



Geography Teachers Association of South Australia

AGM - May, 2014 Presidents Report

The last twelve months has seen continued high interest in Geography from school communities and teachers across South Australia.

Membership

We currently have 84 financial members and 14 Life Members.

Committee/Staff

2015/16 will see significant change to the make-up of the GTASA Executive with a new President, Vice-President and Treasurer and the exodus of some long term committee members.

I would like to thank Clive West, Peter Melnyk and Kathleen Johnson for the years of service they have given to the GTASA as members of the Executive.

Clive West's most recent role was that of SASOSE representative, Peter Melnyk has been our Treasurer for the past decade and Kathleen Johnson has been actively involved in many GTASA undertakings.

Younger members are taking on significant roles and the future of GTASA appears to be in good hands.

Professional Development

Our conference convener Ian Johnson and his sub-committee have done a wonderful job getting this year's conference together and I thank them for their many months of work.

GTASA representatives continue to run professional learning opportunities for teachers at CEASA combined association workshops.

Many members are leading workshops and fieldtrips at our GTASA Conference and a number contributed earlier in the year at the AGTA Conference in New Zealand.

GTASA is partnering with Mick Law's Contour Education to deliver a spatial technology workshop on 27 July at Concordia College. Members will receive a significant reduction on registration costs and places will be limited so keep looking on the GTASA website for details.

We are also hoping to co-present AGTA's Travelling Roadshow in Adelaide later in the year.

Publications and Projects-

SA Geographer has successfully moved to electronic form. Joanne Wegener and Alexandra Piggott have co-edited the publications and each edition has been a high quality, extremely useful teacher resource. The GTASA website is developing well and is being astutely managed by Peter Mann.

Action for Promotion of Geography

GTASA has formed a relationship with SSSI and committed significant funds to an exciting initiative that aims to encourage teachers to use spatial technologies in teaching AC-Geography.

Rita Shepherd on behalf of GTASA is finalizing arrangements for the Year 12 Geography Night in August.

CEASA continues to be a wonderful support for GTASA. Sarah Warner and Jessica Green in the CEASA Office have been a tremendous support dealing with GTASA matters very effectively. We are very lucky to have them.

Issues or Problems

There has been limited production of GTASA material for a couple of years and the costs involved in re-developing the website and *SA Journal* have been significant.

The Executive is trying very hard to direct funding towards professional learning opportunities and it will be important to work towards improving our financial position over the next couple of years.

I have enjoyed the challenges and learning opportunities I have had at a State and National level as President of GTASA over the past three years.

I would like to thank the hard working current and former Geography teachers who make up the GTASA Executive for the time and expertise they give so willingly.

Regards,
Greg Way