



# MATHEMATICS EDUCATION RESEARCH GROUP OF AUSTRALASIA, INC.

ABN 14 351 828 453

## DRAFT AGM MINUTES

*Alice Springs, Wednesday, 6 July, 2011*

1. **Present:** Marilyn Goos, Sue Wilson, Jenni Way, Peter Grootenboer, Colleen Vale, Gloria Stillman, Gaye Williams, Bobbie Hunter, Brenda Bicknell, Julie Clark, Katie Makar, Lynda Ball, Peter Galbraith, Noleire Fitzellen, Helen Chick, Margaret Marshman, Robin Averill, Joanna Higgins, Barbara Clauce, Glenda Anthony, Berinderjeet Kaur, Sharyn Livy, Tracey Muir, Jill Brown, Colin Carmichael, Shaileigh Page, Lupien Cheng, Susie Groves, Bruce White, Silah Ceder, Jaguthsing Dindyal, Helen Forgusl, Leicha Bragg, Judy Mousley

2. **Apologies:** Ken Milton, Jan Thomas, Steve Thornton, Ray Brown, Robyn Jorgensen, Marj Horne, Di Sieman, Rosemary Callingham

3. **Minutes of the AGM in Fremantle July, 2010**

*Motion: That the minutes of the 2009 Annual General Meeting held in Wellington be accepted.*

*[Moved, Jenny Way; Seconded, Peter Grootenboer; Carried]*

4. **Matters Arising from the Previous Minutes** [Attachment 1]

All matters arising dealt with in the reports.

5. **Reports:**

### 5.1 **President's Report:** Marilyn Goos

The President, Marilyn Goos, delivered an oral report. The Presidents report is attached to the minutes (Attachment 2).

*Motion: That the President's report be accepted.*

*[Moved from the Chair, Carried]*

### 5.2 **Treasurer's Report:** Katie Makar

The Treasurer presented the financial report for 2010-2011. The report covered sources of expenditure and income and indicated that there was a loss in 2010-2011 due to the transition of the publication of MERJ to Springer. A copy of this report is attached to the minutes (Attachment 3).

*Motion: That the Treasurer's report be accepted.*

*[Moved, Katie Makar; Seconded, Judy Mousley; Carried]*

### 5.3 **VP (Research) Report:** Gloria Stillman

The Vice-President (Research) presented a report on activity during 2010-2011. A copy of the Vice-President's (Research) report is attached to the minutes (Attachment 3).

*Motion: That the Vice-President's (Research) report be accepted.*

*[Moved, Gloria Stillman; Seconded, Peter Galbraith; Carried]*

#### **5.4 VP (Publications) Report: Colleen Vale**

The Vice-President (Publications) presented an oral report on activity during 2010-2011. A copy of the first issue of MERJ as published by Springer was presented. The VP (Publications) spoke of the different ways of accessing MERJ through the MERGA website and through the Springer website.

An Expression of interest will soon go out for a special issue of MERJ in 2013.

Gilah Leder commented that the turnaround time seems to be longer than some competing journals. Pete Grootenboer responded that the new editor manager will help improve efficiency in relation to this matter.

The President expressed her thanks, on behalf of the members of MERGA, for the contribution of the VP (Publications) as she retires from this position.

A copy of the Vice-President's (Publications) report is attached to the minutes (Attachment 4).

*Motion: That the Vice-President's (Publications) report be accepted.*

*[Moved, Colleen Vale; Seconded, Sue Wilson; Carried]*

#### **5.5 VP (Conferences) Report: Bobbie Hunter**

The Vice-President (Conferences) presented an oral report for activity during 2010-2011. A copy of the Vice-President's (Conferences) report is attached to the minutes (Attachment 5).

*Motion: That the Vice-President's (Conferences) report be accepted.*

*[Moved, Bobbie Hunter; Seconded, Katie Makar; Carried]*

#### **5.6 VP (Developments) Report: Gaye Williams**

The Vice-President (Developments) presented an oral report for activity during 2010-2011.

The President expressed her thanks, on behalf of the members of MERGA, for the contribution of the VP (Development) as she retires from this position.

A copy of the Vice-President's (Developments) report is attached to the minutes (Attachment 6).

*Motion: That the Vice-President's (Developments) report be accepted.*

*[Moved, Gaye Williams; Seconded, Judy Mousley; Carried]*

#### **5.7 VP (Communications) Report: Julie Clark**

The Vice-President (Communications) presented an oral report for activity during 2010-2011. A copy of the Vice-President's (Communications) report is attached to the minutes (Attachment 7).

*Motion: That the Vice-President's (Communications) report be accepted.*

*[Moved, Julie Clark; Seconded, Colleen Vale; Carried]*

## **6. Election of Officers**

### **6.1 President**

Nominee: Merrily Goos

*[Elected unopposed]*

### **6.2 VP (Development)**

Nominee: Tracey Muir

*[Elected unopposed]*

### **6.2 VP (Publications)**

Nominee: Joanna Higgins

*[Elected unopposed]*

## **7. Other Business**

There were no other matters of general business.

