADEMIC
– TECHNICAL/
SUPPORT ROLES

LEAD THE
PROFESSIONALISATION
OF RESEARCH & PRACTICE
IN LEARNING TECHNOLOGY

CMALT — PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION & ACCREDITATION

CPD — BADGED CPD ACTIVITIES

SUPPORT LOCAL MEMBERS GROUPS

1 **National Network of Members Groups** has been established with Groups now active in all parts of the UK.

2 **The new Associate CMALT** accreditation pathway was developed for early career professionals.

**3** **Senior CMALT** was launched, providing accreditation for senior staff with leadership, management and research roles.

5 **CPD webinar series**
Including experts on GDPR, accessibility and VLE policies, social media, research technology, Open Education.

4 **Recognition for peer reviewers** was strengthened with an innovative adoption of Publon badges in the OJS3 journal platform.

Growing professionalisation in Learning Technology

Individual Members and Organisational Members 2017-2020
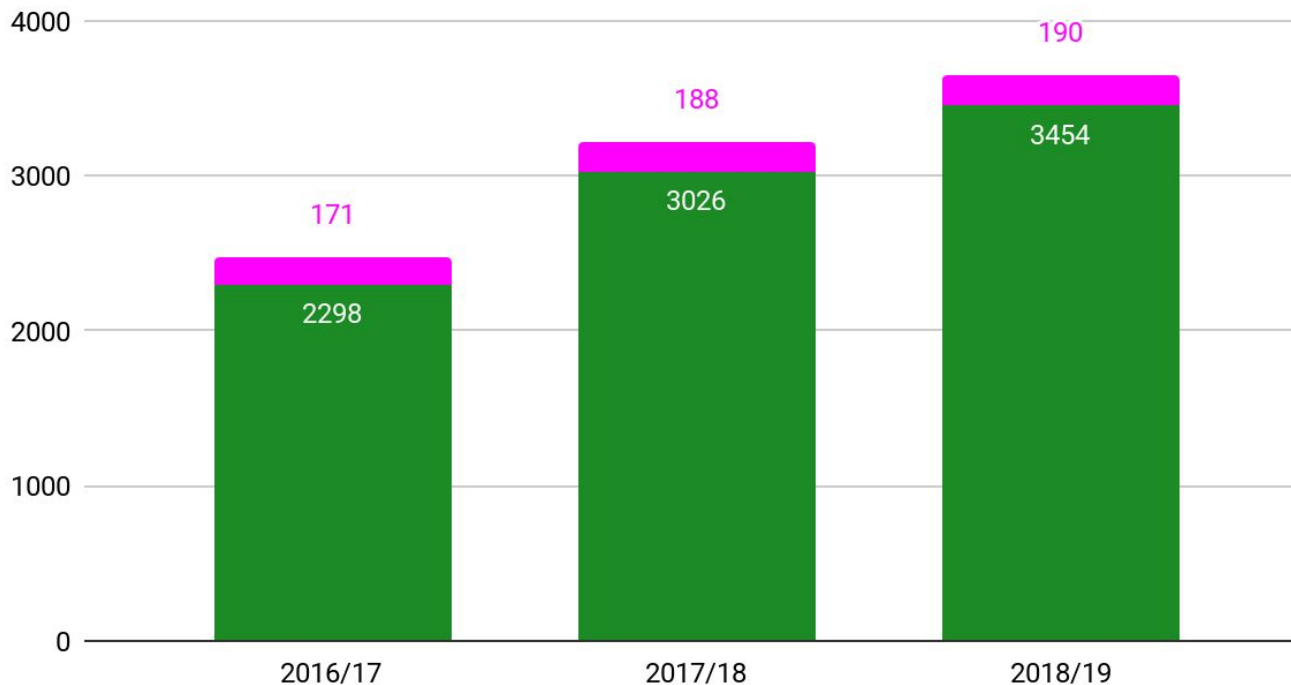
Recognition
Accreditation through Associate and Senior CMALT

We consulted Members for a period of 18 months, running 4 pilot schemes and bringing together CMALT candidates, Certified Members and Assessor to contribute to the development of the expanded framework.

