



STAV 2021 - 2022 Annual Report

President's Report

Science Teachers' Association of Victoria Inc

ABN 59 004 145 329

STAV Annual Report

1 July 2021 – 30 June 2022

Since 1943, The Science Teachers Association of Victoria (STAV) has been hearing and amplifying the voices of members to advise and influence the science education sector. This important work is intended to inspire the public to make informed decisions affecting state and national policy about Science related issues. As professionals, STAV members work in partnership with governments, schools, industry and community leaders to enact opportunities for future-focused science education. STAV's focus includes but is not limited to, women in STEM, sustainability education and respect for First Nation knowledge and science practices.

STAV's Purpose

The Science Teachers Association of Victoria (STAV) advances science education through offering professional learning opportunities for science educators to engage students and the wider community in the real-life applications of science.

STAV's Vision

A community that demonstrates its passion for science and science education and thrives on innovation and renewal.

STAV's Values

Knowledge, Integrity, Collaboration, Responsiveness, Innovation, Conviction, Culture of Enquiry.

STAV recognises that the drive to foster, engage and stimulate students of science for real world application requires a continuing development of both science and scientific literacy across the community. This includes building students' interest and application of science to contribute sustainable solutions to problems which require a deep understanding of the natural world. STAV recognises the need to be adaptive and responsive to the needs of current and future members, as well as our key stakeholders in science education and government bodies.

Emerging from the global pandemic, students and educators have experienced a challenging few years. As new expectations emerge with an intensifying speed of change, STAV is committed to leading change by driving innovative processes and offerings for its members and the wider science education sector.

STAV is a not-for-profit member association governed by a voluntary Council elected by the STAV membership and supported by paid staff. As well as providing services of direct benefit to members, STAV has had a wider interest in promoting science education and public understanding of science in Victoria since its foundation.



Science Victoria was established in 2004, to manage activities conducted by STAV not directly related to members, as well as to expand the activities that would broadly promote science education. The main current operations of Science Victoria are the conduct of a professional development program. STAV is the sole member of Science Victoria, and all appointments to the Board of Science Victoria are nominees of the Association. The Board of Directors is accountable to the Members for the governance, management and control of the activities, business and affairs of the company.

This report will deal with aspects of Science Victoria's activities but primarily those of STAV itself. All activities conducted throughout the financial year are aligned with both the 2016 – 2020 STAV Strategic Plan and recommendations of the Interim Business Process Review 2021.

STAV Council

STAV is governed by a voluntary council. This Council is an executive body responsible for policy making and managing the business of the Association. It receives, considers and acts on reports from officers and committees. STAV Council meets at least four times a year as well as via electronic communication. Given government restrictions due to COVID-19 as well as changing community expectations around meetings and travel, Council and Executive meetings have been conducted in a largely hybrid format and have well exceeded four in number.

At the end of the reported period, STAV Council membership was as follows: Alexandra Abela, President (Penleigh and Essendon Grammar School), Dale Carroll (The Geelong College), Sarah-Jane Chuck (Kilbreda College), Jodie Donaghey (Holy Rosary School), Dr Rod Fawns (STAV Honorary Life Member), Amanda Peters, Vice President (Deakin University), Denise Raven (Wesley College), Dr. Robert Roe, Honorary Treasurer (STAV Honorary Life Member), Dr. Emily Rochette, Vice President (University of Melbourne), Michael Rosenbrock (Wodonga Senior Secondary College), and Dr. Peta White, Honorary Secretary (Deakin University).

In 2021, we farewelled from STAV Council, Dr. Fiona Trapani (Penola Catholic College), Georgia Lumb (Canterbury Girls' Secondary College), and Leonie Lang (STS Management, retired teacher). In this report I wish to formally thank Fiona, Georgia and Leonie for their dedicated service to STAV as members of Council. They all remain active STAV members and continue to contribute to STAV's activities in highly significant ways. Leonie remains a longstanding advocate for the Science Talent Search and is a member of the Science Talent Search Management Committee; and Fiona remains co-chair of the STAV Journals Editorial Committee and Senior Editor of *LabTalk*.

STAV's working parties and focus groups

A subject association with active, engaged members is a healthy and vibrant one. A number of focus areas have been identified by STAV Council as being core to STAV's purpose and vision. Working parties or 'focus groups' have been established and populated to commence or continue work in priority areas. Whilst STAV Council oversees governance of the Association, STAV's working parties are seen as enabling much greater engagement from and with the STAV community, not only in support of STAV Council, but more broadly in the advancement of science education across the state of Victoria.



