



ECONOMICS & BUSINESS EDUCATORS NSW

An affiliate member of Business Educators Australasia Inc.

SERVING MEMBERS SINCE 1968

ABN 29 002 677 750

3B Smalls Road RYDE NSW 2112

Phone (02) 9886 7786 - Fax (02) 9886 7673

email: admin@ebe.nsw.edu.au ~ website : www.ebe.nsw.edu.au

PRESIDENT'S REPORT TO THE 2015 ECONOMICS AND BUSINESS EDUCATORS NSW ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (7 DECEMBER 2015)

It is my pleasure to present the Economics and Business Educators NSW (EBE NSW) President's Report for 2015. Since the last EBE Annual General Meeting (AGM) on 1 December 2014, it has been a productive and exciting year for EBE NSW as we have sought to serve our members and their students and support them in the classroom as they have taught the Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards NSW (BOSTES NSW) Economics, Business Studies, Legal Studies and Commerce courses, providing them with high quality educational services.

EBE NSW began implementing its **Strategic Plan (2015 - 2017)** in 2015 (at the end of this report is a copy of the strategic plan). The strategic plan is built around three strategic pillars:

1. Professional growth
2. Networking
3. Advocacy

We have made some good progress in relation to the goals in the strategic plan as will be seen in this report.

Educational change continues to provide us with both opportunities and challenges, including reduced funding for government curriculum authorities which has resulted in a reduction of support services from these authorities for teachers of Economics, Business Studies, Commerce and Legal Studies, continuing developments with regards to the Australian Professional Teaching Standards and continued implementation of the NSW Government's Great Teaching, Inspired Learning Blueprint for Action policy. EBE NSW continues to play an important role in helping its members manage this change.

EBE NSW membership numbers continue to be strong and we are experiencing a growth in members as shown in the table below – "EBE NSW Membership Figures 2012 - 2015". Our members are made up of teachers in both government and non - government schools in NSW, Australian international schools overseas, student teachers and members in the "business/corporate" category. An organization like Economics and Business Educators NSW is a community of support for all educators involved in the courses it represents, especially for educators in isolated areas. Our total membership stands at 436 as at 22 October 2015 (this figure includes individual memberships, school/library memberships and business/corporate memberships). While our membership figures remain healthy overall, there is potential to increase these numbers and engage those teachers in schools who are not members. In addition, our student teacher members could be increased. I envisage more teachers will apply to be members of EBE NSW in the future as they are seek ways to address the Australian Professional Standards for Teachers.



EBE NSW Membership Figures 2012 - 2015

2015 (as at 22 October 2015)	2014	2013	2012
436	402	369	349

I wish to thank our members for their support of the association and participation in our activities this year. In all our activities our top priority is meeting and exceeding the expectations of our members.

EBE NSW would be unable to achieve its vision and goals without the knowledge, skills and time of the educators who are members of the **EBE NSW Board of Directors**. Twelve educators made up the Board of Directors during the last year:

- Mr Joe Alvaro
- Mr Andrew Athavle
- Mr Matthew Bookallil
- Ms Joean Borg
- Ms Cheryl Brennan
- Ms Kate Dally
- Ms Bronwyn Hession
- Ms Kate Keeley
- Ms Anna Tsoutsas
- Mr Nicholas Ward
- Dr Sarah Wright

We had a diverse Board this year with educators from government, Catholic, Christian and independent schools, as well as the Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards NSW (BOSTES NSW) and universities. EBE NSW Vice-President, Cheryl Brennan and myself sit on the Professional Teachers' Council NSW (the coordination and consultancy body for professional teacher associations in NSW) Board of Directors. This diversity has enabled EBE to better serve the interests of all members and remain strategically focused as it carried out its activities and faced the educational challenges of this year. Full Board meetings have been held regularly and Board members have also been able to communicate regularly online. Guest speakers at our meetings this year included Mr Darren Taylor, Inspector HSIE, Curriculum and Assessment Standards from BOSTES NSW and Ms Jennifer Curtis, HSIE Advisor 7-12 - Learning and Leadership - Secondary Education from the NSW Department of Education. We are grateful to Club Burwood RSL for allowing us to use their meeting rooms for our Board meetings at no cost.

