



MTAQ President welcomes Janina Drazek (Executive Director, Teaching and Learning) and Terry Gallagher (QSA) to our November planning day

MTAQ NOVEMBER ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY

On Tuesday 10th November we held our first full day Advisory Committee meeting sponsored by Education Queensland and MTAQ. This was attended by Adam Richmond, Bob Moffatt, Georgia McNichol, Janelle Norton, Kathy Steggles, Kelly Goodingham, Mike Halpin, Peter Wicks, Rob Armstrong, Sheree Bell, Simone Baker, Ward Nicholas, Mary-Ann Pattison, AJ Presto, Stuart Russell and Terri Burnett. The minutes are available in the members area of the MTAQ website.

MTAQ ADMINISTRATION DISCUSSION

- Predicted budget shortfall for this time next year if we did not manage our funds carefully
- Appointment of Hon Office Manager (Bob Moffatt) to liaise between the MTAQ Office and the Executive and the Advisory Committee
- Fundraising activities - a membership drive mailout, increase in sponsorships and flagging increased membership fees for next financial year (eg July 1)

MARINE STUDIES AND EDUCATION QUEENSLAND

- Janina Drazek (Executive Director, Teaching and Learning) congratulated us on our work as an association and advised Ed Qld is happy to continue working with us.
- She advised us that Marine Studies will be one of our 'local' syllabuses that QSA will permit schools to offer under the future National Curriculum
- Terry Gallagher (Manager Senior Curriculum Policy Unit) then spoke about 3 main issues – the National Curriculum, the review of Senior Syllabuses and the future of our Coast and Marine Education Syllabus.

MARINE STUDIES AND THE NATIONAL CURRICULUM.

- The ACARA Board was established to develop curriculum in English, Mathematics, Science and History. ACARA reports to Ministerial Council for the States and Territories.
- Curriculum for Senior Phase of Learning needs to develop curriculum content, standards and assessment.

No remit for reporting – this is a state-based decision.

Science has 4 courses – Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Earth and Environmental Science. May be based on NSW curriculum.

- There may be a 5th Science course, based loosely on Science 21. Earth and Environmental Science will be a combo of Earth Science, Geography and Environmental Education.

They are doing up a draft for consultation now. Consultation of Science K-12 will occur in January – April 2010.

Publication is expected in June/July to all States and Territories.

- Terry recommended keeping an eye on the ACARA website and QSA website. On the QSA website there is a button for Transition to National Curriculum. It has common questions etc.

COAST AND MARINE EDUCATION

- Terry Gallagher argued that we don't need an accredited junior syllabus to be able to teach it at a junior level in schools and suggested we simply post a course outline on QSA website. Terry recommended we re-write syllabus with Essential Learnings, but not necessarily reaccredit it with QSA. This action was agreed to by the Advisory Committee and the MTAQ Executive.

SENIOR SYLLABUS REVIEW PROCESS

- QSA intends to develop criteria to put against syllabuses for maintaining, revising and reviewing syllabuses and an analysis for Marine Studies resulted in the question – How 'Sciencey' is it? The answer went to the Science SAC – yes, it belongs in Science.
- Other question – do Marine Studies and MAP have enough differences, including different pathways?
- Consultative report goes to governing body at the end of this month.
- The recommendation from the Science SAC was that Marine Studies continues, with a revision in 2011.

- However MTAQ needs to establish how
 - it complements the Australian Curriculum,
 - it is different to the rest of the curriculum,
 - does it contribute to the learning in Science and
 - what is the difference between Marine Studies and MAP.
- Terry suggested that we get a writing group together in 2010 to answer these questions and others, including will it be called Marine Studies or Marine Science?

SAFETY MODULE REVIEW – FACILITATED BY TERRI BURNETT

- Education Queensland requested the opinions of MTAQ on their Safety Modules (the new version of the previously well-known DOEM). These were passed around and worked on in small groups. Discussions were held in regard to the qualifications required for teachers leading activities such as SCUBA diving, Open Water Snorkelling, Sailing in Small Craft, among many others. Terri collected the drafts to take our suggestions back to Education Queensland. The next step for these – they will be finalized by the end of the year, ready to be used in 2010.
- Many issues in various Safety Modules were discussed and the consensus was to keep requirements to a minimum in order to keep participation in Marine Education to a maximum.

