



Australian Government

Department of Education, Science and Training

Values Education, Civics and Citizenship across Australia



AUSTRALIAN FEDERATION OF SOCIETIES
FOR STUDIES OF SOCIETY AND ENVIRONMENT

Australian Federation of Societies for Studies of Society and the Environment Ltd

Member Associations

Australian Association for Environmental Education, Inc.

Australian Geography Teachers' Association, Inc.

Business Educators Australasia, Inc.

History Teachers' Association of Australia, Inc.

Social Educators' Association of Australia, Inc.

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**FINAL REPORT
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1. BACKGROUND

AFSSSE has been funded by the Department of Science, Education and Training, Commonwealth of Australia, through the Quality Outcomes Programme to

- host at least eight teacher professional development activities, one in each State and Territory between November 2003 and March 2004, and
- provide summaries from each of the teacher professional development activities, which will be available on the AFSSSE website.

2. DELIVERABLES UNDER THIS CONTRACT

AFSSSE has hosted eight teacher professional development activities, one in each State and Territory between November 2003 and May 2004

- AAEE and AGTA (SA) in South Australia
- BEA in Victoria and Tasmania.
- HTAA in New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory.
- SEAA in Queensland
- AFSSSE in Northern Territory – online discussion forum
- AFSSSE in WA – electronic survey

Each professional development activity facilitated discussion on values education, civics and citizenship, promoted the use of the *Discovering Democracy* curriculum resources and engaged educators and students in examining the concept of values education within the Studies of Society and the Environment context with a view to improved teaching and learning outcomes. See Table 1 following.

Through state journals and newsletters, and the AFSSSE website, AFSSSE continues to publish promotional material about other professional development activities included those associated with the National History Project.

Table 1

State/ Territory	Host Group	Activity	Date
Tasmania	BEA	<p>The Mayor of Launceston addressed the topic <i>Youth, Connectedness, Citizenship</i>. Focus questions included values issues. Questions from the Tasmanian Essential Learnings Framework were used to guide debate and discussion. Invitees, through the Principals, included all secondary school teachers in the state.</p> <p>Report: Appendix 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Values education, civics and citizenship: Youth, Connectedness, Citizenship – The Visions and Values of a Democratic Society: Essential Learnings and social responsibility BEA (Tasmania) 	November 2003
ACT	HTAA	<p>A forum organised in partnership with the Civics and Citizenship Project Officer for the ACT Department of Education, Youth and Family Services, and the <i>Discovering Democracy</i> project officer in the ACT. The forum involved 120 participants focusing on civics and citizenship values, and the nature of global/international citizenship – what it means to be an Australian citizen.</p> <p>Report Appendix 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Values education, civics and citizenship “Australians All” ACT HTA – Values education, civics and citizenship “Australia Fair” ACT HTA – Evaluation Summary 	November 2003
Victoria	BEA	<p><i>Comview</i> Conference - Program included 3 days, 4 strands (one a full day strand on civics and citizenship education featuring <i>Discovering Democracy</i> and values education). 2000 teachers attended the conference and chose from sessions in the strands. Teachers of Business Studies, Environmental Studies and Social Education attended.</p> <p>Report – Appendix 3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Values education, civics and citizenship BEA 	November 2003
Queensland	SEAA	<p>A “think tank” to respond to the Values Education Study. Schools involved in the study were invited to attend and take part in discussions, which allowed the <i>Discovering Democracy</i> curriculum resources and the Studies of Society and the Environment key values to be used as reference points. Participants evaluated where implicit, explicit and hybrid approaches to teaching values might be used. The emphasis was on producing a list of practical strategies that teachers might use to teach <i>about, through and for</i> values for citizenship. Teachers Geography and Studies of Society and the Environment were invited.</p> <p>Report – Appendix 4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Values education, civics and citizenship SEAA – Report to World Education Fellowship (Qld) Forum AFSSSE – Values Education: What is it and how do we do it? Qld Catholic Education Commission – Values and SOSE, Brian Hoeppe, QUT – Key issues from forum discussion – Table linking Queensland SOSE Syllabus values to <i>Discovering Democracy</i> values to National Values Education Study to 	February/ March 2004