Associate and Senior CMALT launched in September 2019 at the ALT Annual Conference.

ALT started accepting submissions for the new accreditation pathways in October 2019.
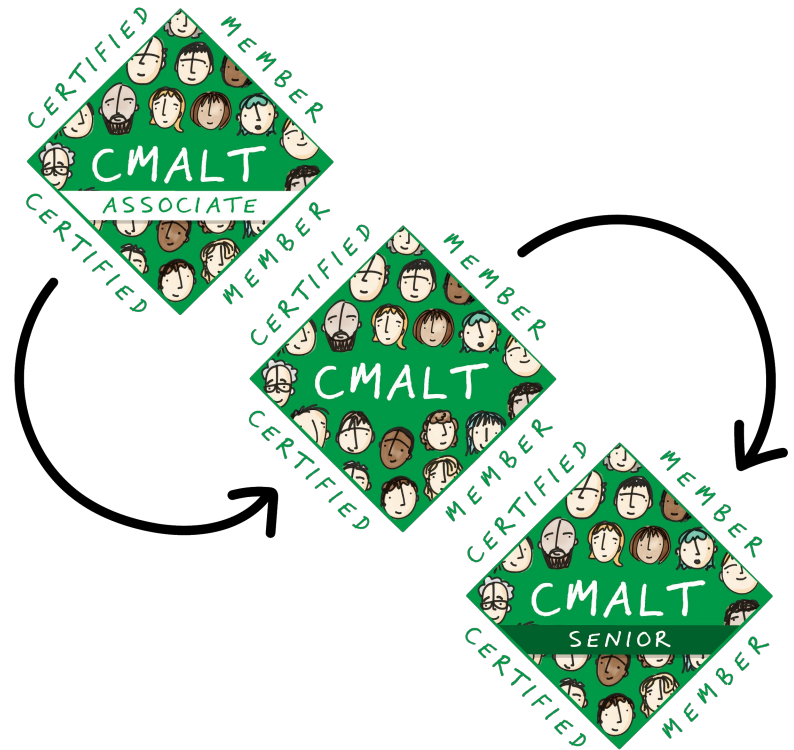
Strengthening community
engagement

Governance

ALT's governance was updated and now enables Members to contribute to strategy in a way that is more visible.

Board of Trustees - chaired by the Chair of ALT
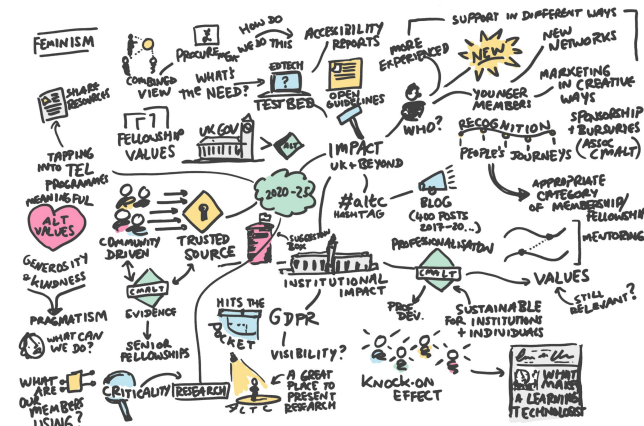*The Board of Trustees is advised by the ALT Assembly*

ALT Assembly - chaired by the President of ALT
The Assembly is made up of individual active Members involved in all of ALT's activities such as events, publications, cpd and local networks

