

2018 National Lutheran Principals Conference appreciation

The LEA and regional office leaders wish to thank LPA for our inclusion and engagement at the 2018 National Lutheran Principals Conference in Hobart. LEA has also received thanks from the LCA Bishops and ALC staff who also attended.

In particular, I wish to commend NLPC participants for your warm welcome and acknowledgement of Rev Tom and Mrs Una Reuther. Their delight at the conversations, presentations and respect shown was a highlight for them, as well as many others. Thank you. Tom was the first LCA National Director for Lutheran Schools, He served from 1982 to 1994, beforehand working at Concordia College (SA) as Headmaster and prior to that as School Pastor at St Pauls College, Walla Walla NSW.

It was also pleasing to meet with LPA leaders, Craig Fielke and Robert Hoff in recent days to discuss the conference as well as future LEA / LPA cooperation and ongoing joint ventures.

The 2018 Reuther Oration, presented by Neville Grieger, is available for you to read at:
<http://www.lutheran.edu.au/?wpdmdl=4476>

Principal as spiritual leader

The *Principal as spiritual leader* survey report which Professor Wendy Mayer briefly presented at the 2018 NLPC will be sent to you separately today. Thank you again for your input and support to this important survey.

LEA / LPA Germany Lutherlands Study Tour

The 2018 LEA / LPA study tour to Germany takes place from 23 June to 5 July. There are 37 tour participants on this LEA / LPA tour which was also conducted in 2011 (24 participants) and 2014 (35 participants). In 2016 the LEA / LPA study tour was the *In the footsteps of Paul* to Greece. This tour included 32 participants. Thank you to the LEA and LPA leaders and LEA staff for organising this year's and past tours. Principals are encouraged to consider future LEA / LPA tours. Your suggestions are welcomed by:

- Dianne Eckermann (LEA Director of Leadership) dianne.eckermann@lutheran.edu.au
- Craig Fielke (LPA Chair) CFielke@cornerstone.sa.edu.au
- Robert Hoff (LPA Executive Officer) rhoff@immanuelps.sa.edu.au

Inaugural Australian Education Awards

The LEA team acknowledges and congratulates Heidi Hanson (Acting Principal) and the **Bethany Lutheran Primary School (Qld)** staff team and community on Bethany's nomination for the inaugural Australian Education Award in the following three categories:

- Innovation in Curriculum Design
- Innovation in Learning Environment Design
- Best Professional Learning Program

We also continue to pray for Neil Schiller as he recovers from recent surgery and is currently on sick leave.

The LEA team also acknowledges and congratulates Anton Prinsloo (Principal) and the **St Paul's Lutheran Primary School (Qld)** staff team and community on the nomination of St Paul's for the inaugural Australian Education Award in the following category:

- Primary school of the year – non-government

The 2018 Australian Education Awards ceremony will be held in Sydney on Friday, 17 August. Best wishes to the Bethany and St Paul's teams for this event. [Read the full story](#)

Acknowledgement of Robert Hoff

It has been both an honour and privilege to be asked to speak at the celebration of Robert Hoff's career and acknowledgement of his service and retirement after 51 years working in education.

Robert has served as principal at three Lutheran primary schools for nearly 46 years:

- St Paul Lutheran School, Blair Athol SA 1973-1983
- Trinity Lutheran Primary School, Southport Qld 1984-1996
- Immanuel Primary School, Novar Gardens SA 1997-2018

He has also served on numerous LCA, Lutheran education and independent school committees and associations. He has been awarded several honours, most recently an ACEL 2018 SA Educational Leadership Medal. You may like to read the full LEA citation about Robert's contributions at:

<http://www.lutheran.edu.au/school-professionals-2/scholarships-and-awards-for-staff/lea-service-awards/>

Thank you Robert and Sandra. You have made significant contributions and made a great difference to Lutheran education, your colleagues and most importantly, the children in your care.

May God bless you both in retirement as you continue life's adventures in his name.

Stephen Rudolph
Executive Director
Lutheran Education Australia

Research in LEA schools

From time to time LEA is approached by educational researchers to carry out a particular area of research in Lutheran schools. These projects are then evaluated by the LEA Executive Director before approval is given.

At the moment there are three research projects occurring. One is being led by Dr John De Nobile from Newcastle University. He is researching the ways in which school systems operate. The second project is being led by University of Newcastle academics, Jill Duncan and Mr Nic Croce, who are investigating Inclusive Education Workforce Capability from an Australian Principal's Perspective. The final project, for LESNW schools, is being conducted by Adam Yeager, Chaplain, Faith Lutheran College, Tanunda SA, on the following question: *To what degree does a Lutheran theological understanding of sexuality underpin the practice of sex education in selected SA Lutheran Secondary Schools?*

If you have time to participate in either or both of these research projects we would encourage you to support these researchers in their work as they will share their findings with us providing valuable insight into our system as well as the wider educational community.

Principal health and wellbeing

LEA and LPA are also carrying out further research into principal health and wellbeing with the help of ALC. Most principals would be aware that this is an area of increasing concern and many will have filled out the longitudinal survey carried out by Philip Reilly over the last eleven years. We are asking you to participate in further research on this topic so that we are able to find data specific to Lutheran schools allowing us to tailor responses to the needs of our principals. Further information will be coming to you later this year and I encourage you to participate so that we have the best possible data available for future planning.

