Dear Colleagues,

On behalf of the AIS Education Research Council, I am delighted to announce that the first school-based education research projects have been approved and will formally begin in October 2014.

These school-based research projects will be undertaken over a two year period by practicing teachers and school leaders and the outcomes of the research will be shared specifically with the independent sector and also across education and the community more broadly.

Council received 18 applications, all of which were extremely well presented and of very high quality. The five projects that were approved each target an area of education which we anticipate will ultimately impact student outcomes, inform teacher practice and make a substantial contribution to new insights in and beyond the schools undertaking the research.

I congratulate Claremont College, Oakhill College, St Philip’s Christian College – Newcastle and Wenona School who will all undertake research projects; and also St Spyridon College, Masada College and Rouse Hill Anglican College who are undertaking their project as a cluster.

I look forward to seeing the progress and reporting of the research as these projects develop. I hope you will join me in engaging with the outcomes of the research as it is shared via the AIS Education Research website, the annual AIS Education Research Symposium, journal articles and through a range of other means.

Once again, congratulations to all the schools and to the individuals who are involved in this first round of research projects. I am confident that this work will help enhance the professional capacity of educators in the sector and further develop the ways that we effectively apply research to our practice.

Jenny Allum
Chair, AIS Education Research Council