

1990s



Celebrating 50 years of a teacher registration authority in Queensland

Highlights

Board of Teacher Registration

The Board of Teacher Registration (BTR) was constituted on 6 February 1989 under the provisions of the *Education (Teacher Registration) Act 1988*.

The BTR replaced the Board of Teacher Education (BTE). It was responsible for the registration of teachers and responsible to the Minister for Education for the continuous review of teacher education in Queensland and the accreditation of Initial Teacher Education (ITE) programs for registration purposes.



Above: BTR Publications circa 1997.

The Education Highlights

Interim Guidelines on the Acceptability of Teacher Education Programs for Teacher Registration Purposes for use in 1990 accepted by the Board at its December 1989 meeting.

During 1990 the guidelines were revised and endorsed by the Board in December (1990). These guidelines were reviewed regularly during the 1990s.



Teacher Registration Requirements

To be registered to teach in Queensland you must graduate with an acceptable qualification, meet English proficiency requirements and show you are suitable to teach.

Suitability to teach requirements include a criminal history check, which was introduced in 1997. Registered teachers are legally bound to immediately tell the BTR if they are charged with an offence, and immediately advise the BTR of the outcome of the finalised charges.

The Police Commissioner must also notify the BTR if a teacher has been charged or convicted of a criminal offence if they reasonably believe the person is or was an approved teacher at the time of the alleged offence.



Above: Graeme Hall (Board member, BTR), Dr Marie Jansen (Assistant Director, BTR), Merline Muldoon (Chair, BTR) and Neville Fry (Director, BTR).

The Influencers

Below: Dr John Dwyer (Board member, BTR), Minister for Education, Hon. Paul Braddy and Merline Muldoon (Chair, BTR) at the launch of BTR Literacy Report 1991.



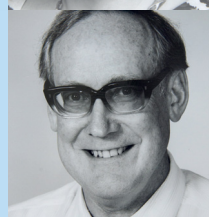
Director
Neville Fry
1979 – 1996

Chair of the Board
Dr John Dwyer
1996 – 2005

Chair of the Board
Merline Muldoon
1989 – 1996



Director
Dr Marie Jansen
1996 – 2002



The Board Outcomes

BTR established five working parties to advise on recommendations of *Project 21: Teachers for the Twenty-First Century* related to:

- selection of entry into teacher education
- the image of teaching as a profession
- implications of school curriculum and organisational change for teacher education
- the inservice Bachelor of Education program
- teaching experience in the preservice teacher education program.



Right: Historic meeting in New Zealand for Mutual Recognition.
Back row: Dr Marie Jansen (Assistant Director, Old BTR), Neville Fry (Director, Old BTR), Graeme Hall (Old BTR), David Mellen (TRB of SA), Peter Barlow (Director, TRB of NZ), and Wendy Hastings (Registrar, TRB of SA).
Front row: Merline Muldoon (Chair, Old BTR), Ian Leggat (Chair, TRB of NZ) and Carmel Kerin (Chair, TRB of SA).

Key Policy Changes

The *Mutual Recognition Act* is introduced federally requiring registered teachers from other states and territories to be recognised in Queensland.

Board finalises a Mutual Recognition agreement with SA Teachers' Registration Board.

Minister for Education endorses policy that all preservice teacher education courses should be of at least four years' duration.

The Australia-New Zealand Teacher Registration Forum is established.

BTR publishes first Code of Ethics for all Queensland teachers.

Proposals for new Queensland teachers, including graduate teachers applying for the first time, to undergo criminal checks before they could be registered, are announced.

All new applicants for teacher registration are now required to have four years' higher education study including at least two years' (equivalent) of professional studies.

The Board states its purpose as 'to enable self-governance of the teaching profession in the public interest by encouraging the highest professional standards and aspirations of teachers in Queensland schools'.

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QCT visits to regional teachers becomes a regular occurrence.

The Board notes that all universities have moved to four years of preservice education for secondary teachers and most are phasing out remaining three-year primary and early childhood courses.

67,958
Registered Teachers

The BTR initiates a Review of Teacher Registration and Teacher Education, called *A Fresh Look*.

The BTR launches its first website. The number of registered teachers is 77,118.

Other Education Developments



Photos courtesy of Queensland Department of Education - Education Views, Independent Schools Queensland, Queensland Catholic Education Commission and Queensland College of Teachers.

Principal partner



Supporting partner

