

## Strategic Plan 2020 - 2023

### Preamble

AAMT has been the leading advocate for maths teachers in Australia for more than 50 years.

During this time, in addition to its advocacy and advisory roles, AAMT has had a strong focus on practical activities that support the classroom teaching of maths at all levels. This includes offering professional learning programs and conferences, creating resources and supporting research. The work of AAMT is done in collaboration with AAMT State and Territory Affiliated Associations (AA's). The support and professional development of maths teachers remains at the core of the work of AAMT and its Affiliated Associations.

The renewal of the strategic plan for the period 2020 – 2023 presents an opportunity to reflect on how maths education is changing in Australia and how AAMT can prioritise its work to effectively lead this change and continue to improve maths education. These days young people in particular need to gain a strong foundation in maths to prepare them for the careers of the future. It is incumbent on AAMT to work with all stakeholders, especially educators, to ensure the learning of maths skills in Australian schools is given the priority it needs.

Within this context, the strategic plan has four components: Education, Stakeholders and Collaboration, Internal Efficiency and Advocacy and Communication

### Education

A core element of the work of AAMT is to lead the improvement of maths education by providing educators with up-to-date teaching and learning resources and valuable professional learning opportunities.

Professional learning programs (PL), including workshops, seminars, conferences, consultancies, are typically run by the AA's. They provide development and training opportunities for maths teachers that



are both reflective of the state / territory curriculum and the Australian National Curriculum. There are many such programs for teachers at all levels and in all sectors across Australia.

A challenge for AAMT is how to enrich this busy calendar of professional learning. This will be a focus for the strategic plan.

In its educational work, AAMT will:

For teachers:

- Support and highlight the AA's PL programs to achieve increased awareness and participation in them
- Offer PL programs that complement existing programs, for example a AAMT event will take a themed, strategic or policy perspective
- Organise national PL activities on a flexible basis, based on needs and opportunity. This may mean a departure from a set piece biennial conference to formats and locations that are decided on an annual basis
- Explore opportunities for webinars and video-based PL that can reach members across Australia
- Explore opportunities for industry-based professional learning and exchange between maths experts in the workplace and maths educators
- Develop the international exchange program so that it becomes a regular opportunity in the PL calendar for teachers
- Launch the new version of Maths300 and continue to develop and consolidate teaching resources so they are accessible, up-to-date and valued by all maths teachers
- Continue to offer and update AAMT reports, papers and journals

For students:

- Support and promote the AA's student activities
- Continue to build on the National Maths Summer School, including strategic investment of the bequest provided by Leon Poladian to maximise the impact of the funds

For leaders, coordinators and maths consultants:

- Organise and host professional learning events that share and promote best practices between jurisdictions and sectors
- Disseminate information at a strategic and policy level relating to maths education



- Work with experts to contribute to the strategic development of maths education
- Support international links
- Document and highlight innovations and projects from around Australia

## Stakeholders and collaboration

While AAMT may be a small organisation, it is uniquely placed to collaborate with a wide range of stakeholders. AAMT is able to work with partners to achieve high levels of impact for maths education projects.

AAMT will:

- Continue to strengthen links with AA's by sharing resources, technology and business practices as well as helping to support and promote the programs offered by the AA's
- Build on the collaboration agreement with AMT and seek opportunities for joint projects
- Seek partnerships or collaborative ventures with other organisations engaged in maths and STEM education, for example AMSI, ASTA, AAS, SSA, Questacon
- Actively engage with industry, business and other employers to solicit their support for projects that benefit maths education.
- Work with universities, government departments and sectors on projects and initiatives relating to maths education
- Collaborate with organisations interested in supporting and promoting education in STEM

## Internal efficiency

The extent to which AAMT can advocate for teachers and achieve its educational goals depends on efficient and effective internal structures and operations. As part of its strategic plan, AAMT needs to have a strong focus on the allocation of its limited resources to maximise impact and achieve financial sustainability.

AAMT will:

- Review the constitutional, governance and legal basis of AAMT to ensure it is consistent with the relocation of the office to Canberra and supports the ongoing work of AAMT, including a greater emphasis on generating revenue through donations and privately funded project work.



- Organise training for the AAMT Council and explore opportunities to set up a group of stakeholders who can provide advice to AAMT across a wider spectrum of activities, for example in the legal, marketing and technology areas.
- Update its website presence, technology and software (including website CMS, CRM and communications) to industry standard. Where possible AAMT will aim to share technology and software with the AA's to maximise value for money and minimise manual processes (for example in data transfer).
- Implement a budget model that recognises core revenue and costs and separates project-based income and expenditure. Structure recurrent operating costs, including staffing, so that they are within the budget funded by core revenue.
- Where possible, develop collaborations with AA's and the AMT to achieve operational and cost efficiencies
- Ensure AAMT staff are appropriately trained and committed to their work. This includes having high levels of autonomy and initiative and a willingness to contribute across the range of AAMT's work. AAMT aims to develop staff who are open to learning new skills and using them flexibly.
- Create opportunities for experts, volunteers, students and interns who are interested in contributing to AAMT's work.
- Ensure AAMT has a strong customer-service ethos that prioritises service and value to members

## Advocacy and communication

A primary function of AAMT is to advocate for maths education, ensure it receives a level of public attention commensurate with its importance as a subject for all students, and provide stakeholders with timely and relevant information. Given its limited resources, it has always been a challenge for AAMT to maintain the required public profile. The strategic plan (2020-2023) should aim to address this.

AAMT will

- Actively engage with government (at federal and state level as appropriate) to represent the interests of maths educators and seek funding for maths education initiatives
- Review and consider its branding, website presence, social media status, communications and other channels through which AAMT engages with members and stakeholders to ensure AAMT



is perceived positively and in accordance with its educational goals. This should include discussions with AA's about presenting a consistent and mutually supportive brand.

- Consolidate teaching resources, including Maths 300, in an accessible and easy to access website
- Develop a database system to ensure AAMT communications reach as many stakeholders as possible, including non-members, with appropriately targeted content
- Further develop AAMT social media capability to provide timely and engaging social media content
- Develop connections with the media industry both to publish AAMT content and to act as a source of authority and advice in relation to maths education

