



**Sharon Grierson MP**  
Federal Member for Newcastle

**MEDIA RELEASE**

**2 June 2008**

**NEWCASTLE TEACHER TOPS THE NATION**

Carolyn Hayden, a science teacher from Lambton High, was personally congratulated by Sharon Grierson and the Deputy Prime Minister the Hon. Julia Gillard today for receiving the National Award for Excellence By a Teacher.

The award was presented at a ceremony in the Great Hall of Parliament House earlier today.

“The quality of our education system depends on the quality of our teachers” Ms Grierson said.

“Today’s ceremony was an opportunity to recognise, congratulate and reward the many committed and talented teachers throughout Australia.”

“This award is an appropriate recognition of Ms Hayden’s passion for science and her creative approach to teaching.”

“Her skills, enthusiasm and dedication have had a significant effect on the quality of science courses at the school.”

“Enrolments have increased in science classes and many of her students have gone on to achieve national recognition for their work.”

“The role of Lambton High School in facilitating and encouraging excellence in teaching should also be highlighted.”

“We have a responsibility to recognise the great work of our teachers and it was great to see that done today.”

“Ms Hayden deserves all the praise she receives for this award.”

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