

IPSHA Federal/National Life Membership: Nomination for Paul Clegg

Nominated by Rebecca Lennon (National Secretary and Qld Branch Member) - December 2025

Paul Clegg has driven inspirational change in IPSHA at a national level. He has been a highly engaged and respected member of IPSHA since 2008. Paul is currently working with IPSHA as the National Executive Officer, leading the Federal/National Board through his leadership.

Paul commenced his active contribution as a leader in the Queensland IPSHA Branch through his work of the Queensland Professional Learning Committee in 2012. While in this role, he advocated for high quality speakers and professional sharing opportunities that brought leaders together in their shared purpose. Paul was pivotal in the inclusive approach to have Deputy Heads attending IPSHA Queensland Branch Meetings and National Conferences, where this was previously seen as quite a hierarchical entrance to the association nationally. This led to a more collaborative support and guidance of the Queensland Deputies Collegiate and enabled this group to mirror the structure of the IPSHA Heads Association and collaboration with the executive team, to develop budgeting processes and professional engagement as an expectation at meetings. In his roles, Paul has advocated strongly for aspiring independent school leaders to be inclusive and to have the opportunity to develop their skills and the representative pathways to be recognised for their talents and abilities.

In 2016, Paul assumed the role as Queensland President Elect, demonstrating genuine care for others as he continued his commitment to ensuring IPSHA was an inclusive association, focused on providing support and collegiality. This was a recurring agenda as Paul assumed the role earlier than planned of Queensland President in 2017. Paul led IPSHA with the same passion, enthusiasm and people-centred skills that had been evident throughout his membership.

Paul volunteered to Co-Chair the National Conference Committee when Queensland hosted this event in 2018 and led into the conference as Queensland President. The conference was an incredible success both from a professional learning and collegial response, but it also set Queensland up in a positive financial position for years to follow. Paul brought a great sense of vision and drive to ensure 2018 set a precedent for high standards in national conferences to follow. Shining Futures: Connect Collaborate and Create, was the driving theme that resulted in extremely positive feedback and highly engaged leaders. His enthusiasm and passion was infectious and drew many other willing volunteers. With dreams of bringing world class speakers to the conference, Paul oversaw a large and innovative drive to gain financial sponsorship which resulted in highly respected international and engaging speakers such as Patrick Hollingsworth, Robyn Moore and Jean Kitson, all woven together by the skilled Tony Ryan. It was also the first IPSHA conference that engaged student voice and agency.

During his tenure as Queensland President, membership thrived and Paul was invited to nominate for Federal President which was a great step forward with Queensland not being

represented on the Federal Executive for many years. Paul has worked tirelessly to explore the alignment and connection across and between states of Australian to ensure consistency and equity with all branches. Paul has dedicated an incredible amount of time to lifting the association into contemporary practice and maximising IPSHA from a national perspective, through cross State Board member sharing of practice, strategic planning, introducing a fortnightly IPSHA Connect communication to members, and along with the IPSHA Board, reviewing governing documents.

Known as the "COVID President", Paul demonstrated incredibly strong leadership in his actions, bringing leaders together throughout these challenging times, opening up opportunities for online meetings and webinars, ensuring continued connection within and across the states of Australia in Independent Schools. Paul also has far-reaching global involvement as a contributing member of the International Confederation of Principals and his drive for the Light Up Vanuatu Campaign in collaboration with Solar Buddy. Paul's vision and consequent actions united the states of Australia as one organisation with a shared purpose: to support and inspire Primary Independent School leaders.

Paul is a leader of great integrity and passion who cares deeply for people. He is a quietly inspirational leader who seeks to understand, and problem solve, to improve leadership capacity and ultimately impact deeper learning for students. He is considered a friend by many IPSHA members due to his genuine interest in, and care for others.

Paul has been heavily involved as a Board Member of APPA and set up a network with the Executive Officer employees from the public, Independent and Catholic sectors. He currently commits extensive volunteer time as the National Executive Officer, guiding and leading the Board in the IPSHA national agenda. Paul initiated the contemporary systems that has ensure IPSHA is contemporary, highly performing and legally compliant in human resourcing, finances and risk management. He initiated and led the development of a new website, a new online member management system and a functional Event Management system which has transformed the processes into efficient and safe practices. Paul has become a mentor for many across the nation who seek his wise counsel.

Paul is an extremely worthy of being recognised as an outstanding leader in education and deserving of this nomination for Honorary Federal National Life Member.

Rebecca Lennon

National Secretary and Qld Branch Member