STAV's working parties continue to thrive in their support of science educators and science education, all the while boldly challenging the status quo. Chaired by STAV Councillors and STAV Life Members, the focus areas include: *Regional and Rural Engagement (Chair: Vacant)*; *Beginning Science Teachers (Chair: Emily Rochette)*; *STAV History (Chairs: Rod Fawns & Richard Gunstone)*; *Laboratory Technicians (Chair: Dale Carroll)*; *Professional Learning & Innovation (Chair: Vacant)*; *Science Education Research (Chair: Peta White)*.

In this report, I make note of two working parties who have made significant inroads in recent times. The STAV Beginning Science Teachers Working Party has broadened its remit to include greater numbers of social activities for its members. In 2021 as a result of a successful partnership with Museums Victoria, members of our network took part in an exclusive excursion to the *Triceratops* exhibition and *Dynamic Earth* exhibition. Emily Rochette led each of the tours and materials, produced for secondary students, were supplied by the Museum staff, to participants. Out of the success of this and other engagement strategies, there are plans to conduct more such events for our preservice and early careers teachers.

Led by STAV Councillor, Dr Peta White, the Science Education Research Working Party has been successful in obtaining membership by representatives from all universities responsible for pre-service teacher training in Victoria. To our knowledge, this is unique and for that reason, it is a great source of pride. STAV is committed to supporting students, teachers, schools and the wider sector in promoting evidence based best practice and, and in doing so provides science teachers across the state with access to research participation and learning opportunities through this group. A key aspect of the working party's remit is to put forward research projects to STAV members in which they may choose to participate. Research findings have been published through a variety of STAV's channels, most notably its Journals.

Membership of STAV's working parties is open to all STAV Individual and Honorary Members and I encourage you to consider taking up this unique, enriching opportunity.

On behalf of STAV's membership, I take this opportunity and this forum to extend my thanks to all chairs of STAV's working parties for their leadership, expertise and energy in this space.

STAV's Staff

As a result of the Victorian state government's COVID-19 restrictions, the STAV Business Centre staff worked both on site at STAV House and remotely (from home) in 2021 and were supportive of and adept at transitioning back to working fully onsite with the easing of restrictions. I extend my thanks to all STAV employees for making the transition between remote and onsite work so seamlessly, on multiple occasions.

In the reported period, STAV has experienced some staffing changes due to retirements, resignations and resultant recruitment processes arising out of STAV's restructure.

In January 2022, Liz Billings was appointed to the role of STAV's Interim Executive Manager. Liz has vast experience in successfully managing organisational change and transition, and also in service delivery innovation. Since commencing in this newly created role, Liz has supported the governing bodies of STAV and Science Victoria to review and implement a new Strategic Plan that actively supports our vision, purpose and values. She has led the operational staff out of the STAV Business Centre (STAV HQ) in Coburg and has ensured that we continue to provide accessible and quality products and services to our members and key stakeholders. We are very excited to have Liz lead the operations team, as STAV strives to successfully scale up its ability to



support its members and provide them with opportunities for personal and professional growth. Liz has been at the forefront of the changes evident in 2022 and we thank her for her exceptional work and standards.

After 20 years of dedicated service to STAV, Anne Heard (Membership Officer) announced her retirement and was farewelled in July 2022. Our best wishes and thanks go to Anne for her commitment to and passion for her role, and her loyalty and friendship to many. Leanne Waller (Events Coordinator) completed her contract in March 2022, Kelly Jackson (Publications Officer) resigned in July 2022 to take up a new role in Koala conservation, and Collette Whittaker resigned (Administration Officer) resigned in September 2022.

On behalf of STAV Council and the Board of Science Victoria, I am grateful to all of the above staff for their significant contributions to the organisation, be it spanning a short or extended period of time.

Led by Liz Billings (Executive Manager), the current STAV staff are: Anna Bejanoff (Administration Officer), Sue Elliott (Accountant / Bookkeeper), Terrie Said (Events Coordinator), Annie Stevens (Accountant, Business Advisor) and Janice Teng (STS Program Officer).

Financial Management

In this financial year ending 30 June 2022, STAV reported a deficit of \$73,484. In 2021, STAV reported a surplus of \$39,092. In 2020, the deficit was \$35,669.

