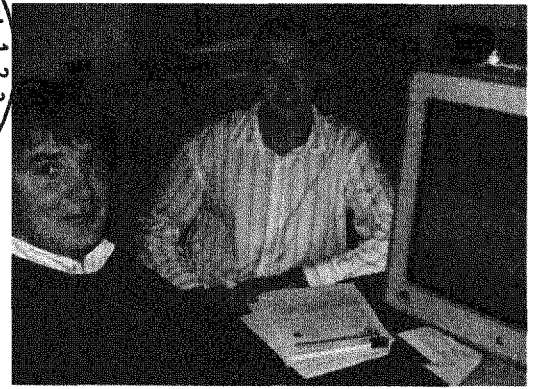
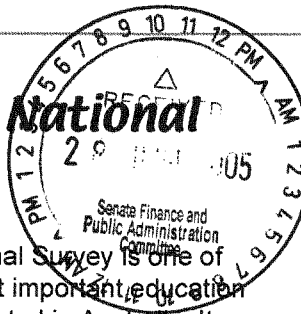




About the National Survey



Malcolm Abel and Stephen Swinsberg at work on the web surveys

The National Survey is an initiative of

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The SiMERR National Survey is funded by the



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www.simerr.une.edu.au

The SiMERR National Survey is one of the largest and most important education surveys ever conducted in Australia. It aims to identify the key issues affecting student outcomes in science, ICT and mathematics education in rural and regional Australia.

The survey is truly national, involving 5669 primary and secondary schools, from Norfolk Island to the Kimberly Ranges. It is funded by the Australian Government, and has the approval of every state, territory and diocesan education authority.

Why a National Survey?

Studies have shown that students in rural and regional areas tend to achieve at lower levels than their peers at metropolitan schools when it comes to science, ICT and mathematics. Many rural and regional schools also face a range of problems, including attracting and retaining quality teachers, inadequate resources and professional isolation of staff. However, till now there has been no coordinated national

approach to determine how widespread these problems are.

What will it find?

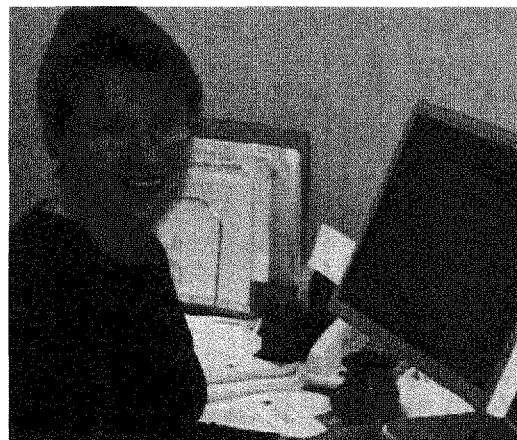
The SiMERR National Survey represents the first Australia-wide attempt to generate high quality base-line data about rural and regional teachers involved in these subject areas, and the issues that may be limiting the learning outcomes of their students. It is hoped that the findings of the study will guide initiatives to address the concerns, and optimise the strengths, of rural and regional teachers and schools.

What next?

Survey forms have now been distributed, and the survey will close on June 24th. Focus group interviews will be conducted by the SiMERR hubs throughout June and July. Findings will be available on the SiMERR Australia website later this year, and published in an Australian Government report.

How can I participate?

Teachers and parents can go to our website www.simerr.une.edu.au and log on using the codes sent to each school. Paper versions of the surveys have also been sent to each school.



Anne Parnell is Project Officer for the National Survey

I would like to thank all SiMERR personnel for their contributions to the National Survey thus far. In particular, I would like to acknowledge the efforts of Mrs Anne Parnell, Dr Debra Panizzon, Mr Tony Brown, Mr Greg Scott and Dr Lorraine Graham in designing and developing the surveys; Anne Parnell and Tony Brown for their work on the web surveys, and Mr Russel Glover for coordinating the printing and dispatch.

- Dr Terry Lyons, Project Manager