



MINUTES: Thursday 4th June 2026

Venue: Griffith University Gold Coast Campus G39_1.19 (Science, Engineering & Architecture Building)

Attendance:

Leigh Kirwan (Griffith University), Rosa Chen (Kimberly College), Jack Augustine (Park Ridge SHS), Oriane Monet (St. Hilda's), Aileen Seidman (Marymount College) online, Cathy Galligan (Benowa SS), Peter Nyberg (Beenleigh SHS), Yoko MacDonald (A.B. Paterson College), Susie Fenton (Murasaki Sensei's Classroom), Mariko Saito (Griffith University), Markus Ebeling (Clairvaux MacKillop College), Giovanni Picariello (Southport SHS), Trina Nakahashi.

Apologies:

Cathryn Very, Anna Belousova, Masako Ware, Yumi Tatton, Jackie Mikami, Candice Sparks, Lynley Calder, Mary Spinella, Loretta Kishihara, Joanne Cheng, Saku Sunakawa.

Minutes of previous meeting and Business arising:

Leigh Kirwan moved that the Agenda and the Minutes of the previous meeting be approved, and Aileen seconded.

President's Report:

- Leigh reported that the Gian Franco Conti Day on 20th May was a huge success largely thanks to Cathy's work and Cathy said that there were 48 attendees from as far away as Townsville, Hervey Bay and Toowoomba. She said there was great feedback from the attendees and that she was keen to do it again in 2027. Cathy received a great round of applause from the teachers present at the meeting.
- FATFA 2026 French Teacher Awards: Leigh will complete the nomination for Cathy as no other French teachers responded.

- Leigh reported that he attended the Brisbane Speech Contest convenor's meeting on 30th May and that Wez Wright, the new overall convenor, was doing a great job and it promises to be a great contest once again.
- LTQ Gold Coast Japan Tour for Teachers in 2027: The following members have indicated that they would like to participate, most choosing the Easter Holidays: Cathy Galligan, Pete Nyberg, Anna Belousova, Jack Augustine, Cathryn Very, Giovanni Picariello, Susie Fenton, Markus Ebeling and maybe Luke Hodgson. Leigh will begin preparing an itinerary and costing. If you are interested in joining the tour, please email Leigh at L.Kirwan@griffith.edu.au
- Japan and Friends Day will be held at the Broadbeach Cultural Centre from 10am – 4pm on 20th September. Leigh has been asked if the LTQ would be sponsors once again and the meeting agreed.

Webmaster's Report:

Giovanni has been busy updating Speech Contest documents and said all was well.

Treasurer's Report:

Cash balance \$10,028.6047

Mr Shuichi Matsunawa

Mr Matsunawa attended the meeting after having been introduced to Leigh by Toshi Mikami. He did a presentation on the Australian Academy of Martial Arts Karate-Do Club Inc. of which he is the Principal Coach. He is happy to go to Gold Coast schools and do karate presentations. Yoko MacDonald said they had a wonderful day when he visited A. B. Paterson College. If you would like him to attend your school, please email him directly at s.matsunawa@aama.com.au. The website is www.aama.com.au

Speech Contest:

Toshi Mikami also introduced Leigh to Mr Naoyuki Hayashi, the manager of the GC office of HIS Travel, a large Japanese travel organisation. He would like to set up a stall at the Speech Contest to provide brochures and maps of Japan and will sponsor us for \$500.

Saizen Tours will also set of a stall offering assistance in planning school tours to Japan and will also sponsor us for \$500.

The Junction Café will once again be open from 9am to 3pm on the day of the Speech Contest.

Joanne Cheng was an apology but emailed Leigh to say that all was well with the Chinese section.

Jack reported that Yumi Tatton has organised 4 stallholders to be near the entertainment area on the day.

Pete said that we could increase the amount convenors can spend on refreshments for their helpers to \$15 per head this year. They would need to provide him with receipts for reimbursement.

Aileen said that the Registration Forms were out and Speeches were coming in from the convenors.

If any teacher would like their Principal to be invited to the Awards Ceremony, they should contact Leigh with their Principal's email and he will organise an official invitation.

Cathry provided a list of businesses which Pete could contact for further sponsorship.

Leigh had a meeting with the Griffith people helping to organise the Speech Contest and the same rooms as last year were able to be booked. Leigh provided a list to attendees in the room and Giovanni will add it to the website. Convenors can advise Leigh of any changes required closer to the date.

Atsuya is no longer interested in being the SC Photographer, but designed an excellent poster which Leigh provided A3 colour copies of at the meeting.

P.D.

Susie ran an inspirational PD on gamification with a card game she has been working on and received feedback from teachers at the meeting.

Future meetings:

Thu 16 July	GC MLTAQ	G39_1.19
Thu 06 August	GC MLTAQ	G39_1.19
Sun 16 August	Speech Contest	Various
Thu 03 September	GC MLTAQ	G39_1.19
Thu 08 October	GC MLTAQ	G39_1.19
Thu 05 November	GC MLTAQ	TBA
Thu 26 November	Christmas Party	

Dinner this month: Yuyin Chinese Restaurant in Southport which was attended by 8 teachers – the largest group in a while.

Meeting closed at 6.15 pm



Post-meeting dinner at Yuyin Restaurant