It is acknowledged that COVID-19 has impacted the operations, including the inability to hold some face-to-face events. I refer you to the STAV Treasurer's Report, the Financial Statements and Auditor's report for greater detail and analysis.

Business Process Review

In October 2020 Science Victoria and its sole member, The Science Teachers' Association of Victoria (STAV) Inc., jointly commissioned a review of the business process of both organisations to recommend possible areas of improvement. An interim report was issued by *Profits & Beyond Pty Ltd* on 15 March 2021. The scope included conducting a review of processes and systems across Science Victoria and STAV operations and to report on opportunities for improvement in process efficiency, economy and effectiveness. At the time of the interim review being handed down, the recommendations sat across four business activities:

- Science Teachers Association of Victoria Inc. (STAV)
- Science Victoria (Science Vic)
- STAV Publishing
- Science Talent Search (STS)

The report examined where STAV and Science Victoria would be able to make improvements in process efficiency, economy and effectiveness across their businesses. Opportunities for improvements were identified in the areas of Organisational Structure, Organisational Performance and Organisational Resources. In addition, the relationship between STAV and Science Victoria had been typically detached for many years; hence clarification of the relationship between SV and STAV was recognised as being central to ensuring the ongoing success of the businesses; the approach being one of renewal and growth.



The interim report made fourteen recommendations, on which STAV Council and the Board of Science Victoria each voted independently to unanimously accept.

In the period upon which we report here, the restructure of the operational entities bringing two of the Science Victoria businesses (STAV Publishing and Science Talent Search) back under the STAV umbrella, has been completed. In addition, best practice budgeting processes have adopted specific to our organisations' needs, a new chart of accounts for STAV and SV have each been created, the STAV website has continued to undergo redevelopment, and a much-needed technology upgrade has been initiated and is well underway. Several other streamlining measures around the business activities have been commenced, including staffing restructures, governance reviews, and a new Strategic Plan developed for launch at this AGM.

STAV Council and SV Board continue to actively monitor the progress of the implementation of the recommendations of the review. It is anticipated that come next year's Annual Report, the following recommendations will be well progressed. STAV Council and SV Board are currently pursuing further advice in relation to:

Recommendation 1: It is recommended that a full read of the STAV Constitution be done by a law firm, pro bono, if possible, with a view to simplification without diluting the overall intent of the present Constitution. It is further recommended that no additional changes to individual clauses be made until the legal read occurs.

Recommendation 2: It is highly recommended that STAV remains the only member of Science Vic. Furthermore, if STAV were to undergo a pro bono legal read of its Constitution, it would be recommended that be done in conjunction with the same for Science Vic, particularly given that STAV is its only member. This would also allow some of the itemised suggestions listed in the full report, to be considered for amendment, inclusion or otherwise.

To date, I am pleased to report that STAV Council is satisfied of significant gains and improvements in efficiencies, effectiveness and economy of processes and systems in the areas of finances and governance arising out of the BPR.

STAV's Activities

STAV's activities can be broadly summarised as follows:

Membership services: STAV is the membership association of Victoria's Science teachers and provides members opportunities to network with other like-minded members, receive and exchange the latest news in science education, contribute to discussions about Science and Science education and to actively support and engage in the sector more broadly. Through STAV, teachers are connected with industry, government, academic institutions and the wider community. STAV is a founding member of the Australian Teachers Association (ASTA).

Professional learning: STAV delivers state and regional conferences, workshops and other professional learning opportunities, in line with the Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership professional standards, for preservice, primary and secondary teachers and tertiary educators and education researchers. A range of conference, workshop and short course formats increases access and responds to current need.



During the period addressed by this report, COVID-19 and the associated state government restrictions and lockdowns adversely impacted STAV's operations. This included the inability to hold a significant number of face-to-face events, reduced corporate or individual donations and reduced volunteer activities, all of which impacted heavily on STAV's conferences and workshops. Despite the challenges, the organisation, was able to advance its core purpose, with digital technology playing and continuing to play a critical role in helping us survive and rebuild out of the COVID-19 experience.

