



Newsletter

March 2026



Upcoming Events

STANT Meet and Greet
Thursday 19 March 4:00-6:00pm
Snacks provided

INTERSECT: Exploring Sustainability in the Classroom
Tuesday 24 March 5:30-7:30pm at
CDU Radicle Danala, Cavanagh Street Darwin.

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2026 Science Week Theme
Seeds of Science: Nurturing
Knowledge for all

Exciting News for NT

Conasta74 in Darwin
5 - 8 July 2027

Apply for your Science Week
School Grants
<https://asta.edu.au/resources/programs/national-science-week/school-grants/>

Partnerships include:



The 2026 STANT Committee



Our President, Justine works in Teaching and Learning Services. She has a background in Primary Teaching, Archaeology and Environmental Sciences and is a passionate advocate for science teaching in the NT.



Our Vice President, Jude has worked in prawn management, dug into palaeontology, and spent years teaching “out bush”. Formerly the Educator at MAGNT she is now inspiring the next generation at Nakara Primary School—bringing curiosity, chaos, and a love of science to every lesson.



Our Treasurer, Maree Hammer is a dedicated Science Teacher at O’Loughlin Catholic College. With a background in Biology and Environmental Science, Maree is passionate about innovative teaching that helps students think critically about the scientific world around them.



Our ASTA Board Member & Territory Young Scientists Awards Co-ordinator, Rebecca has a background in Science and Maths. Her favourite part of her job is seeing students experience those “a-ha” moments when concepts suddenly make sense.



Our Secretary, Hemangi is a long-term STANT committee member who plays a key role in the Territory Young Scientists Awards team. With a pharmacy background she is a dedicated STEM teacher who enthusiastically shares her knowledge with students.



Our Public Officer, Angela has been a Teacher at Moil School for 15+ years. She has a keen interest in Science and STEAM. Currently Angela is teaching a mainstream grade 3/4 class.

STANT 2026 Committee

President: Justine Small

Vice President: Jude Dawson

Secretary: Hemangi Surti

Treasurer: Maree Hammer

Public Officer: Angela Gahan

ASTA Board Member: Rebecca Pan

Territory Young Scientists Awards Committee:

Hemangi Surti, Rebecca Pan, and Sophie MacConnell

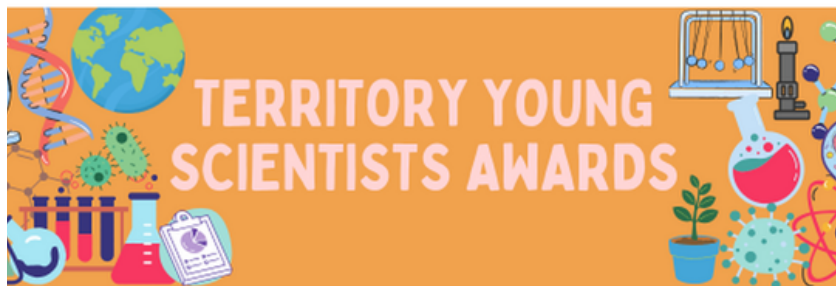
e. hello@stant.tidymail.co

w. <https://stant.tidyhq.com>

For all membership enquires contact hello@stant.tidymail.co

Scan the QR code below to access the STANT interstate scholarship form for 2026. As we are hosting ConASTA74 in Darwin in 2027, we are hoping that 3 out of 4 successful scholarship applicants will apply to attend ConASTA73 in Brisbane this year.





President's Report

Wow! What an exciting start to the year. On 30 January, I was delighted to present two amazing Psychology students NTBOS Awards for their incredible achievements in 2025.

Our partnership with CDU Radicle is now established in a signed agreement, which will support our Danala booking for ConASTA74 in July 2027. Please start thinking about ways you might like to contribute to this exciting national science conference. You may like to apply for a STANT or Ruth Dircks Scholarship to attend ConASTA73 in Brisbane this year to support your thinking.

Thank you for the fun conversations at the Meet and Greet, see photo on the first page. I look forward to seeing more of you at INTERSECT at CDU Radicle on Tuesday 24 March. Please see the upcoming events section for the details.

Our USB's and Highlighter's for members have arrived and they look fantastic! For those of you not based in Darwin I will work out the best way to send them to you.

Please remember, if you have any special news, resources, ideas or information you would like to add to the newsletter please email Justine:
justine.small@education.nt.gov.au

Information, Suggestions and Resources

Information

The Territory Young Scientists Awards are now open for entries. This year we've added three climate-focused categories to help students explore how human actions affect Earth's climate and inspire ideas to reduce CO2 and greenhouse gas emissions. Access the competition booklet and entry form [here](#).

[CoolPlus](#) supports science classrooms through curriculum-aligned, classroom-ready resources, online professional learning, and a teacher-centred AI lesson builder designed specifically for Australian contexts. If you are interested, they are offering STANT members a reduced subscription fee.



Suggestions

We would love to hear your recommendations for professional development. Is there someone you would like to invite to present, or a particular resource we should invest in?

Links to Resources

Apply for a [Ruth Dircks Scholarship](#) to attend ConASTA73 in Brisbane

Little Scientists [3 Gateways to STEM](#)

[ASTA National Science Week School Grants](#)

[MAGNT Resources](#)

[Academy of Future Skills Unit Plans for Primary Years](#)

[Geoscience Australia](#)

[Australian Earth Science Education Northern Territory](#)



ASTA News

We're pleased to share the latest edition of Teaching Science Journal – Issue 72.1. This year marks ASTA's 75th Diamond Jubilee – celebrating 75 years of national leadership in science education. This edition features:

1. Senior Chemistry + Indigenous knowledges

Emily Rochette and Zois Stavrakas reimagine a classic vitamin C practical using Kakadu plum extract, with ideas and resources to help teachers authentically embed Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures in the senior chemistry classroom.

2. Climate Change Education Position Paper

Led by ASTA Vice-President Margaret Shepherd, calling for five actions including explicit F-12 curriculum requirements, a learning progression across years, strengthened teacher professional learning, a national education action plan, and coordinated funding for research-informed practice.

3. Primary Connections update

Helen Silvester and Jennifer Lawrence explore the shift from the 5E model to the Launch, Inquire, Act (LIA) Framework, supporting teachers to adapt or design sequences aligned to contemporary science and local relevance.

You can read the full articles and explore the latest issue here:
<https://asta.edu.au/other-resources/tsj-latest-edition/>

The 2026 National Science Week Schools Resource Book is here! This year's theme, **Seeds of Science: Nurturing knowledge for all** invites students and teachers to explore how agricultural practices have changed over time to enable food security. However, sowing science knowledge in all of us plays a very crucial role.

Aligned with the 2026 United Nations International Year of Women Farmers and Rangelands and Pastoralists, this resource book is packed with:

- Hands-on activities & experiments
- Curriculum-aligned lesson ideas
- Inspiring ways to engage students in STEM.

Download your FREE copy now and spark curiosity in your classroom!

https://asta.edu.au/science_resource/seeds-of-science