Meeting closed 5. 50 pm

## Attachment 1



ABN 14 351 828 453

# MATHEMATICS EDUCATION RESEARCH GROUP OF AUSTRALASIA, INC.

## AGM MINUTES

*Wellington, Tuesday, 7 July, 2009.*

**Present:** Vince Geiger, Judy Mousley, Gloria Stillman, Julie Clark, Jodie Hunter, Gaye Williams, Helen Chick, Jaguthsing Dindyal, Joan Bufitt, Anthony Bill, Philip Calrkson, Bill Barton, Fiona Phillips, Kim Beswick, Janeen Lamb, Merrilyn Goos, Paul Woodward, Sharyn Livy, Sue Wilson, Peter Sullivan, Gloria Stillman, Peter Grootenboer, Rohain Mohamad, Rosemary Callingham, Linda Makin, Colleen Vale, Katie Makar, Roberta Hunter, Jill Brown, Tricia Forrester, Vicki Steinle, Ester Loong, Ingrid Cheueng, Helen Forgasz, Dianne Sieman, Harj Horne, Jan Thomas, Shelley Dole, Len Sparrow, Judith Falle, Gilah Leder, Joanna Higgins, Glenda Anthony, Katie Makar, Max Stephens, David Ellemor-Collins, Brenda Bicknell, Matt Sexton, Louise Hodgson, Peter Saunders, Hazel Tan, Ng Luan Eng, Ya Ling Lee, Angela Jones

## 5. Apologies:

## 6. Minutes of the AGM in Brisbane June, 2008

*Motion: That the minutes of the 2008 Annual General Meeting held in Brisbane be accepted*

*[Moved from the Chair, Carried]*

## 7. Matters Arising from the Previous Minutes

All matters arising dealt with in the reports.

## 5. Reports:

### 5.1 President's Report: Judy Mousley

The President, Judy Mousley, delivered an oral report. Notes from this report are attached to the minutes (Attachment 1).

*Motion: That the President's report be accepted.*

*[Moved from the Chair, Carried by acclamation]*

### 5.8 Treasurer's Report: Katie Makar

The Treasurer presented the financial report for 2008-2009. A copy of this report is attached to the minutes (Attachment 2).

*Motion: That the Treasurer's report be accepted.*

*[Moved: Katie Makar, Seconded Max: Stephens, Carried]*

### **5.3 VP (Publications) Report: Colleen Vale**

The Vice-President (Publications) presented an oral report for activity during 2008-2009. A copy of the Vice-President's (Publications) report is attached to the minutes (Attachment 3).

*Motion: That the Vice-President's (Publications) report be accepted.*

*[Moved: Colleen Vale, Seconded: David Ellemore-Collins, Carried]*

The Vice-President (Publications) raised a series of issues related to two MERGA journals – MTED and MERJ.

*Motion: That this meeting of MERGA members agrees that MERGA should continue to publish MTED.*

*[Moved: Katie Maker, Seconded: Julie Clark, Carried]*

*Motion: That this meeting of MERGA members agrees that MERGA should increase the number of MTED issues to two/three issues per year.*

*[Moved: Katie Makar, Seconded: Gloria Stillman, Carried]*

*Motion: That this meeting of MERGA members agrees, in principle, to enter into an agreement with Springer in the first instance to publish MERJ.*

*[Moved: Coleen Vale, Seconded: Peter Grootenboer, Carried]*

*Motion: That this meeting of MERGA members instructs the MERGA Executive to negotiate a favourable agreement with a publisher.*

*[Moved: Colleen Vale, Seconded: Peter Grootenboer, Carried]*

*Motion: That this meeting of MERGA agrees to publish MTED freely online only, through the Merga website.*

*[Moved: Helen F, Seconded: Peter Grootenboer, Defeated]*

### **5.9 VP (Communications) Report: Julie Clark**

The Vice-President (Communications) presented an oral report for activity during 2008-2009. A copy of the Vice-President's (Communications) report is attached to the minutes (Attachment 4).

*Motion: That the Vice-President's (Communications) report be accepted.*

*[Moved: Julie Clark, Seconded: Colleen Vale, Carried]*

**5.10 VP (Developments) Report: Gaye Williams**

The Vice-President (Developments) presented an oral report for activity during 2008-2009. A copy of the Vice-President's (Developments) report is attached to the minutes (Attachment 5).

*Motion: That the Vice-President's (Developments) report be accepted.*

*[Moved: Gaye Williams, Seconded: Marj Horne, Carried]*

**5.11 VP (Conferences) Report: Bobbie Hunter**

The Vice-President (Conferences) presented an oral report for activity during 2008-2009. A copy of the Vice-President's (Conferences) report is attached to the minutes (Attachment 6). In addition to this report the Vice-President (Conferences) announced that the 2011 MERGA conference will be held in Alice Springs. Discussion will be held with the Australian Association of Mathematics teachers in relation to the possibility of holding a joint conference at this time.

*Motion: That the Vice-President's (Conferences) report be accepted.*

*[Moved: Gaye Bobbie Hunter, Seconded: Jill Brown, Carried]*

**5.12 VP (Research) Report: Gloria Stillman**

The Vice-President (Research) presented an oral report on activity during 2008-2009. A copy of the Vice-President's (Research) report is attached to the minutes (Attachment 7). In this report the Vice-President (Research) highlighted the creation of two research awards – the MERGA Career Research Medal and the MERGA Research Award. Details of both of these rewards are found in the report.