The following STAV activities were managed by Science Victoria in the reported period: STAVCON 2021 Online '*Science in situ: Sharing our practice, our research, our insights*' (Friday 26 November, 2021); VCE Biology & Environmental Science Conference Online '*Perspectives on Practice: Turning over a new leaf*' (Monday 14 February, 2022); VCE Chemistry Conference Online '*Perspectives on Practice: Sustainability Matters*' (Wednesday 16 February, 2022), VCE Physics Conference Online '*Perspectives on Practice: Harnessing innovation*' (Friday 18 February 2022); and the 'in person' STAV Psychology Teachers Workshop with excursion to ArtVo (Wednesday 26 April, 2022). All online sessions were recorded and made available to delegates for an extended period of time via the STAV Website.

We are pleased to report that from 7 July to 10 July 2024, STAV will host CONASTA 71, and we look forward to providing a national platform in Victoria in support of all those involved in science education throughout Australia. CONASTA is conference of the Australian Science Teachers Association (ASTA).

Publications, resources and tools: STAV produces two journals for members, LabTalk (for a secondary science educator audience) and Let's Find Out (for a primary science educator audience). A monthly newsletter is produced, as well as regular communication to members and stakeholders regarding opportunities, announcements, promotions and other relevant content. A range of resources and tools are produced for school-based science educators, pre-service teachers and the education sector more broadly. STAV also prints Trial Exams for VCE Biology, Chemistry, Psychology and Physics teachers and students, and produces digital content and other practical resources.

Science Talent Search: The Science Talent Search (STS) is an annual, school-based science competition open to all primary and secondary students in Victoria. Science Talent Search fits closely with the Victorian Curriculum philosophy of teaching and learning. There is close alignment between many STS sections and the Victorian and Australian Curricula learning areas, strands and sub strands. The Competition has been running since 1952 and, on average, receives over 2,500 entries from over 200 participating schools, supported by over 300 volunteers and teachers. A more extensive account is provided later in this report.

STAV Journals Editorial Committee

The STAV Journals Editorial Committee draws on the expertise of educators across the early childhood, primary, secondary and tertiary education sectors, and its role has been to build on advances in STAV's publications by sourcing, generating and reviewing high quality and diverse content for both *LabTalk* and *Let's Find Out*. The focus of the editorial committee is firmly on building on past successes whilst introducing strengthened processes for increasing the quality and diversity of STAV's journal content. Notably, in 2021 & 2022, innovations have included a move to peer reviewed articles in each edition.



In the reported period, the editorial committee was jointly chaired by Dr Fiona Trapani, Senior Editor of *LabTalk*, and Amanda Peters, Senior Editor of *Let's Find Out*. I take this opportunity to acknowledge Fiona and Amanda for their tireless work in the continued reinvigoration of STAV's Publications during their time as senior editors.

For their commitment, dedication and drive, I express my thanks to all other members of the editorial committee: Liz Billings (STAV Executive Manager), Dale Carroll (The Geelong College), Cristina Guarella (The University of Melbourne), Gary Simpson (Woodleigh School), Janice Teng (Science Talent Search Coordinator), Mahaelia Thavarajah (Quantum Victoria) and Peta White (Deakin University).

Additional STAV Publications and Publishing

STAV's monthly newsletter, CONTACT continued as an online publication, informing STAV members of professional learning opportunities and providing updates on conferences, workshops, events and resources. In addition, STAV's activities were published in the monthly newsletter of the Australian Science Teachers' Association (ASTA).

Teaching Science, the quarterly peer-reviewed Journal of ASTA, is available to STAV members through the STAV Member area of STAV's website in an online format. As an important side note, I wish to acknowledge Dr Fiona Trapani who sits on the Editorial Committee of *Teaching Science* as STAV's representative.

STAV Publishing Semester 1 and 2 Trial Exams were purchased by schools to be used by teachers in preparation of their students for the VCE Science Exams. In continued response to the convenience of remote access to resources, trial exams were available in electronic form and had pleasing uptake by schools.

STAV Member Community Facebook Group and Social Media

In the reported period and in response to Member feedback, STAV Council and its working parties continued to develop STAV's online presence to better support its members in connecting with each other. The members only Facebook group is a supportive professional learning community for Primary, Secondary, Tertiary educator and Laboratory Technician members. My thanks extend to STAV Councillor Fiona Trapani and STAV Individual Members Jacqueline Lupton and Michelle Lupton, for their commitment to growing and moderating this collegiate and dynamic group.

Challenging Stereotypes in STEM Project, STAV/DET

The Department of Education and Training (DET) and STAV entered into a Victorian Common Funding Agreement (VCFA) for the delivery of project entitled Challenging Stereotypes in STEM Project. The project commenced on signing of the VCFA in 2018, and was successfully acquitted in December 2021.

