



Editorial

■ Chris Harrison



There have been several changes at ASE HQ recently, with our CEO Shaun Reason announcing his retirement this summer and a new CEO, Hannah Russell, appointed.

Shaun has been an amazing lead for ASE over the last five years and we will miss him greatly.

We also have a new Conference and Events Manager, Angela Buckland, and plans are already underway for the next conference at the University of Reading in January 2020. It is rather apt that some of our articles in this issue have evolved from sessions presented on International Days at previous Annual Conferences and these provide a flavour of the great diversity and expertise that are shared there.

We have an article on practical science from **Keith Ross**, which unpacks how we might engage with complex and difficult chemistry and help sort out student ideas. **Koji Tsukamoto** approaches challenges in teaching physics by introducing a particular approach to teaching dynamics in physics that has been successful in Japan – the Hypothesis Experiment Class.

Both articles are really useful in helping all teachers think about how they support learners in building their science understanding and making sense of the world in which they live.

John Oversby's article and the one by **Maarten Tas, Margaret Fleming and Richard Dawson** tackle key issues in environmental sustainability, providing both knowledge bases and guidance on teaching controversial issues. Such approaches require teachers to extend beyond their own subject knowledge to consider a more STEM influence alongside reasoning on citizenship aspects of science.

Putting science in context has always been a popular approach to teaching science, both for encouraging lifelong learning and also to ensure that students can apply knowledge across a range of contexts. **John McCullagh and Andrea Doherty's** article provides a primary inroad into this area, which is pragmatic and interesting – a good read for both primary and secondary colleagues.

We also are pleased to include a contribution from our partner, **Gratnells**, on reinvigorating practical work in schools. As always, we are very grateful for their continuing support for ASE, and for this journal in particular.

So, please keep the articles coming in so that we can share our ideas more broadly with members, and keep an eye on the ASE website for updates of what will be on offer at the Annual Conference at University of Reading in January 2020.

Best wishes.

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