



# Australian Association for the Teaching of English

## Citation for AATE Life Membership: Susan Gazis AM 2012

*Presented at the AATE National Conference in Sydney, October 2012*

Susan Gazis was the NSW Delegate to the AATE Council for a period of five years before being elected to the position of President-elect in 2001. During her time on Council, Sue initiated a number of administrative changes that enhanced the efficiency and professional profile of the AATE, including the appointment of an Executive Officer. She also initiated a number of opportunities for commercial expansion which has helped AATE establish a stable financial base. Her skills in strategic planning and risk management have assisted AATE to develop into a strong professional association.

Sue was also an ardent supporter of pedagogy and professionalism, advocating for the development of the Standards for Teachers of English Language and Literacy in Australia (STELLA), reflecting her passionate commitment to enhancing the quality of the teaching profession.

Sue is a distinguished educator and expert in the area of quality teaching. She is currently a Senior Policy Officer (Professional Learning) at the NSW Institute of Teachers and has been instrumental in the development of the Professional Teaching Standards at both the State and National level. Sue was a Director of Teaching Australia (now AITSL), involved in the review of teacher education in NSW and a member of the National Advisory Committee on Quality Teaching, demonstrating her expertise in the area of teacher quality and her advocacy for the development of teaching as a recognised profession.

Sue has been the president of the Australian Professional Teachers Association since 2009 and was the president of the Professional Teachers' Council NSW between 2001 and 2006. Both of these organisations are committed to promoting teacher professionalism. Her appointment to these prestigious positions reflects the high profile Sue has within the profession, and the respect she has gained from her colleagues.

Sue is also a member of the Asia Education Foundation Advisory Board, which advocates for and supports the integration of Asian literacy in Australian schools.

At a state level, Sue has served in her roles as President and Treasurer of ETANSW with distinction and commitment. Her business acumen has allowed the ETA to develop a strong financial base and a prominent position within the profession in NSW.

Sue is also a distinguished teacher. During her teaching career, she was a Head Teacher of English, and she has authored a number of books to support English teachers. In 2004 she was made a Member of the Order of Australia (AM) for service to education and to the teaching profession.

Susan Gazis is an ardent advocate for the development of the teaching profession. She has been instrumental in defining the qualities of effective teaching and assisting teachers to strive to be the very best professionals they can. She has been at the forefront of educational reform in Australia, and the profession will be the better for it.

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