

November 2021

LEA SERVICE AWARD

Dr Roger Hunter OAM

**For Service to Lutheran Education
1985 – 2021**

The Lutheran Church of Australia thankfully acknowledges the faithful and committed service of Dr Roger Hunter OAM to Lutheran education for 36 years of service.

The Lutheran Church and its schools have been the beneficiaries of Roger's outstanding professional accomplishments in educational administration, research and teaching over a long period. This was complemented by his membership and leadership of various affiliating schools' associations, where he brought a broader perspective to us of the strengths and challenges of independent schooling.

It has been a unique blessing for the Church to have a faithful church member willingly bring such high-level expertise to our Lutheran schooling system. His exceptional contributions to the advancement of quality learning for young people, both in Australia and internationally, were recognised by the awarding of an Order of Australia Medal in 2016.

Roger's wisdom and contemporary insights into the complexities of emerging educational trends has provided a valuable resource to the Lutheran Church in many settings over the years. His professional status has afforded him access to the upper echelons of policy makers in governments and the bureaucracies both at federal and state level. Many times, this has allowed the Church to have a "seat at the table" in strategic policy areas. Roger's acumen extended to a keen intuition for the implications of the sometimes-fickle political dynamics around curriculum formation and teacher training. Indeed, his accomplishments in both responding to, and shaping these disciplines, lead to the Queensland College of Teachers creating an Award in his honour: Dr Roger Hunter Excellence in Beginning to Teach Award.

In the boardroom setting, Roger was the original "Feng Shui" exponent, in that he could calm the environment by unerringly orientating people towards a common purpose or by incisively sifting through the chaff to reveal the wheat. In a pause in animated proceedings, he was almost legendary in his "just three points" contribution; the pause invariably amused, calmed or baffled those present, mostly all three. Roger is remembered by his colleagues and friends along the way for his warmth and humility.

Those who have had pleasure to work with Roger over many years are appreciative of his charm, encouragement and collegiality. He created networks readily from the simple social discourse through to the biggest decision-making tables in the land.

Roger's faithful and conscientious service to his Lord and the Lutheran Church of Australia though his service in Lutheran education, had been outstanding and is humbly recognised through this Award.

**Assoc Prof Lisa Schmidt
Executive Director
Lutheran Education Australia**

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