		Christian Values to Church Values and Tradition	
NSW	HTAA	A seminar investigating the teaching of SOSE with particular emphasis on values education, SOSE outcomes and teaching in rural areas. Links were made to the <i>Discovering Democracy</i> curriculum resources. A cross-curricular approach was used to allow teachers from a variety of disciplines to attend. Approximately twenty teachers were released for the day to investigate these issues. Teachers also planned units of work. Report currently being prepared by Julianne Beek	February/ March 2004
Western Australia	AGTA	An electronic survey was distributed to invite participants to respond to the Values Education Study. Teachers of Geography, History and Business Studies were particularly targeted. Appendix 5 – Summary of responses from survey	May 2004
South Australia	AAEE	A professional development session titled <i>Sustainability: Practise and Passion</i> was organised by the SA Chapter of the Australian Association for Environmental Education in partnership with the SA Geography Teachers Association Appendix 6 – Report <i>Sustainability: Practise & passion</i> AAEE (SA) and SA GTA – Report <i>Youth Culture and Values Education in the studies of Society Classroom</i> Dr J Pudsey, Flinders University SA – Powerpoint slides <i>Australia Fair – Engaging Students in Citizenship</i> Professor Alan Reid, University of SA – Case study Port Vincent Primary SA – Sample assessment item – Pro-forma used by groups to respond to <i>10 Values eerging from Australian school communities</i> – Forum evaluation	February /March 2004
Northern Territory	AFSSSE	An online discussion for teachers, students and parents. The discussion focused on values education, civics and citizenship and how to be an active citizen in a remote area. The network was broadened to include personnel from the Darwin Museum. Appendix 7 Report on NT online Forum	May 2004

Variations from original proposal:

- Input from Geography teachers occurred more in the South Australian Forum than at the Western Australian Forum
- AGTA did not organize a face to face Forum in WA. To gather information as per the contract, AFSSSE organised the dissemination of a survey. (Appendix 5)

Reports are currently being placed on the AFSSSE website www.pa.ash.org.au/afsssse.

3. OUTCOMES

As per the contract AFSSSE has

- Held eight forums (including one online discussion and one using electronic surveys) and collected information from these forums. This information is being placed on the AFSSSE site now that hard copies have been approved by DEST. The AFSSSE Board will be meeting August 2004 to determine how the material might be used for future professional development activities.
- Raised awareness of the *Discovering Democracy* materials by making reference to the materials, and using them as stimulus material at the forums held, and planned to be held.
- Planned the forums to take place according to timelines in the contract. The variations to timelines include:
 - The WA survey was conducted later than listed
 - The NSW report has yet to be received
 - The reports are in the process of being loaded onto the website
- Provided member associations with Guidelines to manage the project effectively. (Details in Interim Report)
- Identified opportunities to network with educators involved in civics and citizenship education. This includes offering civics and citizenship topics and facilitating values debates at a number of professional development conferences and workshops. AFSSSE Board members have provided links for civics and citizenship by contributing to
 - Discovering Democracy state and territory based projects
 - Maximising opportunities to include Discovering Democracy sessions in national, state and territory professional development activities. Examples include the History Teachers Association of Australia national conference 2003; Queensland SOSE Seminar December 2003; Comview Conference November 2003; AAEE national conference currently being planned.
 - Promotion of DEST funded competitions such as the National History Challenge and the Simpson Prize. AFSSSE board members, particularly in the History network promote through journals, newsletters and professional development activities. Efforts are made to link to SOSE, values education and using the Discovering Democracy materials.
 - Promotion of the National History Challenge, the Simpson Prize and the National History Project on the AFSSSE website.