

Nomination for Mrs Laraine Lucas Honorary State Life Membership

July 25th 2013

It is with great pleasure I nominate Mrs Laraine Lucas for Honorary State Life Membership to IPSHA Ltd (NSW Branch). The criteria for nomination states that the candidate must be a former member of not less than ten years standing, a resident in their state, and must have made and outstanding and sustained contribution to the Branch.

Laraine Lucas fully meets the above criteria. Laraine became a member of IPSHA (formerly JSHAA) in 1992 when she became Head of the Junior School at Danebank Anglican School for Girls and immediately committed herself to full attendance and involvement in the Association. During her twenty years of membership, Laraine has contributed to the development and functioning of the Association in many significant ways.

Her early involvement through attendance at term meetings, Umbrella groups and committees allowed her colleagues to see the many attributes of leadership Laraine possessed. In 2000 Laraine was invited onto the JSHAA State Executive responsible for the Professional Development Committee. During this time Laraine was instrumental in securing high quality presenters for term meetings, Country Weekends and Biennial Conferences. Laraine had a keen sense of what leaders in primary education needed to thrive in their role and worked tirelessly to provide these opportunities for her colleagues.

Laraine was recognised for her commitment and skill to the Association by being chosen Chair Elect (Membership) in 2004. Laraine sought to know and encourage her colleagues in this role, a testimony to her relational strength. In 2006 Laraine took up the Chair of the State Branch and used her skills to bring strategic structure, thinking and organisation to the Association. Laraine was a firm believer in succession planning and encouraged many members to take up positions of responsibility.

Laraine has represented the Association on the ISTAA Council, the Primary Advisory Group at the Association of Independent Schools and in 2010 was appointed as the IPSHA NSW Branch representative in the Australian Primary Principal Association's National Executive Council. Laraine was nominated to be on the Secretariat, a position in which she humbly served the wider goals of primary education through a collaborative and globally minded approach. Laraine held this position until her retirement in June 2013.

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Laraine has been recognised at the highest level for her contribution to education. In 2012 she received the Fellowship from IPSHA, an Award to recognise and honour outstanding service by a current Member to the Association and/or primary education. During the same year Laraine was presented the Principals Australia John Laing Professional Development Award. This Award was established in 2004 to recognise the contribution of school leaders who have significantly contributed to the professional learning of other school leaders.

Laraine retired from Danebank at the end of Term 2, leaving a lasting legacy of personal, professional and educational influence with generations of children and families, colleagues and friends. Her continued contribution to the Association through Honorary State Life Membership is fully endorsed by the Branch.

Andrew McPhail
President 2012-2014
IPSHA Ltd (NSW Branch)