In this issue of To Keep in Touch, the association gives a report from each of the sub-committees: CaSPAQ, ACSSQ DP/APA, ASREAP and ACCSSQ outlining the activities within the committees.

As such, the parent body thanks all committees for the valuable work they do to bringing together Catholic educators over Queensland in collegiality.

The committee acknowledges Pat Elsworth on his retirement at the end of this year and expresses appreciation for the long service of Pat to this association. As this is the first newsletter for this year we also acknowledge the life membership of Laura Keating, celebrated at the Annual General dinner in March this year.

Please note the dates for conferences in 2015, an addition to your calendars for next year.
Eugene Hurley, Bishop of Darwin, challenged all at the conference to look at what we are as a Catholic Community. He stated that, “This is a good time for us to ask ourselves some questions lest we drift thoughtlessly from a special place to some other more successful place.” His quote from an Indigenous Elder, “It is not what we are but who we are,” that provided another challenge for contemporary leaders in Catholic schools.

This year the CaSPA Board held its meetings in Victoria, New South Wales and Queensland. In 2015, meetings are scheduled for Tasmania, Western Australia, ACT and South Australia. These meetings will give the Board an opportunity to meet with local Principals’ Association.

The next National Conference is to be held in Victoria in 2016.

This year CASPAQ has been presented on the ACER Review into Senior Schooling and Tertiary Entrance; the Queensland College of Teachers’ meetings and the QCAA Committee to explore options for Senior Secondary and Tertiary Entrance. It has also had meetings with Qeli to discuss Professional Development options for the new Middle Leadership positions to commence in 2015.

CONFERENCE 2015

The CaSPAQ Conference 2015 is scheduled for August 12-15th with arrival on Tuesday, 11th August in Mackay at the Ocean International Hotel (on the beach).
ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (ASREAP)

COMMITTEE 2014/2015
President: Richard Rogusz
St Rita’s College
Secretary: Paula Manthey
St Rita’s College
Treasurer: Geraldine Swindells
St Peter Claver College
Conference Convenor: Sharon Parsons
Trinity College
Committee members: John Clarke
Alison Stone
BCE Representative: Pat Lavercombe
Website: www.bengreenup.com/asreap

CONFERENCE 2014
The ASREAP conference 2014 was a highly enjoyed and successful three days at the Mantra, Mooloolaba. Keynote speaker, Brother David Hall, Principal of Marist Randwick, challenged all with his presentation entitled “Catholic School Leadership in Uncertain Times”. His key message was related to prophetic leadership. This challenge to lead prophetically was further explored by Dr Janet Smith, Associate Professor of Education and Director of the Education Institute at the University of Canberra, through a keynote and workshop on challenging conversations.

Jan Hynes, a Townsville artist who depicts the social and physical surroundings of her city through paint, presented depictions of sacred stories. The feature of her keynote was exploring the ways to use art to capture our respective charisms. An exciting feature of the conference was a presentation via Skype by Father Bob MacGuire, a man of passion, creativity and humour who has been described as part Billy Connolly, part angry Old Testament prophet and part compassionate Mother Theresa.

In conclusion, the conference enabled collegial conversations that should not be undervalued as we come together as a Catholic community.

COUNSELLORS (ACCSSQ)

COMMITTEE 2014/2015
President: Barbara Davies
Loreto College
Secretary: Heather Clark
Marymount College
Treasurer: Jorge Ruiz
Marist College Ashgrove
Sponsorship Coordinator ACCSSQ
Representative: Maree Rose
Carmel College
Committee members:
Lesley Lavercombe, BCEC
Anita Smith, BCEC
Jim Bartlett (ex officio)
Kylie Butler, Stuartholme School
Lisa Farrow, Mt Alvernia College
Website for up-to-date information: www.accssq.org.au

CONFERENCE 2014
The theme of our conference was Sea Change—Coping with Transitions. It was an appropriate theme because the conference was held at Sea World Nara Resort at the Gold Coast. John Borserio, Director of Toowoomba Catholic Education opened the conference. John welcomed us warmly and thanked us for our dedication to duty.

Dr Paul Gibney, our keynote speaker, is a dynamic and enthusiastic speaker who always inspires the audience. He encouraged us to look at new ways of working with families. On day two we looked at School Refusal. This is becoming a major issue in schools. Anxiety is one of the key factors for school refusal. Dr Marilyn Campbell explored the prevention and intervention of anxiety disorders in young people.

Our conference dinner was tinged with a little sadness as our long serving President Jim Bartlett gave his final address. Jim has been involved with the ACCSSQ committee for over 20 years. We wish Jim all the very best for the future.

Barb Davies from Loreto College, Coorparoo, has kindly taken on the role of President. Barb, too, has been involved in the Committee for many years. She brings with her a passion for learning and a zest to bring new things to our conference in 2015. So congratulations to both Jim and Barb.