*Motion: That the Vice-President's (Research) report be accepted.*

*[Moved: Gloria Stillman, Seconded: Glenda Anthony, Carried]*

**6. Election of Officers**

**6.1 President**

Nominee: Merrilyn Goos

*[Nominated: Katie Makar, Seconded: Vince Geiger, Carried]*

**6.2 VP (Developments)**

Nominee: Gaye Williams

*[Nominated: Jill Brown, Seconded: Bobbie Hunter, Carried]*

**6.3 VP (Publications)**

Nominee: Colleen Vale

*[Nominated: Peter Grootenboer, Seconded: Merrilyn Goos, Carried]*

**7. Other Business**

**7.1 Early Career Award:**

Winner – Jodie Hunter

**7.2** *Motion: That a vote of thanks be extended to the President, Judy Mousley for her contribution to MERGA during the term of her presidency.*

*[Moved: Merilyn Goos; Seconded: Vince Geiger, Carried by acclamation]*

The meeting closed at 5.09

## Attachment 2

### MERGA President's Report to the AGM: July 2011

The annual conference always seems to be the highlight of the MERGA year, and 2011 will be even more special as we gather in Alice Springs for the first ever joint conference of MERGA and the Australian Association of Mathematics Teachers. The organising committee has worked hard to make this conference unique and successful – it will certainly be different from the usual MERGA and AAMT conferences, but will still have enough familiar features to help all delegates feel “at home”. Planning the conference has been challenging, but has also helped everyone to develop a greater understanding of our respective organisations and our goals for promoting quality mathematics teaching and research. We hope that MERGA members will embrace this new experience with open minds and enjoy the opportunity to interact with a diverse range of delegates.

The individual Executive reports will give a more detailed overview of MERGA's activities in the past year, so I'll focus some strategic issues that relate to MERGA as a whole. Early this year the Executive had a special meeting to formulate a draft strategic plan for 2011-2013. The plan is built around MERGA's constitutional aims; it identifies strategic priorities for each of these aims together with specific targets for 2011 that are linked to Executive portfolios. With MERGA's activities becoming ever more comprehensive and complex, it's vital to have a plan like this to keep us focused on achieving the association's aims. The plan is still in draft form, and will be revised where necessary to incorporate feedback from the MERGA members' survey that was conducted in May this year.

The purpose of the survey was to find out about members' *awareness* of MERGA's activities, their assessment of the *importance* of these activities and of MERGA's *performance* in delivering them. The activities listed included those related to the annual conference, MERGA's publications, communication methods, and liaison and advocacy roles. The survey was distributed online to all members. Responses (44% response rate) indicated strong awareness of almost all activities, and highest ratings for the importance of the conference, MERGA publications, and liaison and advocacy. Members considered that MERGA is performing very well in almost all areas. A more detailed report on the survey will be presented at the conference and published in the next MERGA newsletter, but one finding is worth mentioning here. Members reported high awareness of MERGA's roles in influencing decision makers and liaising with other organisations, and strongly endorsed the importance of these activities. However, it was clear that most members did not know how well we are performing in these areas. This seems to indicate that the Executive needs to do a better job of communicating outcomes from our work in providing submissions on national developments in mathematics education, liaising with international organisations such as ICMI, and representing mathematics education research interests on national bodies such as FASTS.

MERGA has been particularly active in these liaison and advocacy roles in the past year. We successfully applied for formal affiliation with the International Commission for Mathematical Instruction (ICMI). ICMI promotes collaboration, exchange and dissemination of ideas on the theory and practice of mathematics education at all levels, from an international perspective. Australia is a member country of ICMI, with membership overseen by the Australian Academy of Science through its National Committee for the Mathematical Sciences. In 2009, ICMI introduced the notion of affiliation of multi-national societies active in mathematics education to resolve the long-felt need to formalise links between ICMI and various bodies sharing common aims with the Commission. Currently there are five multi-national Mathematics Education Societies (including MERGA) affiliated to ICMI. Earlier

this year I was honoured to be nominated by the Australian Academy of Science for a position on the next ICMI Executive. The election will be held at the next ICMI General Assembly, which coincides with ICME-12 in Seoul in 2012.

Within Australia, MERGA is a member society of FASTS, the Federation of Australian Scientific and Technological societies. FASTS represents the interests of scientists and technologists throughout Australia, and this includes people involved in mathematics education as well as mathematics and statistics. FASTS aims to have a significant influence in the formulation of science and technology policy in Australia. The cluster of mathematical societies that includes MERGA elects an individual to represent the cluster on the FASTS Board, with this role usually rotating amongst the respective societies. Earlier this year I was elected to this role for the next two years, thus bring MERGA representation directly to the FASTS Board.

Let me conclude this report by coming back to the essence of MERGA ... which is *people*. I repeat what I wrote in last year's report, that an organisation is no more than its members make it. The responses to the members' survey confirm what we already know, that MERGA is a healthy and thriving organisation. This can't happen without the dedication and hard work of many people. I particularly want to thank members of the Executive, who give up their increasingly scarce time to serve MERGA as volunteers. I hope that members will continue to support MERGA throughout the coming year.

