

Arna Bennett

It is with great pleasure the Queensland Branch of IPSHA nominates Mrs Arna Bennett for IPSHA Fellowship.

Arna joined the JSHAA in 1993 after her appointment as Head of Junior School at Somerville House, Brisbane. She had previously been Head of Junior School at Queen Margaret College in Wellington, New Zealand for seven years.

Over the past 23 years, Arna has made an outstanding contribution to IPSHA in many varied roles.

She was Projects Officer for Queensland 1999-2000, APPA representative for IPSHA Queensland 2008-2010, the IPSHA Independent Schools Queensland member on a State-wide cross curricular development project in 2002, IPSHA representative for a number of years on the Queensland Studies Authority Primary Principals' Reference Project and also an IPSHA representative for Independent Schools Queensland LOTE committee.

Arna was IPSHA Branch/State President from 2010-2012 and also undertook an active role as President Elect and Past President during the periods immediately before and after her presidency.

Arna was recognised for her significant contribution to the professional learning of her colleagues by being awarded the John Laing Award in 2010.

Arna has been a member of many Queensland Studies Authority (now Queensland Curriculum and Assessment Authority) panels involving topics such as the Early Years, the Overcrowded Curriculum and Reshaping QSA.

Arna has been and continues to be, a welcoming and supportive mentor for new and continuing Heads. She is a thoughtful, intelligent woman who has a friendly, calm nature.

During her time as President, Arna was instrumental in encouraging Heads to see the great value of regularly attending term meetings. Subsequently, there was a definite increase in attendance, which has been maintained to this day.

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Arna's commitment to IPSHA has been truly wonderful. Throughout her 23 years as a member, she has willingly and generously participated, fulfilling a number of diverse and important roles. Arna has been and continues to be an outstanding mentor and valued colleague.

It is a measure of the esteem and respect that Arna is held that the Branch meeting unanimously voted to approve his Fellowship nomination.

We are delighted to be able to nominate Arna Bennett for an IPSHA Fellowship as she is a most worthy recipient of this special award for outstanding contribution to and regular involvement in the Association at the State and Federal level.

Bruce Winther

QLD State President

September 2015

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