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President's Message

The saying *that you can't keep a good man down*, must surely be true in the case of our executive officer, friend, and colleague Ron Ikin. As many of you will be aware Ron is battling a major health issue but in true *Bulldog* spirit he has not let a mere life-threatening bout of illness interfere too much with his executive officer work. From his sick-bed he maintains control and ensures that all is done to keep the show on the road. I know all members wish Ron a speedy recovery.

As the ISEA president it was again a privilege and highly satisfying experience to host the presentation ceremony for the *ISEA Award for Excellence in the Administration of Public Education*. I am sure that all present felt, as I did, great pride and a strong sense of achievement in the outstanding contribution that members of the ISEA make to the quality and delivery of public education in NSW. In presenting this year's award Michael Coutts-Trotter, Director-General, recognised and congratulated Lorraine Rowles for her work in supporting the teaching of literacy, one of the flagship programs of public education in this state.

With the election of a new state government, senior officers across the public sector are busy briefing their respective ministers. Many of our members will be those officers preparing the briefing information for the incoming education minister, Adrian Piccoli. Their work under pressure will probably go unrecognised but I acknowledge the skill with which they inform government to ensure smooth and effective service delivery.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Michael Coutts-Trotter for his work and support as Director-General and wish him well in his new position in the Finance area of state government.

Lastly, at the time of my retirement, I would like to wish you all well for the future. I will continue in the President's role until the transition to a new president is completed, either at or after the AGM.

Excellence Award Ceremony Report

The ceremony to present the fourth annual *ISEA Award for Excellence in the Administration of Public Education* was held recently in The Atrium, Bridge Street. At what has become the feature event for the ISEA, the Director-General, Michael Coutts-Trotter, presented Lorraine Rowles with the ISEA's 2010 *Excellence Award* at a well-attended ceremony.

Lorraine is currently Manager Teacher Learning, Professional Learning and Leadership Development Directorate and was nominated for the award for her work from 2007–2010 when, as leader of the literacy team, within the Curriculum Directorate she strategically managed the development and implementation of a significant body of innovative, evidenced-based literacy resources and programs to support classroom teachers from Kindergarten to Year 12.

In speaking of Lorraine's outstanding contribution to the teaching of literacy in NSW, Ken Olah, Senior Project Officer, Australian Curriculum Phase 1, made reference to the highly professional and dynamic way in which Lorraine worked and led her team through a myriad of issues and viewpoints all of which had to be overcome before this multi-faceted program could be successfully implemented across the NSW state school system. Ken went on to describe the key aspects of Lorraine's work.



Lorraine and Peter Rowles with members of the PLLD



Lorraine, Rob Randall Dr Peter Hill (CEO ACARA)



Helen Barnes, Lorraine, Graham Wood

Under the *Best Start Initiative*, the first system-wide, common, entry-to-school literacy assessment tool was developed and implemented for all students entering Kindergarten in NSW public schools. This assessment provides teachers and families with a balanced and comprehensive insight into what young learners know and can do in critical aspects of literacy on entry to school.

A new *Literacy Policy* and a foundational literacy guide, *An Introduction to Quality Literacy Teaching*, provide a platform from which all teachers from Kindergarten to Year 12 can examine, review and expand their literacy understandings and practices to ensure quality literacy teaching.

A *K-6 Literacy Continuum* maps literacy development throughout the K-6 years of schooling in eight aspects of literacy, identified in the research as most critical to successful literacy development in the early and middle years of schooling. The continuum supports teachers to more effectively assess, plan and teach literacy and provides a mechanism for tracking and monitoring the development of each student.

Two new literacy teaching guides, *Literacy Teaching Guide: Phonics*; and *Literacy Teaching Guide: Phonemic Awareness*, provide teachers with precise, straight forward information about the teaching of these two critical aspects of literacy. These highly-received guides provide clear principles, debunk myths and demonstrate effective phonics and phonemic awareness teaching.

Focus on Reading 3-6, a ground-breaking, new, reading program, that provides intensive professional learning support for middle years teachers is designed to arrest the 'slump' that can occur in student reading performance in the middle years of schooling. The program provides blended, action-based, intensive professional learning support to teachers about the teaching of the critical aspects of comprehension, vocabulary development and fluent text reading.



Colleagues, Family and Friends at Award Ceremony



Michael Coutts-Trotter (D-G), Paul Dorn Rosemary Davis, Lorraine's mother Paulene

In presenting the award to Lorraine the Director-General, Michael Coutts-Trotter, acknowledged that this body of work has ensured that NSW public schools have remained at the forefront of literacy developments, teacher learning and student achievement in the area of literacy. As well, through her membership and input on the Australian Curriculum Advisory Panel for English, Lorraine is continuing to make a significant contribution to the development of a National Literacy Continuum.