Throughout the course of the Agreement, STAV successfully planned and implemented activities attached to the DET grant and in spite of significant disruption due to COVID-19. Very encouraging outcomes were realised in meeting all deliverables, with a strong focus on challenging stereotypes and uncovering conscious and unconscious biases in Science and STEM. The benefits have been realised by an extensive and diverse audience across the sector and throughout Victoria.



Excellence in STEM Teaching Communities of Practice: A STAV project funded by the Toyota Community Trust

In February 2021, STAV was successful in obtaining funding from the Toyota Community Foundation Australia Pty Ltd to assist with an exciting new project. In brief, the program aimed to support STEM educators to strengthen their STEM teaching skills through engagement in a community of practice. As such, the program was designed by STAV and consultant Dr Robert Sbaglia to maximise participant collaboration through a blended model of professional development, involving both face-to-face and online learning. School leaders and classroom teachers of students in upper primary and the middle years were eligible to apply, with successful applicants in Toyota's target municipalities (Brimbank, Hobsons Bay, Maribyrnong, Melton, Moonee Valley and Wyndham) receiving funding support from the grant. Applications exceeded available places, with 27 schools (53 teachers) winning selection.

The core objectives of this STAV Project were to ensure that changes necessary to support effective STEM teaching were strategically implemented and resourced. Excitingly, this project developed and trialled an innovative, blended and targeted professional learning model designed to promote deep and sustained understandings of STEM pedagogies.

The face-to-face component of the program was delayed due to disruptions arising out of the pandemic; however, we were delighted to welcome all cohorts of participants to STAV House over three successive days in Term One, to take part in the in-person workshops led by Dr Rob Sbaglia (Monday 2, Tuesday 3, Wednesday 4 May, 2022). Throughout the action research phase of the project, resources were made available through STAV's online learning space, and critical to the success of the projects, multiple coaching sessions were conducted by Rob with individual teams to guide and encourage reflection.

STAV is grateful to the Toyota Community Trust for its funding to deliver this project. On Wednesday 26 October, the Showcase finale took place at the *Toyota Centre for Excellence* in Altona. We look forward to reporting on the outcomes of this initiative in the future in next year's Annual Report.

The Science Talent Search (STS)

The Science Talent Search (STS) has continued to attract wide interest and was ably conducted by volunteer committees with strong support from STS Coordinator Janice Teng and the STAV staff.

The BHP Foundation Science and Engineering Awards program was officially closed in August 2022. ASTA has resolved to conduct its own national competition and awards system, with the unanimous support of all member state and territory Science Teacher Associations.

The 2021 STS Exhibition and Presentation Day took place via Virtual Online Presentation Ceremonies personalised for each school with eligible winning bursary students on Monday 8 November. The 70th Science Talent Search adopted the theme, *'Food: Different by Design'*. In 2021, STS attracted over \$38,000 in bursaries and 2,999 student participants. On presentation day, it was inspiring to experience how this cohort of students had connected with science beyond the classroom. The quality of the projects was outstanding.



In 2021, 185 Major Bursary Awards, 366 Minor Bursary Awards were presented to students. I would like to congratulate all competing students and their passionate, dedicated teachers. A special thank-you must go to the STS Management and STS Committees, and to all the judges, sponsors and parents who supported this competition in 2021.

As already referenced, STS was one potential pathway to the BHP Foundation Science and Engineering Awards (BHPFSEA). The BHPFSEA and Indigenous STEM Awards represented a partnership between ASTA, the CSIRO and the BHP Foundation. STAV's congratulations extend to all student and teacher entrants across Australia in 2021; in particular, Holy Rosary School's Jodie Donaghey for winning Victoria's nomination as its Teacher Finalist. Jodie has shown exceptional talent in facilitating open investigations with her students to great success.

In 2022, the STS Management and Committee and the STS Coordinator Janice Teng have been very successful in returning to face-to-face judging at Parade College and Methodist Ladies' College; the 2022 theme was '**Glass: More than meets the eye**'.

In 2022, STS trialled moving five sections back to on-site face-to-face judging, incorporating the online electronic forms for judging, informed by gains and improvements that were an outcome of the necessity for pivoting to remote format in the last two years. We thank our venues for providing the space and capacity to use the facilities and Wi-Fi for the online judging forms.

