

2007 TEAACT Report to ACET AGM

TEAACT has been largely inactive throughout 2007. It has been difficult to raise interest in participating in the Association. Lack of time seems to be a factor. Staff changes have meant that key people have had more demanding roles in their school duties, which has left little time for Association initiatives.

Membership

- Once again in 2007 TEAACT has opted not to charge membership fees with the assumption that those Technology teachers in both the public and private sector can participate in the association.

Change of Name

- TEAACT would prefer to keep their name as is.
- They would support and change of name for the national body.

Curriculum Development:

- A new framework 'Every Chance to Learn' has been trailed in 2007. It is due to be launched in November 2007 for implementation in 2008.
- It is based on Essential Learning Achievements. There were initially over 30 ELA's and this has now been reduced to 25. The identified ELA for Technology is number 26.
- The ACT Department of Education has incorporated national curriculum trends into the framework. These directions are the study of Australian History, Civics and Citizenship and they occupy a greater place in the mandated curriculum.
- The ACT DET mandate in relation to Physical Education and Health requires that all students in primary and secondary have a minimum of 180 minutes per week of instruction.
- There seems to be some impact on the time allocation on the timetable to Technology as a result of the mandated SOSE and PE in some ACT schools.

Approach to Industry

- As a result of the change of emphasis in the curriculum from that set up by the Hobart and Adelaide declarations, an approach was made to a representative of the Construction Industry Training Council.
- This representative explained the Industry Training Council's involvement in schools. They have initiated a program in primary schools to promote the building industry and run programs for Year 10 students at risk to give them a pathway into the building industry.
- They expressed interest in taking a role in promoting Technology in schools in the ACT.

Teacher Training

- Concern is raised that PE students are completing a unit in Technology so that they can have a second string to their bow when applying for positions in schools. The concern is that students who have little or no understanding of Technology curriculum are presenting in schools to teach Technology. OH&S and the added burden to mentoring by Technology teachers is also of concern.

Gayle Jenkins, President TEAACT November 2007