



MATHEMATICS EDUCATION RESEARCH GROUP OF AUSTRALASIA, INC.

THE MERGA LIFE MEMBERSHIP AWARD 2018

It is with great pleasure that the Mathematics Education Research Group of Australasia hereby announces the awarding of the MERGA Life Membership award to Professor Emerita **Helen Forgasz**, Monash University, in recognition of her long association with and support for the activities of MERGA as demonstrated by her exemplary service, leadership and instigation of innovative practices within the organization that have significantly enhanced the standing of MERGA in the mathematics education community.

Helen Forgasz has had a sustained and substantive association with MERGA spanning almost thirty years. Her commitment to MERGA is evident by her leadership within MERGA and her ongoing involvement in its activities. She has served in various roles on MERGA's Executive, including Vice-President (Conferences) 1999-2001, Vice-President (Research) 2001-2003 and served on two annual MERGA Conference organising committees including Co-convener of the MERGA 40 (40th anniversary) conference held at Monash University in 2017.

Helen Forgasz was editor of the *Mathematics Education Research Journal [MERJ]* from 2004-2006 and a member of the MERJ editorial board from 1997–2004; 2006–2007; and 2012 to the present. The success of MERJ has been critical in helping to establish MERGA's national and international reputation.

Professor Forgasz is a recognised world researcher in the area of gender and mathematics and publishes extensively on: attitudes and beliefs; learning settings; numeracy; technology for mathematics learning; monitoring achievement and participation rates in STEM subjects. Helen has contributed consistently to the body of work published in MERJ, MTED, and MERGA's 4-yearly reviews. She edited a MERJ special issue in 1997 focusing on gender and learning settings and led a team of colleagues to edit the 2008 MERGA 4-yearly review of research.

In short, through her exemplary and sustained engagement with MERGA, Professor Emerita Helen Forgasz has profoundly enhanced its standing in the mathematics education community and is an eminently worthy recipient of the MERGA Life Membership award in 2018.