MARINE EDUCATION AND POWERBOATING

- Werner Bundschuh and Tony Menezes from the Safety Standards Branch of Maritime Safety Queensland joined the meeting inform us of a few new developments.
- He talked about dual registration for vessels. For boatsafe activities, vessels need to be a 2E. For Marine Studies activities, vessels can be a 1F without a coxswains. We cannot use a 1F for training purposes.
- Werner suggested teachers approach the hire/drive company to apply for a \$30 dual class licence/registration for the boats for the time you will be using them for boatsafe purposes. Apply the same process for jetskis. The same equipment is required for 1F and 2E boats so this should not be an issue for the hire/drive company.

There are some existing variations to C7A – these can be found on the MSQ website.

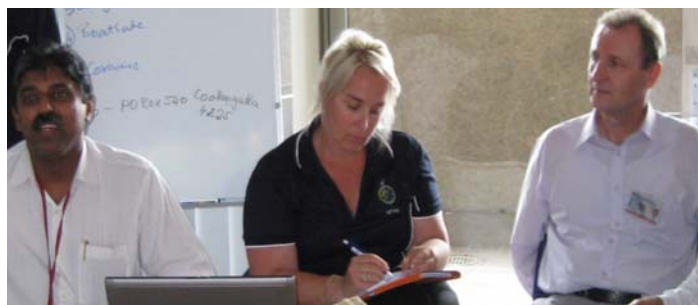
- New exemptions will be applied for using a form that is on the MSQ website.

MTAQ EQUIVALENT SOLUTION

- In the new MSQ Regime, there are no exceptions, now it is called an Equivalent Solution.
- The aim is for MTAQ to come to an arrangement with MSQ so it is not a requirement that every separately registered tinny needs to carry all the required safety equipment. Werner said they already do some exemptions for safari-style operations. So we should put together a proposal as a group.

BOATS SAFE

- Schedule A – high school students used for training. Schedule B – school boats being used for boat licences (state-owned boat – no; private-owned boat – yes).
- Should we put boatsafe competency standards into our syllabus? MTAQ to canvas members opinions.
- AMSA has proposed a new qualification – a sheltered water coxswain – commercial federal license for 3Nm from coast with 100hrs seetime. See http://www.amsa.gov.au/Marine_Qualifications/TinnytoTanker/ for more information.



Tony Menezes , Simone Bake and Werner Bundschuh

- MTAQ need to give MSQ the competencies in our syllabuses and map them to Boatsafe and then we should not have a problem (if we have a commercial licence) to give students their licences.

QSA CONFERENCE

The Queensland Studies Authority is holding a conference from 19-20 March 2010 called Shared vision: An Australian curriculum P-12. This QSA conference will explore the key issues, opportunities and challenges that the Australian curriculum and a new era of transparency and accountability will bring for schools from Prep to Year 12. Participants at the conference will engage with national and international experts on challenging education issues and acquire new skills and knowledge to improve outcomes for all students.

It is important that MTAQ registers a delegate for this conference in order to promote our subject. Ideally an MTAQ member will present a paper at this Conference about the future importance of Marine Education to Australian students.

If you are interested in making this presentation or assisting with the writing of it, please contact our President Mr Ward Nicholas on (07) 4726 8333.

Unfortunately no money has been budgeted for this event, but Terry Gallagher from QSA may provide us with a complimentary registration in a show of support for our subject..

INTERNATIONAL OCEAN LITERACY QUIZ

The Alliance of Marine Mammal Parks and Aquariums is an international association representing marine life parks, aquariums, zoos, research facilities, and professional organizations dedicated to the highest standards of care for marine mammals and to their conservation in the wild through public education, scientific study, and wildlife presentations.

Our Ocean Literacy Quiz is fun and you may be surprised by the answers. Challenge your friends to take it! Importantly, your participation will help our education teams have a better understanding about what our audiences know about dolphins and other marine mammals.

<http://www.zoomerang.com/Survey/survey-intro.zgi?p=WEB2275FJEHTDB>

Operations manual started

Bob has begun the long and arduous task of writing an operations manual for MTAQ and expects it finished by June next year.

He has contacted the office of fair trading to see what changes have occurred since we wrote our first constitution and is seeking advice on changes made under the incorporations act. Watch this space for further news

SHARKS AND RAYS OF AUSTRALIA

Want stunningly beautiful marine life and natural history paintings, then check out the following website that showcases Artist and Zoologist Roger Swainston from Fremantle in Western Australia.

