



Don Biddle Award citation for: Leonie Brown

Leonie Brown has served the Victorian and Australian geography teaching community with dedication and distinction for over twenty-five years. Her long-standing commitment to the Geography Teachers' Association of Victoria (GTAV) is evidenced by the fact that Leonie has served on the GTAV Committee for twenty-two years. Since commencing as a committee member in 1989, she has held the role of co-President in 2008 and also as Vice President between 2002 – 2007, and again between 2010 – 2014.

Leonie has represented the Geography Teachers' Association of Victoria on the national body, the Australian Geography Teachers' Association (AGTA), where she has served as a Board member for over a decade. Most recently she has held the role of AGTA Treasurer (2014 – 2016) which has involved a considerable amount of personal time liaising with the bookkeeper located interstate. At both state and national levels, Leonie's devoted and productive contribution has been an asset to both GTAV and AGTA.

GTAV has also benefitted substantially from Leonie's teaching expertise. She has been an innovative teacher, leading the way with strategies about assessment and curriculum implementation, particularly at the senior secondary levels. Leonie has had a major impact on geography education in Victoria through her involvement with the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority (VCAA), where she has been a Geography assessor and examiner for over two decades. She has also been involved with the examination setting panel during this time. A further, significant contribution by Leonie has been her endeavours to improve the profile and rigour of the senior secondary Geography curriculum from the time of its initial development of the VCE course and through all the reviews since 1990. Her willingness to provide advice and share her expertise with colleagues across Victoria has been invaluable.

For many years, Leonie has presented workshops at the AGTA and GTAV conferences, providing sample activities and model assessment items for colleagues. She has been a willing mentor for pre-service and early career teachers, nurturing the development of their teaching skills and encouraging them in their professional journey. Leonie has a long-standing interest in expanding student and teacher understanding about the Asia region which is now one of the cross-curriculum priorities in the subjects of the Australian Curriculum suite. She has helped the Asia Education community to develop an understanding of Geography through leading a series of engaging student and teacher field-trips to this region.

Leonie is a highly engaged, enthusiastic and well-respected teacher and member of the Geography education community in both Victoria and across Australia. She is a worthy recipient of the prestigious *2017 Don Biddle Award*.



Don Biddle Award citation for: Malcolm McInerney

Malcolm McInerney is passionate in his belief that a quality geographical education is critical for a relevant and balanced school curriculum. In advancing this commitment Malcolm and has been heavily involved in the development, teaching and promotion of the learning area for many years.

Malcolm graduated with a Bachelor of Arts from Adelaide University in 1975, majoring in Geography and History. He subsequently completed a Graduate Diploma of Teaching at the Adelaide Teachers College.

Malcolm's professional experience includes being a Humanities coordinator in South Australian secondary schools since 1982; President of Geography Teachers' Association of South Australia (GTASA) between 2004 - 2007; the Chair of Australian Geography Teachers Association (AGTA) from 2008–2013; the Immediate Past Chair of the Australian Geography Teachers Association from 2014 - 2016; and the founder and President of the Australian Alliance of Associations in Education (AAAE) from 2012 until the present time.

Malcolm's influence in geographical education has also radiated outside the classroom and school-based context. His reputation as a state and national expert geography educator has been evidenced through his selection to sit on the ACARA Advisory Panel for Geography from 2009– 2013; being the Executive Director of the Education Services Australia (ESA) GeogSpace project, an online resource designed to support *Australian Curriculum: Geography*; and twice fulfilling the role of Humanities And Social Sciences Curriculum Manager for the South Australian Department for Education and Child Development (DECD) between 2007– 2011 and then again from 2015–2016. Malcolm was invited to be a member of the AITSL Teaching Expert Standing Committee in 2016, a position he still retains in 2017; and he has been a Board member of The Council for Education Associations in South Australia (CEASA) from 2010 until the present time, currently serving as the CEASA Vice President.

While employed by the South Australian Department of Education and Child Development, Malcolm held the positions of: DECD Teaching and Learning Services: Curriculum Manager for Society and Environment, History, Geography and Civics and Citizenship (2007–2011); DECD Teaching and Learning Services: Curriculum Manager for HASS (Humanities and Social Sciences) Projects and Consultation (2015); DECD Manager for HASS Projects (including the Premier's ANZAC Spirit School Prize; DECD Teaching and Learning Services: A/Manager for ACARA Policy and Liaison (2015); Chair of DECD Advisory Committees for Geography and History (2010-2011); and Consultant for the development of the DECD resources for the teaching of the *Australian Curriculum: Geography*.