The ACCSSQ Awards were presented to Leslie Lavercombe and Kathy Shelton both from Brisbane Catholic Education. Gerry Collins from St Mary’s College Cairns also received an award. We congratulate these recipients for their ongoing commitment in making a difference in our school communities.

We thank our sponsors particularly BCE, QCEC, QGCA, ACCSSQ and QIEU.

CONFERENCE 2015
Our 2015 conference will be held at St Rita’s College on 6th March 2015.

NUTS ‘N’ BOLTS DAY
The first biannual Nuts ‘n’ Bolts day will be held at St Rita’s College on 6th March 2015.

CONFERENCE 2015
The 2015 conference planning is well under way. With the theme, InspireD, we have secured Father Kevin Lenehan, Associate Dean (Postgraduate and Research) Senior Lecturer Department of Systematic Theology, Catholic Theological College, University of Divinity. He will explore Catholic identity. The conference will feature RED talks, a take on the TED talks. How creative our team are? Looking forward to seeing all at the conference, July 22nd to 24th. Please save the date to your calendar.
ACSSQ CONGRATULATES LAURA KEATING ON HER LIFE MEMBERSHIP

At the ACSSQ Annual General Meeting on 3rd March, the Association recognised Laura Keating’s long service to Catholic education by awarding her Life Membership.

Laura has been heavily involved in ACSSQ since her membership in 1986 as an Assistant Principal. She has served as a member of the Executive Committee as Deputy Principal in 1997, at a time when ACSSQ welcomed Counsellors into its membership. Laura’s professional, personable and friendly demeanor has allowed her to reach and connect with many members across the state.

During the Incorporation of the DP/AP arm of the ACSSQ, Laura has been an active and enthusiastic member, contributing to the work of this Association and furthering the connectivity between its members across the various Catholic sectors.

As Principal and President of BACSSPA, she has strongly supported and has been involved in the organisation and running of the annual dinners, Ave Atque Vale and AGM, promoting fellowship within Catholic education. Laura has always seen the value of the Association in promoting networking, friendship and collegiality between its members and has actively supported and encouraged the Deputy Principals, Assistant Principals and Counsellors under her leadership to become involved in any of its activities and the activities of the sub-committees.

Laura has supported the ACSSQ’s Travelling Scholars program, offering Clairvaux MacKillop College’s facilities as a hosting venue. Members across the state have always appreciated Laura’s sense of humour, her professionalism and her friendly, personable nature. While Laura’s direct contribution to Catholic education has ended with her retirement, the Association warmly welcomes her as a Life Member.

The Association thanks Laura for her long and distinguished career in Catholic education and congratulates her on her Life Membership.

ACSSQ SAYS FAREWELL TO LONGSTANDING MEMBER, PAT ELSWORTHY

A NOTE FROM OUR PRESIDENT, ANN REBGETZ

“Pat has given extraordinary service to education. He has been President or Vice President ACSSQ for well over 10 years, and this, in itself, shows his level of commitment. This has been done in addition to other professional association involvements. Pat is always at the forefront of developing leaders and also of ensuring that education and schools are put to the top of the political agenda. He has constantly promoted professional collegiality, which has seen professional development and true Catholic spirit and support, promoted and actioned within Queensland Catholic education.

Pat has always been welcoming to Catholic Leadership Teams and Counsellors across the state and has been the leader and doer of ensuring that the many professional AGM and Ave Atque Vale Annual dinners have happened. In this he has facilitated and supported Travelling Scholars and brought together leaders in schools across the sectors. He was instrumental in developing the To Keep in Touch newsletter, another means to extend fellowship amongst our members.

On a personal note, he has been lots of fun and always a kind considerate friend, who likes to make sure all flows smoothly. We will certainly miss his presence, appreciate his enormous contribution, and the Association will not seem the same! However, we do wish he and Laura all the best in a very well deserved new phase!”

FROM BERNARD DURIE, FORMER VICE-PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY OF ACSSQ, MY MEMORIES:

“I think from the early 1990s Pat may have been the leader of the DP/APA section of ACSSQ, bringing with him to those meetings much information direct from Queensland Studies Authority and Queensland Catholic Education Commission as he was a nominee on the QSA Curriculum Committee.

His active membership of many professional associations, including ACE, his networking and his competence, ensured that the DP/APAs and ACSSQ were well-informed of ‘rumblings’ and new policies that may be ‘on the table’.

As the DP/APA representative on ACSSQ, and President of ACSSQ, he promoted the collegiality of Principals, Deputies, APAs, APREs and Counsellors. He was supportive of the different groups in organising (and assisting in the funding) of conferences.”