



The Australian Council for Educational Leaders

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# QUEENSLAND

## ANNUAL BRANCH AWARDS CEREMONY

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Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> October 2021

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St Aidan's Anglican Girls' School

11 Ruthven Street,  
Corinda, Qld 4075

The Australian Council for Educational Leaders

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# QUEENSLAND

ANNUAL BRANCH AWARDS CEREMONY

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## Queensland Branch Executive

**Karen Fox** FACELQ 2015-2021 President  
*Principal Project Officer, Education and Leadership Consultant*

**Dr Sandra Nissen** FACELQ 2017-2020 Vice President  
*Principal Project Officer, State Schools Division, Department of Education*

**Dr Bruce Addison** FACELQ 2020 -2021  
*Deputy Principal (Academic), Brisbane Girls Grammar School*

**Elizabeth Benson** FACELQ 2017-2021  
*Director Pedagogy, Coombabah State High School*

**Lee Catterall** MACEL 2020 -2021 \*  
*Deputy Head of College, Head of Junior School, Ormiston College*

**Tracey Cook** MACEL 2019-2021  
*Lead Principal –School Performance, North Coast Region/North Lakes, Department of Education.*

**Elizabeth Foster** MACEL 2019-2021 \*  
*Executive Principal, Wavell State High School*

**Racquel Gibbons** MACEL 2019-2021  
*Assistant Director-General, Early Childhood and Education Improvement,  
Department of Education*

**Tameika Grist** FACEL(Tas) ACEL (Tas) President 2017-2019, 2020-2021  
*Principal, St Mary's College, Maryborough*

**Norman Hunter** OAM FACEL 2008--2017; (Vice President 2012 -2017) 2020 -2021 \*  
*Principal consultant Thinkit Through*

**Alexander Mason** MACEL 2015-2021  
*Leader of Teaching and Learning Innovation, St Peters Lutheran College Springfield*

**John O'Sullivan Williams** MACEL 2020-2021 \* Awards Committee Chair  
*Head of Middle School, West Moreton Anglican College*

**\* 2021 ACEL Qld Awards Committee Members**

## Branch Support Officer

**Angela White**

The Australian Council for Educational Leaders

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ANNUAL BRANCH AWARDS CEREMONY

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# ACEL QLD Awards 2021

## Order of Proceedings

### Reception

5.15pm St Aidan's Anglican Girls' School, Christine Hartland Centre

6.00pm **Performance**  
Auditorium

### Ceremony

Auditorium

Acknowledgement of Country

**Phyllis Marsh**

Opening remarks

**Karen Fox** FACELQ, ACEL Queensland President

**Toni Riordan** Principal, St Aidan's Anglican Girls' School

The Miller-Grassie Address

**Dr Lee-Anne Perry** AM FACEL

The Miller-Grassie Award for Outstanding Leadership

The Excellence in Educational Leadership Award

ACEL Queensland Fellowship

The Research in Educational Leadership and Management Award

The Inspiring Educator Award

The Emerging Educational Leadership Award

The Indigenous Leadership Award

The Pivotal People Leadership Award

Leadership Commendation Award

Media Award

ACEL National Awards recognition

Vote of thanks

**Emeritus Professor Frank Crowther** AM FACEL - Patron of ACEL

# QUEENSLAND

## ANNUAL BRANCH AWARDS CEREMONY



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## WELCOME

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This is the 42nd year in which the Queensland Branch of the Australian Council for Educational Leaders (and its forerunner association) have hosted these awards.

As in the past, we celebrate excellence in educational leadership from across all sectors and regions in this State. We also acknowledge that educational leadership comes in many forms, as highlighted by the diversity of contexts, roles and achievements of our 2021 award recipients.

In determining the recipients of awards and fellowships granted tonight, the ACELQ Awards Committee thoughtfully considered all peer nominations and, reflecting the spirit of each category, made decisions based on the established criteria. We thank those ACEL colleagues and friends who generously spent the time to identify and honour leadership through the nomination process.

Congratulations to our 2021 award recipients. You remind us we belong to a profession that provides the opportunity and privilege to make a positive difference in the lives of young people. You inspire us to celebrate the richness of our profession and reflect on our collaborative power to impact the future. Thank you for your endeavours and your example.

I trust you all enjoy the evening.

**Karen Fox** FACELQ

ACEL Queensland President and National Director

## St Aidan's Anglican Girls' School

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St Aidan's is a Prep to Year 12 Anglican day school for girls, with a co-educational Kindergarten. Our population of approximately 900 students reflects our belief that students experience many benefits in a smaller school.

St Aidan's was established in 1929 by the Sisters of the Society of the Sacred Advent – an order of Anglican sisters committed to serving God through nurturing and serving young women.

Led by Principal, Toni Riordan, the school's mission has remained the same over the years: to encourage confidence and success in students through pursuit of their academic, sporting, cultural and community pursuits within a caring environment.

Thank you to the student hosts, performers, technicians, catering team and teaching staff who have contributed their time and commitment to welcome ACELQ. Your efforts highlight the caring culture, aspirations and achievements of the staff and students.

Your hospitality has enabled us to bring together school and system leaders from across the education sector in celebration of educational leadership.

# QUEENSLAND

## ANNUAL BRANCH AWARDS CEREMONY



### *Award venues and hosts*

#### **2019-2021**

St Aidan's Anglican Girls' School  
(Principal – Toni Riordan MACEL)

#### **2017 - 2018**

All Hallows School  
(Principal – Catherine O’Kane FACEL)

#### **2015 - 2016**

Hillbrook Anglican School  
(Principal - Geoff Newton FACEL)

#### **2013 - 2014**

St Peters Lutheran College  
(Head of College - Adrian Wiles)

#### **2009 - 2012**

The Queensland Academies – Science,  
Mathematics & Technology Campus  
(Principal - Kathryn Kayrooz FACELQ)



## The Miller-Grassie Award for Outstanding Leadership in Education

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**Dr Lee-Anne Perry**  
AM FACEL

**Executive Director**  
(CEO)

**Queensland Catholic**  
**Education Commission**

*The Miller-Grassie Award and President's Citation acknowledges and perpetuates the memory of the life and work of educational researchers and administrators, Dr Laurie Miller and Associate Professor MacCrae Grassie. Miller and Grassie were instrumental in establishing the Queensland Institute of Education Administrators (QIEA) in 1972, the forerunner to ACEL.*

*The recipient of this prestigious award is an outstanding educational leader whose achievements and influence reflect the spirit of the work of these pioneering educational leaders.*

*Introduced and presented by ACELQ President Karen Fox*

Dr Lee-Anne Perry's appointment as Executive Director of the Queensland Catholic Education Commission in 2015 followed a long career in school leadership and teaching including over 25 years' experience as a principal of schools. QCEC is the system authority and peak advocacy and policy body for Catholic schools in Queensland.