I would like to thank all the Board members for all their work and willingness to give to and share with the teaching profession and assist teachers to improve student learning outcomes. It is not always easy juggling the demands of a full time job and carrying out the important and useful work we do for EBE NSW on a pro bono basis, and I would like to acknowledge the contributions of all Board members. I also add a vote of thanks to Board members who carried out the added responsibilities as an Executive Board member. Thank you to Cheryl Brennan and Kate Dally and as Vice – Presidents and Bronwyn Hession who performed the roles of both Treasurer and Company Secretary.

The strength and sustainability of the teaching profession is directly related to the quality of our teachers. This is why designing and conducting professional development courses is our core activity. EBE NSW continues to provide members with access to effective, syllabus friendly, classroom focused and cost friendly **professional development courses** to assist teachers in providing meaningful and engaging learning experiences in the classroom. We are especially committed to supporting beginning teachers as they face the challenging and demanding early years of teaching. It has been a year of strong member involvement with regards to our professional development courses. We have implemented a busy professional development program this year carefully prepared to meet the professional learning needs of teachers:

1. *“Teaching the Preliminary Course (Year 11) in Business Studies for the first time?” – 27 February 2015*
1. *“Teaching the Preliminary Course (Year 11) in Economics and Legal Studies for the First Time?” – 11 March 2015*
2. *“Revamping and Resourcing Commerce” – 1st April 2015*
3. *“2015 EBE NSW Annual Conference” – 15 May 2015 (Two EBE NSW professional development travel grants for members from a remote area of NSW were provided for this conference)*
4. *“Simulation as a Teaching Method in Business Studies” – 6 August 2015 (conducted in association with SP Jain School of Global Management)*
5. *“Teaching the HSC Course (Year 12) in Business Studies, Economics or Legal Studies for the first time?” – 17 August 2015*
6. *“Current Economic Events and Monetary Policy” – 1st September 2015 (Conducted in association with the Reserve Bank of Australia)*
7. *“CHOICE Lab and Testing Facility Guided Tour” – 23 September 2015*
8. *“Legal Update Conference” – 9 October 2015*

9. *“EBE NSW Rural Professional Development Course: Teaching the HSC Course (Year 12) in Business Studies or Legal Studies for the first time? – 24 October 2015 (Held in Wagga Wagga, in association with the Riverina Social Science Teachers Association)”*

We are developing a connection with SP Jain School of Global Management, an Australian business school with campuses in Sydney, Mumbai, Singapore and Dubai, which has a focus on global intelligence. With the help of a bursary provided by SP Jain School of Global Management, I travelled to Singapore in February 2015, together with two other EBE NSW members, to represent schools in Sydney at the 2015 SP Jain School of Global Management Counsellors and Educators Conference at the Singapore campus. EBE NSW is looking forward to developing further connections with SP Jain School of Global Management in the future.

Thank you to all the EBE NSW Board members who designed and conducted presentations at various professional development courses throughout the year, enabling members to benefit directly from the expertise of EBE NSW Board members and teachers in the classroom during these courses. I also thank all our other presenters this year. All our courses are evaluated by attendees and we use this information to learn about what is working well and what needs improving. Overall evaluations this year indicated that the content of our professional development courses are meeting the professional learning needs of teachers and student teachers attending.

EBE NSW (through the Professional Teachers’ Council NSW) is a BOSTES NSW endorsed provider of professional development for the maintenance of accreditation at Proficient, Highly Accomplished and Lead levels, and a number of our members use professional development hours from our courses to meet their accreditation requirements with BOSTES NSW. Courses that are endorsed are advertised on the BOSTES NSW website which enables us to benefit from this additional method of promotion. A number of our courses this year were BOSTES NSW endorsed, thanks to the work of EBE NSW Director Bronwyn Hession and I thank her for her expertise in this area.

