

## QETA Interim Report 2023

### To members and affiliates, May 2023

Queensland Economics Teachers' Association Inc continues its commitment to the promotion and advancement of Economics and Business Education in Queensland Schools.



### Executive and Management committee Members, 2023

- President Christine Dowd, QCAA (Committee 2018)
- Secretary Natalie Berndt, Loreto College (Committee 2022)
- Treasurer Julie-Anne Angell, John Paul College (Committee 2019)

### Management committee

Justin Virly, Brisbane State High School (2021)  
Debra Da Silva, Brisbane Girls Grammar (2022)  
Mandy-Jane Ellis (Somerset College) (2022)  
Larry Huynh (Brisbane Boys College) (new)

Majda Benzenati (St Hilda's School) (new)  
Jodie Schaffer (Wavell State High School) (new)  
Nicholas Grech (Wavell State High School) (new)  
Hein Kamffler (John Paul College) (new)

### Management Committee update

2023 has a busy and positive flavour, with covid operating in a background role, and less flooding! There seems to be a lot of interest in Economics, in both Senior Schooling and with the Economics and Business Australian Curriculum for Years 7-10.

On the grapevine, QETA is hearing and seeing jobs for Economic teachers being quickly filled and evidence exists of strong growth in the number of students studying Economics, and an increase in the number of schools. It is vital that we can support new teachers into the subject area, so we want to support teachers who are moving across from a range of other HASS subjects or from other Learning Areas.

Accordingly, there are many ways we are aiming to assist teachers, and we seek your involvement, by:

- sharing resources and links for content Years 7-12
- becoming a mentor or mentee in the QETA Mentor Program
- joining in T'Chats planned across Term 2
- networking during our Professional Development day on Saturday 15 July.



### Lunch with the Governor!

*Student opportunity – lunch with the Reserve Bank of Australia Governor, Philip Lowe!*



The Economic Society of Australia, Queensland have extended a generous invitation to school and students to attend a lunch during their conference. The lunch is with Philip Lowe, Governor of the Reserve Bank of Australia on Wednesday 12 July 2023. Lunch is discounted for students and teachers at cost price of \$80 per year. Schools are welcome to book a table or QETA can organise if you have less than a table.

Email QETA with an expression of interest and number of students/teachers. [info@qeta.com.au](mailto:info@qeta.com.au)

### Website news

QETA developed and launched a new website in January 2022. We are in the process of updating and adding new resources to support Years 7-10 Economics and Business.

The screenshot shows a navigation menu with five main categories:

- HASS in Qld**: An outline of HASS subjects, its structure, and a comparison of skills.
- Year 7**: The economy is us! Who and what is the economy? Why are businesses, entrepreneurs, workers and consumers and their rights important?
- Year 8**: Aussie markets. What are markets and business opportunities? Why is taxation important? How do I manage financial goals?
- Year 9**: 1. International trade. Why is international trade important to me? 2. Financial success - businesses & individuals. How can I get ahead?
- Year 10**: 1. Economic performance. Part 1: How can I make better financial decisions? 2. Financial literacy. Part 2: How can I make better financial decisions?

Each category has a 'VIEW RESOURCES' link. A 'Home' button is located at the bottom center of the navigation bar.

The Yr 7-10 resources are based on version 9.0 of the Australian Curriculum (and these are cross referenced to version 8.4). We have started by exploring the content descriptors by explaining the economic theory and perspectives to support new and non-economic teachers, with links to website resources. As Economics subject specialists, we need to assist teachers in this space – remember ACARA decided on the prominence of Economics in the subject name because Economics is the discipline that supports Business.

The website is much more visual and inviting, and we have received positive feedback. Comments, suggestions and feedback are welcomed ([info@qeta.com.au](mailto:info@qeta.com.au))

### Mentor program

QETA is continuing the mentor program introduced last year. The initiative connects experienced teachers to those who are new to teaching Economics. Mentors and mentees teachers apply online through the website.

Please consider being involved and let us know if you want to continue to be involved especially those mentors from last year.

[Join us>Mentoring Program](#)

**Mentoring Program**  
Opportunities for both Mentors and Mentees!

**QETA Mentor Program**  
The mentoring program seeks to assist and support newly registered teachers, out of field teachers and teachers who are returning to teaching Economics in Queensland schools. The program connects these teachers to passionate and experienced Economic teachers who teach students across Years 7-12.

**The program aims to:**

- offer mentoring services for the benefit of promoting active, interesting and thoughtful teaching of Economics
- enable a flow-on effect that supports
  - teachers, to increase their confidence and capacity
  - students, to promote their interest and engagement, and ultimately their future financial personal and career opportunities
- provide experienced teachers an avenue to enrich and enliven their existing practice through professional discussions of pedagogy, assessment and economics subject matter.