In her current role, Dr Perry works collaboratively with other sector leaders from government and independent schools to shape policy and practice for all young people in Queensland from early years to post-school pathways. Her other current leadership roles include Deputy Chair of the National Catholic Education Commission, member of the Australian Schools Policy Group which leads national education policy development, member of the Queensland University of Technology Council, Honorary Professor of the Australian Catholic University, and Board member of the Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority and Non-State Schools Accreditation Board. Dr Perry has contributed extensively to a range of professional, representative, expert and consultative groups including the Through Growth to Achievement review led by David Gonski and the Queensland Government Anti-Cyberbullying Taskforce.

# QUEENSLAND

## ANNUAL BRANCH AWARDS CEREMONY



## The Excellence in Educational Leadership Award



**Sharon Collins**

**Principal**

**St Saviour's College,  
Toowoomba**

*The Excellence in Educational Leadership Award recognises extraordinary educational leadership resulting in enhanced student outcomes. Nominees are educators or a group of educators working in classrooms, faculties, schools, tertiary institutions, school boards, systems or consultancies. The nominees lead the implementation of educational initiatives and/or influence educational policy.*

As Principal of St Saviour's College, Sharon Collins has made an outstanding contribution to educational leadership in a highly diverse environment. Under her guidance, St Saviour's has become regarded as a high-performing school with ever-improving academic results and high enrolment growth. In 2019 St Saviour's was recognised as the third most improved school in Queensland for performance in NAPLAN. Enrolment growth has increased significantly under her leadership, at an average annual rate of 26% across the past three years. With 26% indigenous population, and 24% of students from a language background other than English, St Saviour's attracts students from Papua New Guinea and throughout Queensland and New South Wales, especially from the communities in the far north and western Queensland. Sharon's leadership of a diverse community, grounded in her inherent belief in the value of education for all students, has attracted much interest from leadership teams throughout the state and nationally.

## The Excellence in Educational Leadership Award

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**Kort Goodman**

**Principal**

**St Joseph's College,  
Toowoomba**

Before assuming the role of Principal of St Joseph's College in 2020, Kort Goodman spent four years as Principal of Assumption College in Warwick and before this, 15 years in the roles of teacher, sports coordinator, deputy principal, and acting principal in schools across Western Queensland and the Darling Downs. His collaborative leadership, along with expert development and implementation of strategic actions and high yield strategies, empowers staff to be leaders in their areas. Through this work, Kort has led significant and measurable improvements in student learning. As a result of Kort's educational, staff and community leadership, school leaders and teachers have reported positive changes in teacher collegiality, as well as individual and collective efficacy. Kort's collaborative engagement with staff in leadership positions has empowered these leaders to strive for excellence in key areas, such as clearly articulating expectations around performance, ensuring accountability, and aligning professional learning to enhance capacity.

# QUEENSLAND

## ANNUAL BRANCH AWARDS CEREMONY



## The Excellence in Educational Leadership Award



**Bronwyn  
Johnstone**

**Assistant Regional  
Director**

**Department of  
Education, South East  
Region**

As Assistant Regional Director of the Department of Education, South East Region, Bronwyn Johnstone partners with state schools to deliver on 'every student succeeding'. Prior to this, she was the Principal of Boonah State High school and Capalaba State College, where she built staff capability and improved student achievement through strong partnerships. As an accomplished educator, she attributes collaboration as the key to creating a culture of learning and improving together. Bronwyn is most proud of her work with the Leading Learning Collaborative (LLC), a partnership with 99 schools who, through research, are committed to building and embedding high quality, self-sustaining instructional leadership. Combining school and regional teams, Bronwyn focuses on improving learning through monitoring and measuring impact using systemic data. Bronwyn actively contributes to the education conversation with published articles and conference presentations. Additionally, in creating the LLC Journal, she provides authorship opportunities for principals to learn with, and from, one another.

## The Excellence in Educational Leadership Award

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**Kay Kirkman**

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**Acting Regional  
Director**

**Department of  
Education, Central  
Queensland Region**

Kay Kirkman is the Acting Regional Director, Department of Education, Central Queensland Region, a region encompassing 190 schools. Kay commenced her role as Assistant Regional Director in 2014 having held former roles as Performance Measurement Officer, Principal Advisor Education Services, Deputy Principal and Principal. During her time as Deputy Principal, Kay was recognised with an Australia Day Achievement Award for her contributions to teaching and learning and a State Best Practice Award for her Year 2 Net Intervention Model. Regionally, Kay initiated and developed the Southern CQ Assessment and Moderation Professional Learning Community (PLC), influencing teaching, learning and assessment in Central Queensland clusters and schools. Her leadership and development of the Gladstone Reading PLC, co-designed with the State Reading and Writing Centre has also impacted the leadership of intentional collaboration and the teaching of reading across the state. Kay is also an inaugural member of the state ARD/Lead Principal Advisory Group.

