

Preface

This is a record of the proceedings of the 29th annual conference of the Mathematics Education Research Group of Australasia (MERGA). The theme of this conference is *Identities, Cultures and Learning Spaces*. This is consistent with MERGA's mission to promote the plurality of views that are embraced by the mathematics education community in the Australasian region. Mathematics practitioners and researchers alike bring insights that have different hues to the examination of issues that impact on our understanding of mathematics learning and teaching. The idiosyncrasies of individual researchers are a necessary part of the mosaic of MERGA and its mission.

We are pleased to welcome any conference participant who is attending MERGA for the first time. We trust you will enjoy the convivial atmosphere of the conference and make the most of the opportunities to make new friends and reconnect with old one. There are attendees from at least 10 countries including colleagues from a range of Faculties of Education, primary and secondary schools, private curriculum companies and Ministries of Education. The diversity of ideas and participants will enhance our thinking about mathematics education.

Each of the research papers, the symposium and round table discussion abstracts accepted and printed in these proceedings were peer reviewed, without the author(s) being identified, by two experienced mathematics education researchers who followed strict guidelines that have been refined over a number of years. In cases where the two reviewers, who did not know the identity of other reviewer, disagreed about the acceptability of a paper, another blind review was undertaken by a third reviewer, without the previous two reviews being available to the third reviewer. Only those research papers that were accepted by two reviewers have been included in these conference proceedings.

A number of institutions have contributed toward the planning for this conference. We would like to thank them for the free use of their meeting facilities and other resources. The spirit of collaboration and the *esprit de corps* is wonderful and reflects the growing willingness among institutions to come together and work towards a common goal.

We would also like to thank our generous sponsors for their support.

Stephen Thornton
Chair, Conference Organising Committee

Peter Grootenboer, Mohan Chinnappan and Robyn Zevenbergen
Editorial Team