ALT Staff Team - led by the Chief Executive of ALT
*The staff team works directly with Members on all of ALT's activities.
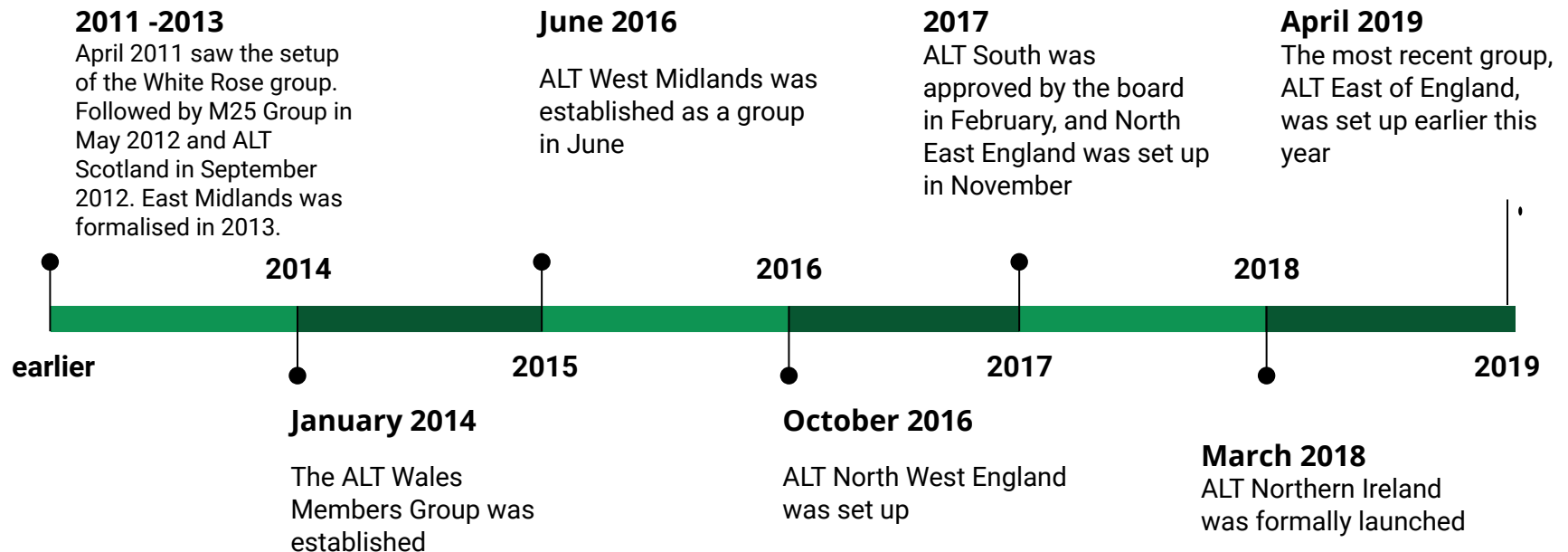Senior staff work closely with the Board of Trustees*

Assembly

The ALT Assembly was established in February 2019 and has since met monthly.

