

## *Heather Leoné Hogg (1946–2000)*

Leoné Hogg was a graduate of the University of Natal in Pietermaritzburg, completing her BA, BA Honours and HDE between 1966 and 1968, and a BEd in 1973. To these degrees she added a Certificate in Business Administration from the University of Stellenbosch Business School in 1987. In 1969 she began teaching at Pietermaritzburg

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Girls' High School, leaving the school in 1976 to take up the Vice Principalship at Danville Park Girls' High in Durban North and returning to GHS as Deputy Principal in 1978. The following year she was back at Danville as head. From 1979 to 1983 she served on the Executive of the Principals' Association of Natal, being Chairperson from 1981 to 1983.

In 1984 she was appointed as an Academic and Curriculum Planner with the Natal Education Department. In addition to her duties in subject and curriculum development, she worked alongside colleagues and the administrative staff responsible for the running, administering and development of the Natal Senior Certificate Examination, including the pioneering and development of the School Assessment component of the examination.

In 1988 she left departmental service to take up the post of Lady Principal of the Girls' Collegiate School in Pietermaritzburg. In this capacity, she played a pivotal role in the merger of the Collegiate and Wykeham schools. The amalgamation of two well-established educational institutions, each with its particular ethos and traditions, and the rationalisation of functions and personnel that necessarily accompanies such an amalgamation, is always a difficult and delicate undertaking, and Leoné's work was a key factor in the successful emergence of the new Wykeham Collegiate.

She continued as Lady Principal of the new school, and in this capacity she represented the Independent Schools on the Natal Examinations Board and, furthermore, chaired the Natal Branch of Headmasters' and Headmistresses' Conference (HMC) (1993–1995). As a founder member of the Natal Education Board associated with the Education Foundation, she was privileged to work with educationalists of distinction from all over the country (1990–1995). In August 1997, she represented the HMC at the Australian Conference of Heads of Independent Schools, in Hobart.

In 1985 she was sent by the Natal Education Department to Scotland to research the use of computers in education for administrative purposes. Later, in March 1994, she was sent to Cambridge to investigate and research examinations on offer at UCLES for implementation at the Wykeham Collegiate. She was a member of a number of significant educational boards and councils: SANCA, the University of Natal Education Board, the NED Examinations Board, the Scripture Union Independent Schools, the National Executive of the Independent Schools' Council, the National Executive of Headmasters' and Headmistresses' Conference, of which she was Regional Chairman for KwaZulu-Natal in 1994 and 1995 and National Vice Chairman from 1996 to 1998. She was on the boards of Cowan House, St Andrew's School, Senderwood, and St Mary's Diocesan School for Girls in Kloof, a consultant to Michaelhouse, Our Lady of Fatima, the Catholic Institute of Education, the various Department of Education task teams, and a member of the executive of Technology 2005.



*Leoné Hogg*

Throughout her career she had been actively interested in assessment as a part of the curriculum, and in 1999 she was appointed Deputy Director: Curriculum Development of the Independent Examinations Board. The post entailed overseeing the implementation of policy, both of the IEB and of the national Department of Education, with relevance for both assessment practice and curriculum development. This work, sadly, was cut short by her early death.

I met Leoné in 1985 when she was Education Planner at the NED and I worked in an NED school. We became friends, and later, 1996, I had the privilege of working under her at the Wykeham Collegiate (she was Lady Principal and I was Head of the Senior School).

She was an exceptionally gifted person, in a wide spectrum of activities. Leoné was able to see trends and was an exceptional visionary. She implemented change long before others saw the necessity for it. She was courageous, highly intelligent, and education and young people were her passion. She looked at situations broadly and differently. She didn't focus on the problems, but on the way through and forward. She knew how to encourage and empower. It was a great privilege to work with her – albeit exhausting (running to catch up all the time!).

Leoné always collected 'lame dogs' and tried gently to get them back on their feet and running (walking was only a brief step along the way). In her twenties she took on the added responsibility of raising her two nephews – at that point aged 8 and 9 – as a single parent with a demanding career.

On a personal level she was a wonderfully spiritual person who walked closely with her God and was never afraid to share her conviction and experience. She would be humbled by how many have paid tribute and recognised her achievements and contributions. But she was an amazing person and truly deserving of the most high praise and gratitude.