

Annual general meetings - 2004 AGM

2004 has seen JCQTA involved in many new activities and a strengthening of some of our previous ones. We now 25 member associations and over 100 on our email list.



JCQTA has represented professional teacher associations on the:

- QLD Consortium for Professional Development in Education
- AGQTP Steering Committee of Education Queensland
- QMYS Co-ordinating Committee
- AJCPTA
- QSA – Senior Certificate Consultation

In 2004, JCQTA members have worked closely with the Consortium, whose current program includes advocacy for professional associations. In 2003, the Consortium undertook a survey of professional teacher associations, collated and processed the results. This culminated in “A Way Forward: The Future for Professional Associations and Networks” Report which was launched in March 2004. The report made 11 Recommendations that has implications for all stakeholders in the education system. JCQTA was specifically mentioned in four of these.

One specific recommendation led to the establishment of a workshop for members of all professional associations and networks to meet together with representatives from all of the employing authorities. JCQTA was given a chance to inform the participants of its activities and distribute a survey. Five new associations joined as a result of this. JCQTA continues to strengthen its ties with members of the Consortium in an endeavour to implement further recommendations.

One of the main activities for JCQTA this year and continuing next year is the Action Learning Leadership Project. JCQTA has been contracted by Education Queensland to host this project at several locations in Queensland. JCQTA member associations can nominate EQ teachers who can receive up to \$800 to participate to cover TRS, travel and other costs including the resourcing of an action learning project they design. Other teachers can also participate if they self – fund. I would especially like to thank out Vice-President, Debbie Kember, for facilitating this arrangement.

The recent August Forum “Upskilling for Professional Association Leaders”, was a follow-up from the one held last year and from the responses gained from our recent survey. There were nearly 50 participants. The Keynote Address covered the area of Risk Management and the workshops which followed on dealt with Incorporation Responsibilities, Providing PD to Rural & Remote members and Facilitating Groups. I have had some very positive feedback from many participants who felt the day was very worthwhile.

At the national level, our peak body, AJCPTA, has been involved in the development of the National Institute for Quality Teaching and School Leadership (NIQTSL). Debbie Kember was one of the five people elected to represent AJCPTA on the Institute’s Interim Board. There is still much discussion to be had around the Institute’s roles and functions. Earlier in the year there was also an opportunity for the state and territory representatives to meet in Adelaide. Debbie and I attended this meeting and I was able to table the “A Way Forward” Report which addressed many of the issues that all associations across the country have to deal with.

A couple of other initiatives that have taken place this year have been as a result of the Strategic Planning Day that was held in April eg member survey, up-dated web-site and the quarterly email newsletter. There are still things to consider implementing in 2005 eg our own web-site address etc while remembering not to over extend ourselves.

I would like at this time to thank two of our outgoing Management Committee members. Firstly, Ros Korkatzis who has been a representative of her association since JCQTA commenced in 1991. She has also been the Secretary of JCQTA for most of that time and for a short period the President. She has also at various times over the years been the representative on all the consultative bodies that JCQTA has been asked to participate. Ros has always been a strong advocate for JCQTA and has dedicated a great deal of time and effort into ensuring its continued success over the years. I would personally like to thank Ros for her support and advice during my time with JCQTA.

Lorraine Hennessy has also been a JCQTA representative for many years and Treasurer for about five years. She saw us through the GST period very capably and has ensured that JCQTA has passed all of our audits with flying colours. Thanks again Lorraine for your contribution to JCQTA and its members.

At this time I would also like to make a special presentation to Patricia Simmons who up until last year had been a long term JCQTA representative, approx 10 years. She was also Vice-President and President for at least five of those years. Trish has been involved in the many projects that JCQTA has implemented over the years and was also a strong advocate for JCQTA and its members.

There are also many others to thank – the other members of the Management Committee Kaye Schwede and Joy Schultz who have also undertaken various tasks and the member association representatives who turn up at meetings. The Board of Teacher Registration has continued to allow us the use of their boardroom, supplied refreshments and telephone facilities for our monthly meetings. We greatly appreciate this ongoing support and we thank the staff for their involvement in this organisation.

I would like also to make a special vote of thanks to our Vice-President, Debbie Kember, who has devoted a great deal of time and effort into the initiatives that JCQTA has undertaken this year, especially the up-dating of the web-site and the AGQTP Project. Due to the extra commitments that I will be undertaking in my own association next year, I will be stepping down as JCQTA President but I am still happy to be Vice-President should the need arise. Debbie has indicated that she is prepared to take over in this role and I am sure that JCQTA will benefit from her leadership.

Toni Michael – JCQTA President