

Australasian Mercy Secondary Schools Association
STATEMENT OF PURPOSE AND BY-LAWS

1. NAME

The name of the organisation will be the Australasian Mercy Secondary Schools Association, hereafter called the Association.

2. PURPOSE

1. To further the Mercy spirituality and ethos for Secondary Education and to continue the tradition in a systematic way.
2. To share expertise.
3. To contribute to staff formation and encourage the interchange of staff.
4. To represent the views of Mercy Secondary Schools at the national level.
5. To facilitate the development and sharing of curriculum items and resource materials relating to Mercy Secondary Education and the traditions of Catherine McAuley, particularly the needs of women and deprived groups in society.

3. MEMBERSHIP

Membership and voting rights will be open to:

1. Persons who are currently involved in Mercy sponsored or co-sponsored secondary schools.
2. Persons who have been involved in Mercy sponsored or co-sponsored secondary schools for a period of five years or more during their ministries in education.
3. Sisters of Mercy involved in education in institutions other than those that are Mercy sponsored.

4. OFFICERS OF THE ASSOCIATION

These shall be a President of the Association and an Executive Committee.

1. The President of the Association shall be elected by nomination and simple majority vote of members at the biennial General Meeting, for a two-year term.
2. The President of the Association shall serve as Chair of the Executive Committee.
3. The Executive Committee shall consist of a member from each State and Territory and one from New Zealand, each member to be locally nominated/elected for a two-year term.

4. The Executive Committee shall elect from among its membership a Deputy-Chair and a Secretary/Treasurer.
5. Vacancies from within the Executive Committee shall be filled by nomination/election at the appropriate level.
6. Executive Committee members may serve for a maximum of three consecutive terms.

5. ROLE OF THE EXECUTIVE OFFICER

1. To further the purposes of the Association.
2. To represent the interests of the Association at the national level.
3. To meet at least twice a year.
4. To plan and conduct a Biennial Australasian Mercy Secondary Schools Conference.
5. To call and preside at a General Meeting of the membership during the Biennial Conference.
6. To maintain a full and correct record of activities, including financial operations for presentation to members at the Biennial General Meeting.
7. To appoint special purpose committees as appropriate.

6. BIENNIAL GENERAL MEETING

1. The president of the Association shall preside over the meeting.
2. The Executive Committee of the Association shall develop and circulate the Agenda for this meeting to all members at least one month prior to the Conference.
3. The President of the Association shall present a biennial report.
4. The Secretary/Treasurer shall present a biennial report of all business/financial operations of the Association since the previous General Meeting.
5. This report shall include a recommendation regarding annual membership subscription, which shall be, in due course, determined by the Executive .
6. Any changes, amendments or additions to the By-Laws of the Association will be notified via the Agenda and must be fully discussed, and ratified by the Meeting before being adopted.
7. In any matters where a vote is called, a simple majority will rule.

7. PARAMETERS

1. Congregation Leaders reserve all powers pertaining to institutions under their sponsorship.
2. The Association will communicate with the President of ISMA and the National Plenary Council concerning educational issues arising from the Association.