



Minutes: Thursday, 24th July, 2025 4:00pm for 4:30pm
Venue: Griffith University Gold Coast Campus
G39_4.27/4.47 (Science, Engineering and Architecture Building)

Attendance: Dr Leigh Kirwan (Griffith University), Cathy Galliagan (Benowa SS), Joanne Cheng (QAHS), Jack Augustine (Park Ridge SHS), Yoko MacDonald (A.B. Paterson College), Mary Spinella (online), Mariko Saito (Griffith University), Trina Nakahashi (Guardian Angels Primary School), Masako Ware (Ashmore SS), Janette Lin (Coomera Anglican College), Fuxin Li (Varsity College), Peter Nyberg (Beenleigh SHS), Andrew Warr (Merrimac SHS).

Apologies: Jackie Mikami, Candice Sparks, Anna Belousova, Giovanni Picariello, Loretta Kishihara, Aileen Seidman, Cathryn Very, Yumi Tatton.

Minutes of previous meeting and Business Arising: Leigh moved that the Agenda and the Minutes from the previous Minutes were approved, Cathy seconded and the Minutes were carried.

Correspondence in and out: N/A

President's Report:

- Leigh reported on the success of the Japanese Network Conference held at Griffith's South Bank Campus and the Australian Federation of Modern Language Teacher Associations (AFMLTA) held in Adelaide recently. There were only three applications for funding for Adelaide, Keita Ishii, Anna Belousova and Leigh Kirwan. All were granted \$1500 towards the cost of the conference and travel and accommodation. More members should avail themselves of this opportunity in the future.

President, Dr Leigh Kirwan
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Treasurer's Report: Current balance is \$5,864.96. Sponsorship Funding has been provided from the Alliance Francaise, Immerse Me and JCCI. Peter will send an official letter to these three to invite them to attend the Speech Contest Awards Ceremony on 17 August to present prizes. Peter also announced that there were approximately 100 schools or individuals who have to date been entered in the competition. Approximately 135 students so far.

Webmaster's Report: Not available

Speech Contest:

- The St Hilda's principal has informally agreed to be the guest speaker at the Awards Ceremony, and Leigh will send her an official invitation.
- As we will have only a maximum of four VIPs, we won't hold the usual VIP Afternoon Tea and they can go directly to the auditorium
- Teachers are still encouraged to invite their principals to the Awards Ceremony and space will be provided in the front row;
- Entertainment: As Cathryn is on leave, Jack Augustine has kindly agreed to organise the Entertainment and help out on the day. If you have any ideas for possible acts, please email Jack. Jaugu22@eq.edu.au Leigh will organise for the stage to be in place. Cathy has organised for Elizabeth Galligan and Ramona Naulty from Benowa SHS to assist Jack in compering on the day.
- Leigh will organise for the usual two tables at the Information Desk and another two for the prizes in the Auditorium.
- Medals: Aileen to organise. Convenors should give numbers for medals to Aileen aseidman@marymount.qld.edu.au by Monday 4th August.
- Refreshments for Judges and other Volunteers: As we cannot afford over \$1,500 for lunches from The Junction this year as that is almost the entirety of our bank account, after much discussion, it was decided that Convenors can spend up to \$15/head to provide refreshments on the day. Please have your receipts ready and Peter will come around on the day to collect receipts and bank details for reimbursement.
- The Junction Café will still be open to provide coffee, meals etc, to visitors on the day.
- Not all convenors were able to attend but the following was reported:
Spanish – All under control. 22 judges/other volunteers are expected
Japanese – Primary, Secondary and Background Speakers all under control. Mariko, the Japanese Judges Convenor is expecting around 36 judges
French – All under control. There will be 15 – 17 judges
Chinese – All under control.
- **PD:** Leigh read Anna's report from the Adelaide Conference and presented some of his own findings

Dinner was at Yuyin Chinese Restaurant in Southport with six members attending.

Future meetings:

Thu 7th August GC LTQ G39_4.27/4.47

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Meeting concluded at 5:45 pm

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