



From the President

Katerina Stojanovski

It is with immense excitement that I commence my first year as President of the GTANSW & ACT. I am fortunate to be supported by a committed team of Geographers all working together to support Geography teachers in NSW and ACT.

The GTA Team for 2023 are:

President

Katerina Stojanovski

Vice President (Immediate Past President)

Dr Susan Caldiss

Vice President and Editor

Lorraine Chaffer

Vice President and Minutes Secretary

Rebecca Sutcliffe

Honorary Treasurer and Public Officer

Dr Grant Kleeman

ACT Representative/ Councillor

Michael Da Roza

Councillors

Stephanie Boden

Kieran Bonin

Drew Collins

James Harte

Christopher Jenkins

John Lewis

Alexandra Pentz

Martin Pluss

Co-opted

Amy Freshwater

Ben Terrell

Stephanie Vardas

Welcome to new Councillors, Ben Terrell and Stephanie Vardas, your contribution to Council initiatives throughout this year will be greatly appreciated.

Thank you to councillors stepping away from GTA in 2023 for their generous contribution to the work of the association over many years: Karen Bowden, Keith Hopkins, Grace Larobina, David Latimer, Sharon McLean, Katherine Simpson, Alex Warnock. We wish you all the very best in the future. Your consistent effort and work in projects including conferences, the Geography Bulletin, competitions and webinars has made a big difference to geography education in NSW & ACT.

I hope you enjoy reading through the various articles and teaching resources in Edition 1. The resources

for Literacy, Numeracy and Spatial Technology will be extremely useful in the geography classroom.

Our program for 2023 is underway. The "Unpacking the 2022 HSC Exam" will be held in Term 1. The two online events will be held on Tuesday 28 February, 4.00 – 5.30pm and Wednesday 8 March, 4.00 – 5.30pm. The accompanying NESAs accredited anytime online PD opened on Wednesday 1 February. Thank you to James Harte and the e-learning team for the development, implementation and administration of this event.

We look forward to our Stage 6 Conference on Friday 5 & Saturday 6 May which will be an in-person event to support the recent release of the NESAs 2022 Stage 6 Geography syllabus. GTA is preparing to support teachers through this change in preparation for the implementation of the new syllabus in 2024. Further details about the conference will be emailed to members with a registration link and posted on our website, Facebook page and HSC group as soon as details are finalised. The conference programs will comprise a mix of unpacking each Focus Area of the syllabus supported by expert speakers, and opportunities to share, discuss and collaborate with peers on ideas and resources. Thank you to Lorraine Chaffer for leading the conference organisation. It will be a fabulous event.

Martin Pluss received Life Membership to GTA NSW & ACT at the AGM in recognition for his significant contribution and active service to the GTA NSW & ACT and geography education over many years. Thank you Martin for the many years of service to the GTA and for your efforts in advancing geography education.

Judging of the Young Geographer Competition is almost completed and winners will be notified during Term 1. I would like to extend my thank you to all students who were entered into the competition, the standard has been excellent and GTA were very pleased to receive entries from primary school students in 2022.

GTA are awaiting the release of a Draft Geography Syllabus for 7–10 for feedback. GTA members will be consulted during this process.

I wish everyone a smooth start to 2023 and I look forward to meeting you in person at our Stage 6 Geography conference this year.



Geography Teachers Association of NSW & ACT

STAGE 6 GEOGRAPHY CONFERENCE *PLAN EARLY, PLAN WELL, PLAN TOGETHER*

Friday 5 May, 8.30am – 4.00pm & Saturday 6 May, 9.00am – 4.00 pm
Aerial Function Centre, UTS, Sydney

This conference is designed to support the implementation of the NESA Geography 11–12 Syllabus released in late November 2022.

Link <https://curriculum.nsw.edu.au/learning-areas/hsie/geography-11-12-2022>

Each day will consist of THREE sessions. Each session will include:

- analysis and insights for each content Focus Area (Friday Year 11, Saturday Year 12)
- expert speaker(s) following each content focus area analysis
- group round table discussions to share and record ideas, resources, experiences, and opportunities and planning, programming, and implementation in your school.

A support team comprising GTA councillors, fieldwork providers and spatial technology experts will work with groups to discuss ideas, resources, and opportunities for the integration of fieldwork and spatial technologies.

NOTE: Teachers wanting to discuss particular programs can visit fieldwork and spatial technology exhibitor tables during breaks to discuss specific programs and support.

Exhibitors: Guest fieldwork and spatial technology providers and conference sponsors.

Confirmed speakers

- Professor Richard Kingsford, UNSW
- Simon Kuestenmacher, The Demographics Group
- Catherine Kerr, Office of Energy & Climate Change, NSW Treasury
- Minderoo Foundation, Fire and Flood Resilience
- Alex Webb, Marine Stewardship Council Australia
- Karen Davids, Circular Economy Consultant. MRA
- Alison Jose, Sustainable Textile Supply Chain / Circular Centre Pty Ltd
- Andrew Toovey, Mount Annan Christian College; UNSW

Cost

Members \$300 / day; \$600 2 days plus GST
Non-members \$350 / \$700 plus GST.

Members Earlybird \$550 both days – February only
Pre-service teachers \$120 per day plus GST.

Registration is available for 1 or 2 days. *Both days are recommended as a wholistic approach to Stage 6 will be taken across both days.

NOTE: Detailed program will be available mid-February when all presenters are confirmed.
Save the Date – Registration opens soon