# QUEENSLAND

## ANNUAL BRANCH AWARDS CEREMONY



## ACEL QLD Fellowship



**Alexander Mason**

**Leader of Teaching  
and Learning  
Innovation**

**St Peters Lutheran  
College, Springfield**

*This award recognises members of ACEL who actively support the Queensland Branch, the teaching profession and educational leadership. In addition, they are making or have made an outstanding contribution to the improvement of student achievement and organisational effectiveness through their leadership.*

As Leader of Teaching and Learning Innovation, Alexander Mason combines his fascination for whole school curriculum planning with the coaching and mentoring of peers. In addition to teaching and curriculum leadership, he has also worked in pastoral care leadership roles across both middle and senior schooling. Alexander is a former ACEL 'New Voice in School Leadership' scholarship winner. In 2016, he was an invited guest on the ACEL Queensland Branch Executive, during which time he played a pivotal role in the synthesis, writing, editing and promotion of the Statement of Commitment to the Profession of Teaching. In 2017, Alexander was elected to serve a three-year term on the Queensland Branch Executive and in 2020 for a second term. In 2020 he initiated and co-hosted the ACEL: In Conversation series to enable educational leaders to share their experiences, ideas and perspectives during the pandemic and bear collective witness to its impact on their professional lives. Alexander actively promotes ACEL initiatives and publications within his school and beyond.

## ACEL QLD Fellowship

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**James Midgley**

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**Director: Teaching  
and Learning**

**Toowoomba Catholic  
Schools**

After successful principalships across Queensland, in 2017, Jim Midgley accepted the role as a Director in Toowoomba Catholic Schools, overseeing Teaching and Learning in 31 schools and some 10 000 students. His journey as an educational leader includes Principal at Rockhampton Diocese schools, an international school in Port Moresby, a large Primary school and a P-12 college in the Brisbane Diocese. Jim's 25 years in educational leadership have been based on the philosophy that building teacher capacity through nurturing collective efficacy is the way forward for educational reform. He has ensured that Toowoomba is the highest performing diocese in early years reading in Australia, and has enabled consistently high-quality evidence-based practices in reading instruction across all classrooms and schools. After receiving an ACEL Excellence in Educational Leadership Award, Jim has subsequently been consistently visible and highly supportive of the work of the Toowoomba Regional ACEL group.

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## ANNUAL BRANCH AWARDS CEREMONY



## ACEL QLD Fellowship



**Toni Riordan**

**Principal**

**St Aidan's Girls'  
School**

Toni Riordan has had teaching and leadership experience in independent, government, Anglican and Catholic schools and in co-education, all boys' and girls' Schools for over 30 years. Toni commenced her role as Principal of St Aidan's Anglican Girls' School in 2018 after being Deputy Principal for three years. She has been part of review panels of both independent and catholic schools and works collegially with all sectors on committees and working groups. Toni has presented at educational conferences both in Australia and internationally and her scholarly writing has been published in a variety of educational journals. It is the networks of like-minded colleagues, genuine sponsors and inspirational mentors who have nurtured Toni's passion for excellence in education and drives her focus on developing strong leaders of the future. Her endorsement of the work of ACEL has been evidenced through the generous support and encouragement of her own staff and her collaborative endeavours within the wider ACEL community.



## ACEL QLD Fellowship

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**Louise Vella Cox**

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**Director**

**Catholic Identity  
and Indigenous  
Education Services,  
Townsville Catholic  
Education**

Louise Vella-Cox has enjoyed a distinguished career since beginning teaching in 1990 and holding leadership positions in both the Townsville and Cairns Dioceses. Cognizant of all areas of regional, rural and remote education, Louise is recognised for her outstanding contribution as an educational leader, particularly in school development, curriculum development and educational leadership development in North Queensland. She has a strategic focus and strong relational qualities which she directs towards growing a dynamic directorate that empowers teachers and creates professional expertise in school leadership. Louise makes a significant contribution to governance holding positions on boards, advisory committee and local groups including as Board member of Saints Residential College, James Cook University, the Tropical Brain and Mind Foundation in Townsville, the Institute of Faith, Brisbane and as Chair of the TCEO Indigenous Advisory Committee. Louise is a great supporter of ACEL initiatives and promotes the annual conferences as an excellent opportunity for professional development and networking.

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## ANNUAL BRANCH AWARDS CEREMONY



## Research in Educational Leadership and Management Award



**Dr Damien Barry**

**Regional Principal  
One School Global**

*ACELQ promotes the principles and practices of good educational leadership through partnerships with universities and tertiary institutions. Post Graduate students are nominated by their universities for exceptional academic achievement in advanced studies in educational leadership.*

*Nominated by Griffith University*

As Regional Principal at One School Global, Dr Damien Barry is responsible for the oversight of four campuses in Queensland and two campuses in Tasmania where he has delivered the operational and strategic management of the development of curriculum, teaching, and learning with an emphasis on innovation and improving standards. He is the Chair of the National Teaching and Learning Team and has implemented the GROWTH Coaching framework with all Heads of Campus across Australia. Highlights of his school leadership have included using the findings from his doctoral studies to develop and implement a Teacher Performance and Development Framework across 35 campuses nationally and implementing diagnostic tests to 10,000 students across 135 campuses globally and then successfully using the data from these tests to inform practice. Dr Barry's thesis entitled *The value of the Australian Professional Standards for teachers as an evaluation tool to enhance teacher quality* received the prestigious Griffith Graduate Research School Award for Excellence in a Research Thesis.

## Research in Educational Leadership and Management Award

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*Nominated by University of Queensland*

Ashley Moor is the Manager of Educational Design at Pinnacle Safety and Training, a national RTO and one of Australia's largest providers of adult education. Having worked in primary, secondary and higher education environments for over 20 years Ashley's background is in language acquisition and academic literacies. His Masters research project: *School leadership and quality assurance: A standards-based approach to principalship in Australia* critically evaluated the extent to which the Principal Standards can assure quality leadership in Australian schools and offered key recommendations. His vast experience in the area of leadership and management has allowed him to contribute invaluable to the leadership field and to realise some of the key outcomes of the professional standards for teachers and principals. In his research into educational leadership, Ashley highlights the affective world, the importance of healthy learning communities and the paradoxes and tensions which arise as part of efforts to reform educational systems.

