Citation for the ALEA Medal

Lisa Kervin

July 2016

Lisa Kervin joined ALEA in 2003 as a young teacher keen to be part of the professional and passionate ALEA community. In 2005 she became President of ALEA NSW South Coast and was instrumental in revitalising the local council which is now vibrant and active. In 2008, Lisa became NSW State Director on ALEA National Council, a position she held until 2015. She continued to maintain strong ties with South Coast Local Council, encouraging and mentoring members to take on Executive roles. As State Director Lisa’s leadership re-energised several existing Local Councils in NSW while creating several new ones.

Lisa was co-editor of Practically Primary from 2008 to 2012 and was pivotal in establishing and coordinating the popular “10 Things” feature, where teachers, parents, children and community members share the literacies, resources, approaches and beliefs that are important to them within their unique educational contexts. She co-authored the ALEA titles: Playing with Grammar in the Early Years and Exploring Grammar in the Primary Years. Lisa facilitated the production of the ALEA Contexts for Reading Class Movie and conceptualised and produced the Wisdom Stories audio resource as part of the celebration of ALEA’s 40th birthday in 2015.

Currently, Lisa serves as Treasurer of the NSW South Coast Local Council and draws on her professional networks to organise valuable professional learning for local teachers, preservice teachers and early years educators.

Lisa is committed to collaboration and mentorship. This is evident in her development of the local council executive, in the encouragement and support of less experienced colleagues as they move into new roles in ALEA, and in her endorsement of colleagues and Higher Degree Research Students as they write for ALEA journals or present at conferences and workshops.

Lisa was convenor of the 2012 ALEA National Conference in Sydney which was declared the ‘friendliest’ ALEA conference by the then National President, a tribute to Lisa’s inclusivity and her ability to consider and include others while at the same time delivering outstanding results.

Lisa is a regular presenter at ALEA workshops within her own and other local councils and across Australia as well as at State, National and International conferences. She was invited to give the Donald Graves address at the AATE/ALEA conference in Canberra in 2015. Lisa’s dissemination of her expertise and research collaborations through ALEA journals and other publications is extensive and demonstrates not only the diversity of knowledge she offers to the ALEA community, but also her role as collaborator and mentor for others. Each year, Lisa coordinates and participates in community activities to promote family literacy through events such as World Read Aloud Day and National Literacy and Numeracy Week.

Lisa is a long-standing, active and highly creative member of ALEA who works tirelessly to make worthwhile contributions to the association. Above all, she is an advocate for ALEA and the principles it upholds.

It is with great pleasure that ALEA honours Lisa Kervin with the ALEA Medal in recognition of her outstanding contribution to the association over many years.