

# Editorial

*Synergy* is read by many different people all over the world, and we are very fortunate to publish authors from many different countries. We welcome this, and encourage it, as one of the driving forces behind *Synergy* is an interest in looking outside of our own Victorian association to the views of others, and also outside of teacher librarianship to the broader concerns of education. In this, the first issue of 2020, we have articles from local practitioners and pieces from Canada, Croatia, the USA and Switzerland. Such diversity is important, sometimes challenging, and always engaging. While the world continues to suffer a dreadful pandemic, one of the most important things we can do is continue to learn, to share, and to collaborate.

*Synergy* celebrated fifteen years of life in 2019, and this year, in 2020, the association to which *Synergy* belongs, The School Library Association of Victoria (SLAV), celebrates sixty years of collegiality, advocacy, and leadership. Sixty years is a long time, but in another sense, it is no time at all; but it has been sixty years of effort and interest in school librarianship by thousands of dedicated and talented professionals. I hope both SLAV, and this journal, continue for many more years. We need both now as much as we ever have.

In this issue we have a range of articles on many different topics; some were written long before the world began experiencing the impact of COVID-19, others were written more recently and, consequently, the impacts of remote learning and of working in isolation, and the needs and concerns of our school communities during this crisis, loom large. The board of the journal is particularly appreciative of those who have managed to write for the journal during such difficult times – your professionalism and dedication is applauded.

We welcome to this issue our guest author of the Reflections and Actions section of *Synergy* for 2020, Hilda K. Weisburg. Hilda is a highly experienced practitioner, author, and commentator, and we are thrilled to have her join us in 2020. Her first article for us, entitled 'Leadership: There is no other option' is thought provoking and also practical and inspiring – there is something here for every reader.

This edition includes a range of interesting articles, all of which have relevance to practice. While you are reading, please take a moment to appreciate our journal's new home, *Synergy's* website, which continues to improve. The archive of past issues now includes all issues back to 2009, offering more than ten years of the journal online – a wonderful, historic resource that contains many excellent articles that still have relevance today. Thank you to Monica Williams for making the *Synergy* website look wonderful, and also for working hard on various special features to make content easier to use and share.

We hope you enjoy this issue. We would welcome hearing from you if you have thoughts or opinions about the content of this issue or ideas about authors or topics you would like to see in future editions.

***Dr Susan La Marca***  
**Editor**