

Calendar Terms 2–3, 2008	
<b>June</b>	
6	HSC Lectures Day, ticket applications due
12	Teaching with Technology Macquarie Univ.
13	Talented Students' Day : lecture choices and fees due
14	MANSW Stage 6 Forum—Calculus Courses
<b>July</b>	
7	HSC Lectures
25	Investigating: Mathematics entries due at MANSW Office
25	Talented Students' Day, UTS Broadway
<b>September</b>	
2	Investigating: Maths Award Ceremony
19–21	Annual Conference

## From the President

Welcome to the second half of Term 2, 2008. By now the draft Stage 6 syllabus forums at MANSW have happened and the MANSW office is collating the various opinions, both positive and negative, that were expressed on the day. Right now you may be filling in your own copy of the syllabus survey to post off to the Board of Studies. By this time next year the programming of the Stage 6 courses at your school will need to be well advanced. However, another consideration is the impact that the new Stage 6 courses will have on choices that your school makes with programming and options in Stage 5 for Year 9, 2008—yes that's this year—and Year 10, 2009. This is because that same cohort who become Year 11, 2010, are the first students to study the new material. They will be confronted with new content, new external assessment format, and almost certainly new calculator functionality.

You may be one of the first in your school to teach the new course and so it is important that Stage 5 mathematics leads effectively into Stage 6 mathematics. The more relevant and effective teaching and learning that can take place in Stage 5 the better. We need to consider content and assessment. Have you had time to look closely at the sample HSC questions? They are available on the BOS website, next to the draft syllabus docu-

ments. Now let's focus on the calculus courses for a minute: multiple-choice questions will be part of all three calculus courses. Furthermore, there are two sorts of multiple choice question: some have a single correct answer surrounded by false answers, others have more than one correct answer and students need to identify all. We all need to take steps to prepare our students for this significant change to the external examination. We certainly don't have banks of past HSC papers to hand out for practice. There will need to be lots of time spent preparing and/or sourcing the equivalent practice papers.

We all need to stay tuned to the BOS website for news of the specifications allowed for calculators. On page 24 of the Mathematics Advanced draft syllabus, reference is made to the new guidelines for calculator choice. A final decision about the calculator will be announced sometime after the draft syllabus has been evaluated. We need to be planning to ensure that our students in Year 11, 2010, have access to the most powerful, student friendly, and accessible calculator permitted. Also, our students must have had time to get accustomed to it whilst learning the course of their choice. The General 1 and General 2 HSC courses need a closer look, well ahead of timetabling decisions. The question will be asked at some schools, 'can both General courses coexist in one classroom?'

Now let's change the subject. On Tuesday 3 June this year a Professional Learning package was jointly launched in Canberra by Senator, the Hon. Nick Sherry, Minister for Superannuation and Corporate Law, and Paul Clitheroe, Chairman of the Financial Foundation Advisory Board. I understand that about five years of work has contributed to this Consumer and Financial Literacy Package, and it is available on the MCEETYA website using the address:  
[www.mceetya.edu.au/mceetya/default.asp?id=14429](http://www.mceetya.edu.au/mceetya/default.asp?id=14429).

It is intended to support both primary and secondary learning outcomes.

The 2008 MANSW conference is drawing closer,

roughly three months until 19–21 September, so I expect that your intended presentations are taking shape. In the April newsletter I mentioned that novice presenters will find our friendly Professional Officer, Bernice Beechey, very supportive and informative. She is happy to advise you how to shape your conference presentation ideas into a successful session. Why not give her a call? Go ahead . . . make her day!

Did your school take advantage of this year's National Mathematics Day on Friday 23 May. At MANSW we are interested in how beneficial it was. Please write an email or make a phone call to MANSW, [office@mansw.nsw.edu.au](mailto:office@mansw.nsw.edu.au), and let us know your story. We're happy to pass on your thoughts to the organizers of this national event, AAMT.

What was the reception like at your school for the new National Assessment Program—Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN)? Please write an email to MANSW office and pass on your thoughts.

DAVID KEANAN-BROWN

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## Student Services

Mark your Term 2 progress against the Student services checklist!

- Have you organized your Luna Park excursion date?
- Are your Investigating: Mathematics entries under way?
- Have you distributed information to Year 12 about the HSC lecture series?
- Do your Extension 2 students know about Talented Students' Day?

Further information about each student services activity is included on the MANSW website. The Mathsearch competition results will be included in the next newsletter as will procedures for member nominations for the National Mathematics Summer School.

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## The Stories We Tell

Thank you to the members who have supplied items for 'The stories we tell'. There is still time to send your contribution and we'd love some more contributions for all members. In particular, we are short of ideas for K–4, so if you have anything

suitable in this age range, please send it to the Association.

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## MANSW 2007 Student Prizes

### Awarded in 2008

We are pleased to announce the prizewinners of the MANSW Teacher Education Student Prizes for outstanding final-year student teachers in each teacher training institution in the State. These students have achieved excellent results in both academic work and internship. Each university may nominate up to two students—one is usually a primary education student and the other a secondary education student. This year twelve nominations have been received from seven universities.

MANSW congratulates the following new teachers:

#### Primary

Susanna Brown	Charles Sturt University (Bathurst Campus)
Christie Goldspring	ACU National
Tania Marlin	Macquarie University
Kay Hannelore Previch	Univ. of Wollongong
Sandy Quintal	Univ. of Western Sydney (Bankstown Campus)

#### Secondary

Kelly-Anne Arul	Univ. of Wollongong
Nathan Coughlan	University of Technology Sydney
Maryam El-Cheikh	Univ. of Western Sydney
Alison Franks	Charles Sturt University (Bathurst Campus)
Daniel Harbridge	University of Sydney
Joranda Maria Jones	ACU National
Mark White	Macquarie University

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**Copy for Newsletter No. 5 is due by 27/5.  
Publication date is 21/7.**

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#### Member of the Month

This month's lucky winner is Carla Gagliano of Cabarita. Congratulations, please contact the MANSW Office to claim your book-voucher prize.

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