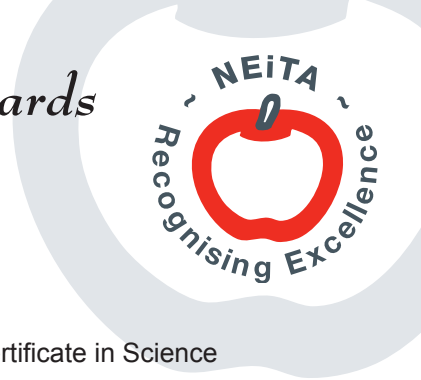


NEiTA 2009 ASG Inspirational Teaching Awards

State and Territory Award Recipient



Ann Murray

Diploma in Education, Bachelor of Science (Hons), Graduate Certificate in Science Education (Chemistry)

Seymour College, Glen Osmond, South Australia

Nominated by: Student Council

*Position: Form teacher, Chemistry • Category: Secondary • Level taught: Years 11 and 12 • Years teaching: 36 years
• Years at this school: 10 years • School type: Independent • Town/Suburb: Glen Osmond • State: South Australia • Postcode: 5064*

Why teaching?

Little inspiration was involved - I wandered in from a research laboratory! The first year was truly terrifying – no training, no mentoring, just plonked in front of a class – and the second year was little better.

One of the great problems at that time was the small representation of women in the physical sciences, and the senior boys were SO big and SO intimidating! However, things ultimately worked out well – in fact, I came to see that period as a time of great, albeit painful, personal growth. And through teaching I get to read, talk, gossip and "do" chemistry - endless fascination!

Sharing a passion for chemistry

An educator for 36 years, Ann Murray has an unflagging enthusiasm for teaching science. She knows how to engage and motivate students and her senior year chemistry lessons are spirited and stimulating. Ann encourages her students to be resilient learners and to relish challenge and debate. In her classroom, students invite intellectual risks and push their educational horizons. Her students also enjoy academic success; over the last 15 years an average of 75 per cent of her year 12 students have achieved an A grading in the South Australian Certificate of Education examinations.

Ann is heavily involved with curriculum and assessment committees associated with the South Australian Certificate of Education Board. As a member of these groups, Ann has contributed to the development and implementation of senior chemistry curricula, the writing of exemplar program and assessment material, and the assessment of examination and moderation material. She has also assisted at workshops for new teachers of senior chemistry.

A committed teacher, Ann is driven to share her fascination with chemistry and her conviction of its importance in society. She is a role model for the resilience and determination that she advocates to her students, an inspirational teacher, not only to her students, but also to her peers and fellow educators.

Contact details:

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