

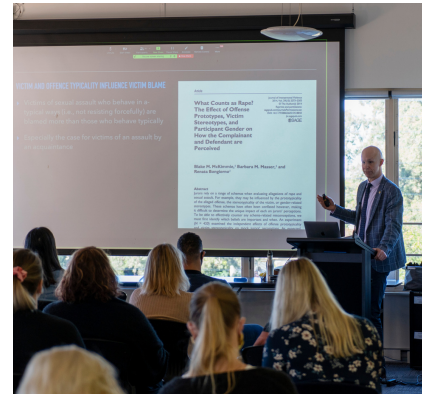
2021 Inaugural Conference

The first annual PTAQ conference was held on the Saturday 17th of July 2021 at St. Peter's Lutheran College. We were humbled by the number of psychology teachers who joined us for the day both in person and online via Zoom. With over 75 participants, not only was it a great day to network with each other, but it was also a fantastic day to share knowledge with like-minded teachers who have such a passion for psychology.

Those in attendance were lucky enough to hear about Stereotypes in the Courtroom from Professor Blake McKimmie (UQ) as our Keynote speaker and also enjoyed a day with teacher led sessions on external exams, statistics, practicals and creative ideas to teaching Unit 3 and 4. In our final session, Associate professor Fiona Barlow (UQ) finished the day with a reflection of lessons learnt over ten years of teaching psychology and I am sure those in attendance would agree that it gave us all a lot to think about and to implement in our own teaching of psychology at the high school level.

We would also like to thank Kellie Daly from QCAA for answering internal assessment questions posted by our attendees as well as our sponsors Edrolo, UQ WRAP program and Oxford University Press for their support and presence at the conference. We would also like to thank QLD Total Education for their generous raffle donation. I would like to personally extend my thank you for all those in PTAQ who helped put together the event, including staying up till all hours of the night preparing for presentations, replying to emails and posting on social media. We look forward to seeing all of you at the next conference and if you would like to get involved, perhaps volunteer to present, run a workshop or even take this chance to step into the Conference Coordinator board role (which is still open), please do not hesitate to contact me.

- Joey Saunders, Secretary



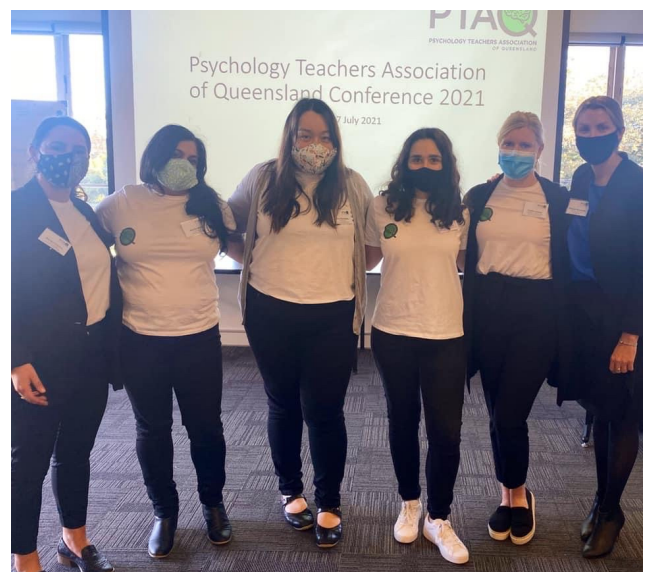
Keynote Speaker Professor Blake McKimmie



Conference attendees heard from resourceful experts in the field



Goodie bags for conference attendees!



The 2021 PTAQ Executive Team

From the President...



I was given the privilege in June of this year to serve the PTAQ community by taking on the role of president and the first items on my agenda was to successfully facilitate our inaugural conference for our psychology teacher community. The feedback I received was very positive and I am so grateful for those that assisted by organising and presenting. I would especially like to thank the members who supported us by attending, both online and in person. Despite some technical issues and limited venue capacity, I am proud to say that the day was a success! We had over 80 registrations! We hope to hold a conference every year during the first week of term 3.

Your PTAQ team have been busy working behind the scenes over the last few months launching our new website and digitizing our processes. We appreciate your patience with this work in progress. We also welcomed new positions on our management committee so we can continue to grow the association and tap into the skills of our wonderful members. These include marketing, member recruitment, teach meets, conference and community engagement. We are keen to have more members actively involved in PTAQ, so if you have any ideas or skills that you would like to share, please don't hesitate to contact us. We hope to continue strengthening our policies and procedures, including increasing our communication to our members.

Moving forward, we aim to provide members with more professional development opportunities and establish stronger connections with universities to provide the best and relevant professional development possible. I am super excited for the year ahead and appreciate your continued support. We have an amazing community!

- Amrita Moss, President

Pocket of Practice

Did you know the American Psychological Association has it's own Online Psychology Laboratory populated with experiments that students and teachers can participate in? These experiments have several links to the QCAA Psychology Curriculum (such as the Muller-Lyer & Ponzo illusions from Unit 3, Topic 4) and are a great way for students to grasp concepts in the classroom as well as be a participant in research. The OPL library of demonstrations is also incredibly useful for explaining, exploring and applying psychological concepts. Head to the [APA Website](#) to check it out.

Member Spotlight

Name: Kelley Cowley

Current School: Queensland Academies for Creative Industries (QACI)

Member of PTAQ since: The beginning! I can't quite remember when that was, but I do remember Renata speaking at a workshop at St Pauls at Bald Hills way back in the day.

Why did you join PTAQ?

To support the initiatives of a motivated and knowledgeable team, and also to learn more about teaching psychology myself.

When you're not teaching, how do you enjoy spending your time?

Sewing, and apparently not much else.

What is the best piece of teaching advice you have received and why?

Change activities at least every 15-20 minutes. Like many of us, I suspect, I can talk too much. 😊

What is your favourite psychology topic to teach and why?

Social Psychology is a personal favourite. I love all the shady research that came in the early days, but I just find it all fascinating.

Favourite psychology fact? Multi-tasking is not a thing!



What we're listening to...

NPR's Hidden Brain Podcast explores the unconscious patterns that drive human behavior and questions that lie at the heart of our complex and changing world.

What we're reading...

Lost Connections by Johann Hari

An eye-opening read on the causes of depression in the modern world, and where science may be going wrong. This book will change your perspective on the way we treat and understand mental health.

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