

November 2018

LEA SERVICE AWARD

Martin Polkinghorne

**For services to Lutheran schooling
1995 – 2018**

The Lutheran Church of Australia thankfully acknowledges the faithful and committed service of Martin Polkinghorne to Lutheran education for 24 years.

Martin commenced his service in Lutheran schools in 1995 when he was appointed to Good Shepherd Lutheran College Noosa as Head of Science.

Martin's immense passion for working with young people and his love of teaching has been evident throughout his time at Good Shepherd. During the course of his career, Martin has captivated the interest of many budding scientists through his engaging Chemistry and Science lessons and he has been instrumental in helping pave the path for a large number of students to pursue pathways in the field of Engineering and other sciences. His genuine care for young people and his compassion and willingness to develop strong working relationships with both his students and colleagues have meant that he has been a highly respected and popular teacher.

Martin's creative flair and love of performance saw him lay the groundwork for Good Shepherd's success in the Tournament of Minds Competitions, where our teams regularly competed at both state and international level with great success for more than twenty years. His dedication to helping students reach their potential has also meant that a number of students have achieved success by being selected to attend the National Youth Science Forums in Canberra, with some students going on to represent Australia overseas. In the latter part of his teaching career, Martin turned his hand to coaching Debating, with his teams reaching the State Final Series of the QDU Competition on several occasions. His enthusiasm with working with young people to help them develop their self-confidence, along with nurturing their ability to think laterally and creatively to problem-solve, is unparalleled. He has been exceedingly generous with his time and his talents.

Martin will be remembered by his colleagues for his wonderful sense of humour, his sharp intellect and his love of performance. He has always shown interest and concern in the wellbeing of others and his gentle, approachable nature has been greatly appreciated.

Martin's faithful and conscientious service to the Lutheran Church of Australia, through his service at Good Shepherd Lutheran College Noosa, has been outstanding and is humbly recognised through this Award.

**Stephen Rudolph
Executive Director
Lutheran Education Australia**

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