Merrilyn Goos

President, 19 June 2011

## **Attachment 3**

### **MERGA Treasurer's Report to the AGM: July 2011**

#### *Annual Statement*

As this conference is held right after the end of the financial year, the audited 2010/2011 balance sheet and statement of income and expenditure are not released before the conference. However, preliminary figures indicate a deficit this year, as forecast in last year's budget. This is partially due to a sharp decline in 2011 library memberships as we transition to Springer, some large invoices paid out of cycle (one late, one early), and increases in a number of expenditure categories. Subscription income collected for 2010-11 is lower than last year, about \$35000 (\$10000 for 2010; \$25000 for 2011 so far), with about \$5000 from library subscriptions. Some funds (\$5000) towards 2012 subscription income have already been collected due to the availability of two-year subscriptions; these funds will appear in the 2011-2012 Financial Summary. Income from non-conference publications this year was low, under \$500. Copyright distributions and interest were both higher this year.

Expenditures have increased from last year in most categories. Journal costs were higher in 2010-11 due to late arrival of journal printing bills from 2009 and 2010. Travel costs and website costs were higher in 2010-11. This was primarily due to greater representation of MERGA in national initiatives and the campaign to digitise MERGA's publication library. Finally, the fee charged by AAMT to handle subscriptions (library and individual), membership services, sales of publications, and database support for the Executive was increased to \$15 per member after many years at \$10. Additionally, two year subscriptions are now (correctly) costed as two years of membership (\$30/member). The services provided have worked very well for a number of years now.

#### *Annual Conference Accounts*

Congratulations to the team for organising the Fremantle conference of 2010, which returned a surplus of about \$10 000. Attendance exceeded expectations, with approximately 200 delegates. Several unexpected outcomes resulted in a higher income and lower expenditure than anticipated:

- (1) 50 more delegates attended than expected, resulting in higher level of income received;
- (2) some fixed expenditures came in below initial estimates by the providers.

#### *Copyright Distributions*

The Copyright Agency Limited (CAL) distributes money collected as licence fees to MERGA for copyright charges it collects on our publications. The amount available for distribution each year depends on how much of the printed work copied is captured in CAL's random audits of licence holders. We also earn copyright funds from the US and European copyright agencies. This year we earned approximately \$5000 from copyright.

#### *Term Deposits*

Rates have doubled this year in the term deposits as a result of two effects. One is higher interest rates than in the previous year. To take advantage of better rates but retain the flexibility to access funds when needed, the TD accounts were re-organised into 12-month terms spread out over the year so that one TD matures every four months. This allows us to capture much higher interest rates (currently 6%). \$7 500 was transferred into the TD this year due to a high account balance over the year.

*Changes in Income*

A detailed look at MERGA income and expenditure will be outlined at the AGM.

Katie Makar, 24 June 2011

MERGA Treasurer

### **Attachment 3**

#### **MERGA Vice President's Report (Research) to the AGM: July 2011**

##### *MERGA Representation at ACARA Meetings*

On July 23 and August 13 I represented MERGA as VP(Research) at the ACARA meetings in Sydney reviewing their responses to feedback on the P-10 National mathematics Curriculum.

##### *MERGA International Research Development Scheme (MIRDS)*

The purpose of this bursary is for MERGA to contribute to the development of mathematics education research particularly in the Australasian region by providing financial assistance to international researchers who have limited access to financial support to attend and present a paper at the annual MERGA conference. This scheme aligns with MERGA's goal of extending our Australasian outreach and establishing a stronger regional presence while acknowledging the financial constraints affecting participation that may be experienced by researchers in developing countries in the region. MERGA is offering two "MERGA International Bursaries" to support the attendance of 2 researchers from overseas at each annual conference.

##### *Research Awards*

This is another opportunity to remind members of the two research awards. These are the MERGA Career Research Medal and the MERGA Research Award. The MERGA Career Research Medal is to be awarded as required (not necessarily annually) to a long-term and active MERGA member who has made a sustained and distinguished contribution to research in mathematics education in Australasia and internationally. The award of this medal reflects MERGA's pride in a MERGA member's outstanding research. Nominations will be accepted at any time of the year. Two nominations have been received to date this year. The MERGA Research Award is for an individual or a team that has made an outstanding contribution to mathematics education research in the previous 3 years. Nominations for the MERGA Research Award must be submitted to the VP (Research) by 1 September each year. One nomination was received in 2010. Review panels have met during the year to deal with these nominations and any awards will be announced during the conference. Forms and advice on how to make nominations for both awards are available from the website or email me at : [gloria.stillman@acu.edu.au](mailto:gloria.stillman@acu.edu.au) The wording of the MERGA Research Award has been altered slightly to read "a certificate for framing" rather than "a framed certificate" for members of the research team for a team award for the MERGA Research Award.

##### *ICMI Affiliated Membership*

Following my suggestion that MERGA become an affiliated study group of ICMI this has been investigated by Marilyn with the help of Bill Barton.

##### *ARC Journal Ranking Tender*

A joint tender on behalf of ASCILITE, HERSDA, AVETRA, CADAD, PESA, MERGA, SORTI, ADCE and AARE was submitted in the middle of April. In May the Federal Minister Kim Carr announced changes to the running of ERA2012 which appears to have made the tender superfluous as journal ranking will no longer occur. We have not had any further advice about the tender from the ARC.