Quality Schools

Thanks again to those schools who have completed the survey. I have been asked by RADII to remind schools to encourage staff and student participation in surveys. Some responses are so low that the value of the data is compromised. Emails are sent to the Quality Schools contact person or the principal, if no contact person was provided, with an update of the number of responses. Please check those emails and encourage staff and student participation if you are concerned about the rate of response. In some circumstances RADII has opened the survey for a longer period for schools who feel they need more time to respond. Those principals who nominated a Quality Schools contact

person will not receive reminder emails as they will only go to the contact person. It is important, therefore, to keep in close contact during the survey period.

Dianne Eckermann
LEA Director of Leadership

Accreditation and career paths project

The next phase of the Accreditation project involves the trial of e-portfolios for *Pathways* and *Equip* and the development of the new resources for *Pathways*. Pastor Tim Jarick and Pastor Peter Janetzki have been seconded to develop scripts for videos that will capture the way theology shapes what we do in Lutheran education. Education officers will then develop the workshop and retreat resourcing to engage participants in Lutheran schools and early childhood services. We will also form an Accreditation reference group. This will include principals, *Pathways* facilitators and regional representatives to oversee the development and implementation of resources. If you would like to be a part of the reference group or respond to drafts of *Pathways* or *Equip* please email Anne Dohnt at anne.dohnt@lutheran.edu.au or phone 08 8267 7318. Principals will be sent further information about the project in the coming weeks including clauses for letters of appointment for 2019.

Career development strategy

The National Leadership Team is exploring a career development strategy for the range of career opportunities that exist within Lutheran schools and early childhood services. This strategy will complement LDP and support teachers seeking to stay in the classroom, teachers seeking career development in Christian Studies or formation and teachers seeking career development as heads of subschools or deputies. LEA will conduct a one-day workshop next term to discuss career development in these areas. If you would like to be a part of shaping the strategy please email Anne Dohnt at anne.dohnt@lutheran.edu.au or phone 08 8267 7318.

Anne Dohnt
LEA Director of Formation

Federal matters

The university shake-up that's lifting students' grades: Shake-up gets results

[30 May 2018]

Victoria University is rolling out a Swedish teaching model that lets students focus on just one subject for four intensive weeks. The model was offered to first-year students this year and due to its popularity and success will now be expanded to second-year students next year and then across all bachelor and postgraduate courses in 2020. [Read more](#)

AITSL eNews

[30 May 2018]

The latest AITSL eNews includes articles on:

- Supporting future teachers to thrive
- Changes to initial teacher education
- Rise of online study

[Access this issue](#)

Building greener school buildings – less waste

[22 May 2018]

Principals may be interested in a recent article titled *School proves it's possible to achieve near zero waste construction* which can be found at: https://www.thefifthestate.com.au/innovation/building-construction/school-proves-its-possible-to-achieve-near-zero-waste-construction/98990?mc_cid=8f9c51adf3&mc_eid=de5040237f

Read more on this initiative from *The Educator* at:

<https://www.theeducatoronline.com/au/news/the-value-of-educationfocused-architecture/250712>

Education Council Communique

[4 May 2018]

The Education Council convened in Adelaide on 4 May 2018 for a special-purpose meeting, at which Council received two presentations on key reports on school education reforms and early childhood interventions. Ministers welcomed a presentation from David Gonski AC, who presented the findings of the recently completed report, *Through Growth to Achievement: Review to Achieve Educational Excellence in Australian Schools*. Ministers discussed the report. The report will be an important input into the forthcoming national schooling reform agreement. Education Council was also pleased to receive a presentation from Susan Pascoe AM and Professor Deborah Brennan, authors of *Lifting*

Our Game: Report of the Review to Achieve Educational Excellence in Australian Schools through Early Childhood Interventions. [Read more.](#)

National School Chaplaincy Programme

[4 May 2018]

Recent reports that the Government will continue the National School Chaplaincy Programme in the Budget will be welcomed by students and parents around Australia. The programme, started by the Howard Government, has supported millions of students right around Australia. 'This important programme has supported millions of young Australians to build greater resilience and enhance student wellbeing,' Senator Abetz said. 'The overwhelming feedback from school principals, parents and students is that this programme provides a wonderful investment in the spiritual wellbeing of young Australians.' [Read more](#)

INCLUDED MEANS EVERYBODY!

A workshop providing a safe place to discuss human sexuality in a Christian context



Monday 9 July 2018

10 am to 4:30 pm

**"The Suaviter" Concordia College
24 Winchester Street, Highgate, SA**

Keynote Speaker Robyn Whitaker

University of Divinity Theological School

cost \$38 includes lunch

Register via our website (button at the bottom of the workshop page)

<http://www.allareincluded.com.au/workshop-2018.html>

Contact email: allareincluded@iprimus.com.au Ph: 0428 581 838

Organised and sponsored by *All Are Included* (formerly ACCEPTS) which aims to provide a clear message of Christ's inclusive welcome to individuals who are GLBTQI and their families and friends, with a particular concern for those who are or have been associated with the Australian Lutheran community.