

## IPSHA Queensland Branch Nomination for Honorary State Life Membership: Bruce Winther

Bruce Winther is an outstanding national award nominated leader, who has been a valued member and contributor to the Junior School Heads' Association and later Independent Primary School Heads of Australia.

Following seven years working in country schools for the South Australian Education Department and sixteen years at Scotch College Adelaide, Mr Bruce Winther began his appointment as a Head of Primary at Matthew Flinders Anglican College in 1999. His value of collegiality and networking was very apparent as he immediately joined JSHA/ IPSHA and has been a very active member during his Headship tenure.

Over the past nineteen years as Head of Primary at Matthew Flinders Anglican College, Bruce has developed a culture of high expectation of both students and staff that has resulted in outstanding student achievement in the academic, cultural and sporting arenas. His leadership expertise was recognised within the Matthew Flinders Anglican College Community on a number of occasions when Mr Winther was seconded to act as Prep – 12 Principal- a testimony of the respect he gained from the school community and Board.

Mr Winther was a key driver of the establishment of the local Sunshine Coast Independent Heads Association (SCIPHA), which is an umbrella group of IPSHA. To assist in establishing the local Heads network, Mr Winther served as both President and Secretary for a number of years. Today, SCIPHA is a vibrant group of eleven independent schools and hosts several annual student activities including a sporting competition, a student leadership day and a Gifted and Talented camp. The strong culture of collegiality within the group has been shaped by the culture established by Bruce in his early leadership of the association.

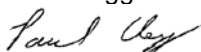
Within the IPSHA context, Bruce regularly attended term meetings, State Refresher weekends and National Biennial conferences over his nineteen years of IPSHA membership. Bruce always made a point of welcoming new members and assisting them to feel comfortable. He was a member of the Qld Branch Executive as; President Elect (2011 -2013) , President (2014-2016) and Immediate Past President 2017. Bruce in his final year as Immediate Past President secured significant sponsorship for the 2017 State Refresher Conference, ensuring the experience was profitable for our IPSHA Qld Branch.

In 2011 Bruce Winther was acknowledged by IPSHA members when he was nominated for the national John Laing award, coordinated by Principals Australia. This award recognised Bruce's contribution to leadership and professional learning beyond his school as well as his significant impact at a local and state level.

On a personal level, Bruce is a man of great integrity and his wise counsel and generosity of spirit is greatly valued by colleagues. Bruce has cultivated the leadership potential of his staff, as evidenced with a number of staff encouraged and supported to be deputies and take on their own Headships.

It is with great pleasure that the Independent Primary School Heads of Australia (Qld Branch) nominate Bruce Winther for an Honorary State Life Membership.

Paul Clegg



IPSHA Queensland Branch President  
Dip Ed, B E, M Ed Lead

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