



SCIENCE TEACHERS ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA

STRATEGIC PLAN 2022-25

INTRODUCTION TO OUR STRATEGIC PLAN

The Science Teachers Association of Victoria (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, your Association is committed to leading change by driving innovative processes and offerings for its members and the wider science education sector.

We thank you for your support of the Science Teachers Association of Victoria and invite you to become a partner with our strategic vision for the next three years.

Alexandra Abela
President, Science Teachers
Association of Victoria

STAV STRATEGIC PLAN 2022-25

Since 1943, 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 women in STEM, sustainability education and respect for First Nation knowledge and science practices.

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.

VISION

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

VALUES

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

KEY ACTIONS BY 2025 WILL INCLUDE:

- Evolution of school, individual and organisational membership offerings, which will include reviews of STAV's publications, products and resources to ensure they are fit for purpose and in line with emerging member requirements.
- Delivery of innovative conferences (face to face and hybrid) and other relevant workshops.
- Expansion of leadership and professional development content.
- Consideration and review of opportunities via the Science Talent Search competition with National and International links.

KEY ACTIONS BY 2025 WILL INCLUDE:

- Development of a Charter to communicate STAV's values and ways of working
- Refreshment of STAV's governance structures and processes to deliver wise and future-oriented strategic leadership, good governance and accountability, ensuring financial and regulatory compliance and reporting aligned with the priorities of this strategic plan.
- Support for a productive and high-performance culture within the staff team and be an employer of choice. Implement structure and support for professional staff and volunteer Councillors and other member volunteers.
- Development of an ICT Roadmap and determine ongoing investment requirements to sustain ICT requirement and meeting future state e-commerce requirements.
- Infrastructure planning and implementation for the building at Munro St and consideration of this in line with strategic priorities and risk appetite.

DEVELOP

Develop the Science education sector through expansion of professional learning opportunities and resources that are responsive and relevant to emerging need.

TRANSFORM

Grow and transform STAV to achieve its ambitions and continue to deliver high quality membership services and content.



SUSTAIN

Ensure strong organisational governance, leadership and infrastructure to support the strategy and sustain STAV as an organisation.

ADVOCATE

Offer a voice to the needs of Science educators in the education ecosystem, to influence the education sector and the wider community.

KEY ACTIONS BY 2025 WILL INCLUDE:

- Development of growth strategy to secure diverse and sustainable resources from members, schools, government agencies, philanthropy and industry partners, to contribute to STAV's purpose and programs.
- Decision on the best mechanisms to deliver STAV's ambitions taking into account Science Victoria's assets, role and value-add.
- Development of an external communications and branding strategy to underpin communications with members, program delivery, stakeholder/ partner engagement and revenue development.
- Completion of membership research and stakeholder ecosystem review to deliver a refreshed membership and stakeholder engagement strategy.

KEY ACTIONS BY 2025 WILL INCLUDE:

- Strengthened policy advice and advocacy at the State and Federal level, including as a member of Australian Science Teachers Association (ASTA).
- Identification of advocacy priorities alongside members and stakeholders and delivery of strategic advocacy.
- Leadership of thought leadership opportunities for students, teachers and the wider Science community.
- Positioning and proactive engagement with key partners, governments, policy-makers and the wider community, to secure STAV's reputation as a leader in advancing Science education.

WHAT STAV DOES

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 in 1943.

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, production of educational publications and the organisation of student activities. STAV is the sole member of Science Victoria.

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.

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.

You are invited to get involved with STAV

- Pre-service teachers
- Secondary science educators
- Primary science educators
- Tertiary science educators
- Science education trainers and researchers
- School Laboratory Technicians
- Out-of-field teachers (secondary/primary)
- School leaders
- People who have retired from full-time science teaching
- Government agencies
- Philanthropic partners
- Industry partners

Become a member now at stav.org.au/about/membership



Science Teachers Association of Victoria
5 Munro St, Coburg VIC 3058
(03) 9385 3999
stav.org.au



STAV acknowledges the Traditional Owners of country and pays respect to the ongoing living cultures of First Peoples.