

## **Report from the Chair**

At the end of my third and final term as Chair of ISATT, it is time to look back on my expectations and goals when I assumed the appointment in 2013. One of my major goals when I began my role as Chair of ISATT at the Biennial conference held in Ghent, Belgium, was to expand ISATT especially in under-represented regions of the globe through outreach activities. I am pleased to say that in 2019 ISATT is represented in 55 countries. This is a great achievement, and, more importantly, it shows how ISATT has become an even more inclusive and international association. ISATT has now more members from Africa, Middle East, Latin America as well as Eastern Europe than we had in 2013. Additionally, ISATT has gained more members from other countries in which there was no representation and has continued to attract more members from countries with a long tradition in ISATT.

Many initiatives already in place are continuing and consolidated: i) the collaborative research grants which have been awarded to beginning researchers from India, Brazil, Spain, USA; ii) the expansion of the regional conferences and the support given to members in a variety of places: Brazil, in 2013; Estonia, in 2014; Cyprus, in 2015; Israel, in 2016 and Russia, in 2018; and iii) the award programme to honour and recognise the work and achievements of ISATT members.

The Biennial conference of ISATT also highlights ISATT international dimension and great diversity: the 2013 conference was held in Ghent, Belgium, in which ISATT celebrated its 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary, the 2015 conference took place in New Zealand, the 2017 conference was held in Spain and the 2019 will take place, for the first time, in Eastern Europe, this time in Romania. But, more importantly, it acknowledges the efforts and contributions of ISATT members who have submitted quality bids to hold ISATT international conferences. This shows the enthusiasm and continuing interest of ISATT members.

This year, we called for nominations for five positions at the Executive Committee and we received a number of nominees from various regions of the world. This is a great sign of the vitality of ISATT as an organisation.

This year marks the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the ISATT's official journal: *Teachers and Teaching Theory and Practice* (TTTP), a major milestone for any journal. Thanks to his

excellent work and his valuable contributions as Editor-in-Chief, Christopher Day has ensured that ISATT's journal is now a most highly recognized journal with an Impact Factor of 2.378 in 2017.

Another great achievement is the launch of the ISATT new website, now more attractive and functional. I express my gratitude to Daniela Hotolean, ISATT administrator, for her efforts and her work in the development of the new website.

This year we awarded the status of Lifelong members to all Founding Members of ISATT fulfilling another initiative. This action represents our appreciation to all Founding Members for their valuable contributions to the Association over the years.

Over the last few years, ISATT has been represented at the Union of International Associations (UIA) Round Table Europe in Monaco, in 2016, and in Lyon, in 2018. The UIA is a research institute and documentation centre, independent and non-governmental in nature, and it has been a pioneer in the research, monitoring and provision of information on international associations and their global challenges since its foundation in 1907. ISATT is now included in the 54<sup>th</sup> edition of the Yearbook of International Organisations.

ISATT will continue to be a key international organisation in the field of Education. I feel privileged to be part of such an inspiring and supportive research association for the last 22 years. During all these years many personal and professional relationships have been built with many ISATT members. At this moment, many of us are already making preparations for the 19th Biennial Conference that will take place at the Lucian Blaga University of Sibiu, Romania, from 1-5 July 2019 under the theme "Education beyond the crisis: new skills, children's rights and teaching contexts". I am looking forward to meeting colleagues and friends in Sibiu. I offer a sincere thanks to the conference co-chairs, Daniela Roxana-Andron and Ioana Gabriela Mărcuț for their work.

It has been a great honour to serve ISATT as Chair over the last six years. I am grateful for the privilege of working with you, individually and collectively. I thank all the Executive Committee members whose term also ends in 2019: David Goodwin, Issa Danjun Ying, Susan Elliott-Johns and Wendy Moran. Thank you for your contribution to

ISATT. I acknowledge the work and support of the Executive Committee members who will continue to serve ISATT.

Over the last years, I had the great privilege to work closely with them and many other colleagues at the Executive Committee. I am deeply grateful to them for their support and collaboration. I express my gratitude particularly to the “small EC”: to Cheryl Craig and Susan Elliott-Johns, in their role as ISATT secretary, and Jan Broeckmans and Juanjo Mena-Marcos, who served as Treasurer during my term as Chair of ISATT. And I would like to thank Daniela Hotolean again who in her role as ISATT Administrator administers with grace, courtesy and efficiency.

I look forward to supporting the work of the incoming Executive and Executive Committee in the forthcoming years. I wish you every success as ISATT progresses.

Maria Assunção Flores  
Chair of ISATT  
May 2019