### ***Professional Development Conference***

2022 Economics unplugged! Was a wonderful success in terms of attendees, the quality of presentations and workshops, and the collegiality and sharing that occurred.

Links to presentations and PowerPoints are on our website for members.



*Two key speakers: Dr Mathew Peter and Alex Symonds (check his YouTube!)*



**Claim the date!**

**Yet to be named Economics Conference  
Saturday 15 July, 2023**

Please contact us if you have ideas for the masterclasses, speakers and activities.

Please contact us if you can help us organise the PD – we are only a small committee! 😊

### ***T'Chats (Teacher chats)***

We have two chats organised for Term 2. Based on feedback, the demand is for pedagogy, so we have organised some 'how to teach' events.

**Week 2, Wed 26th April: Pedagogy for Analysing  
Week 4, Wed 10th May: Pedagogy for Evaluating**

### ***Student University experience days***

QETA provides two information days for students that are typically presented by QUT and UQ. The full day presentations encompass current economic data, information relevant to topics being studied and future career information.

- University of Queensland, Wednesday 12 July
- Queensland University of Technology (expected date) Thursday 13 July

### **University of Queensland Economics competition**

University of Queensland and QETA 2023 Multiple Choice Competition is set during Economics Week, Term 3 week 1. This competition is a multiple-choice quiz aimed at Year 11 and 12 students and covers various topics relevant to each year level. The competition is online again so that marking is time and cost efficient, and so we can provide feedback of student achievement for your class.

The annual competition was held in September last year. We congratulate all winners and their schools.



### **Reserve Bank of Australia**

QETA continues to be appreciative of the support given by the Reserve Bank of Australian Education department in providing an excellent range of resources. They are currently working on resources for 9-10 to support teachers in Economics and Business Australian Curriculum.



The Education team at RBA have released an excellent and timely article on economic literacy, quite topical at the moment as Queensland appears to be seeing an increase in the number of students choosing Economics in Years 10 and 11. It discusses the core topics, principles and behaviours involved in economic literacy. The article also distinguishes economic literacy and financial literacy. It is great holiday reading if you have not accessed it already! [Link to Economic literacy](#)

[Link to Study and careers.](#)

### **Study and Careers**

Economics is about how choices are made – how individuals and societies choose to allocate their resources to meet their needs and wants. Studying economics can give you a framework for understanding the world, finding practical solutions to problems and making a difference. Here you can find out about pathways to economics and where it can take you.



### **Communication with members**

QETA provides a short weekly newsletter with economic information, relevant links and an examination/class question. QETA also operates a Facebook group to facilitate sharing of resources and links. You are welcome to contribute as a way of helping us to help you 😊 We thank our wonderful Mr Newsletter for his continued work in this space!

### **Curriculum**

#### *Senior Secondary Year 11-12*

Queensland teachers have implemented the 2019 senior syllabuses, which represented a significant change for teachers and students due to the introduction of a subject specific external assessment. A [subject report](#) is produced for Economics, which supports teaching, learning and assessment. The suggestion from QCAA is to read the IA1 section when you are creating assessments and when marking, then IA2 when appropriate and so on.

Do not forget resources on the QCAA portal for *Using ISMGs* and *Making judgments*. These focus on analysing and evaluating criteria and are very useful to view before you mark and especially if you are new to Economics.

A draft refined syllabus for all subjects, including Economics, will be released in Term 2. QETA will be seeking feedback from teachers in a survey to ensure all teachers are involved in the revision. The Syllabus Revision project will be led by a small group within the Management Committee to avoid any conflict-of-interest issues.

#### *Curriculum change Junior Secondary Year 7-10*

QETA will be working with ACARA and QCAA to ensure your interests are represented, so please email us if you have comments or requests for resources. ([info@qeta.com.au](mailto:info@qeta.com.au) Subject line EcoBus 7-10)

Resources from QCAA are located here. [Link](#)

### **Finance update**

The financial position of QETA remains extremely strong and no change to the balances in the Term Deposits held. Memberships are currently in the process of being renewed from last year, and newsletter access will be removed for non-financial members at the end of Term 1.

### **Concluding message**

On behalf of the QETA Management Committee, we thank you for your continued support. We hope we are providing information and resources to support your important endeavour of educating Queensland students with a critical knowledge of data and economic concepts. This will improve their economic literacy and future management roles in whatever their chosen careers.

I also thank the Management Committee, for their wonderful work as volunteers. Please contact me or any member of the Management Committee if you have suggestions or feedback – we welcome your comments.

Christine