Gloria Stillman, 21 June 2011

## Attachment 4

### **MERGA Vice President's Report (Publications) to the AGM: July 2011**

#### *Publication Activities 2009-2010*

*MERJ* now published by Springer

Transition of the publication of *MERJ*, *Mathematics Education Research Journal* from MERGA to Springer is almost complete.

To find information about *MERJ*, submitting manuscripts, editors and editorial board please go to the *MERJ* page on the Springer website:

<http://www.springer.com/education+%26+language/mathematics+education/journal/13394>

The manuscript management system is in place and articles should now be submitted online to the *MERJ* website. Online first publication of articles has begun for *MERJ* 23(1). The distribution of printed issues to members will commence in the near future. Free access to online articles for future and past issues is available to MERGA members. Members will need to log in to the MERGA website in order to be able to access articles from the Springer site. Alternatively, you can access full text from <http://www.springerlink.com/content/1033-2170/>

Announcement of the theme and editors of the Special Issue for Vol 24 will be announced at the MERGA AGM. A call for papers will be made through the *MERJ* (Springer) site, the MERGA website and through MERGA newsletter/announcement to members.

#### Review of Mathematics Education in Australasia MERGA 2008-2011

Tom Lowrie and Bob Perry from Research Institute for Professional Practice, Learning and Education (RIPPLE), Charles Sturt University (RIPPLE) at Charles Sturt University are leading the editorial team which includes Amy MacDonald, Tracy Logan and Jane Greenlees. A progress report from the editors is provided below. A meeting of the editorial and writing teams will be held during the MERGA/AAMT conference.

#### Engaging the Australian National Curriculum – Mathematics: Perspective from the field (A Special Monograph)

In December, 2010, the MERGA Executive agreed to provide financial support for the publication of a special monograph concerning the National Curriculum for Mathematics. The editors are Bill Atweh, Merrilyn Goos, Robyn Jorgensen and Dianne Siemon.

Every chapter will present a critical analysis from different perspectives on different aspects of the curriculum. Each chapter will consider the research bases of the argument and the implications for practice, whether this involves teaching of mathematics in school or mathematics teacher development. Some chapters may consider comparisons with other curricula around the world. The editors have invited the following authors to contribute chapters related to specific mathematics content as well as for curriculum, pedagogy and equity issues: Joanne Mulligan, Tom Lowrie, Jane Watson, Peter Sullivan and Sue Willis. The monograph is expected to be published online in September, 2011.

#### *MERJ: A report from the Editors*

The transition to Springer has been successful and the journal is now being published on line. The first issue has been released in time for the MERGA conference. The editorial team has remained in place to transition the journal into this new space which is needed while some of the nuances of the system are negotiated and aligned with the practices of *MERJ*. The Editors would like to thank the members of the Editorial Board for their support of *MERJ*, and we

particularly thank those out-going members of the Board for their work. As MERJ transitioned to Springer, a more international Board was established to reflect the internationalising of the Journal. The new EB consists of Anna Sfard (USA), Nicola Yelland (Hong Kong), Rudolf Straesser (Germany), Lap Chap Sam (Malaysia), Joao Filipe Matos (Portugal), Nuria Planas (Spain), Tony Cotton (UK), Anne Watson (UK), Jinfa Chi (USA), Ken Clements (USA), Helen Doerr (USA), Ruhama Even (Israel), Mike Thomas (NZ), Marzita binti Puteh (Malaysia), Berinderjeet Kaur (Singapore), Paul Cobb (USA), Jill Adler (Sth Africa), Tom Lowrie (Aus), Phil Clarkson (Aus), Merrilyn Goos (Aus), Gilah Leder (Aus) and Joanne Mulligan (Aus).

We also thank the team at Springer, particularly Harmen van Paradijs and Carolien van den Gaag, for their support in the transition to Springer. Considerable work has gone into the establishment of the on-line journal and the support and advice provided to the Editors by Springer has been very good.

The special issue (rural perspectives) has been completed and will be submitted to Springer. Our thanks go to the editors of the special issue, John Pegg and Steve Tobias, for their work on this publication which should be published (first online) in the very near future.

One of the increasing challenges with MERJ is the reviewing of papers. Increasingly, we are finding that many reviewers are unable to undertake reviews or unable to review in a timely manner. It is recognised that the work demands on academics are increasing making time constraints even more substantial. This has impacted on the turnaround capacity of the journal. The editors thank all those members who have supported the journal through their work as reviewers and authors of the journal. Your support is appreciated by the editorial team as well as the organisation. To reduce the work demands of MERJ, the editorial team preview all papers before sending out to review to ensure that the papers meet the requirements of MERJ, are of a suitable content for MERJ and/or provide advice to authors if they need to undertake further work to make the papers suitable for review.

The submission of papers is listed below in Table 1. The period from July 2010 to February 2011 is that period prior to publishing through the on-line Springer system. Andrea Kittila is still managing the final papers that are still in the old system and will see these through to completion. All new submissions are now through the on-line system.

Table 1. Submission of Papers to MERJ (July, 2010-February 2011)

	Pre-Springer	Springer
Submissions	41	17
Rejections	12	2
Papers under revisions	10	0
Awaiting reviews	6	15
Accepted for publication/published	8	

Papers have been received from the following countries (as identified by the author/s affiliations). These include papers submitted through both systems. The international authorship of the papers is noteworthy. However, we also note that there is some work to be done in securing papers from the UK/European communities.

