



LOGIN

Term 1, 2003

ISSN 0819-9620

Volume 17, No. 1

Education - Advocacy - PD



From The President

Terrence Pestana

Another year has begun for us. The committee spent some time in January reviewing the successful practices of the association. Events such as Nanga and Point Peron camps were some of the successful activities of the association. As we reminisced, we concluded that as we get older our energy levels and enthusiasm for such events decline. The association needs new people. This can be the year you consider offering yourself for election. Our planning day focussed on the objectives of our association:

- (i) to further the advancement of education by promulgating knowledge about how the potential of computers as powerful aids to learning may be realised.
- (ii) to cultivate, foster and extend the professional development of members.
- (iii) to provide a forum for members and others interested in the development of the educational use of computers. (ECAWA Constitution)

A number of activities are planned for 2003 in order to achieve these objectives. We are endeavouring to provide one significant ECAWA activity per term. This term, The Big Day Out event was held at Newman College on Saturday March 8th. Term 2 will see our Bare Bones SIG Fest, Term 3 our Annual Conference and Term 4 the Technology and Enterprise Conference.

The association will play an important role in the development of teacher competencies both at the state and national level. At the state level, we will have input into the College of Teaching discussions. Our representation at the ACCE board level will provide the association with another opportunity to add our voice to the teacher competencies debate.

There are a number of unsung heroes at the chalkface. Maybe this year you will be able to lift the profile of our profession by nominating an Educator of the Year (EOTY) to be announced at our September 2003 conference.

Our 2003 Conference theme is "Students in the Centre." Our September conference will explore this theme further. I am reminded of the article appearing in Technos Spring 2001 Vol 10 No. 1, "The Tojan Horse Of Education" by Daniel Greenburg where he states that in order to appear modern and up to date educators use the ICT technology, "but use them in lieu of and just like the standard hard copy textbooks and workbooks of old. They impose stringent limits on students free access and prescribe in detail, how, when, where and for what purpose students are to use them."

Our challenge as educators and teachers is to use the technology appropriately so to enable the students to discover the limitless power of the technology. I wish you well in the adventure of educating the future citizens and integrating ICT within your learning areas.

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