

MERGA Vice President's Report (Publications) to the AGM: July 2011

Publication Activities 2009-2010

MERJ now published by Springer

Transition of the publication of *MERJ*, *Mathematics Education Research Journal* from MERGA to Springer is almost complete.

To find information about *MERJ*, submitting manuscripts, editors and editorial board please go to the *MERJ* page on the Springer website:

<http://www.springer.com/education+%26+language/mathematics+education/journal/13394>

The manuscript management system is in place and articles should now be submitted online to the *MERJ* website. Online first publication of articles has begun for *MERJ* 23(1). The distribution of printed issues to members will commence in the near future. Free access to online articles for future and past issues is available to MERGA members. Members will need to log in to the MERGA website in order to be able to access articles from the Springer site. Alternatively, you can access full text from <http://www.springerlink.com/content/1033-2170/>

Announcement of the theme and editors of the Special Issue for Vol 24 will be announced at the MERGA AGM. A call for papers will be made through the *MERJ* (Springer) site, the MERGA website and through MERGA newsletter/announcement to members.

Review of Mathematics Education in Australasia MERGA 2008-2011

Tom Lowrie and Bob Perry from Research Institute for Professional Practice, Learning and Education (RIPPLE), Charles Sturt University (RIPPLE) at Charles Sturt University are leading the editorial team which includes Amy MacDonald, Tracy Logan and Jane Greenlees. A progress report from the editors is provided below. A meeting of the editorial and writing teams will be held during the MERGA/AAMT conference.

Engaging the Australian National Curriculum – Mathematics: Perspective from the field (A Special Monograph)

In December, 2010, the MERGA Executive agreed to provide financial support for the publication of a special monograph concerning the National Curriculum for Mathematics. The editors are Bill Atweh, Merrilyn Goos, Robyn Jorgensen and Dianne Siemon.

Every chapter will present a critical analysis from different perspectives on different aspects of the curriculum. Each chapter will consider the research bases of the argument and the implications for practice, whether this involves teaching of mathematics in school or mathematics teacher development. Some chapters may consider comparisons with other curricula around the world. The editors have invited the following authors to contribute chapters related to specific mathematics content as well as for curriculum, pedagogy and equity issues: Joanne Mulligan, Tom Lowrie, Jane Watson, Peter Sullivan and Sue Willis. The monograph is expected to be published online in September, 2011.

MERJ: A report from the Editors

The transition to Springer has been successful and the journal is now being published on line. The first issue has been released in time for the MERGA conference. The editorial team has remained in place to transition the journal into this new space which is needed while some of the nuances of the system are negotiated and aligned with the practices of *MERJ*. The Editors would like to thank the members of the Editorial Board for their support of *MERJ*, and we particularly thank those out-going members of the Board for their work. As *MERJ*

transitioned to Springer, a more international Board was established to reflect the internationalising of the Journal. The new EB consists of Anna Sfard (USA), Nicola Yelland (Hong Kong), Rudolf Straesser (Germany), Lap Chap Sam (Malaysia), Joao Filipe Matos (Portugal), Nuria Planas (Spain), Tony Cotton (UK), Anne Watson (UK), Jinfa Chi (USA), Ken Clements (USA), Helen Doerr (USA), Ruhama Even (Israel), Mike Thomas (NZ), Marzita binti Puteh (Malaysia), Berinderjeet Kaur (Singapore), Paul Cobb (USA), Jill Adler (Sth Africa), Tom Lowrie (Aus), Phil Clarkson (Aus), Merrilyn Goos (Aus), Gilah Leder (Aus) and Joanne Mulligan (Aus).

We also thank the team at Springer, particularly Harmen van Paradijs and Carolien van den Gaag, for their support in the transition to Springer. Considerable work has gone into the establishment of the on-line journal and the support and advice provided to the Editors by Springer has been very good.

The special issue (rural perspectives) has been completed and will be submitted to Springer. Our thanks go to the editors of the special issue, John Pegg and Steve Tobias, for their work on this publication which should be published (first online) in the very near future.

One of the increasing challenges with MERJ is the reviewing of papers. Increasingly, we are finding that many reviewers are unable to undertake reviews or unable to review in a timely manner. It is recognised that the work demands on academics are increasing making time constraints even more substantial. This has impacted on the turnaround capacity of the journal. The editors thank all those members who have supported the journal through their work as reviewers and authors of the journal. Your support is appreciated by the editorial team as well as the organisation. To reduce the work demands of MERJ, the editorial team preview all papers before sending out to review to ensure that the papers meet the requirements of MERJ, are of a suitable content for MERJ and/or provide advice to authors if they need to undertake further work to make the papers suitable for review.