Table 2. Authorship by country

Reviewed, and need to be rewritten or revised:	Awaiting reviews:	Accepted for publication / already published:	Rejected
Australia: 5 USA: 3 Canada: 1 Hong Kong: 1	Australia: 3 USA: 2 Australia and USA (joint authorship): 1 Ghana:1 Brunei: 1 Vietnam: 1 India:1 NZ: 2 USA:4 Albania:1 Turkey:1	USA: 3 Australia: 2 Denmark: 1 New Zealand: 1 Singapore: 1	Australia: 2 South Africa: 2 Estonia: 1 Greece: 1 Hong Kong: 1 Jordan: 1 New Zealand: 1 New Zealand / Germany (joint authorship): 1 Turkey: 1 USA: 1 Spain: 1 China:1

The Editors would like to acknowledge the significant support that Andrea Kittila has provided to the team and to the authors during our time as Editors. Andrea (Andy) has managed the submission of papers which is now being undertaken through Springer but will continue to work with authors on editing of papers. Andy's attention to detail has ensured that the published papers are of a high quality and we acknowledge her significant input into the editing of the papers. We thank Griffith Institute for Educational Research and the Faculty of Education at Griffith University for providing this level of support to the team and to MERGA.

Robyn Jorgensen (MERJ Chief Editor), Peter Grootenboer (MERJ Editor)

*MTED: A report from the Chief Editor*

The editorial team from The University of Sydney commenced in April 2010 with the goal of producing two issues of MTED per calendar year. The decision was taken to publish one general issue and one special issue each year.

Volume 12(1) was the general issue for 2010 and Volume 12(2) *Special Issue: Leadership of reform in mathematics education* was produced by the guest-editor Janeen Lamb under the guidance of Janette Bobis.

The Volume 13 general issue is nearing completion and should be published around September. The 2011 Special Issue will focus on *Sustaining and scaling up teacher professional learning and development in mathematics*, with the guest editors being Joanna Higgins and Linda Bonne from the University of Wellington. This too is nearing completion and will be published before the end of the year.

A proposal for the 2012 Special Issue has just been accepted, with a focus on *Evidence-based approaches to developing content knowledge and pedagogical content knowledge in pre-service mathematics teacher education*. The guest editors will be Rosemary Callingham (University of Tasmania), Helen Chick (University of Melbourne) and Steve Thornton (Charles Darwin University).

The MTED editors thank the Editorial Board members for their continued support and welcome the following new members to the Editorial Board:

Professor Bob Perry (Charles Sturt University)

Associate Professor Sandra Frid (Curtin University of Technology)

Associate Professor Len Sparrow (Curtin University of Technology)

[Assoc Prof. Elham Kazemi \(University of Washington\)](#)

As can be seen by the figures in Tables 1 and 2, MTED continues to attract a reasonable flow of submissions from both local and international researchers. At the time of writing this report there were a further 11 papers under review.

The editors are very grateful to all MERGA members who make time in their schedules to support the journal by reviewing papers, and to support their colleagues by providing constructive feedback. Thank you also, to those of you who sometimes cannot manage to review when asked, but thoughtfully reply to the invitation as soon as possible.

Table 1. MTED Manuscript submission data, Volumes 7 – 12 (2005-2010)

	Year published	Total # submissions	# Rejected prior to review	# Rejected	# Accepted	% Accepted
<b>Vol 7</b>	2005/6	15	4	6	5	33%
<b>Vol 8</b>	2007	<i>Special issue: Professional development in Mathematics Education</i>				
<b>Vol 9</b>	2007/8	12	1	6	5	42%
<b>Vol 10</b>	2008/9	12	1	7	4	33%
<b>Vol 11</b>	2009	9	3	3	4	44%
<b>Vol 12(1)</b>	2010	16	2	9	5	31%
<b>Vol 12(2)</b>	2010	<i>Special Issue: Leadership of reform in mathematics education</i>				

Table 2. MTED Authorship of submitted manuscripts Volumes 7 – 11(2005-2010)

	# Authors of submitted manuscripts but not accepted		# Authors of published articles		Total # authors
	Australasia	International	Australasia	International	
Vol 7	10	10	10	4	34

Vol 9	8	10	7	1	26
Vol 10	7	4	2	5	18
Vol 11	3	3	3	3	12
Vol 12(1)	4	7	2	4	17
Total	32	34	24	17	107

Dr Jennifer Way (MTED Chief Editor), Assoc. Prof. Janette Bobis & Assoc. Prof. Judy Anderson (MTED Editors)

*Review of Australasian Mathematics Education Research: 2008-2011*

Chapters

Chapters have been invited as follows.

<b>Chapter Title</b>	<b>Author team leader</b>
Reflection on previous review	Helen Forgasz
Early childhood mathematics education	Bob Perry
Mathematics education in the schooling years (8-18 years)	Ann Gervasoni
Revision or renewal? Opening tertiary opportunities	Bill Barton
Mathematics education for Indigenous students	Tamsin Meaney
Supporting exceptional students to thrive mathematically	Carmel Diezmann
Professional knowledge in mathematics education of practising teachers	Janette Bobis
The professional education and development of prospective teachers of mathematics	Glenda Anthony
The affective domain and mathematics education	Gregor Lomas
Technology in mathematics education	Vince Geiger
Social justice and mathematics education	Bill Atweh
Assessment beyond all: The changing nature of assessment	Tom Lowrie
Uncertainty in mathematics education: What to do with statistics?	Rosemary Callingham
Curriculum in schools	Judy Anderson
Conclusion – looking to the future	Gilah Leder

Among the author teams there is a good spread of experienced and early/mid-career researchers and a great representation from New Zealand.