His outstanding collection of marine life, natural history and underwater paintings highlights the plight of endangered coral reef and marine life. Paintings range from seascapes to individual species and are ideal for projects focusing on oceans and rivers. <http://www.rogerswainston.com/>

BRISBANE BRANCH HOSTS MARINE EDUCATION NETWORKING DAY

Annette Window (MTAQ Brisbane South Branch Rep) held a combined panel and MTAQ workshop last week at Coorparoo Secondary College.

Over 10 Marine teachers attended including Adam Richmond, our new Sponsorship Coordinator. Three new schools signed up to MTAQ on the day and are looking forward to the benefits from being members. Various issues from the November 10 meeting with Education Queensland, Marine Safety Queensland and staff from QSA and ACARA were discussed.

The changes to new safety legislation and procedures, and the AMSA sheltered waters coxswain were highlighted. Janelle was able to report on the suggested changes to the Safety Modules that were recommended by the Advisory Committee.

The group then networked many ideas on boating, snorkelling safety as well as techniques for first aid and marine radio.

The highlight of the morning was a tour of the new marine wet lab where members were able to see fish dissection (mortuary) tables and other facilities including square chart tables that were designed for Marine Studies students.

In the afternoon the group shared ideas on assessment and reporting techniques. It was noted that many schools were looking towards offering MAP in the region.

Recommendations for MTAQ included

- a panel approved sheet that could be added to Curriculum Exchange documents indicating if the assessment item had passed panel approval.
- making the providers list on the web site able to have local industry contacts such as approved for the supply of busses or boats for hire.

Thanks Janelle for organising morning tea and lunch out of her Science budget and Coorparoo Secondary College for use of the wet lab for discussions.

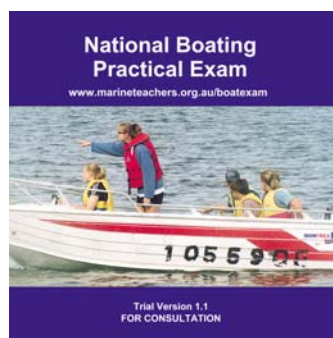
BOATEXAM PRAC EXAM DISTRIBUTED

Last week we sent out copies to all schools along with renewal letters and a survey form. If you don't have a copy yet

Call Phoebe on

(07) 5667 7333

Thanks again to WA Marine Education Boatshed for their advice and videos.



Free trial standards DVD

CONFERENCE 2010 EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

Set aside December 5 - 9 next year as we take our annual conference south to Launceston in Tasmania.

- Conference on Tour 2010 at AMC- IF YOU WANT TO ATTEND, REGISTER ON-LINE NOW.
- Please note that we are using the conference registration system to collect interest numbers so simply ignore the \$0 tax invoice produced in this process.

IF YOU WANT TO GO TO TASSIE REGISTER AN EXPRESSION OF INTEREST ON LINE NOW

The Australian Maritime College is an Institute of the University of Tasmania

CAIRNS MAST DAY SUCCESS

Tony Dawson (MTAQ Regional Representative for Far North Queensland) reports their MAST day went off BRILLIANTLY at Tinaroo Dam.

12 schools attended including Cairns, Woree, Gordonvale and Trinity. Gwen Connolly (long term MTAQ member) even bought her school from Malanda. The old favourite activities worked well such as swamped dingy and flare displays, while some new events proved a hit, including sailing.

Marine Safety Queensland came and supplied show bags for schools and valuable advice on changes to the new boating safety equipment regulations.

Tony tells us that the Cairns Branch is up and firing now and should have no trouble running another day soon.

MTAQ RECOGNISES ED QLD

At the recent State Advisory Committee meeting. MTAQ officially recognised the role Dr Terri Burnett and Education Queensland has played over the past 10 years in helping MTAQ with various projects.

Most significant has been her roles in

- chairing the Marine Studies Syllabus and MAP committees,
- providing key advice on our Junior Syllabus,
- valuable help with submissions for professional development.

Thanks Terri from the members of MTAQ.