Melbourne Graduate School of Education has again been of great support with teacher candidates in attendance to judge entries on Judging Day. We hope that they have gained inspiration for their future careers.

Below is a table summarising the overall number of student participants:

Overall numbers	2021
Total number of schools entering the competition	147
Total number of <u>students</u> in entire competition	2999
Total number of <u>entries</u> in entire competition	2140

Below is the student participation in the two categories that provide entry into the BHP Foundation Science and Engineering National Awards:

Experimental Research	Entries received: 389
	Total Student Participation 481 (331 Female, 149 Male & 1 Other)
Inventions/Engineering	Entries received: 29
	Total Student Participation 40 (15 Female and 25 Male)



Partnerships and Collaborations

STAV continues to contribute to state and national initiatives and collaborates with the following organisations: ArtVo, Australian Science Teachers' Association (ASTA), The Australian Academy of Science, Australia's Chief Scientist, Australian Catholic University, The Australian Curriculum and Assessment Authority (ACARA), Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership (AITSL), Australian Technological Sciences and Engineering (ATSE), The Chemical Education Association (CEA), Council of Professional Teaching Associations of Victoria (CPTAV), CSIRO Education, Charles Sturt University and the Wangaratta Regional Study Centre, Deakin University, Dognitive Therapy, Education Services Australia (ESA), Engineers Australia, DTAC (Digital Technology Advisory Committee Wangaratta), Federation University, La Trobe University, Monash University, Museums Victoria, The Royal Australian Chemical Institute (RACI), Rowe Scientific (BHP Billiton/CSIRO Student sponsorship), RMIT, Startup Shakeup, Swinburne University, The Toyota Community Trust, The Office of Victoria's Lead Scientist, The Victorian Curriculum Assessment Authority (VCAA), Vicphysics Teachers' Network Inc., The Victorian Department of Education and Training (DET), The Victorian Academy of Teaching and Leadership, The University of Melbourne.

[STAV's Strategic Plan 2022-2025](#)

In many respects, it has been an exciting time behind the scenes at STAV. In the reported period, STAV Councillors and Science Victoria Board members have engaged in the development of a new Strategic Plan for the next three-year period commencing 2023. The process has been inspiring and was successful in challenging our thinking every step of the way. For their input, insights and support, our sincere thanks go to Liz Billings (STAV Executive Manager), Cath Smith (*Changesmith Consulting*), Ilena Young (Managing Director of *Startup Shakeup*), and Dr Deb Hull, (Chair CPTAV and Executive Officer HTAV).

This has been an enriching and energising time for the organisation's leadership team as we reflect and envision and it is with great pleasure that we launch the plan today (see link above). Furthermore, we thank you, our membership, for its engagement and invaluable input into the process via membership surveys, interviews and other vehicles for providing feedback.

We invite you all to become a partner with our strategic vision for the next three years.

In summary and on reflection

It has been another remarkable period across the organisation. I remain in awe and admiration of the work of STAV's volunteers, most of whom are practicing or retired teachers. This is all the more impressive, given the significant challenges we have faced and continued to face as a profession in recent times due to the pandemic. It is STAV's volunteers, friends and champions who provide sustenance and the impetus for change to ensure STAV's sustainability and relevance.

To those who embody and enact STAV's Vision and Mission – its dedicated Councillors, working party members, many other volunteers, staff and members – I express my gratitude and best wishes. May we all continue to find in STAV and its people, a source of guidance, support and inspiration.



Vale Peter Fensham

In concluding this year's President's report, I offer my acknowledgment of the life and work of Professor Peter Fensham who passed away on 23 August 2021. Peter was formally STAV Patron from 1998-2000, he was appointed at Monash University to the first chair of Science Education in Australia in 1967, and was later made OA in recognition of his work in the new and emerging field of research-work for which he has been honoured world-wide. Peter's view is often quoted to me by STAV luminaries, that STAV ultimately stood in a uniquely important position to serve the changing needs and responsibilities of science teachers in Victoria as 'the interpreters of Science'. Members of STAV and STAV Council, past and present, recognize and will always honour Peter Fensham as one of the most important and persistent voices for reform of science education over the last 40 years. His vision of a democratic and socially responsible science education for all has inspired change in schools and universities throughout the world.

Vale Peter Fensham and thank you.

Alexandra Abela

STAV President