

EDITORIAL

This edition of the **Australian Journal of Special Education** contains a number of papers from the Fifth Annual A.A.S.E Conference. Not all of the papers delivered at the Conference could be included as there were close to fifty lectures, seminars and workshops. For this edition, we decided to accept the articles without Editorial Committee appraisal as the papers had been publicly presented and, therefore, subjected to a different form of appraisal.

The Annual Conference, like the **Australian Journal of Special Education**, is another way for the Australian Association of Special Education to act as a public advocate for children requiring special education. The Annual Conference is preceded by the Annual General Meeting of A.A.S.E. At this time, progress for the year past is reviewed, office bearers are elected and the activities for the following year are planned. John Burge has been re-elected as President for the 1980-81 period and he has prepared a Report on the 1980 Annual General Meeting which includes details of activities for 1980/81.

The theme of the Conference 'Responding to Need: A Rationale for the Future' provoked some excellent presentations. The A.C.T. Association's Summary of Conference Proceedings describes the diversity of papers presented at the Conference.

A.A.S.E. has held very successful annual conferences in various cities over the last five years, viz., Brisbane (1976), Melbourne (1977), Sydney (1978), Adelaide (1979) and Canberra this year. The Sixth Annual Conference will be held in Melbourne in August, 1981. Some preliminary details are included in this Edition.

1981 is going to be a very important year for handicapped people in Australia as it is the International Year of Disabled Persons (IYDP). A number of objectives have been listed by the International Committee.

They are:

1. Helping disabled people in their physical and psychological adjustment to society.
2. Promoting all national and international efforts to provide disabled people with proper assistance, training, care and guidance and to make available opportunities for suitable work and to ensure their full integration into Society.
3. Encouraging study and research projects designed to facilitate the practical participation of disabled people in daily life e.g. by improving their access to public buildings and transport.
4. Education and information to the public on the rights of disabled people, to participate in and contribute to various aspects of economic, social and political life.
5. Promote effective measures for prevention of disability and rehabilitation of disabled people.

The International themes are:

PARTICIPATION AND EQUALITY

The two key features chosen for emphasis in Australian IYDP activities are:

ACCESS AND PREVENTION

I am sure that all people interested in the education and rehabilitation of disabled persons will wish for a full and successful IYDP year. The real challenge for any group focussing attention on the needs of the disabled is to ensure that the appropriate changes occur and that these improvements are maintained and grow after public attention abates. It is the responsibility of all of us to ensure that the challenge is met!

Jeff Bailey
Editor

AUSTRALIAN ASSOCIATION OF SPECIAL EDUCATION

SIXTH NATIONAL CONFERENCE

Mannix College, Clayton, Victoria

AUGUST 19th – 23rd, 1981

IYDP and BEYOND

**Devolution – Disintegration, Dissipation or
Development?**

Conference Sub-Themes

1. *Multi-disciplinary models for Special Education.*
2. *Teacher Education and Special Education.*
3. *National Policy and Perspectives for Special Education.*
4. *Integration of Children with Special Needs within the School System.*

CALL FOR PAPERS

Details of proposed papers should be sent to Paul Duerdoth by March 1st, 1981

Registration Information: John Callanan

John Callanan
P.O. Box 137,
ST. KILDA WEST,
VICTORIA, 3812.

Paul Duerdoth
Institute of Special Education,
Burwood State College,
BURWOOD, VIC. 3125

HOSTED BY ASSOCIATION OF SPECIAL TEACHERS OF VICTORIA

Reports and Papers from . . .



**AUSTRALIAN ASSOCIATION OF
SPECIAL EDUCATION**

*FIFTH
ANNUAL CONFERENCE*

**CANBERRA
15-20 JULY, 1980**

**Canberra College of Advanced
Education, Bruce, A.C.T.**