





Meet The ESAQ Committee 2009

	<p>Irene Tavutavu, President</p> <p>Irene joined ESAQ in 2001, sitting on the committee as an ordinary member until she became Vice President in 2002. As per AGM 17th April 2008, she is elected as President of ESAQ and this year she was re-elected for the same position. 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.</p>
<p>Rita Thetadig, Vice President</p> <p>Rita has been the elected vice president since 2008 and her life is fully engaged as a mother, research student, employee and youth coordinator for her Parish and Samoan language school. She is also the coordinator and teacher for PETA Development, Inc. She is currently a part-time Teacher Aide at St Joseph's School, Nundah and a part-time research student with the School of Environment, Griffith University. She is an educator and taught at both college and university level and prior to 1990 she was involved in National English and Geography curriculum development and moderator, examination marker under the New Zealand examinations and the South Pacific Board of Examination.</p> <p>In New Zealand she was involved as a Contract Manager for adult education under the Skill New Zealand Scheme, with the Education and Training Support Agency (ETSA), comparable to the current Queensland Up skill program. She was sponsored by ETSA to present a personal interest research at the University of Hawaii on: "Pacific Island cultural learning in New Zealand: the Case of Auckland Training Providers Programmes".</p>	
	<p>Kim Thetadig, Treasurer</p> <p>Educated in Samoa and migrated to New Zealand to undertake NZCE a New Zealand certificate in Electrical and Electronic Engineering. Kim had been involved in community activities in many ways. Kim was a chairman in their local Catholic Primary School for four years and was also chairman for PETA Development, Inc. for more than three years now and doing the book keeping for the Samoan organisation, learning as they go.</p>
<p>Novi Hendra, Secretary</p> <p>Novi has a Master of Arts (Communication) and Bachelor of Arts (Professional Communication) degree obtained from Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology (RMIT) University in 2003. Novi has started her employment with ESAQ since mid December 2007. With similar responsibilities with the previous secretary, Novi will work on a part-time casual basis for ESAQ, with the same secretariat contact details.</p>	

	<p>Narendra Nand, Committee Member</p> <p>In 1997 Narendra joined the ESAQ committee, and became Vice President in 1998. He has been President of the association since 2002-2007. Narendra has formed good relationships with committees, MAQ, and EQ and represents ESAQ on the National Council and the AHES Forum. He has a high school teaching background, and is currently completing his PHD at Griffith University. Narendra was the mastermind for Module Development Project.</p>
<p>Myrla Prianes, Committee Member</p> <p>Myrla is the President of the Filipino-Australian teachers Association of Queensland (FATAQ) Inc. and the president of Filipino Community Council of Queensland. Currently she teaches year 3 students at Runcorn Height State School and during her spare times she loves to listen to music, doing photography and writing. Since year 2002, Myrla has joined ESAQ as a member and becomes committee in the following years. She loves to see more ethnic schools to be upgraded in mainstream school through volunteering in ESAQ, Inc.</p>	
	<p>Heidi Englhofer, Committee Member</p> <p>The Brisbane German Language School (BGLS) was established in the early sixties. Heidi Englhofer started to teach there in 1998. She and her team of teachers/language instructors are passionate about passing on the German language and culture to children and adults. The BGLS is very fortunate to have the support of a hardworking committee, parents and friends.</p>
<p>Reina C. Pullan, Committee Member</p> <p>Reina is the coordinator of The Filipino School of Queensland Inc. since June 2008. She obtained Bachelor of Education in Advanced Professional Development at Griffith University in July 2007, Bachelor of Elementary Education specializing in Home Economics at Philippine Normal University, Manila Philippines, in March 1990. She worked as a full-time teacher at Saint Claire School, Manila Philippines for five and a half years from 1990 up to 1995. She also worked as a supply teacher in New South Wales in 2002 and 2003 and currently do supply teaching here in Queensland state schools. Reina always believe that acknowledging first language in wherever part of the globe, is such a noble sign of loyalty to our country of origin. In doing so, teaching in an ethnic school is one way of spreading this belief and preserving our culture and traditions.</p>	
<p>N/A</p>	<p>Sister Maria, Committee Member</p> <p>Currently teaching at Goodna Catholic School as well as being a counsellor, Sister Maria is also the principal of Hoa Binh Vietnamese School. Sister Maria has been teaching for more than twenty years and does some religious programs on Sundays. She gained her teaching qualification in Queensland, post graduate diploma of Social Science degree in counselling (Queensland University of Technology), and she did her Diploma in Teaching Primary School in Griffith University of Queensland. From Loylla University Chicago, USA, sister Maria received her Master of Pastoral Studies. She has keen interest in children education, Vietnamese language, has passion for ethnic minority people, social activities and teaching children.</p>