

HEIA(Q) Teacher Excellence Awards

Congratulations Renae and Margaret

At the recent state conference, HEIA(Q) had the pleasure of awarding Margaret Duncan and Renae Bradbury the 2009 Home Economics Teacher Excellence Award. Our congratulations go to these two worthy recipients whose contribution to home economics education has been recognised and valued by their colleagues.

About Margaret Duncan

Margaret, from Loreto College, Coorparoo, is recognised for her leadership in generating renewed interest in, and genuine value for home economics within her school community. She is passionate and inspirational with delivery of student-centred pedagogy, and challenges students to consider novel perspectives and ensures that they are equipped with the life skills necessary to counter injustices and advocate for well being.

In addition, Margaret is a participant in the Queensland Studies Authority Home Economics Syllabus Rewrite Committee, Panel Chair for Home Economics in the Brisbane East region and has recently taken on the role of HEIA(Q) representative on the HEIA Public Health Standing Committee. In amongst this, Margaret has managed to produce a text book, a food studies resource suitable for use in lower high school.

Her intense passion for home economics, her dedication and enthusiasm, her professional commitment to her school and wider community make Margaret a worthy recipient of the Home Economics Teacher Excellence Award.

Margaret's response:

It is a great honour to both receive this award and be acknowledged by your peers. I love being a Home Economics teacher and am grateful to the HEIA(Q) for the opportunities to network, conference and attend professional development over the years. Such experiences have enabled me to stay current with our discipline and related syllabi. I would like to thank the HEIA(Q) committee and my colleagues at Loreto College.

About Renae Bradbury

Renae is described as approachable, supportive and encouraging by her colleagues and students from Mt St Michael's College, Ashgrove. She has implemented programs in her school that are responsive to the changing needs of young women in today's diverse society. These programs are innovative and inspirational. Renae is extremely organised and efficient and her dedication to students goes well beyond the classroom.

Further to Renae's commitment to home economics education, she has been part of a team of young professionals who took part in an HEIA(Q) project to develop quality assessment tasks for the Queensland curriculum. She has also co-presented at the HEIA 2007 national biennial conference in Sydney. Renae was recently involved in the review of *FoodChoices* and was secretary of HEIA(Q) from 2006–2008.

A quote from a colleague was, "I am honoured to work with such a professional, wonderful woman who brings so much to home economics."

Congratulations Renae on this recognition of your commitment to the home economics profession.

Renae's response:

In facilitating this Excellence Award HEIA(Q) supports not only the individual teacher but the broader profession as well. Being recognised amongst peers is certainly rewarding; however, it continues to be the congratulations from staff and students at Mt St Michael's College that ultimately works towards the renewed value and positive perception of Home Economics in our community. The 2009 State Conference was certainly a proud and memorable day for me and, like every year, it continues to be a day that solidifies the motivation and passion I have for my job.