

AGTECH Connections

The newsletter of the Australian Technology
& Agricultural College

Independent Senior Secondary College for Years 10 to 12

4808 Mt Lindesay Highway, North Maclean Q 4280.



Edition 87: February 2023

College Founder/CEO

Dr Narendra Nand



Principal's Message

New year 10 and returning year 11 students are busy getting into their term one work. The new students have settled-in well and are happy to be able to do their work at their own pace and planning to become independent and responsible learners. In a small and supporting classroom environment they find that their needs are addressed as soon as possible, and that they can do their own work and progress academically. Their expectations and needs to re-engage and focus on pathways to build realistic careers are realized. They become aware that they have to meet the QCAA requirement and start planning their career pathways with a strong view to complete their four certificates including completion of Year 12 QCE, Certificate II FSK, Certificate II in Workplace Skills and Certificate II or III in a trade from TAFE. All our year 11 students are enrolled at TAFE for 2023 and the new year 10 students will be applying for trade taster program soon. New students have found ATAC to meet their expectations and ATAC is proud to provide a learning experience that suits the needs and abilities of students who chose flexible pathways. Our program enables them to become more interested in following the journeys that suit them in order to fulfill their dreams.

ATAC TRIPOD MODEL

ATAC promotes a goodwill and understanding that enables us to nurture the friendly and less stressful education and training system by partnerships with parents/guardians, students and the staff. The TRIPOD model enables every child to understand his /her role and responsibility to become independent learners to work towards their dreams of “early careers and early incomes”. Formal schooling could be very stressful and ATAC provides an informal and reasonably relaxed and acceptable environments reducing stress and challenges of a formal system. ATAC Board has approved trainees for capacity building and to support ATAC’s RTO courses for future onsite training in meeting the needs our clients.

Community Engagement

Our community engagement involves regular communication to all parents/caregivers, businesses and local community by emails, monthly newsletters, social media, ATAC website and at times newspaper articles. We deeply appreciate the response from parents/ caregivers supporting our shared responsibility to assist young people in making their dreams come true. Parents and businesses are always welcome to join ATAC committee or provide any voluntary support to young people in achieving their goals. (Blue card is mandatory).

The Members of the North Maclean Community Gardens (NMCG) have been persevering through the floods and heat and are looking forward to growing their vegetables as weather permits. ATAC provides water and land access for their project in supporting horticultural activity in Logan by a migrant community. Mr. Daniel Cole is now planning to start up the nursery production to engage our Horticultural trainees and the use of

native species for revegetation and sustainability of our environment. Thank you, Daniel, and your team.

Infrastructure Development Plans

Major earthworks to raise the pad level and the concreting is complete. We are eagerly waiting for the construction to start. Our multi-purpose shed which is planned for construction soon, will provide more hands-on skills and practical training in approved courses and prepare students for skills training.

Bushfoods Conference 2023

The “The Australian Bushfoods Conference” incorporating (8th Queensland Bushfoods Conference has been planned to be hosted by ATAC between 27-28th May 2023. With the support of Australian Institute of Horticulture (AIH), the Queensland Bushfoods Association (QBA) and Emeritus Professor Rod Drew planning has been done by regular online meetings. ATAC Board Chair, Ms. Irene Bayldon and Dr Narendra Nand have been discussing the progress at Board meetings and having consultations with Local businesses, Logan City Council and QBA. Brochures for more information is available on AIH and ATAC websites.

Parent/ Guardian Engagement

The role of the parents/guardians has become increasingly important to guide and support their child in building the right attitude and skills. We invite parents to work with us in finding work experience and/or apprenticeships as we guide them to achieve their qualifications QCE points. We invite businesses or self-employed tardies to support our young people with some work or work experience that can help students in building personal skills. It has become difficult to find the right people for jobs and thus ATAC works closely with businesses, training organizations and parents/guardians in empowering students with job-ready skills and knowledge. Thanks to the

businesses who have engaged our students in their company.

The Board of Directors

ATAC Board directors consist of highly qualified, experienced, and passionate people who want to help young people and to support the development of our community. We greatly appreciate the contribution of our directors for donations for shed construction, providing sponsorships to needy students, assisting in internal review processes, general cleaning and maintenance at ATAC and attending the regular meetings. Great relief to you all for seeing the concrete slab of our shed.

Gary Suthers

English, Humanities, Science and Agricultural Science Teacher

Thank you for the opportunity to teach your child at ATAC.

Halfway through term one already and all students are working on their assessments for the end of term. The year ten students have been looking at song lyrics and how they are form of poetry, they have been researching and working on a case study on how to increase physical activity in our modern world and have been looking at how we can decrease the amount of rubbish in our bins and increase the amount we can recycle.