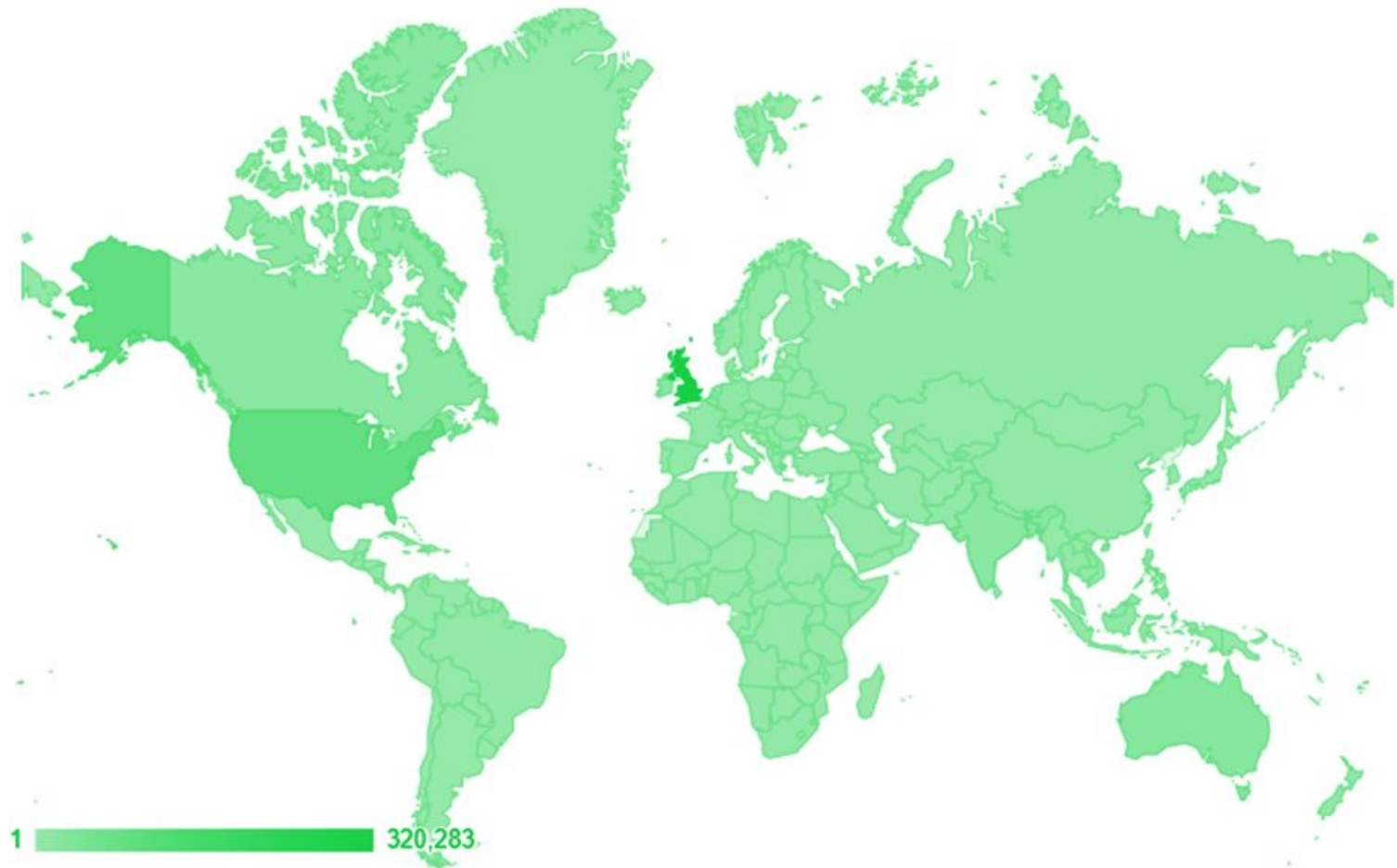The Assembly has created more active engagement from Members.

ALT ASSEMBLY – 5 NOV 19   @VISUALTHINKERY

Members Groups
National Network

2011 -2013
April 2011 saw the setup of the White Rose group. Followed by M25 Group in May 2012 and ALT Scotland in September 2012. East Midlands was formalised in 2013.

June 2016
ALT West Midlands was established as a group in June

2017
ALT South was approved by the board in February, and North East England was set up in November

April 2019
The most recent group, ALT East of England, was set up earlier this year

2014

2016

2018

earlier

2015

2017

2019

January 2014
The ALT Wales Members Group was established

October 2016
ALT North West England was set up

March 2018
ALT Northern Ireland was formally launched

Global reach
226 alt.ac.uk user locations

1   320,283

STRATEGY 2017–20

@bryanMMathers

We did what we set out to do...!

Association for Learning Technology (ALT)

A Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) and registered charity in England and Wales (1160039).

What we said and what we did...
#altc Impact Report 2017-20

https://www.alt.ac.uk/impact-report

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