

Editorial

Margaret Kiley

This edition of *New Horizons in Education* covers a wonderful variety of topics. We start with a peer-reviewed article by Terry Lovat and Neville Schofield on values education. The authors argue that education, whether it is private or public, cannot be value free. The paper is particularly timely given the conference which the World Education Fellowship (Australia) is helping to host in South Australia, from 28 November to 3 December 2004. Titled, 'Education towards preventing extremism and terrorism—curriculum design: Innovative and effective strategies'. The conference aims to bring together key players in the Asia-Pacific region to discuss innovative curriculum approaches and teaching strategies, to promote intercultural and interfaith understanding for peace through shared values in education. Further information about the conference is provided in Section titled 'News and Reviews'.

Values education is a critical issue for education generally, and for the members of the World Education Fellowship (WEF) specifically. While some might argue that values education is associated with particular school systems, e.g. Catholic schools, Christian schools, Lovat and Schofield argue that values are an integral part of all education systems, including those that suggest they are value-free.

The second refereed paper, by Henk Eijkman, is also very timely for the international conference as it highlights the ways in which higher education disprivileges certain groups of students in Australian society. Eijkman argues that despite access programs and other ways in which universities attempt to support groups designated 'at risk' it is only through curricular justice and by adopting a participative justice approach to equity that true progress can be made.

Courtesy of the Queensland Section of WEF we are able to publish an excellent presentation by Peter Fensham, previously Professor of Education at Monash University. The presentation titled 'Science for all: what have we been teaching in the science curriculum and what should we teach?' presents a most interesting history of the development of science education in Australian schools.

Professor Colin Power presented the Bassett Oration in Queensland in 2003 and it is not until this edition of the journal that we have had room to publish this well argued case for nation-wide policies on education for all, and throughout life.

Melanie Kutek's presentation to the South Australian Section provides a fascinating insight into one young woman's passion to help others through education.

This edition of the journal has been sectioned in a new way in an attempt to assist readers and contributors to locate the parts of the journal they find most interesting and helpful. Section 1 contains articles which have undergone a peer-review process. In this edition that means we have the article by Lovat and Schofield followed by the article by Eijkman.

Section 2 includes papers and presentations that have been forwarded by the various sections of the World Education Fellowship. The presentations have been considered of such interest within the Section that members thought that they would be worth sharing with all members and readers. In this edition we have the presentation by Fensham and the Bassett Oration by Power, both to the Queensland Section, and the presentation by Kutek to the South Australian Section.

Section 3 contains news and reviews. I would be delighted to receive reviews of appropriate books, journals, and web sites for future editions.

Finally, Section 4 includes information for contributors. *New Horizons in Education* receives contributions from wide-sections of the community. Therefore, to make it easier for contributors to follow a readily

available style, the journal uses the author-date system outlined in *Style manual for authors, editors and printers 2002*, 6th edn, rev Snooks & Co., John Wiley & Sons Australia, Milton, Qld.

As something to look forward to, the June 2005 edition of *New Horizons in Education* will contain reports of papers, discussions and recommendations of the international conference to be held in Adelaide in November-December this year.

Margaret Kiley

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