Further professional development was available to members through the EBE NSW Helpdesk (helpdesk@ebe.nsw.edu.au) enabling them to access Board members for advice and assistance in relation to the teaching and learning of Economics, Business Studies, Legal Studies and Commerce this year.

EBE continued the selling of the following **EBE NSW publications** this year which are designed to enhance teaching and learning programs in schools:

- The EBE Book of Economics Questions for HSC Students
- The Yellow Book of Business Terms
- Annual EBE Trial HSC Examinations (Business Studies, Economics and Legal Studies). The EBE Trial HSC Examinations give EBE Board members another opportunity to share their expertise and experience with members.

The examinations are a major annual publication project. I thank my fellow EBE NSW Board members for their commitment to this work and enabling teachers to access high quality assessment material.

“The EBE Journal – Journal of the Economics and Business Educators NSW” continues to be provided in an electronic format which is accessible by members on the EBE website. Past issues of the journal are also available on the website which enables members to access professional reading and resources which are available in the journals. I would like to thank our Journal Editor Matthew Bookallil for all his work on “The EBE Journal” and all the contributors to the journal this year. EBE NSW has a long history of providing a journal to members and we are committed to continuing this EBE NSW membership benefit into the future. The journal is especially important for our members in remote areas.

We continued to run the **CPA Australia Plan Your Own Enterprise Competition** in NSW this year in association with Business Educators Australasia, which enables students in NSW and around Australia to develop their business planning skills. I would like to thank our PYOE NSW Coordinator, Nicholas Ward, for all his work in coordinating the competition in NSW this year, including the coordination of the NSW shortlisting process. Thank you to the EBE NSW Board members and teachers who were on the shortlisting panel this year.

We were able to recognize the PYOE NSW winners at our annual NSW awards ceremony on 7 October 2015 at the Sydney office of CPA Australia. At the ceremony prizes and certificates were awarded to the NSW student winners and their teachers. I congratulate the following winners and their teachers from NSW:

- Division 1 (Individual entry) – Joshua Spicer, Rose Bay Secondary College for his business plan, “Intergenerational Solutions” (Teacher: Mr Philip Horrell).
- Division 2 (Group entry) – Vanshika Virmani & Jennifer Xu, Hornsby Girls High School for their business plan “Lemon Myrtle” (Teacher: Ms Stephanie Boden).

Although our NSW winners were not successful at this year’s Australasian judging and awards ceremony, they are to be commended on their excellent business plans. The individual category at the national level was won by Jonathan Nagappa of Christ Church Grammar School in Western Australia. His business idea was SurfScout, a remote controlled drone service to spot sharks and keep Australia’s swimmers safe. The group category at the national level was won by Harrison Wallace, Peter Mercado and Robert Jiang from The Hutchins School in Tasmania. Their business, The Tapas Truck, provides affordable Spanish food to Hobart residents. I congratulate the 2016 PYOE national winners.

CPA Australia sponsors the PYOE Competition and I acknowledge its support of students and teachers through this competition. This competition is an excellent way for EBE to interact directly with students of the courses we represent and their parents.

Another way we interacted directly with students this year was through our **HSC student seminars** at the 2015 HSC and Careers Expo at Royal Hall of Industries, Moore Park and at the Western Sydney Careers Expo at Sydney Olympic Park. I presented seminars for both