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**Ashley Moor**

**Manager of Educational Design**

**Pinnacle Safety and Training**

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## ANNUAL BRANCH AWARDS CEREMONY



## Research in Educational Leadership and Management Award



**Dr Paul Teys**

**Principal**

**Orana Steiner School,  
Canberra**

*Nominated by University of Southern Queensland*

Dr Paul Teys has served independent education in Australia for over 40 years, including as Principal of Moreton Bay College and Hunter Valley Grammar School. His EdD Thesis found that the claims made in the literature about successful principal leadership only partially describe principal leadership in large, P-12, autonomous, independent schools in Australia. The most significant finding to emerge from this research is that effective principal leadership needs the principal to be able to diagnose their leadership context successfully and act in response. What has also emerged from the research is that being the principal of a large, P-12, autonomous, independent schools in Australia is a unique, complex and demanding role. One significant outcome of this research is the development of a leadership framework that appropriately represents the complexity of the role and responsibilities of a principal leading a large, P-12, autonomous, independent school in Australia.

## The Inspiring Educator Award

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**Debbie Schuler**

**English Coordinator  
Hillbrook Anglican  
School**

*This award honours educators whose teaching skills, relationships with students and attitude towards their work have inspired young people to enter the profession of teaching. It provides the profession and the community with examples of teachers whose pride in the work they do, and their commitment to the ideals and goals of teaching have influenced others to follow in their footsteps.*

*Nominated by Nicole Tate*

Debbie Schuler started her teaching career over 35 years ago in North Queensland before returning to Brisbane to take on leadership roles in English teaching, eventually leading to her current role as English Coordinator at Hillbrook Anglican School. Through her work, Debbie, demonstrates great knowledge, refined and extensive skills and, above all, pervasive kindness and sensitivity to the particular needs of others, especially to individual learning needs. She is deeply respected for her expertise at balancing the notions of challenge and support for her students, providing care and compassion to each student and ultimately striving to make a positive difference in the lives of others. Debbie's passion for teaching has never waned; she continues to develop innovative curriculum and mentors early career teachers. One of her current joys is working with many teachers who are her former students.

# QUEENSLAND

## ANNUAL BRANCH AWARDS CEREMONY



## The Emerging Educational Leadership Award



*This award recognises emerging leadership influence and practice and provides these educators with the opportunity to undertake professional learning in educational leadership. The award recipient/s has the opportunity to participate in funded professional learning event which will significantly inform and influence their educational leadership practice within their school setting.*

Julian Wenke is an experienced and talented teacher and educational leader who has consummate skills in innovative, authentic teaching and learning. As the Curriculum Leader of Humanities at Redeemer Lutheran College, he consistently empowers and inspires both staff and students. Julian positions teachers to strike a balance between academic rigour and the provision of engaging, meaningful learning experiences. There is an emphasis on novel but effective approaches that emphasise collaboration, empathy, critical thinking and debate. Julian's involvement in interstate and overseas learning tours has bolstered his enthusiasm for Problem-Based Learning. He has collaborated with and led his fellow departmental heads in the implementation of PBL in the middle years. Teachers in his department focus on developing interesting programs that promote purposeful learning activities and opportunities for student achievements to be displayed in a professional and inspiring manner. Julian ardently supports the role of the Humanities in education and motivates those under his leadership to do the same.

### Julian Wenke

**Curriculum Leader of  
Humanities**

**Redeemer Lutheran  
College**

## The Emerging Educational Leadership Award

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**Dajana Zec**

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**Inclusion Teacher**

**Callamvale Community  
College**

Dajana Zec has made a significant contribution to the education community through her work and her research for the Master of Educational Studies (Guidance, Counselling and Careers), University of Queensland. She has shown not only exemplary leadership in her field of research but has also led teams of researchers and produced deliverables from the study to support the work of school guidance counsellors. This research has seen the production of a Guidance Resource Booklet for Secondary School Guidance Officers. Currently, Dajana is working with a research team on another systematic review of literature demonstrating the effectiveness of mental health initiatives and interventions before, during and after a disruption in Queensland schools including both man-made (e.g., violent intruders, abductions) and natural disasters (floods, fires, cyclones, pandemic). Dajana's growing recognition as an aspiring researcher in school counselling as well as her practitioner focus cements her reputation as an emerging educational leader in her field.

# QUEENSLAND

## ANNUAL BRANCH AWARDS CEREMONY



## The Indigenous Leadership Award



**Chris Bartlett**

**Principal**

**Mater Dei Catholic  
Primary School,  
Toowoomba**

*Previously a biennial award, the ACELQ Executive has established this annual award to recognize the work of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander educators or teams. Recipients of this award draw on cultural knowledge, community connections and understanding of student learning needs to create experiences that build respect for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and culture and enhances student outcomes.*

Chris Bartlett is an indigenous man from the Lama Lama and Ayapathu mob (Far North Queensland, around Coen and to the east to Port Stewart). He has been a Principal in the Toowoomba diocese for over twenty years and is currently leading Mater Dei Catholic Primary School. His personal spirituality and self-confidence are very reflective of his indigenous heritage. Chris is a born leader and collaborator. He knows the evidence and research around high yield pedagogical strategies. Importantly, he knows how to bring together a community of learners and has mastered the conditions that nurture collective teacher efficacy. Chris has a strong educational vision with a primary focus on the student as a learner and person. He has high expectations of everyone and a relentless focus on achieving the best outcomes for his students. Chris models the attributes of a lifelong learner and is passionate about developing and growing those around him.



## The Indigenous Leadership Award

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**Phyllis Marsh**

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**Learning Innovator  
(Indigenous  
Perspectives)**

**West Moreton Anglican  
College**

A MaMu woman from the Mundubarra people of the Innisfail region, Phyllis Marsh works as the Learning Innovator - Indigenous Perspectives at West Moreton Anglican College. Having built a career in the corporate world, Phyllis made a career change and began working at WestMAC, located at Karrabin on Yugara Country. Through inspired and intentional strategy Phyllis quickly established herself as a confident educational partner who promotes authentic learning through the wisdom of her First Nation's voice. Phyllis has designed and collaboratively embedded authentic First Nation's perspectives in the College's curriculum, designed Staff Professional Development, developed RISE (an in-house Women's Business Program), designed, and established the NGARI Paiabun Kurumba (Indigenous Student Leadership Program), and lead Reconciliation and connected community. The work being achieved at WestMAC is integral in strengthening relationships and building knowledge, which is the key component of the vision being realised. Phyllis is widely acknowledged for a professional skillset and approach that enriches learning and optimises student outcomes.

