

Practical Implications Award (PIA)

The Practical Implications Award was initiated and sponsored by the National Key Centre for Teaching and Research in School Science and Mathematics, Curtin University, Perth, Western Australia for the first ten years; it is now sponsored by the Australian Association of Mathematics Teachers (AAMT).

It is open to all members of MERGA who are registered for the conference and is designed to stimulate the writing of papers on research related to mathematics teaching or learning or mathematics curricula. Authors who make use of the Early Bird scheme for conference paper submission will not be eligible for the PIA.

The award consists of a plaque plus \$500.

The award will be made at the conference. The award winning paper will be presented to the conference in a plenary session.

The judging panel will consist of two members of MERGA and two from AAMT and will be chaired by the VP (Research).

If you wish to enter the PIA, register for the conference in the normal way indicating your entry by marking the form in the relevant place. Submit your entry as for regular research papers but mark your interest in entering for the PIA on the Covering E-mail Template in the relevant place.

Please note that co-authored papers ARE eligible for entry into the PIA.

When you write your PIA paper, please ensure that you observe all general paper submission requirements including the maximum 8 page length admissible. In addition to the normal research paper, **up to 2 additional pages**, separate from the 'normal' research paper you submit, should be included. **The practical implications of the research reported in the paper should be outlined in these two pages.**

The criteria for the judging of the PIA will include all the criteria for the review of paper presentations at the conference. In addition, the following specific criteria for the PIA will apply.

- **Problem:**
Does the paper describe a significant and persistent problem/issue in mathematics teaching practice?
- **Documentation:**
In addition to the appropriate references to the scholarly literature, does the paper make effective use of relevant professional literature and key policy documents influencing mathematics teaching in practice?
- **Implications:**
In the additional pages, does the author(s) provide information which is relevant and useful for mathematics classroom teachers and/or teacher educators? Does the author(s) illustrate how the research findings can be applied to teaching and learning in mathematics?

Authors are reminded that their work will be a report relating to research in mathematics education and so, consistent with the general criteria for review of papers will be expected to meet high standards with respect to:

- synthesis: the paper adequately synthesises the body of research findings relating to the nominated problem/issue as opposed to an ad hoc collection of ideas;
- methodology: the paper presents a concise description of the methodology adopted in the study;
- rationale: the paper presents a clear rationale, model and/or theoretical basis underlying resolution/discussion of the problem/issue discussed;
- and quality of writing: the paper is written in a clear, unambiguous and succinct style.

All research papers entered into the PIA and accepted for presentation at the conference will be published including the two additional pages of the winning PIA entry will be published in the Proceedings.

The winner(s) of the PIA will be notified prior to the conference. The winning paper will be presented and the prize awarded at the special *PIA award session* timeslot at the conference.