



# SPANZ

SECONDARY PRINCIPALS' ASSOCIATION OF NEW ZEALAND INC.

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**President**

Graham Young, Principal, Tauranga Boys' College

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President Comment 8



Dear Colleagues

### **Cognition Education Research Trust**

I recently attended the launch of MultiServe Education Research Trust, branded Cognition. Stewart Germann, the Chair of MultiServe, in launching the Research Trust said this is a Trust which we are expecting to become one of New Zealand's most important sources of independent non-governmental funding in the field of education research, providing significant assistance for work aimed at improving student learning, and strengthening teaching and schooling practice. The launch of this research trust is welcomed because it comes at a time when practitioner research is gaining popularity and credibility. We now have another vehicle that might assist in funding our own research. The importance of this trust in our community assumes even greater importance particularly when you consider we are operating in an educational environment that charges us with producing evidence that we are making a difference to the learning of our students.

The Trust aims to achieve its purposes by:

- a) identifying, in conjunction with key stakeholders, preferred issues or areas of education research;
- b) brokering and coordinating research;
- c) providing scholarships for post-graduate research and teacher research fellowships;
- d) providing assistance to establish programmes to assist researchers and fellows throughout their research;
- e) providing on-going assistance to persons undertaking research, including assistance with travel and accommodation expenses;
- f) providing assistance to disseminate research by publishing and promoting research in any media and in any manner appropriate;
- g) providing assistance to attend relevant research and information exchange forums such as conferences; and
- h) such other activities and enterprises to further the charitable purposes of the Trust as the Trustee may decide.

As a total aside to the business of the Trust, I share with you a personal reflection. Represented at the launch was almost every stakeholder in education in New Zealand. The audience numbered approximately 120 people. The smallness of New Zealand and the willingness of us all to talk to each other confirmed for me that New Zealand has a wonderful opportunity of getting it right if we can't then no one can!

Graham Young  
President