#### Publishers

As with the previous Review, the publishers will be Sense Publishers. The publishing contract has been completed.

#### Progress of draft chapters

There is a wide spread of progress in the writing of the draft chapters. Eight of the chapters have been received in draft form and have been reviewed or are in the process of review. The other chapters (except for the bookends) have been promised by the end of July. The two bookend chapters will be completed by September.

#### Timeline

The indicative time line for editing and publishing has been adhered to for the most part. We have not been able to meet the deadlines for return of reviews to author teams but will be working on this matter during the forthcoming conference. We believe that submission of final chapters can be delayed until the end of October with final editing occurring during November and December, 2011. This will result in submission of the final manuscript on time by the end of December, 2011. With these adjustments, the timeline will be:

<b>TASK</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>
Seek expressions of interest from potential authors of chapters	May-10		
Expressions of interest submitted	Jun-10		
Chapter authors notified	Jun-10		
Attend MERGA 33 conference	Jul-10		
Face-to-face meeting with chapter authors during MERGA 33	Jul-10		
Identify and seek further chapter authors to fill identified gaps	Jul-10 – Aug-10		
Finalise chapter authors	Sep-10		
Invitations to chapter reviewers	Nov-10		
Submission of chapter drafts	Dec-10		
Initial edit of chapter drafts by editorial team		Feb-11	
Draft chapters sent to reviewers – two reviewers per chapter		Feb-11	
Attend MERGA 34 conference		Jul-11	
Face-to-face meeting with chapter authors during MERGA 34		Jul-11	
Reviews of drafts chapters to editors		At the latest by Jul-11	

Consolidation of reviews by editors		Early Aug-11	
Consolidated reviews sent to author teams		Early Aug-11	
Authors submit final chapters, including 2011 MERGA and PME materials		Oct-11	
Editors review final chapters to ensure reviewers comments have been considered, additional material has been incorporated and style issues have been met (during this time editors will be in contact with author teams on matters requiring correction or clarification)		Nov-11 – Dec-11	
Editors write foreword		Dec-11	
Submission of completed manuscript to Sense		Dec-11	
Edit first page proofs			Early 2012
Edit second page proofs			Early 2012
Publish four-yearly review			Apr-12

Bob Perry, Tom Lowrie, Amy MacDonald, Tracy Logan & Jane Greenlees (Editors)

Colleen Vale, 29 June 2011

## **Attachment 5**

### **MERGA Vice President's Report (Conferences) to the AGM: July 2011**

My first thanks needs to go to the other Executive members of MERGA who support MERGA as an important research group as well as the annual MERGA conference, each in their own particular ways.

My next set of thanks goes to the 2010 MERGA 33 Fremantle team led by Len Sparrow and Jack Bana. Len and Jack supported by an excellent team (Barry Kissane, Marion Kempe, John Malone). This team provided the MERGA community with a most enjoyable conference which received very positive reviews from all the participants. The setting in Fremantle, the hospitality and food excellent and the keynotes and research papers stimulating, added up to a very successful conference, my thanks on behalf of the MERGA executive and community go to you, the Fremantle Team.

I am sure that the current 2011 MERGA 34 Conference to be held in Alice Springs from Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> to Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> of July will be different but as successful as the Fremantle conference. This conference being a joint effort between AAMT and MERGA has resulted in many variations on usual MERGA practices but the collaborative nature these variations have called for has been positive. My thanks go to the organising team which consists of Steve Thornton and Julie Clark on behalf of MERGA and Toby Spencer, Will Morony, Ann Belperio, Melinda Pearson, Chris Stocks, and Matt Skoss on behalf of AAMT. An additional thanks goes to Judy Mousley who did an amazing job of overseeing the receipt of the MERGA papers, sending them out to review panels and then collating them on their return. This took time and energy and Judy did a great job of this showing patience and tolerance at a standard which was a model for all of us. In organisation of the 2011 conference the level of collaborative discussion and organisation to manage a range of different people in different areas of Australia has been high and so I thank you all in advance for what will be a stimulating conference in an interesting environment.

The 2012 MERGA 35 Conference moves to another interesting and entirely new setting in Singapore. The Singapore team is led by Dr Ang Keng Cheng (Head and advisor), Dr Jaguthsing Dindyal and Dr Cheng Lu Pien (co-chairs). The rest of the team is comprised of Mr Chan Chun Ming, Eric (Secretary), Dr Yap Sook Fwe (Logistics), Dr Ho Weng Kin (Food & Social Programme), Mrs Low-ee Huei Wuan (PR & Accommodation), Dr Koay Phong Lee (PR & Accommodation), Dr Berinderjeet Kaur (Scientific Programme), Dr Ng Swee Fong (Floating Member + Proceedings), Dr Teo Kok Ming (Treasurer), Ms Cynthia Seto (AST & MOE representative). The proposed venue is the National Institute of Education (NIE), Nanyang Technological University (NTU), Singapore. The NIE campus is the venue of many local and international conferences each year and on-site accommodation will be available but the university is easily accessible by various modes of transport within Singapore. This is an important and exciting venture which needs supporting because it illustrates how MERGA has grown beyond the borders of New Zealand and Australia to include our Asian neighbours.