The submission of papers is listed below in Table 1. The period from July 2010 to February 2011 is that period prior to publishing through the on-line Springer system. Andrea Kittila is still managing the final papers that are still in the old system and will see these through to completion. All new submissions are now through the on-line system.

Table 1. Submission of Papers to MERJ (July, 2010-February 2011)

	Pre-Springer	Springer
Submissions	41	17
Rejections	12	2
Papers under revisions	10	0
Awaiting reviews	6	15
Accepted for publication/published	8	

Papers have been received from the following countries (as identified by the author/s affiliations). These include papers submitted through both systems. The international authorship of the papers is noteworthy. However, we also note that there is some work to be done in securing papers from the UK/European communities.

Table 2. Authorship by country

Reviewed, and need to be rewritten or revised:	Awaiting reviews:	Accepted for publication / already published:	Rejected
Australia: 5 USA: 3 Canada: 1 Hong Kong: 1	Australia: 3 USA: 2 Australia and USA (joint authorship): 1 Ghana:1 Brunei: 1 Vietnam: 1 India:1 NZ: 2 USA:4 Albania:1 Turkey:1	USA: 3 Australia: 2 Denmark: 1 New Zealand: 1 Singapore: 1	Australia: 2 South Africa: 2 Estonia: 1 Greece: 1 Hong Kong: 1 Jordan: 1 New Zealand: 1 New Zealand / Germany (joint authorship): 1 Turkey: 1 USA: 1 Spain: 1 China:1

The Editors would like to acknowledge the significant support that Andrea Kittila has provided to the team and to the authors during our time as Editors. Andrea (Andy) has managed the submission of papers which is now being undertaken through Springer but will continue to work with authors on editing of papers. Andy's attention to detail has ensured that the published papers are of a high quality and we acknowledge her significant input into the editing of the papers. We thank Griffith Institute for Educational Research and the Faculty of Education at Griffith University for providing this level of support to the team and to MERGA.

Robyn Jorgensen (MERJ Chief Editor), Peter Grootenboer (MERJ Editor)

MTED: A report from the Chief Editor

The editorial team from The University of Sydney commenced in April 2010 with the goal of producing two issues of MTED per calendar year. The decision was taken to publish one general issue and one special issue each year.

Volume 12(1) was the general issue for 2010 and Volume 12(2) *Special Issue: Leadership of reform in mathematics education* was produced by the guest-editor Janeen Lamb under the guidance of Janette Bobis.

The Volume 13 general issue is nearing completion and should be published around September. The 2011 Special Issue will focus on *Sustaining and scaling up teacher professional learning and development in mathematics*, with the guest editors being Joanna Higgins and Linda Bonne from the University of Wellington. This too is nearing completion and will be published before the end of the year.

A proposal for the 2012 Special Issue has just been accepted, with a focus on *Evidence-based approaches to developing content knowledge and pedagogical content knowledge in pre-service mathematics teacher education*. The guest editors will be Rosemary Callingham (University of Tasmania), Helen Chick (University of Melbourne) and Steve Thornton (Charles Darwin University).

The MTED editors thank the Editorial Board members for their continued support and welcome the following new members to the Editorial Board:

Professor Bob Perry (Charles Sturt University)

Associate Professor Sandra Frid (Curtin University of Technology)

Associate Professor Len Sparrow (Curtin University of Technology)

[Assoc Prof. Elham Kazemi \(University of Washington\)](#)

As can be seen by the figures in Tables 1 and 2, MTED continues to attract a reasonable flow of submissions from both local and international researchers. At the time of writing this report there were a further 11 papers under review.

The editors are very grateful to all MERGA members who make time in their schedules to support the journal by reviewing papers, and to support their colleagues by providing constructive feedback. Thank you also, to those of you who sometimes cannot manage to review when asked, but thoughtfully reply to the invitation as soon as possible.