Ward and Terri

FROM THE MTAQ EXECUTIVE

The Executive of MTAQ would like to wish everyone a safe and enjoyable break over the Christmas period. We hope you take some time to reflect on the enormous impact that you have made on the lives on many students throughout the year and how you have inspired many of them to take an interest in various aspects of our Marine world. Rest up and we will see you back full of energy in the new year.

Thank you for all your contributions throughout the year,

Ward Nicholas (President), Sheree Bell (Vice President), Kelly Goodingham (Secretary and Editor), Kelly Moffatt (Treasurer), Adam Richmond (Sponsorship Coordinator), Simone Baker (Publicity Officer).

FROM THE MTAQ OFFICE

From all of us here at the office, we wish you a Merry Christmas and a happy holiday – Bob, Kelly and Trent Moffatt and Phoebe Calcutt.

NOVEMBER MAILOUT AND DATABASE UPDATE

A recent mail-out is asking for your help in updating our database. This is an extremely important process for MTAQ to ensure our mailing lists are up-to-date and our newsletters and other items arrive to the intended people, consequently making our association more efficient and saving us money. Please try and get these back to us before you go on your Christmas break.

WEB SITE UPGRADE

Exciting new additions and changes for 2010 include

- Reorganising our publications section so that members can download claim forms, meeting minutes, MAST day publications, newsletters, memos of understanding and much more.
- Making a links section so that you can quickly get to key websites such as Marine Safety Queensland, Reef Watch, Careers in Marine Science and many more.

MEMBERSHIPS NOW DUE

Memberships are now due for the following classes. Note that once your membership expires, you won't be able to access the members area. Membership forms are available at <http://www.marineteachers.org.au/documents/MembershipApp.pdf>.

1. Ordinary members include practicing Marine Studies and MAP teachers.
2. School Membership A
Available to schools who only have 2 teachers at their school. Members are able to take advantage of ordinary member opportunities.
3. School membership B
School membership B allows 3 or more teachers to take advantage of ordinary membership.
4. Associate members include members' partners or interested people. No voting rights apply to associate members

MEMBERSHIP FEES

All include gst

Ordinary	\$66
Associate	\$66
School membership A	\$77
School membership B	\$142

Fees go to keeping us actively involved in making sure Marine Studies stays as a QSA subject from 2012.



MTAQ's phone number

(07) 5667 7333

President

Ward Nicholas (wlich5@eq.edu.au)
Heatley Secondary College
07 4726 8333

Treasurer

Kelly Moffatt (admin@marineteachers.org.au)
We Love Admin. (07) 5532 7230

Vice President

Sheree Bell (sbell@mfac.edu.au)
Matthew Flinders Anglican College (07) 5477 3231

Secretary

Kelly Goodingham (kelly.goodingham@gmail.com)
Sunshine Coast

Publicity Officer

Simone Baker (simonebaker2004@yahoo.com)
Holy Spirit College (07)4942 2088

Sponsorship Coordinator

Adam Richmond (arich20@eq.edu.au)
Clontarf Beach State High School (07) 3480 4777

Patron, Marketing and Advertising

Bob Moffatt (bmoffatt@wetpaper.com.au)
Wet Paper Publications (07) 5525 6122

Branch Reps

Gold Coast

Brendan Crowley (bcrowley@marymount.qld.edu.au)
Marymount College (07) 5535 0111

Brisbane South

Annette Window (a.window@stpeters.qld.edu.au)
St Peters Lutheran College (07) 3377 6222

Brisbane North

Peter Slaughter (petebarb@westnet.com.au)
Southern Cross Catholic College (07) 3480 3600

Wide Bay

Patrick Babin (babin_patrick@yahoo.com.au)
Kepnock State High School (07) 4131 1888

Rockhampton & Dist

Warwick Atkinson (watki2@eq.edu.au)
North Rockhampton State High School (07) 4924 7831

Mackay

Bill Rankine (wrankine@mackay.net.au)
Mackay State High School 07 4957 9179

Townsville

Sharon Tobin (stobi16@eq.edu.au)
Heatley Secondary College 07 4726 8333

Far North Queensland

Anthony Dawson (tdaws51@eq.edu.au)
Woree State High School 07 4081 5222

Cape and Torres Straits

Paul Whiteside (pwhit20@eq.edu.au)
Tagai State College - Thursday Island Secondary
07 4069 2240

Web development

Trent Moffatt (trent@tmdesigns.com.au)
07 5532 4858