MESA President Report

As we draw to the close of another year, it is clear that 2015 has been a productive time for MESA.

The year began in March with an invitation extended to MESA members to attend the College’s annual International Women’s Breakfast. Many former students were among the guests along with mothers and their daughters to listen to inspirational talks given by former students, The Honourable Liza Harvey MLA (1983), and our very own international fashion designer, Steph Audino (2007). It was great to see how much of an inspiration these women have on the community, and to know they were educated at Mercedes College.

In August the Committee hosted a MESA Year 12 Morning Tea for the graduating class. Students were given cupcakes and key rings whilst having the opportunity to hear about MESA from fellow members. It was a great success and the girls were genuinely interested in what MESA does and how it can assist and connect them to the College as they move forward in their lives.

MESA Certificates were awarded throughout 2015 to one student in each year group per term. The Certificates recognised students who were living the Mercy values. MESA considers the award of these certificates an important step in acknowledging those students who sought to live out the Gospel through the embodiment of Mercy values within their lives. Congratulations to all the recipients throughout 2015.

The College Open Day was held in September with MESA hosting a display and it was a terrific opportunity for those coming to the College to see what MESA does, both with the College and past students, and to come and reconnect with their school.

MESA also congratulates the winners for the 2016 Year 7 MESA Scholarships, Georgette Morgan and Molly Laffer. The Scholarship winners must be a daughter or grand-daughter of the Victoria Square Alumni member. In addition, MESA similarly congratulates the recipient for the MESA Year 12 Award ‘Living the Mercy Values’ for 2015, Shardalee Leivers. This award acknowledges a Year 12 student who is recognised by her peers and endorsed by teachers and members of the school executive as contributing selflessly during her time at Mercedes. All three students were presented with their Awards by MESA on Presentation Night.

More generally, MESA’s revitalised Facebook page has continued to grow from strength to strength. The Facebook page is an ideal way of keeping abreast of MESA events and activities. Please take the time to visit the page and ‘like’ it: ‘Victoria Square Alumni, Mercedes College’. The MESA Committee would like to thank Joanna Creighton, Alumni Officer at the College, for her enthusiasm and assistance during the year.

Additionally, MESA is in the process of implementing ‘Potentiality’ software, which will assist in developing and strengthening our database of former College students, whilst reaching out to those past students who have been ‘lost’ in their inevitable passage through life. Once ‘potentiality is ‘up and running’ we anticipate this will positively impact the growth of our database and the engagement of its members with each other and with the College. We would like to thank Kerrie Fraser for her ongoing support and encouragement and her support of MESA generally.

In closing, 2016 is going to be an exciting year as we celebrate the 170th Year of the College! MESA will be working together with the College to appropriately celebrate this significant milestone in the life of our beautiful College. Even more of a reason to ‘like’ our Facebook page to stay on top of coming events!

Have a happy and Holy Christmas and I look forward to seeing you at our events in 2016!

God bless,

Justine Howard (Class of 1994)
President