Retirement Celebrations – Grant Beard

Friends and colleagues recently gathered to celebrate the career and retirement of Grant Beard member of the ISEA for 15 years. Grant has had a long and distinguished career with Department, commencing in 1973 when he was appointed as a teacher of mathematics at Maroubra Bay High School, and continuing as Head Teacher at Tempe High School, Secondary Mathematics Consultant, Leader of Test Development at the Board of Studies, Leader of School Staffing, and since 1998 as Manager of Workforce Planning. In his retirement Grant hopes to have more time to pursue his various



hobbies of model railroading, genealogy, and travel. Pictured above is Grant being presented with a small gift by ISEA President, Barry Laing. Also pictured in back row, Ray Gilles, Graham Wood, Brain Davies, Brian Jarman, and in the front row Norman McCulla, Kerrie Ikin, Helen Barnes. Pictured left is Grant being presented with his retirement medal by Trish Kelly.

Notice of Elections and Call for Nominations

The Constitution of the Institute for Senior Educational Administrators (NSW) requires that an election of office bearers to the State Council of the Institute be conducted every two years. As the last elections were held in 2009, elections are now required for all State Council positions for the next two years.

As in the past an independent returning officer has been appointed by the Industrial Relations Commission to conduct this year's elections. The appointed independent returning officer, Eva Esteves, has advised that the following timetable will apply to these elections.

Invite Nominations:	Tuesday 5 April 2011
Close Roll	5.00, Tuesday 5 April 2011
Close Nominations	5.00pm, Wednesday 4 May 2011
Draw for ballot paper positions	6.00pm, Wednesday 4 May 2011
Post Ballot Papers	Monday 9 May 2011
Close Poll	5.00pm, Monday 30 May 2011
Count	6.00pm, Monday 30 May 2011

Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of the Association will be held at 4.30pm, Thursday 2 June, Department of Education, 35 Bridge Street, Sydney (room to be advised). The agenda for this meeting will include:

- Welcome and Apologies
- Minutes of 2009 AGM
- Matters arising from 2009 AGM
- Financial and Auditor's Report
- President's Report

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- Executive Officer's Report
- Notices of Motion (to be received by 13 May 2010) *
- General Business
- Close

*Members are advised that notices of motion, to be considered at the AGM, should be forwarded to the ISEA Executive Officer 3/74 Wrights Road, Drummoyne NSW 2047 or faxed to 9181 5879 by COB on Thursday the 21 May 2010.

New Members Are Always Welcome

Eligible DET staff members are always welcome to join the ISEA. Full details of the organisation and application forms can be found on the ISEA's website: www.iseansw.org.au

INSTITUTE OF SENIOR EDUCATIONAL ADMINISTRATORS (NSW)

Membership Application Form

Full Membership of the ISEA is available to the Senior Executive Service, Senior Officers, Chief Education Officers (temporary and permanent), and other employees of the NSW DET whose status is equivalent or senior to Chief Education Officers. Associate (all currently employed educators) and Retired Membership is also available. Membership is on an annual basis by direct payment of a yearly subscription or by salary deductions.

Annual Subscriptions are: Full Membership \$300; Associate Membership \$50; Retired Membership \$30.

MEMBERSHIP

Name _____ Position _____

Work Address _____ Tel _____ Fax _____

Mobile _____ Email _____

Home Address _____ Tel _____ Fax _____

Mobile _____ Email _____

Membership Status Existing member

New member

Membership Full

Associate

Retired

Payment type Annual (12month) direct payment
or Salary deduction

Enclose Cheque made payable to **ISEA of NSW**

Forward to:

ISEA c/o 3/74 Wrights Rd. Drummoyne 2047

AUTHORITY FOR SUBSCRIPTION TO BE DEDUCTED FROM SALARY

I hereby authorise the Department of Education and Training (Corporate Employee Services) to deduct from my salary, payable in respect to my employment with the DET, the sum of \$11.54 from each fortnightly salary & remit said amount to the ISEA of NSW.

Surname: _____ Given Name: _____ Serial Number _____

Home Address: _____ Postcode: _____ Phone (H) _____

Position _____ Office Location _____ Phone (W) _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Return to: The Executive Officer, ISEA of NSW, 3/74 Wrights Rd, Drummoyne 2047 or Fax: 9181 5879

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