Malcolm's expertise in spatial technologies is internationally acknowledged. He has been a strong advocate for the integration of Geographical Information Systems (GIS) into the Geography curriculum of Australian schools. He was a member of the National Spatial Industry Education Advisory Committee in Canberra from 2003-2014 and was a recipient of the Spatial Industry National Teacher Award (Spatial Science and Surveyors Institute of Australia - SSSI) in 2003. One of Malcolm's significant GIS publications include: McInerney, M. (2006) The implementation of Spatial Technologies in Australian Schools 1996–2005, *International Research in Geographical and Environmental Education*, 15(2).

Malcolm has numerous publications including journal articles, textbooks, online resources and interactive CD/DVD resources which are used in over 2000 schools across Australia and internationally. Some examples of his publications include McInerney, M. (2006), *Geography: The South Australian Experience. International Research in Geographical and Environmental Education* 15(3); being coordinating author for a national textbook published by Cambridge University Press, *Years 7-9 Humanities and Social Sciences* (2014); and a series of inter-active CD/DVD teaching resources for the teaching of Foundation to Year 12 Geography, History and Civics and Citizenship (Windows to the Past, GIS in the SOSE Classroom, GIS in the science classroom, Using GIS in History, Using technology in the SOSE classroom' and Exploring 21st Century Geography, Being a Citizen and Thinking Geographically).

Malcolm's contribution to Geography and education more generally has been acknowledged via the following awards: The *D. D. Harris Award* for contribution to Geographical Education in South Australia (2000); a *National Excellence in Teaching Award* (2002); an *Excellence in Schooling Award* from the Australian Government (2006); a *Churchill Fellowship* from the Winston Churchill Memorial Trust (2007); the *Chartered Geographer Award* from the Royal Geographical Society of the United Kingdom (2009); a *Teacher Supporting Teachers Award* from the Council for Education Associations of South Australia (2015); and most recently *Meritorious Contribution to the Profession Award* from the Australian Professional Teachers Association (2016).

After many years of exemplary service, Malcolm recently completed his long tenure as an AGTA Director. During his time as Chair and the period during which he served as Immediate Past Chair, Malcolm made an outstanding contribution to the Association and geographical education more generally. It is by no means an understatement to state that under Malcolm's leadership the Association achieved a new level of authority. The decisive role AGTA played in the development and implementation of the *Australian Curriculum: Geography* is a mark of Malcolm's leadership as is the enhanced status and effectiveness of the Association as a representative body. He has also contributed to AGTA's emergence as a provider of professional learning and the supplier of quality educational resources.

Malcolm has made an outstanding contribution to geography education, and is a very worthy recipient of the *2017 Don Biddle Award*, AGTA's highest honour.



Don Biddle Award citation for: Gregory Way

Gregory Way is one of the most experienced and highly regarded geography teachers in South Australia. This has been evidenced through his willingness to share resources, assist with ideas and provide feedback to colleagues about their marking of student tasks. He has made sustained and crucial contributions to all professional learning events and conferences organised by the Geography Teachers' Association of South Australia (GTASA) and regularly submitted articles to the GTASA journal.

Gregory has willingly mentored many geography teachers which is reflective of his profile and recognised expertise from his continued involvement in the organisation of the Association state conferences and presentation of workshops at state and national levels. He has always maintained a focus on those teachers who are new to the profession and the teaching of Geography.

In South Australia, Gregory has been a leader and role model for teachers in the use of spatial technologies and geographical information systems (GIS). He has embedded GIS tasks and skill activities in Geography across Years 8 – 12 at his current school and willingly assists colleagues across the South Australian and Northern Territory geography teaching network. At the 2011 AGTA Conference, Gregory was instrumental in designing and organising a workshop based on connecting GIS and golf. In 2009, Gregory was nominated for a DD Harris Award in recognition of his innovative use of GIS and contribution to geography teaching in schools.

As President of the Geographical Teachers' Association of South Australia between 2012 – 2015, he was invited to speak to the pre-service teachers in the Bachelor of Education and Diploma of Education Geography Curriculum and Methodology courses at Adelaide University. As part of these sessions, Gregory was a clear advocate of the AGTA resource GeogSpace, and proactive in promoting the benefits of membership to professional associations such as GTASA whilst also explaining the nexus between GTASA and AGTA. This has resulted in an increased number of graduate teachers choosing to join GTASA compared to previous years and is indicative of the influence Gregory has within geographical education in South Australia.

Gregory was involved in the provision of feedback to ACARA about the development of the *Australian Curriculum: Geography* and more recently to the SACE Board about the new senior secondary curriculum. He has always promoted the value of geography to student learning and has worked hard to ensure this subject retains its vital place in the curriculum.

Over the years, Gregory has been incredibly supportive of geography teachers at all stages of their career. He thinks deeply about educational concerns raised by his colleagues and always expresses his views in a calm and considered manner. He has been a long-term and active member of the South Australian geography education community and in recent years willingly gave up his time to work on AGTA business.

Gregory is a generous and thoughtful educator who is held in high-esteem. He is a worthy recipient of the prestigious *2017 Don Biddle Award*.