Table 1. MTED Manuscript submission data, Volumes 7 – 12 (2005-2010)

	Year published	Total # submissions	# Rejected prior to review	# Rejected	# Accepted	% Accepted
Vol 7	2005/6	15	4	6	5	33%
Vol 8	2007	<i>Special issue: Professional development in Mathematics Education</i>				
Vol 9	2007/8	12	1	6	5	42%
Vol 10	2008/9	12	1	7	4	33%
Vol 11	2009	9	3	3	4	44%
Vol 12(1)	2010	16	2	9	5	31%
Vol 12(2)	2010	<i>Special Issue: Leadership of reform in mathematics education</i>				

Table 2. MTED Authorship of submitted manuscripts Volumes 7 – 11(2005-2010)

	# Authors of submitted manuscripts but not accepted		# Authors of published articles		Total # authors
	Australasia	International	Australasia	International	
Vol 7	10	10	10	4	34

Vol 9	8	10	7	1	26
Vol 10	7	4	2	5	18
Vol 11	3	3	3	3	12
Vol 12(1)	4	7	2	4	17
Total	32	34	24	17	107

Dr Jennifer Way (MTED Chief Editor), Assoc. Prof. Janette Bobis & Assoc. Prof. Judy Anderson (MTED Editors)

Review of Australasian Mathematics Education Research: 2008-2011

Chapters

Chapters have been invited as follows.

Chapter Title	Author team leader
Reflection on previous review	Helen Forgasz
Early childhood mathematics education	Bob Perry
Mathematics education in the schooling years (8-18 years)	Ann Gervasoni
Revision or renewal? Opening tertiary opportunities	Bill Barton
Mathematics education for Indigenous students	Tamsin Meaney
Supporting exceptional students to thrive mathematically	Carmel Diezmann
Professional knowledge in mathematics education of practising teachers	Janette Bobis
The professional education and development of prospective teachers of mathematics	Glenda Anthony
The affective domain and mathematics education	Gregor Lomas
Technology in mathematics education	Vince Geiger
Social justice and mathematics education	Bill Atweh
Assessment beyond all: The changing nature of assessment	Tom Lowrie
Uncertainty in mathematics education: What to do with statistics?	Rosemary Callingham
Curriculum in schools	Judy Anderson
Conclusion – looking to the future	Gilah Leder

Among the author teams there is a good spread of experienced and early/mid-career researchers and a great representation from New Zealand.

Publishers

As with the previous Review, the publishers will be Sense Publishers. The publishing contract has been completed.

Progress of draft chapters

There is a wide spread of progress in the writing of the draft chapters. Eight of the chapters have been received in draft form and have been reviewed or are in the process of review. The other chapters (except for the bookends) have been promised by the end of July. The two bookend chapters will be completed by September.

Timeline

The indicative time line for editing and publishing has been adhered to for the most part. We have not been able to meet the deadlines for return of reviews to author teams but will be working on this matter during the forthcoming conference. We believe that submission of final chapters can be delayed until the end of October with final editing occurring during November and December, 2011. This will result in submission of the final manuscript on time by the end of December, 2011. With these adjustments, the timeline will be:

TASK	2010	2011	2012
Seek expressions of interest from potential authors of chapters	May-10		
Expressions of interest submitted	Jun-10		
Chapter authors notified	Jun-10		
Attend MERGA 33 conference	Jul-10		
Face-to-face meeting with chapter authors during MERGA 33	Jul-10		
Identify and seek further chapter authors to fill identified gaps	Jul-10 – Aug-10		
Finalise chapter authors	Sep-10		
Invitations to chapter reviewers	Nov-10		
Submission of chapter drafts	Dec-10		
Initial edit of chapter drafts by editorial team		Feb-11	
Draft chapters sent to reviewers – two reviewers per chapter		Feb-11	
Attend MERGA 34 conference		Jul-11	
Face-to-face meeting with chapter authors during MERGA 34		Jul-11	
Reviews of drafts chapters to editors		At the latest by Jul-11	

Consolidation of reviews by editors		Early Aug-11	
Consolidated reviews sent to author teams		Early Aug-11	
Authors submit final chapters, including 2011 MERGA and PME materials		Oct-11	
Editors review final chapters to ensure reviewers comments have been considered, additional material has been incorporated and style issues have been met (during this time editors will be in contact with author teams on matters requiring correction or clarification)		Nov-11 – Dec-11	
Editors write foreword		Dec-11	
Submission of completed manuscript to Sense		Dec-11	
Edit first page proofs			Early 2012
Edit second page proofs			Early 2012
Publish four-yearly review			Apr-12

Bob Perry, Tom Lowrie, Amy MacDonald, Tracy Logan & Jane Greenlees (Editors)

Colleen Vale, 29 June 2011