# QUEENSLAND

## ANNUAL BRANCH AWARDS CEREMONY



## The Pivotal People Leadership Award



**Joni Cameron**

**Head of English and  
Languages**

**Coomabah State High  
School**

*Established in 2020, the Pivotal People Leadership Award, recognises an influential middle leader, or team of middle leaders who have been pivotal in generating enhanced learning outcomes for students from their direct and positive influence on teachers' practice.*

Joni Cameron is the Head of English and Languages at Coombabah State High School. Over the two years that she has been Head of Department, she has used a range of research-based strategies to change the culture of the department to one in which deliberate collaboration is used as a tool to enable student success. Joni's work is largely influenced by research and draws heavily on the use of data walls, case management and collaborative assessment of student work. Using these strategies, the English department has seen improvement in the understanding of the relevant syllabus requirements as well as deep and rich conversations about students and specific strategies for success. She mentors other HODs modelling how to transform faculty culture by aligning the work of teachers - connecting curriculum planning, collaboration and inquiry cycles for effective teacher development and improved student outcomes.

## The Pivotal People Leadership Award

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**Madonna Potter**

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**Deputy Head of  
Secondary**

**The Lakes College**

Madonna is an experienced educator having served in schools across state, catholic and Independent sectors for over twenty years. With a pastoral focus and interest in young people's social and emotional needs Madonna was an early adopter of Positive Psychology. As Deputy Head of Secondary at the Lakes College, Madonna knows the gradual accumulation of risks, anxieties and challenges that beset our young people. She encourages young people to identify and draw on their innate and unique character strengths to build autonomy and agency over their own lives. She has researched, devised, and embedded the College's signature Find Your North Wellbeing Program. By placing the character strengths inherent in our young people at the heart of the program, students are given the unique opportunity to seek independence and agency over their learning habits, relationships, and, ultimately, their lives. As part of the Find Your North program, Madonna leads and supports a dedicated team of Year Level Coordinators and wellbeing teachers.

# QUEENSLAND

## ANNUAL BRANCH AWARDS CEREMONY



## The Pivotal People Leadership Award



**Claire Preston**

**Curriculum Leader:  
Music**

**Redeemer Lutheran  
College**

Claire Preston has held a variety of leadership positions in schools throughout Australia and Canada teaching Prep to Year 12 students. Her career spans Director of Music roles in a variety of school settings in Melbourne, Hobart, Toronto and most recently Brisbane where she is Head of Music at Redeemer Lutheran College. Claire has worked as Assistant Conductor of the Toronto Children's Choir and the Toronto Children's Chorus. Her passion and dedication has inspired a host of young people to enter the teaching profession and successful careers in the music industry. Her service to others includes guest lecturing for community organisations, the University of Melbourne and Griffith University, Australian Honours Ensemble Program. Claire's recent National Excellence in School Leadership Institute scholarship provided an opportunity to complete the Advanced Women's Leadership Course and as a result has inspired her to build leadership capacity and agency in others within her school community.

## The Pivotal People Leadership Award

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### The Gold Coast Pivotal People Organising Team

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**Elizabeth Benson**



**Nicole Elkins**



**Wendy McKay**



**Olivia Ross**

Pivotal People is a professional collegial network for educators in middle leadership launched by ACELQ in 2018 through the efforts of ACELQ Branch Executive member Elizabeth Benson. The Pivotal People Organising Team have been central to elevating the Pivotal People Middle Leaders Network in 2020-2021. The team members have led the development of the 2021 program and taken on the challenge of organising and facilitating events (including the inaugural International Women's Day Dinner). They have all led the positive promotion of the network through their own educational networks and social media. Each of the members has used their unique talents, insights on and experience as middle leaders to shape the Pivotal People program so that it continues to reflect the professional learning needs of middle leaders on the Gold Coast. They have actively advocated the high-quality professional learning the network provides to a wide range of middle leaders.

# QUEENSLAND

## ANNUAL BRANCH AWARDS CEREMONY



## Educational Leadership Commendation Award



**Dr Suraiya Abdul  
Hameed**

**Lecturer**

**School of Education,  
University of  
Queensland**

*This is an ACELQ Executive special commendation acknowledging the initiative of educational leaders who have worked positively and collaboratively. Recipients build expertise amongst the teaching profession and in educational organisations. By developing a strong collegial approach and leading their respective organisations for learning, their work has enhanced the professional capacity amongst colleagues and other educators.*

Dr Suraiya Hameed is an interdisciplinary leader, educator and researcher specialising in educational leadership at the University of Queensland. She has shown exemplary leadership within the area of Educational Leadership, Global Policy and Education & Equity, Inclusion, diversity and culture. Dr Hameed's research projects aim to make that major breakthrough in the development of leaders supporting the schools of the 21st century. She is currently leading multiple international research which aims at engagement with international counterparts to improve educational outcomes and to generate networking opportunities with international educators and school leaders. Dr Hameed's extensive experiences in varied leadership roles have translated into positive student engagement, positive student's trajectories as well as ground-breaking research in the leadership front. It has also allowed her to contribute invaluable to the leadership field and assist in bridging the gap between theory and practice, thus assisting students and her other colleagues to make meaningful connections between theoretical constructs and real-life applications in leadership.

## Educational Leadership Commendation Award

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### Ormiston College Wellbeing Team

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**Craig Askin**  
Head of Learning and  
Innovation P-12



**Sandra Middleton**  
Deputy Head of  
Secondary Years



**Erin Ware**  
Deputy Head of Junior  
Years

The Ormiston College Student Wellbeing team have worked closely together over the past two and a half years to review and develop a unique Ormiston College Student Wellbeing Framework that focuses on *Being Well, Prepared and Connected*. Key drivers of the review have been Craig Askin, Sandra Middleton and Erin Ware. They have been outstanding in guiding the team throughout this process. They are a team of dedicated professionals who display a deep understanding of the College ethos and culture. Craig, Sandra and Erin are held in high esteem by the Senior Executive team, staff, students and families, having all contributed significant years of service to the College. Their leadership and guidance have been pivotal on this wellbeing journey.

