

June 2018

LEA SERVICE AWARD

LIZ (ELIZABETH) PIETSCH

**For services to Lutheran schooling
1990 – 2018**

CITATION

The Lutheran Church of Australia thankfully acknowledges the faithful and committed service of Liz Pietsch to Lutheran education over a period of more than 28 years.

Liz commenced her service in Lutheran schools in 1990 when she was appointed as one of the foundation staff members at Cornerstone College, Mt Barker South Australia. In 2004 she became the inaugural Head of Secondary at Victory Lutheran College in Wodonga Victoria, returning to SA after one term due to extenuating personal circumstances. Liz was subsequently appointed to Unity College as an English teacher.

Like many foundation staff at Cornerstone, Liz devoted time and energy, to help establish the new school, teaching not only PE but also dance, health, computer keyboard skills, English, Christian Living, home economics, helping to set up a small library as well as driving the bus! These establishment years called for initiative, flexibility and creativity, and taught Liz the importance of building relationships with students, parents and the local community. Liz undertook the roles of year 11 and Pathways Coordinator, teaching Health Education at year 12 (and moderating in this subject), English, Work Education, Australian Studies and Social Education. While at Cornerstone, Liz was a member of the Lutheran Schools Association Council and served as Chairperson of the Education Committee.

During her appointment at Unity, Liz served as Director of Staff and Student Pathways, and in 2009 was appointed as Head of Senior School. In 2008 Liz graduated from the Australian Catholic University with a Postgraduate Certificate in Educational Leadership, followed with a Master of Education degree from the Australian Lutheran College.

Liz has always been passionate about teaching and what it means to be a teacher in a Lutheran school, working in partnership with parents, for the development of the student as a whole person in their spiritual, social, emotional, physical and intellectual growth – where each student is encouraged to strive for individual excellence, all within a caring, Christian environment.

In 2012 due to challenging times in the Lutheran Education Vic/NSW/Tas (LEVNT) office (formerly known as Lutheran Education South Eastern Region (LESER)) at Box Hill Vic, Liz was asked to assist for a short period in the area of staff formation. As Liz has done throughout her long and distinguished career, she committed to a new phase at LEVNT with courage, faith and optimism. Her impact for the past six years has been nothing but remarkable. She has made a considerable difference in the lives of numerous teachers and the focus of Lutheran schools. Liz's love of people, professional strength and experience and her shining Christian faith have been hallmarks of her final years of service to Lutheran education, in fact, for the duration of her life's career for Lutheran education. Thank you, Liz, for your shining example and courageous leadership.

Liz's faithful and conscientious service to her Lord and the Lutheran Church of Australia, through her service in Lutheran education, has been outstanding and is humbly recognised through this Award.

Stephen Rudolph
Executive Director
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