



### Wishing you a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

While the FYiMaths project was finalised at the beginning of 2015, it's been a busy and productive year for us publishing findings, presenting at conferences, organising the annual workshop and assisting with the organisation of ACSME and AustMS conference sessions. Due to the continued support of the School of Mathematics and Statistics at The University of Melbourne, we have been able to continue to develop the network website, host the annual workshop and support network members.

For us the highlights of 2015 were:

- **The growth in network** membership and increased reach with over 230 members, 200 following our website, over 20,000 hits on the site and 170 Twitter followers.
- **The formation of new [state groups](#)** in Perth and Sydney, which have attracted workshop participants from the university, TAFE and secondary school sectors. The local nature of these groups will strengthen connections between the sectors and lead to a more coordinated and consistent approach to teaching mathematics at the secondary-tertiary interface. Both [state groups](#) now have their own pages on the website.
- **The dissemination** of our [project findings](#) through presentations at the Delta 2015, ISSOTL and ACSME conferences, with some interest shown from our South African and New Zealand colleagues to start their own local branches. Publications in the International Journal of Mathematical Education in Science and Technology and forthcoming book chapter in 'Communities of Practice: Facilitating Social Learning in Higher Education' will extend the reach of our project.
- **The continued debate and interest** around [assumed knowledge](#) entry statements, generated by the increased interest in STEM education and falling mathematics enrolments. The FYiMaths survey of entry requirements conducted during 2015 has resulted in a very useful resource, including providing AMSI with critical information for their annual [Discipline Profile](#).
- **Building connections** with the Australian Mathematical Society, through the organisation of the Mathematics Education sessions at the annual conference and establishing the [AustMS Special Interest Group in Mathematics Education](#). The increased number of presentations on mathematics education topics and participation of FYiMaths members in the annual conference has significantly raised the profile of education within the society.
- **The increasing interest in scholarship of teaching and learning** in mathematics, which is evident in the growing number of papers on mathematics education presented at conferences such as ACSME and AustMS, high level of interest in conferences posted on our website, increased submissions to the annual FYiMaths workshop and establishment of the state FYiMaths groups.

The New Year promises to bring many exciting opportunities for our network members and we look forward to providing occasions to meet, collaborate and develop our network.

With that in mind, we wish you the best for the holiday period and the New Year,

*Deb and Joann*

## Events in 2016

- **Australian Council of Deans of Science Workshops – *First Year in Science and Maths*, Melbourne 3 Feb and Sydney 5 Feb.** The ACDS is offering national workshops to explore big issues for first-year teaching and build a cross-disciplinary support group for first-year leaders. Our workshops will look horizontally across first-year disciplines as our students usually do. This group will extend out from existing discipline networks including First Year in Maths.

Topics for discussion:

- Integrated curriculum design and service teaching in quantitative skills
- Effective transition strategies and driving student engagement
- Changing nature of academic roles & leadership (with OLT Fellow, Prof Pauline Ross)

Tell us about your major issues and register interest for workshops by doing our [short survey](#).

**Attending:** no charge, we'll do our best to accommodate all those interested.

**Final Deadline for email registration:** **January 18** with delegate details (name, email, dietary req) to [acds-tlcc@deakin.edu.au](mailto:acds-tlcc@deakin.edu.au).

- **FYiMaths WA Workshop – 27th January (To be confirmed) at the University of Western Australia.**  
Further details to come, for information contact Heather Lonsdale [heather.lonsdale@curtin.edu.au](mailto:heather.lonsdale@curtin.edu.au)
- **FYiMaths Workshop – late June/early July, dates to be confirmed, at The University of Melbourne.**
- **9 Feb, 2016, [ANZIAM Conference – Mathematics Education Workshop](#).** This is the first time a Mathematics Education workshop has been held as part of the Australia and New Zealand Industry and Applied Mathematics Conference. The workshop is open to mathematicians and mathematics teachers and will be held at QT Hotel, Canberra on **Tuesday 9th of February 2016, from 4pm – 6pm**, followed by discussion and drinks from 6pm – 7pm. More details and registration (free) are available on the ANZIAM conference [website](#).

## [International Conferences](#)

- 25-27 February 2016, [Conference on Research in Undergraduate Mathematics \(SIGMAA RUME\)](#), Pittsburgh, USA.
- 31 Mar - 2 Apr, 2016, [International Network for Didactic Research in University Mathematics \(INDRUM\) 2016](#), Montpellier, France.
- 27-30 June 2016, [10th Annual International Conference on Mathematics: Teaching, Theory & Applications](#), Athens, Greece.
- 29- June – 2 July 2016, [STARS Conference](#), Perth, WA. This conference provides an opportunity to disseminate and discuss current research topics, good practice, emerging initiatives and leading edge ideas that are aimed at enhancing students' tertiary learning experiences. **The call for submissions is now open and closes 1 Feb '16.**
- 24th - 31st July 2016, [13th International Congress on Mathematics Education \(ICME\)](#), University of Hamburg, Germany.
- 6-7 September 2016, [CETL - MSOR Conference](#), Loughborough University, UK.
- 12-15 October, 2016, [ISSOTL 2016](#), Los Angeles, California.

## [Australian and New Zealand Conferences](#)

- **17-20 April 2016, [DEANZ Conference 2016](#)**, The University of Waikato, Hamilton, NZ. The biennial DEANZ conference showcases best practice and theory in the broad field of open, distance, flexible and mobile learning across all aspects of the education sector including the compulsory, tertiary, and professional development settings.
- **4-7 July 2016, [HERDSA](#)**, Fremantle, WA. The theme for the conference is **The Shape of Higher Education**. This theme provides an opportunity to not only report and reflect upon and to critique and challenge the current shape and direction of higher education but also to look to the future and engage your colleagues in creative possibilities. **Call for submissions is now open**, with range of closing dates depending on format.
- **3-7 July, 2016. [MERGA – Opening up mathematics education research](#), University of South Australia City West Campus, North Terrace, Adelaide, SA.** The theme of this year’s conference is highly relevant to practitioners and researchers alike. Access to “big data” and the increasingly open-access nature of information requires new research tools and affords opportunities to study classroom practices in sophisticated ways. Work accepted for presentation at the conference will be related to mathematics education whether at pre-school, primary, secondary, vocational, and/or tertiary levels or within informal and workplace settings.
- **7-9 August 2016, [ACER Research Conference 2016 – Improving STEM Learning: What will it take?](#) , Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre.** Australia faces significant challenges in promoting improved STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) learning in our schools. This annual research conference in Australian education. brings together invited researchers who share their findings with an audience of practitioners and policy makers.
- **28-30 September 2016, [ACSME \(Australian Conference of Science and Mathematics Education\)](#), The University of Queensland, 28-29 September & Discipline Day, QUT Friday, 30 Sept 2016.** Further details will be posted when available.
- **5-9 December, 2016. [OZCOTS](#), Canberra.** OZCOTS 2016, the 9<sup>th</sup> Australian Conference on Teaching Statistics, will consider many challenges of teaching Statistics for future statisticians, statistical users and consumers under the theme of “Statistics Education in a Big Data Era”. **Registration and abstract submissions open on 1 February 2016.**



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Support for this publication/activity has been provided by the Australian Government Office for Learning and Teaching. The views expressed in this publication/activity do not necessarily reflect the views of the Australian Government Office for Learning and Teaching.