# QUEENSLAND

## ANNUAL BRANCH AWARDS CEREMONY



## Media Award



*This award recognises a significant contribution by an individual or media organisation towards creating or facilitating depth and balance in public debate on educational matters in the media. It may be awarded for a single media event or for a long-term commitment on the part of the recipient.*

Dr Judith Locke is a registered clinical psychologist, former teacher, school counsellor and workplace trainer. She is the Director of Confident and Capable®, an organization specializing in delivering psychological training solutions for parents, children, teachers, and other employees. Judith also provides clinical assistance for families and individuals in her private practice. Judith's psychological commentary features regularly in the media, including a weekly parenting column for The Sunday Mail in Australia. She is the author of the best-selling parenting book *The Bonsai Child* and the recently-released *The Bonsai Student*. Through her realistic, balanced and supportive advice to parents and students Dr Locke assists and supports the ongoing work of the teaching profession.

### Dr Judith Locke

**Director, Confident and Capable®**

**Media commentator and author**



## The Miller-Grassie Award for Outstanding Leadership in Education

2010	Michael Byrne FACELQ	2015	Dr Kenneth Avenell FACEL
2011	Professor Neil Dempster FACELQ	2016	Professor Wendy Patton
2012	Associate Professor Dorothy Andrews FACEL	2017	Dr Joan Conway FACEL
2013	Dr Stephen Brown FACEL	2018	Professor Donna Pendergast
2014	Professor Glen Postle AM	2019	Dr Paul Browning
		2020	Associate Professor Jill Willis

## The Excellence in Educational Leadership Awards

2010	Norman Hunter FACEL	2017	Tania Leach	Peter Kelly
2011	Dr Gabrielle Matters		Leanne Nixon FACELQ	Jim Midgley MACEL
2012	Ken Avenell FACEL	2018	Ros Curtis FACELQ	Dennis Mulherin FACEL
2013	Maryanne Walsh FACELQ		Dr Cathy Day FACELQ	Dr Lee-Anne Perry FACEL
2014	Helen Starr FACEL		Geoff McLay	Karen Spiller FACEL
2015	Mark Creedon FACEL		Anne McKenny	Dr Cameron Brooks
	John Ryan FACEL		Geoff Newton FACEL	Michael Newman FACELQ
2016	Pam Carden	2019	Dr Judy Smeed FACEL	Associate Professor Grace Sarra
	Tamara Sullivan		Lee Catterall MACEL	Dr Marnee Shay
	Patrea Walton		Deborah Dunstone	

## ACEL QLD Fellowships

1982	Charles Cullen*		Justin Hughes	1999	Ken Avenell*
	Jarvis Finger*		Frank Crowther*		Murray Evans
	Maxwell Howell	1990	Ronald Daniels		Ross Zellow
	Keith Tronc*		Douglas Olgivie*	2000	Debbie Best
1983	William Hurd*		Larry Smith		Steven Brown*
	Norman Hughes*		Noel Stephenson		Anthony Chittenden
1984	Evelyn Jansen*	1991	Murray Bladwell	2001	Neil Cranston*
	Laurence Miller*		Gordon Crosswell		Carolyn Hauff
1985	Merline Muldoon*		Brendan Mcmanus		Ian McKay*
1986	Colin Crain		Anthony Watt*	2002	Lee Callum*
	Joan Farnham	1992	David Ballin		Daryl Hanly*
	Jack Guy		Geoffrey Greene		Tom Robertson
	Carolyn Harrod*		David Manttan*	2003	Dorothy Andrews*
	Robert Haslam		Russell Welsh		Lyn Bishop
	Joseph Mccorley*	1993	Ian Golding		Simon Boss-Walker*
1987	John Cooney		Keith Money*		Robert Rasmussen*
	Neil Flanagan		Michael Myerson		Ian Ferguson
	Peter Freney		Colin Sutcliffe*	2006	Norman Hunter*
	Neville Fry*	1994	Ian Brooks		Kerri Jones
	Helen Lucas		Anthony Constance		Leanne Nixon
1988	Jenny Haddrell	1995	Narottam Bhindi	2008	Liz Jarvis
	Ronald Holmes		June Fox		John Lockhart
	Mary Mcdonald	1996	Isabelle Limerick*		Allan Todd
	John Shelley		Angus Lucas*		Suzanne Bain
	Robin Sullivan*		Lester Mason		Bronwyn Braithwaite
1989	Graham Pollitt		Diane Nailon		Steven Case
	Laurence Topping	1997	Raymond Barrett	2009	Jennifer Fisher
	Ian Druery	1998	Clarence Burke*		Helen Starr*
	Jasper Glover		Cecil Munns		Rob McAlpine

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# QUEENSLAND

## ANNUAL BRANCH AWARDS CEREMONY



### ACEL QLD Fellowships

Year	Fellowship Recipients	Year	Fellowship Recipients
2010	Michael Byrne John Clark Stuart Maish Julie Grantham Alan Campbell Peter Chapman Stephen Loggie Dennis Mulherin* Lee-Anne Perry* Jason Sharland Sally-Anne Stephenson	2014	Pamela Hall Ray Bloxham* Joan Conway* Mark Dawson Lisa Ehrich* Wade Haynes Deborah Kember* Corrine Mcmillan Regan Neuman Geoff Newton* Francine Barker Pam Betts* Michael Fay Margaret Hendriks David Robertson Brett Webster Lindy Abawi Mark Campling* Catherine Day Miles Ford Kathryn Kayrooz Gary O'Brien Catherine O'Kane Pam Betts Bruce Addison Pat Coughlan Neville McDonald Andrew Pierpoint Julie Raitelli Christine Clarke Martyr Savage Kerrie Tuite Patrea Walton* Trevor Doyle
2011	Jan Alen Brian Grey* Glen Finger Leesa Jeffcoat Bob Lingard* John Ryan* Brett Shackleton* Karen Spiller*	2015	Stacie Hansel Michael Newman Sandra Nissen Elizabeth Benson Helen Jamieson Dale Morrow Holly O'Sullivan Williams Donna Stahlhut Robyn Bell* Paul Bland Paul Campbell Robyn Collins Mark Creedon* Neil Dempster* Kenneth Gilbert* Rudy Goosem Roger Hunter David Hutton Sue Kloeden Ray Kruger Stephanie Munday-Lake* Ken Rogers Jason Sharland Richard Smith Sally Stephens Jenni Walsh Maryanne Walsh David Warner*
2012	Margaret Ferguson Karen Fox Nathan Hutchings Christopher Ivey Graeme McDonald Julie Quinn Simon Riley Donaugh Shirley Judy Smeed* Brian Streatfield Debra Ward Murray Wegner Roslyn Curtis Darryl Early	2016	
2013	Jennifer Krenske	2017	
		2018	
		2019	
		2020	
		Year	TBC

\* Denotes National fellowship

## ACEL QLD Honorary Fellowships

A Fellowship (Honorary) was awarded to educators who are not ACEL members, but who are acknowledged as outstanding leaders in the practice and/or theory of educational leadership. The award was discontinued in 2018.