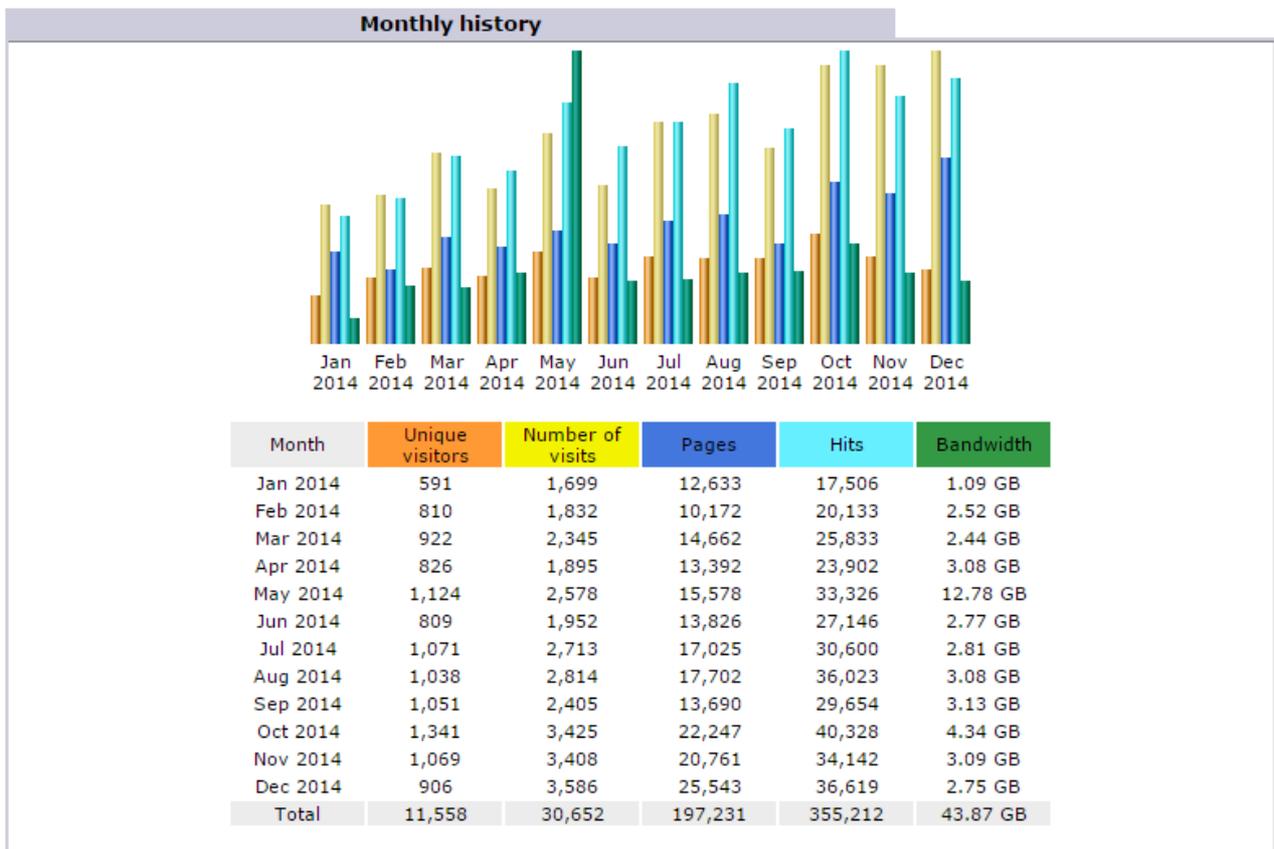


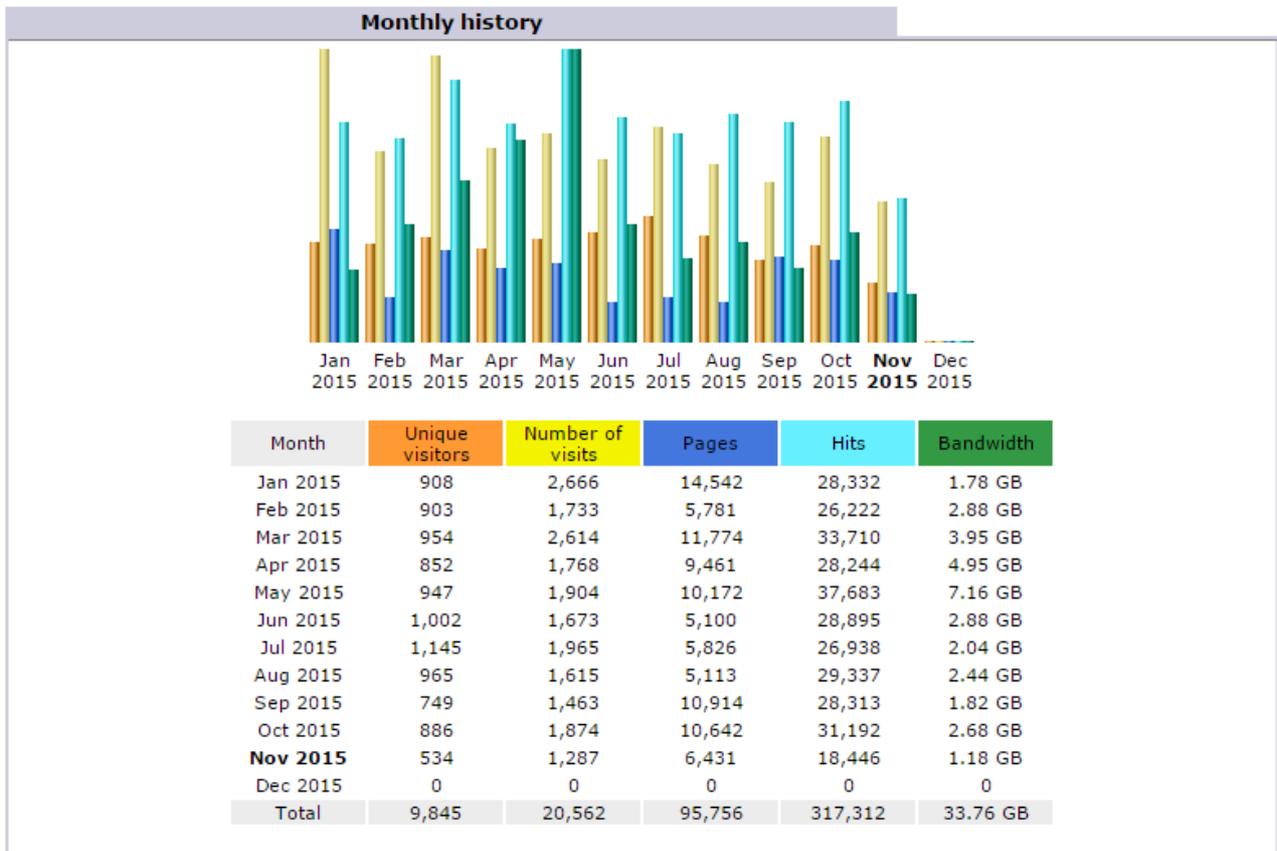
Business Studies and Legal Studies students at these events, focusing on examination preparation strategies. EBE NSW provided these seminars free of charge.

The **EBE NSW website** continues to be a major source of up to date information in relation to the vision and goals of EBE NSW. We outsource the upkeep of the technical side and design of the website to our webmaster, Rob Berry, while maintaining oversight of the content that appears on the website. We thank Rob for his assistance with the website and for his knowledge and skills in this area.

As can be seen in the graphs below the EBE website attracts many visitors.

EBE Website Statistics as at 25 November 2015





EBE NSW Website - Most commonly visited pages as at 25 November 2015

1. Home page
2. News
3. Resources
4. Professional development
5. Publications

We have also continued to produce regular **e-newsletters** which are emailed to members (and made available on the EBE NSW website), enabling members to receive all the latest news with regards to EBE NSW and the teaching and learning of Economics, Business Studies, Commerce and Legal Studies directly into their email inbox.

Improving the **quality of the courses we represent** and responding to **curriculum change** remains an ongoing feature of our work. EBE NSW is well placed to improve the quality of our courses and respond to curriculum developments as we have members who are teachers in schools, active in the classroom, committed to their students and passionate about the curriculum.

