



The English Teachers
Association of Queensland Inc.

Providing professional support
and advocacy for English teachers



Sam Power Biennial Award

Introduction

The Sam Power Biennial Award for Excellence in Literacy Education is funded by the family of the late Sam Power and hosted by the Darling Downs Regional Group of ACE. At the time of her death Sam was a valuable member of the Darling Downs ACE Committee and an advocate of boys' literacy. This is a Queensland award developed by the Australian College of Educators (ACE), in association with the English teachers Association of Queensland (ETAQ) and the Australian Literacy Educators' Association (ALEA).

Award

The award consists of: \$500 in cash; a certificate acknowledging the continuous professional learning of the award recipient, one year membership to ACE and one year membership to each of ETAQ and ALEA.

Eligibility

This award is open to an individual or a team of educators of English and/or Literacy involved in any education setting in Queensland. Currently enrolled students or researchers in this area are also eligible. Applicants who undertake projects in the area of boys in literacy are particularly encouraged to apply.

Nominations

Nomination may take the following forms:

- Self-nomination; or
- Nomination by principal, supervisor or colleague.

Please note that all nominations must be supported by at least one professional referee who should be named on the Nomination Form. The Nomination Form can be downloaded from the ACE website – www.austcolled.com.au – completed nominations are to be emailed to ace@austcolled.com.au

Criteria for Selection of Award

Evidence of:

1. Broad and relevant knowledge of teaching, learning and assessment of English and/or Literacy, together with significant examples demonstrating the nominee's experience;
2. Creating challenging learning environments based on current practice and research together with evidence of student learning; and
3. Commitment to collegiality within the relevant institution and wider educational community to improve the quality and effectiveness of English and/or literacy education.

Process and Selection Panel

Nomination involves completion of the online template inclusive of the nominee and referee details and a statement in acknowledgement of the Criteria for Selection of Award (see above). The statement should be no more than two A4 pages in total.

A selection panel, comprising representatives from ACE and from ETAQ and ALEA, will judge the nominations according to the criteria. A member of the panel will contact nominated referees.

Relevant dates

- Nominations are due by **8 September 2018**.
- The Award presentation will be held in conjunction with the Biennial Sam Power Oration to be held 18 October 2018 in Toowoomba.

Further Information

Please contact:

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Nominations to be forwarded to: ace@austcolled.com.au

Sam Power



Sandra (Sam) Power was born in Mackay in 1962. She attended primary school in Mackay and Moranbah, and from Year 7 was a boarder at Rockhampton Girls' Grammar school where she excelled in rowing and swimming. After leaving school, Sam attended James Cook University in Townsville where she graduated in Arts and Education.

After graduating, Sam taught at Thuringowa High School and became Head of English at Ignatius Park College (an all boys school) in Townsville, before moving to Toowoomba in 1996. In Toowoomba she immersed herself in her research interests in boys and education, and in particular, boys and literacy achievement. She made a substantial professional contribution and formed long-lasting friendships at the University of Southern Queensland where she worked part time, as well as at James Cook University where she enrolled in post-graduate studies under the supervision of Nola Alloway and the late Pam Gilbert.

Throughout her career Sam Power was an enthusiastic advocate for English teaching and was influential in the professional development of many teachers through her membership of, and active commitment to ETAQ. In this role, she presented at numerous workshops, supported committees and projects and worked tirelessly to promote the Association and the profession to which she belonged. In 2002, Sam received ETAQ's most prestigious award, The Peter Botsman Award, which recognised her achievements in, and dedication to the practice, promotion and development of quality English education in Queensland

Sam also made substantial contribution to the Toowoomba Education Centre, where she worked part time, as well as through her committed involvement in the ALEA/AATE and the Darling Downs Regional Group of the Australian College of Educators. For a time Sam acted as the ALEA State Director for Queensland, with enthusiasm, passion and dedication. She conducted workshops and seminars for diverse audiences, locally, statewide and nationally. Especially, she contributed wisely and influentially to the ALEA/AATE STELLA project.

Her thesis, related to an investigation of discourses that influence boys' reading, was upgraded to a PhD in 2000 under supervisors Pam Gilbert and Nola Alloway at JCU. It was around this time that Sam began sharing her knowledge of English teaching in general and boys' reading in particular with other educators. In Toowoomba, she held workshops with English teachers at St. Mary's College and Harristown State High School with the aim of professionalising their approach to literacy based around the Four Resources model. She was also employed by the Toowoomba Education Centre as coordinator of a DEST-funded project 'Networking to Learn'. The local version of this research project was 'Partnerships for on-line literacy', which examined computer literacy in Years 5/6 students from a Toowoomba primary school.

Sam is remembered for her passion for teaching; her dedication to research; her drive to empower all learners; her love of family; her informed contributions to National Council discussions; and her willingness to listen to others' perspectives.

Sam is survived by her husband, Dr Geoff Power, and son, Jack.