We are currently in discussion about the team and venue for MERGA 36, 2013 and it seems most likely that the conference will return to a more central Australian city. Further information about this will be announced in due course.

This year we continued to use a process of reviewing research papers, symposia, and other types of contributions, using panels of reviewers who met on specified days. Eleven panels were convened using mathematics education researchers with appropriate expertise in Australia, New Zealand and Singapore. Each paper was independently reviewed by two panel

members, and then they met as part of the panel and discussed their assessments and produced a single consensus report that provided the author(s) with detailed feedback. In both 2010 and again in 2011 we have critically reviewed the review forms and modified them to provide more appropriate feedback to authors. This process is on-going, as is the review process itself in an effort to ensure that conference papers are of a high standard but at the same time represent what they are; conference papers not journal articles. The conference guidelines recently rewritten and updated by Judy Mousley continue to be reviewed and added to. These guidelines have become important documents to support conference convenors and to shape MERGA conferences within a professional approach.

The Early bird submission process continues to support new writers as well as more experienced writers who want to take advantage of an earlier submission time. In 2010 there were 38 papers submitted in this process, almost a quarter were accepted on the first review and the remainder were returned to the author/s with extensive feedback which resulted in an eventual 100% acceptance rate for this group. The same figure has been maintained in this conference. For research papers the acceptance for publication rate has remained constant in the new review process with a 75-79% acceptance rate over the past three years. Review panel acceptances of papers for publication also vary with most panels achieving at least a 70% acceptance rate but other panel's acceptance rates are lower. All research papers which are not accepted for publication are re-reviewed by two independent reviewers. As you can see reviewing of research papers and other conference submissions continues to be a challenging process which requires on-going discussion.

Thank you again for your support.

Bobbie Hunter, 21 June 2011

## Attachment 6

### **MERGA Vice President's Report (Development) to the AGM: July 2011**

This report focuses on the Beth Southwall Practical Implications Award (BSPIA), the Early Career Award (ECA), the Newcomers' Function, and MERGA's contributions to the development and implementation of the Australian Mathematics Curriculum.

#### *Beth Southwell Practical Implications Award*

As a result of two years (2009, 2010) without a BSPIA awarded, Merrilyn Goos (MERGA President) and I (VP Development) ran a lunchtime session at MERGA 2010 to encourage more applicants for the BSPIA in 2011, and make transparent high quality aspects of papers of previous winners. In 2011, there were more submissions for the BSPIA, and more than one of high enough quality to be a contender for this award. This renewed interest in this prestigious award augers well for 2012 and beyond.

#### *Early Career Award*

This award continues to be highly sought after with the number of applicants for the ECA increasing between 2009 and 2011. The 2010 ECA research topics were diverse, and judges heard many favourable comments about various presentations. The judging panel discussions in 2010 again identified many high quality aspects of various papers and presentations. The 2011 ECA papers suggest Early Career Researchers will again present some interesting studies.

#### *Newcomers Function*

The MERGA Newcomers Function was introduced at the MERGA Conference in 2009. Positive feedback resulted in the inclusion of another Newcomers Function at the 2010 Conference. This function will not be part of the 2011 AAMT/MERGA Conference (due to logistics associated with the combined conference). MERGA intend running a Newcomers' Function at MERGA 2012 and beyond.

#### *National (Australian) Mathematics Curriculum*

a) The National Curriculum Forum at MERGA 2010 was intended to stimulate interest about areas of research to support the implementation of the Australian Mathematics Curriculum. It was well attended and many areas of focus were identified.

b) Soon after MERGA 2010, the Senior Years Feedback for the National (Australian) Curriculum was required. My thanks to the many MERGA members who contributed to the development of this feedback, which can be found in the Development section of the MERGA Website <http://www.merga.net.au/node/49>

#### *Thank You for Your Support*

This is the final report for my time as VP Development for MERGA. I thank MERGA members including MERGA Executive members for the contributions they have made to the reports and feedback I have submitted for MERGA over this time, and for their willingness to contribute, and ongoing collegiality.

Gaye Williams, 24 June 2011

## **Attachment 7**

### **MERGA Vice President's Report (Communications) to the AGM: July 2011**

As of May 2011 the individual membership was 234 (this includes 15 students). The library membership is currently 43.

<b>Location</b>	<b>Percentage of Membership</b>
NT	1
NSW	16
Qld	15
SA	4
Tas	3
Vic	25
WA	7
NZ	16
International	13

The number of International members is showing a steady increase. The library membership has decreased, as expected, due to the changing nature of journal publications through Springer. Libraries access MERJ through a contact with Springer directly. The on-line use of MERGA publications continues to increase. Our monthly newsletter has been well received and members are invited to make contributions. Suggestions for regular features and people who may be interviewed will be welcomed.

Andy Yeh has continued to work on the MERGA website and has recently created a members' lounge in the members-only section. An updated members' directory is located in the lounge. Forward suggestions for discussion topics in the members lounge to Julie Clark so that a new folder can be created.

Julie Clark, 22 June, 2011