1979	George Bassett*		Adele Rice	2014	Elizabeth Devonshire
1980	William Hurd*		Chris Sarra		Christine Hills
	Norman Hughes*	2012	Ray Bloxham		Kenneth Maclean
1981	Bernard O'Shea		Glen Hoppner	2015	Robin Cox
1985	McRae Grassie		Karen Howes		Andrew Hawke
1988	Clyde Gilmore		Jean Madden		Claire Wyatt-Smith
1990	Archibald Guymier		Donna Muir	2016	Roselynn Anderson
1993	Francis Young		Julie Raitelli	2017	Chris Rider
2010	Stephen Foster	2013	Richard Gill	Year	Maurice Harnell
	Neville Fynes-Clinton		Erica McWilliam	TBC	
	Robert Gilbert		Robyn Philpott		
2011	Ross MacKay		Paul Williamson		

## ACEL QLD Inspiring Educator Award

2010	Phillip Giblett	2015	Alison McCracken
	Karen Tanks	2016	Gerard Monsour
2011	Di Carter	2017	Heather Cowan
2012	Darren Graham	2018	Wendy Martin
2013	Lis Hoey	2019	Samantha Johnstone
2014	Clare Schinkel	2020	Graeme Morton AM

## ACEL QLD Emerging Educational Leadership Award

2008	Scott Gorringe	2015	Leanne Odorico	Indigenous Leaders: Townsville Catholic Education Indigenous Team (Tammi Webber, Krista O'Connor, Janelle Knack) Pivotal People: Angela Martlew, Doomadgee State School Team (Sara Janke, Jessie Woldt, James Cook, Jelena Colic)
2010	Michael Nai	2016	Preston Parter	
2012	Jack Manning-Bancroft	2018	Tegan Baumgart	
2013	Pauline Newton		Alec Warner	
2014	Yolanda Coutts	2019	Corey Kempthorne	
	John Davis	2020	School Leaders: Polly Crawford, Naomi Gibb, Jennifer Smeed	
	Baressa Frazer			

## ACEL QLD Research in Educational Leadership and Management Award

2009	Douglas Kiddell (QUT)	2012	Dr Anders Kletthagen (QUT)	Dr Susan Carter (USQ)	
	Jacqueline McGregor (UQ)		Dr Senthurini Jeyaraj (USQ)	Dr Steven Lewis (UQ)	
	Christine Clarke (ACU)		Dr Philip Bulawa (JCU)	2017	Dr Shauna Petersen (USQ)
	Dr Richard Scagliarini (USQ)	2013	Dr Katherine Jackman (QUT)		Dr Amanda Heffernan (UQ)
2010	Dr Stephen Brown (USQ)		Dr Sherilyn Lennon (USQ)		Dr Francis Raymond Ackah (GU)
	Michelle Buiatti (GU)		Dr Sally Pitkin (UQ)		Dr Talitha Kingsmill (ACU)
	Greg Parry (CQU)	2014	Dr Cheryl Bauman (USQ)	2018	Dr Nerida Spina (QUT)
	Daniel Pampuch (UQ)		Dr Ray Bloxham (QUT)		Dr Belinda Holmes (USQ)
	Tammy Somerwil (QUT)		Dr Anna du Plessis (UQ)	2019	Dr Natalia Swayne (QUT)
2011	Rosemary Cooper (QUT)		Dr Andrea O'Brien (ACU)	2020	Liam Auliciems (UQ)
	Dr Mark Dawson (USQ)	2015	Wayne Batiste (QUT)		Dr Julie Lindsay (USQ),
	Dr Darren Iselin (UQ)		Dr Kenneth Avenell (GU)		Dr Louise Wilkinson (JCU)
	Catherine Massetti (ACU)	2016	Dr Linda Evans (QUT)		

# QUEENSLAND

## ANNUAL BRANCH AWARDS CEREMONY



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### ACEL QLD Media Award

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2010	Madonna King ABC	2016	Natasha Bita, The Australian	2020	The Learning @ home,
	Frances Whiting The Sunday Mail	2017	Angela Mollard, The Sunday Mail		Reading @ home & Coding
2011	Madonna King, ABC	2018	Rebecca Sparrow, Author		@ home collaboration
2012	Richard Fidler, ABC	2019	Tanya Chilcott, Queensland		(Qld Department of Education,
2013	Steve Austin, ABC		College of Teachers		Channel 9 Qld, Network 10,
2014	Mary-Rose Maccoll, The Courier Mail				Seven production)

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### ACEL QLD Educational Leadership Commendation Award

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2014	Corrine McMillan	2017	Vicki Caldwell		Emily Simons
	Llew Paulger	2018	Metropolitan Aspiring Leaders		Paul Zernike
	Andrew Peach		Group:	2019	Nicole King
2015	Jon Andrews		Brad Clark		Pamela Ruddell
	Christina Coogan		Liz Foster	2020	Diane Bukowski
	Deb Evans		Amanda Hawkswell		Paul Hornibrook,
	Des Hyton		Kim McNamara		Phillip Makridakis
2016	Dr Jim Watterston FACEL		Lisa Morrison		

## National Awards

The following Queenslanders were honoured for their significant contribution to the improvement of student and organisational outcomes.

