



2021–2022 PRESIDENT'S REPORT

SOCIETY AND CULTURE ASSOCIATION OF NSW

Louise Dark, Newcastle High School

A very warm welcome to the first edition of CultureScope for 2022 which showcases the successes of students and teachers of Society and Culture during the past year. It was especially significant to celebrate these achievements at the HSC Awards evening in March at the State Library of NSW – not only do these students represent the very best of Society and Culture, they have demonstrated great resilience during two years of COVID affected learning. Congratulations to these students and their teachers!

We have a range of professional learning and student events planned for 2022 and will be utilising online platforms and forums assists in our charter of supporting all teachers and students across NSW. Our first professional learning event “Reconnect and Renew in 2022” was held at the Gallery Room at the State Library of NSW – many thanks to our amazing presenters and additionally, the State Library for hosting us. There were 45 participants in person and 75 who attended online and the event was extremely well received, with 59 participants completing the evaluation of the day. This feedback was largely extremely positive and we will strive to use this to help shape our planning for future events in 2022.

Some of the general feedback comments are included below:

As a first year teacher, I thoroughly enjoyed the time spent explaining the areas of focus. It was great that there was a booklet to accompany the content. Overall, I've come out from the PL understanding the importance of driving concepts and focusing in on certain areas of the syllabus that meet the needs of my students. Thank you!!

I was very grateful that it was available online as a country teacher attending PD in Sydney can be an expensive and time taking task. Feel at times very isolated in a country school so very informative

I just want to complement the committee on the organisation and running of the day. S&C for newbies can be a complex, confusing Syllabus and subject to teach. These days go a long way to “lift the covers” on the essence of the subject. Thank you.

I love and appreciate the tireless endeavours and commitment of the committee of teachers from the Society & Culture Association – who are dedicated to raising the profile of this brilliant subject statewide. Indeed, your magnanimous efforts have assisted many to improve their teaching methods and to ultimately improve their student outcomes. You have assisted me greatly, as I teach S & C alone in a rural secondary school far from Sydney, where culturally students don't favour humanities subjects, with the exception of Business Studies and perhaps Legal Studies. Thank you, I think you are all wonderful and deserve praise – It was a most splendid day, very worthwhile and informative.

Information regarding future events will be distributed via email to members and also via our social media platforms.

- Keep on PIPping – Online sessions during Term 2
- HSC Study Day – Friday 17th June (Wesley Theatre)
- August PD – Date and location TBC
- PIP Day HSC 2023 – Wednesday 2nd November (Wesley Theatre)

We will also use our relationship with the Professional Teachers' Council NSW and other educational networks to ensure members are kept current with Curriculum reform updates.

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Membership subscriptions play a vital role for a voluntary professional association such as ours. They enable us to sustain and develop the many important services and professional learning opportunities we provide. Your ongoing support means that as an association, we can continue to provide you with the benefits that come with being a valued member of the Society and Culture Association.

Please use the following link to follow the prompts in renewing your membership <https://sca.nsw.edu.au/become-a-member/>

I would like to extend my thanks to the 2022 Committee, volunteers who have continually worked behind the scenes to coordinate the Awards evening, develop resources for CultureScope, administer the website, manage enquiries, organise and prepare for events and develop the Preliminary exam 2022 that will be released (free) to all members.

I will also take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support in the engagement of our events and hope you are excited about teaching Society and Culture this year! Your work in developing sociocultural literacy in our young people helps shape strong and successful futures and is vitally important.

Louise Dark

President

Society and Culture Association of NSW