The senior students in year eleven have been looking at Mathematics in the kitchen and are finding recipes that they can convert to cater for a dinner party of twelve. They also have to design a pamphlet to inform new employs on what their induction will cover over the first few days of a new job, after studying workplace English. They have also been working hard to complete their Future Skills and Business Certificate courses.

We will continue Agricultural studies with all students as there are lots of new things to learn and to produce. Chicken and Duck anatomy to learn and how to increase egg output. Improving our recycling stream and how we can include a worm farm into the process. Producing plants from cuttings and growing them to a product for

selling and how use the various native plants for food and medicinal use.

Working with our student is a very rewarding experience for me and seeing them all grow in confidence and in skills and knowledge is a great privilege. Over their time here at ATAC, I hope that you will see your young person grow more confident and happy as they gain new skills and learn in other ways.

Thank you to all parents and guardians, for your continued support of your child's learning here at ATAC. I look forward to seeing you all for a new college year.



Mr. Bhagwanji Bhindi

Retired Linguistics Lecturer (Sydney)

Power of Time

*Time has the power to create
Time has the power to destroy
Time has the power to change a person
Into a shining star or into an unilluminated
being
Time has the power to heal wounds*

*Time has the power to inflict wounds
Time has the power to take a seed
And grow it into a huge tree
Time has the power to create situations
And to test one's ego, arrogance, hatred
and jealousy
Time is a cosmic and healing factor
This relieves mankind from all memories
and pain
Time is a formidable force never to be
underestimated
Many have endeavored to unlock its
mystery, but in vain
At times time seems unkind and confusing
There is consolation that at the end, time
will set it right.
Time is precious, but fleeting away
How we treat the fleeting time makes it
precious
Ancient wisdom and modern science
Have articulated the power of time
Let's embrace the power of time
And flow with its movement
To understand the present moment
And aspire to make the best of the moving
moment
Let's not be anxious of the future moment
It's filled with uncertainties and anxiety
Time allows us to experience realities of life
This enriches us to handle life with
equanimity
Time is pricelessly golden
Human beings must have every confidence
in its power
To make things right in the end.*

ATAC SHED UNDER CONSTRUCTION



ATAC Board Chair Ms. Irene Bayldon trying her skills on the concrete slab. Irene has been supporting the project and wants it to be fully completed as soon as possible.



Thank you Craig Butler (Board member) for brushcutting the overgrown lawn after the Holidays. Great effort and Congratulations



Board members Dhirendra Singh and Braham Deo helping in the cleaning and fixing the old shed.



Irene and Craig discussing the NSSAB and RTO internal review plans and organising a working bee for a nother weekend. Thank you.



Emeritus Professor Rod Drew, our former Chairman and ATAC Patron provides supervision and guidance to our Horticultural trainees Radhika (L) and Nickolas (L)



Dr Nand[®] with Michael, a personal counsellor who is keen to work with students and parents to support them with any mental health issues in the challenging environment.



ATAC students at work in the airconditioned classroom. A relaxed and independent learning environment.



Nickolas Springall sweating away on his front gate project. Slowly but surely, it will be done. Thank you, Nick.



Robyn Rae (L) The Business Development Executive – Tourism and Ms. Clare Fraser (R) Tourism Marketing and Engagement Officer from LOED of LCC with Professor Rod Drew and Dr. N. Nand making plans for the Bushfoods Conference to be held at ATAC on 27-28th May 2023.



Shed material arriving for the construction to start as soon as possible.

**Well-Wishers supporting ATAC and our students.
They can be contacted via their websites.**



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Australian Bushfoods Conference

(8th Qld. Bushfoods Conference)

27-28th May 2023

Hosted by: Australian Technology and Agricultural College

Queensland Bushfoods Association

The Australian Institute of Horticulture

“Design and Development of Urban Landscapes for Bush Food Production”

We invite you to attend the Australian Bushfoods Conference on 27-28th May 2023 to honour the First Australians who had a wide range of uses for these plants including sustenance and medicine; AND ALSO, to support the growers and producers of Bush Foods who suffered devastating damage to their crops and financial security due to the floods in the past 24 months.

Call for speakers and enquiries:

bushfoods@atac.qld.edu.au

ENROL FOR 2023

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Unique adjustable & supported programs
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Complete your:

QCE (Yr. 12),

Cert. II in FSK20119

Cert. II in Workplace Skills (BSB20120)

Cert. II in a Trade of your choice (TAFE)

ATAC RTO #45556

BSB40520 Cert IV in Leadership and Management

**BSB50420 Diploma in Leadership and
Management**

BSB50120 Diploma in Business

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