I represented EBE NSW at the **15th Annual Meeting of Human Society and its Environment (HSIE) Professional Teachers' Associations, Tertiary Educators and HSIE Advisors from NSW Department of Education** on 30 November 2015. HSIE professional teaching associations and tertiary educators in the area of HSIE came together to discuss the Australian Curriculum, learn from each other and discuss ways HSIE professional teaching associations could support HSIE pre-service teachers. Tertiary educators and professional teachers' associations such as EBE are an essential link between teachers, schools and the curriculum. EBE recognizes the importance of connecting with the future teachers of the courses we support who are studying at university and promoting the importance to them of becoming a member of EBE. This year we continued to offer a student teacher membership category which is heavily discounted and student membership discounts to our professional development courses.

I wish to thank our three **office staffmembers**, Annette Davies, Sue Gilbertson and Alan Hearle, for their knowledge, skills and support this year. They have shared the vision of EBE NSW and have made significant contributions to all our projects. We are grateful to the NSW Department of Education for providing us with cost friendly office space at their Ryde premises.

I acknowledge the continued support provided to EBE NSW by **Business Educators Australasia**, as our umbrella national subject association and in particular thank the Immediate Past President of BEA, Bronwyn Hession, for her leadership of the organization until the BEA AGM in June, 2015 which saw Bronwyn retire as BEA President and BEA Councillor for EBE NSW. Bronwyn served as President of BEA for three years and led the organisation during a period which saw significant developments with regards to the ACARA Australian Curriculum: Economics and Business and ACARA Australian Curriculum: Civics and Citizenship. Her knowledge, skills and experience were invaluable during these curriculum developments. Before her term as President, Bronwyn served on the BEA Board as BEA Councillor for EBE NSW. I thank Bronwyn for all her effort and time, representing NSW Economics, Business Studies, Legal Studies and Commerce teachers at the national level. I congratulate Mr Tony Kuc who is the new BEA President. I am now the BEA Councillor for NSW and I look forward to representing EBE members in this role. Our connections to BEA are important to teachers and students in NSW because this is the channel through which we increasingly have input in matters relating to the Australian curriculum and other critical national matters which impact on us here in NSW.

EBE NSW is in a healthy **financial position** and acknowledges the ongoing support of CPA Australia. We are also grateful to our office staff for their careful attention to the financial matters of the organization. This healthy financial position will allow EBE NSW to look at new ways to return more value to members. More information about the financial position of the association can be found in the "EBE NSW Financial Statements for the Year Ended 2015."

EBE NSW is highly respected and recognised. Despite this and our many achievements we cannot afford to be complacent as we look to the future. Funding by the government for many significant projects in the area of education continues to decrease, educational change continues to increase and teacher associations like EBE NSW are being called upon to do more and more with limited resources. Many **challenges and opportunities** await us in the future:

- We need to continue to pay attention to developments in the area of education which impact on our members at the Federal and NSW Government levels and making our views known when appropriate.
- We need to continue to monitor the development of the Australian Curriculum: Economics and Business and Australian Curriculum: Civics and Citizenship as BOSTES NSW considers its response to these curriculum developments.
- We need to ensure that our professional development courses are responsive to emerging teaching and learning strategies and technologies.
- Exciting opportunities await us as the NSW Government “Great Teaching, Inspired Learning – A Blueprint for Action” policy continues to be implemented, including 16.4 (“the profession will be supported to inform and provide registered teacher professional learning”) and as all teachers begin to move to the Australian Professional Standards for Teachers making accreditation integral to teachers’ progression and remuneration. This all has potential to build our capacity to provide professional learning opportunities to a wider audience.
- We need to continue to maintain the financial stability of our association and invest our finances more wisely so as to generate greater returns and to consider further ways we can use funds to add more value to membership of EBE.
- We need to continue to pay attention to governance issues and update our constitution.
- We must ensure the EBE NSW office operates effectively and efficiently based on the values in the EBE NSW Strategic Plan (2015 – 2017) – “excellence”, “integrity” and “members first”, as it supports the Board members as they carry out their work.
- We must be on a path of continuous improvement, maintain high standards in all we do and continue to encourage and develop excellence in the teaching and learning of Economics, Business Studies, Legal Studies and Commerce, which we know contain critical and powerful knowledge and skills that we want young people to leave school with and build on throughout their lives.

