

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 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 Merrilyn 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 make 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