



## MERGA LIFE MEMBERSHIP AWARD 2025

It is with profound admiration and affection that the Mathematics Education Research Group of Australasia bestows Life Membership, our highest honour, upon Professor Merrilyn Goos.

Professor Goos' contributions are long and distinguished. She is one of the most recognised and accomplished members of our community. Although Merrilyn claims to be retired, she is as active as ever. She received multiple nominations for Life Membership, demonstrating the overwhelming positive regard that our community has for her. During her career, she has won every award that MERGA offers: Early Career Award (1993), Practical Implications Award (2000), Research Award (2017), Career Medal (2022) and now Life Membership (2025). Fitting her many contributions to MERGA onto one page means that most of her achievements within MERGA are not listed here. Despite this, Merrilyn is forever humble, and she will certainly be blushing as this citation is read aloud.

Professor Goos' service to MERGA spans more than three decades, reflecting extraordinary dedication and leadership. Her contributions touch every aspect of MERGA's activities, working closely with dozens of members of this community. As Treasurer (1999–2004), Merrilyn navigated significant financial challenges with diligence and extraordinary vision during the complex merger of MERGA and MELA, securing MERGA's fiscal stability. Later as President (2010–2014), her stewardship enabled strategic growth: formalising portfolio roles of the Executive; instituting the conference funding scheme for postgraduate researchers and members from developing countries; and orchestrating our first conference beyond Australasia, in Singapore—an initiative that expanded our geographic reach and forged enduring relationships with colleagues in Southeast Asia. Indeed MERGA's international standing flourished under Professor Goos's presidency. She led MERGA's affiliation with ICMI in 2011, securing our place within the global mathematics education community.

Professor Goos's innovations extended to MERGA's publishing endeavours. Working with VP Publications, she negotiated a landmark contract with Springer to publish the *Mathematics Education Research Journal*, amplifying Australasian scholarship on the world stage. She has long served on MERGA's editorial platforms—as Co-Editor of *Research in Mathematics Education in Australasia* (2012–2015), member of the MERJ Editorial Board since 2005 (!), and as proceedings editor and conference convenor in Brisbane (2008) and Sunshine Coast (2015).

Mentorship and community building lie at the heart of Merrilyn's contribution. She has consistently nurtured early- and mid-career researchers—offering guidance on grant applications, co-authoring papers, and modelling scholarly leadership in award panels and organizing committees. Her advocacy ensured that each Science Meets Parliament delegation included an emerging researcher, providing critical advocacy experience at the national level.

Beyond MERGA, Professor Goos's distinguished research career and many national and international accolades—25 years of continuous ARC funding, leadership of nationally and internationally funded STEM education programs, and service as Vice-President (2017–2024) and now President (2025–2028) of ICMI—has markedly enhanced MERGA's reputation. She has supervised over twenty doctoral candidates, co-edited leading journals (*Educational Studies in Mathematics*; *Research in Integrated STEM Education*), and co-authored influential books with MERGA members including *Teaching Secondary School Mathematics* and *Numeracy across the Curriculum*.

Professor Merrilyn Goos has made outstanding and enduring contributions to MERGA's mission, its members, and the broader mathematics education community. It is our honour to confer upon her this well-deserved Life Membership.