EBE NSW has been an active association over the past year, representing and supporting teachers and students of the BOSTES NSW Economics, Business Studies, Legal Studies and Commerce courses. The teaching and learning of these courses would continue without EBE NSW but I would argue the quality of the lessons in classrooms and teacher capacity and confidence with regards to these courses would suffer if EBE NSW did not exist. Our association has made a very significant contribution to education this year and has played a significant part in furthering the teaching profession and assisting teachers to improve student learning outcomes.

I again thank all the EBE NSW Board members and the EBE NSW office staff for their efforts this year and for assisting me in my role as President. I also thank all the EBE NSW members for their support of EBE NSW. I look forward to working together again as we begin a new year.

Joe Alvaro
Economics and Business Educators NSW President
7 December 2015

Attached to this document:

- *Economics and Business Educators NSW Strategic Plan 2015 – 2017*



Economics and Business Educators NSW Strategic Plan 2015 – 2017

VISION

About us

Economics and Business Educators (EBE) NSW is an active professional teachers association, representing and supporting teachers of the Board of Studies, Teaching and Educational Standards NSW Economics, Business Studies, Legal Studies and Commerce courses. It was established in 1968 and operates as a company limited by guarantee. EBE NSW is governed by a Board of Directors who are all educators. It is a member of the Professional Teachers' Council NSW (the coordination and consultancy body for professional teachers associations in NSW) and also an affiliate member of the national subject association, Business Educators Australasia.

STRATEGIC PILLAR 1 – PROFESSIONAL GROWTH

Goal 1 – Develop teacher capacity in Economics, Business, Legal and Commerce education.

Strategy 1.1 – Design and conduct professional development activities.

Strategy 1.2 – Source, develop and provide resources for classroom teachers.

Strategy 1.3 – Support teachers to engage with the Australian Professional Standards for Teachers.

STRATEGIC PILLAR 2 – NETWORKING

Goal 2 – Build a supportive network for Economics, Business, Legal and Commerce educators.

Strategy 2.1 – Facilitate connections between classroom teachers.

Strategy 2.2 – Provide a forum for teachers to access subject experts.

Strategy 2.3 – Establish relationships with key stakeholders.

STRATEGIC PILLAR 3 – ADVOCACY

Goal 3 – Act as a voice on matters of significance to Economics, Business, Legal and Commerce educators.

Strategy 3.1 – Promote the teaching of Economics, Business Studies, Legal Studies and Commerce in schools.

Strategy 3.2 – Monitor and discuss current curriculum trends in Economics, Business Studies, Legal Studies and Commerce.

Strategy 3.3 – Inform government policy with regards to the teaching and learning of Economics, Business Studies, Legal Studies and Commerce education in schools.

Strategy 3.4 – Act as a change agent for quality teaching and learning in Economics, Business Studies, Legal Studies and Commerce.

GOVERNANCE – Best practice governance embedded within all aspects of the organisational structure.

CAPACITY – Sustainable finances achieved through clearly defined goals.

CAPABILITY – A well developed and effective team of Board members and staff.

Our Vision

Inspire teachers to be passionate and dynamic Economics, Business, Legal and Commerce educators.

Our Values

EXCELLENCE –

We strive to achieve high standards in all we do.

INTEGRITY –

We act in good faith and do the right thing.

MEMBERS FIRST –

Our top priority is meeting and exceeding the expectations of our members.

Recognition

EBE NSW was the winner of the 2014 Australian Securities and Investments Commission (ASIC) MoneySmart Week Highly Commended Award (Education Category).