

# Meet ESAQ Committee 2011



## **Irene Tavutavu, President**

Irene joined ESAQ in 2001, sitting on the committee as an ordinary member until she became Vice President in 2002. As per AGM 17<sup>th</sup> April 2008, she is elected as President of ESAQ and she has sat in as secretary of the association and often represents ESAQ at multicultural events and meetings. Irene first became a part of the Fiji Ethnic School in 1994 as a student, and in 1999 she became coordinator. She attends all of the Learning and Development workshops coordinated by the LOTE Centre, assisted with translating and compiled the school's curriculum and are also actively involved in radio 4EB.

## **Myrla Prianes, Vice President**

Myrla is the Filipino Community Council of Queensland Ex-Officio; the current Coordinator of the Filipino-Australian Teachers Association of Queensland Inc Literacy & Culture Program and current Senior Experienced Teacher at Runcorn Heights State School, a wife, mother and grandmother. Her wish list is that all Year 12s from other ethnic schools be given the External Exams and if passed will be credited to their OP scores, thus giving them more successful job opportunities.



## **Sri Jeyanthirakumar, Treasurer**

Sri was born in Sri Lanka and grew up there. He's been living in Australia since 1988. He lived in Sydney for 15 years before moved to Brisbane.

Sri has been involved in many charity works and have helped many organisations. He started doing community work when he was just 17 years of age, back at his home country. "Helping the community is a spirit of my life", he said.

He is also a part of the 4EB ethnic radio, broadcasting the community with new and exciting programs. Sri is a part of the Brisbane Tamil School with a success of being the cultural coordinator, and the principle of Brisbane Tamil School for 3 years. He is a supporter of the cancer council and partaken part in other charity work.

He is currently work at Pool rite a company for manufacturing pool products for 23 years. He is a quality assurance officer and enjoy working there.



## **Heidi Englhofer, Committee Member**

Heidi has been with the Brisbane German Language School since 1998. She is passionate about teaching the language and passing on the culture.

The school has adult classes - from beginner to conversation - since 2003

Heidi has also written the history of Brisbane German Language school which was published by ESAQ

Since 2009 she has been the coordinator of the youth classes



### **Leticia Adina, Committee Member**

Leticia Roqueta Tuzon Adina, was born in the Philippines and migrated to Australia in 1985. She has one daughter, Angela Louise, turning 17 years old this May. Currently, she works as a full-time school teacher based at Chatswood Hills State School. She teaches a Year 2/3 class.

Her 22 years of teaching in Queensland has blessed her with solid experience and skills that enabled her to extend her service to wider spectrum of the community.

At present, she is the president of the Filipino-Australian Teachers Association of Queensland Inc, and also an active and ex-committee member of The Filipino Community Council of Queensland, the peak body of all Filipino organisations in the state.

As a new member of the ESAQ Committee. She looks forward to working with the group and develop further knowledge and experience in the area of community service. Her passion in life is to serve her faith and help others in the community. Her motto is, "Live, Love and Laugh."



### **Dr Narendra Nand, Committee Member**

Dr Narendra Nand joined as committee member in 1995 and became Vice President in 1999. He became interim president and then President in 2002 AGM. As president between 2002-2008, he had represented ESAQ at Australian Federation of Ethnic Schools Association now known as Community Languages Australia, had several meeting with Ministers of Education and Ministers of Multicultural Affairs, presented papers at Multicultural Workshops, wrote a paper on "The Importance of Ethnic Schooling in Multicultural Queensland" in 2004, which has been published. Dr Nand also initiated and completed the book project titled "The History and Development of Ethnic Languages in Queensland" published in 2008, while he was completing his PhD in Plant Science at Griffith University and running his retail business. He was the mastermind behind the Module Development Project which led to many ongoing workshops to prepare modules for language schools supported by Education Queensland and Multicultural Affairs Queensland and Community Benefit Fund. Several schools have now Modules translated in their own languages. Dr Nand is still on the executive committee and a signatory for ESAQ and he continues to provide a lot of advice and assistance.



### **Khanh-Tien Truong, Committee Member**

Khanh-Tien is the Principal of the Trung Vuong Vietnamese Language School in Darra, a position she has held since 2010. Born in the far south of Vietnam, her family settled in Australia in 1994 after several years in a refugee camp in Indonesia.

In her professional life she is an optometrist practising in Beenleigh having graduated from QUT in 2004. From 2006 to 2009 she lived and worked in New Zealand with her fiancé before they returned to Brisbane in 2010.

Khanh-Tien is an enthusiastic contributor to various aspects of community life. She is an advocate of multi-culturalism and as a practising Buddhist she tries to be involved in charitable work whenever possible.



She looks forward to working with her ESAQ committee colleagues in 2011.