



Australian Association for the Teaching of English

Citation for AATE Life Membership: Wayne Sawyer 2009

Presented at the AATE/ALEA National Conference in Hobart, July 2009

Wayne is an esteemed educator who is held in the highest regard within the profession, both across Australia and internationally. As an author/editor of over 20 books, Wayne has had a profound influence on the teaching of English in Australia. Wayne is a joint author of a number of key reports on the nature of English and effective delivery of English curriculum, most recently *Exceptional outcomes in English education (2007)*, co-authored with Paul Brock and David Baxter. He has been a frequent presenter over many years at English teaching conferences, international (IFTE), national (AATE) and state (various ETAs).

From 1999 to 2001, Wayne was the NSW delegate to Australian Association for the Teaching of English (AATE). Wayne was Editor of *English in Australia* (2002-2004) and an executive member of the AATE Council (2002-2004). As Editor of *English in Australia*, Wayne endeavoured to bring academics of international and national repute together in dialogue with teachers, through continuing to ensure a place in the journal for papers written by classroom practitioners. Wayne's time as Editor was notable for the productive and generative way in which his chosen 'themes' revisited and moved forward perennial issues facing the profession: for example, the difference between literacy and English. Since his time as Editor, Wayne has continued to publish in *English in Australia*. Two recent papers, on the place of the aesthetic in English and teaching new forms of news media, have been notable for the scholarly and highly accessible way they draw on the history of the subject in order to re-imagine classroom practice into the future.

It is in recognition of this contribution and of his services to the Association that AATE proudly awards this life membership.