### Gold Medal Awards

1987	Phillip Cullen FACEL
1989	Jarvis Finger FACEL
1997	Frank Crowther FACEL
2003	USQ School Revitalisation Project Team
2016	Jim Watterston FACEL

### Hedley Beare Award for Educational Writing

2005	Jarvis Finger FACEL
2006	Keith Tronc FACEL
2011	Frank Crowther FACEL
2013	Neil Dempster
2017	Ken Avenell FACEL

### Nganakarrawa Award

1993	Neville Fry	2011	Neil Dempster FACEL
1994	Jarvis Finger FACEL	2013	Norm Hunter FACEL
2003	Keith Money FACEL	2014	Ken Avenell FACEL
2009	Neil Cranston FACEL	2019	Karen Spiller FACEL

### Keith Tronc Award for Outstanding Teacher Leadership

2010	Sarah Long	2019	Mia Pinnington	2018	Andrew Devoy
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### Presidential Citation for Outstanding Service

1999	Keith Money FACEL
2010	Marian Lewis Dorothy Andrews FACEL
2014	Helen Starr FACEL
2020	Deb Kember FACEL

### Scholarships

#### *The 'New Indigenous Voice' in School Leadership Scholarship*

2015	Trish Noy
2018	Madeline Pugin
2019	Karis Hill-Milne
2020	Tammy Baart

#### *The 'New Voice' in Educational Leadership Research Scholarship*

2015	Karen Trimmer
2016	Amanda Heffernan
2017	Julie Arnold
2018	Belinda Holmes
2019	Selena Fisk
2020	Louise Wilkinson

#### *The 'New Voice' in School Leadership Scholarship*

2015	Samantha Donovan
2016	Alexander Mason, Jacques du Toit
2017	Tamara Sullivan
2018	Ruth Smith
2019	John O'Sullivan-Williams
2020	Amy Byrnes, Meredith O'Connor

# QUEENSLAND

## ANNUAL BRANCH AWARDS CEREMONY



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### Queensland Branch Presidents

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#### *Queensland Institute for Education*

*Administrators – Est. October 1972*

1972 - 1975 Clyde Gilmour FACELQ  
1976 - 1978 Phil Cullen FACEL  
1978 - 1980 Laurie Miller FACEL  
1980 - 1986 John Roulston FACEL  
1986 - 1988 Neil Flanagan FACELQ  
1988 - 1990 Jarvis Finger FACEL

1991 - 1992

1993 - 1994

1995 - 1996

1996 - 1998

1998 - 2005

Neville Fry FACEL

Frank Crowther FACEL

Carolyn Harrod FACEL

Lester Mason FACELQ

Ken Avenell FACEL

#### *Australian Council for Educational Leaders*

*(Queensland Branch)*

2006

2006 - 2008

2008 - 2014

2014 - 2020

Colin Sutcliffe FACEL

Simon Boss-Walker FACEL

Helen Starr FACEL

Deborah Kember FACEL

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### Life Members

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Dorothy Andrews  
Ken Avenell  
Paul Bancroft  
Raymond Barrett  
Peter Boge  
Stephen Brown  
Ann Carroll  
Gregory Casey  
Peter Chapman  
Joan Conway  
Allan Cook  
Patrick Coughlan  
Mark Creedon  
Frank Crowther  
Trevor Doyle  
Charmaine Driver  
Patrick Duignan  
Lisa Ehrich

Jarvis Finger  
Peter Freney  
Ross Horner  
Norman Hunter  
David Hutton  
David Kopelke  
Kerry Latimer  
Veronica Lawson  
Marian Lewis  
David Manttan  
Garry Molloy  
Michael Myerson  
Terry Newman  
Peter Pashen  
Mary-Ellen Pattinson  
Lee-Anne Perry  
Randall Pointing  
Sidney Rasmussen

Charles Reich  
Thomas Robertson  
David Robertson  
Ken Rogers  
Brian Rout  
Gwen Sands  
John Scanlan  
Ashley Smith  
Helen Starr  
Brendan Stockall  
Keith Tronc  
Wayne Troyahn  
Geoffrey Van Der Vliet  
Mary Wallis  
Anthony Watt  
Murray Wegner  
Eric Wilson  
David Youitt

## *A statement of commitment to the profession of teaching*

I acknowledge that I am a member of a profession that extends to me the opportunity and the privilege to make a positive difference in the lives of young people.

I bring to the profession my unique talents to teach and to lead, which I commit to nurturing and developing throughout my career. I understand that teaching is a deeply human endeavour. While I teach subjects, ideas and skills, above all I teach young people, who are our future.

I recognise and respect the body of distinct theory and knowledge which is gifted to me by those who have come before. I draw from it and strive to contribute further to it.

I recognise that young people learn in different ways and at different rates.

I believe that given appropriate support and resourcing, all young people can learn, and I strive to nurture a love of learning that will help every young person to succeed.

I make judgements to evaluate student achievement through assessment that is valid, reliable and fair, and I give value to those learnings that cannot be measured.

I recognise that teaching is a collaborative profession and I am not the only teacher in a young person's life.

My work is enriched through working with my colleagues, learning from them and contributing to their practice.

I acknowledge the contribution of the many parents, caregivers, and teachers past, present and future who contribute to a young person's education.

I work with them wherever possible to enrich the learning of young people.

I offer a spirit of optimism, resilience and hope as I support young people to develop and act on the values, beliefs and capabilities that guide them throughout their lives.

I recognise the changing nature of knowledge, and I commit to continuous learning throughout my professional career.

In committing to this statement I accept the responsibilities of being a teacher, and acknowledge the deep trust placed in me by young people, parents, caregivers and society



Australian Council for  
Educational Leaders

Being a member of ACEL means that you will have immediate opportunities to strengthen and develop your leadership capabilities while continually building on your professional learning as a leader. At ACEL we are committed to bringing professional learning and resources to you. ACEL supports the whole education sector including principals, middle school leaders, teachers, consultants and researchers. ACEL membership is a powerful tool for driving leadership change in the educational community.

In each Australian state and territory there is an active branch of ACEL working to ensure local needs are met, regional contexts are represented and significant opportunities and resources are driven from the grass-roots level. Our strategic networks continue to generate research and development work necessary to inform and support educational leadership.

## Australian Council for Educational Leaders

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