NT Teacher Named Best in Australia

A Northern Territory teacher librarian has been named Australia’s best Primary School Teacher.

Alice Springs teacher Jo Sherrin won the award at the inaugural Australian Awards for Outstanding Teaching and School Leadership in Melbourne last night.

Education and Training Minister Chris Burns attended the Awards night, along with Federal Schools Minister Peter Garrett.

Dr Burns said the award was a wonderful recognition of teaching excellence in the Territory.

“Jo Sherrin is a fantastic example of the dedication, commitment and professionalism of our teachers and the Territory Government extends its warmest congratulations,” Dr Burns said.

“The Bradshaw Primary School teacher librarian was recognised for consistently creating learning opportunities to meet the diverse needs of her students, of which half are Indigenous students.

“The awards are a great opportunity for recognition of our teachers, principals and school leaders.

“It is pleasing to see such a high level of expertise, innovation and dedication within the profession,” Dr Burns added.

Ms Sherrin is a founding coordinator of the highly regarded Children’s Literature in the Centre Festival. She is an active leader in the Australian School Library Association in the Northern Territory and is contributing to a trial of the new Australian English Curriculum.

The national award winners received a national and/or international sabbatical to work with leading educators from around Australia and overseas on an area of professional interest.

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