

Past Student Spotlight

Bronwyn Nosse (1997)



I attended St George State Primary School and St George State High, graduating in 1997. My time at St George SHS was incredible and it was an education second to none with fantastic teachers such as Mrs Locke, Mrs McKechnie and Mrs McCosker (amongst many!). Some of my classes only had three of us students – you don't get that at other schools. I was also fortunate to have an amazing class, who recently caught up to celebrate our 25 year post graduation. In my head it is still only 15 years.

I was fortunate enough to receive a Vice Chancellor's Scholarship to Bond University, graduating in 2001 with a Bachelor of Laws/International Business, graduating with the Una Prentice Award for the highest achieving female in the Bachelor of Laws degree for that cohort. I loved university but quickly realised that life in the real world was not about what you knew but underlying skills such as collaboration, teamwork, leadership and communication.

This year marks my 20th year working for the Queensland Government and I couldn't be prouder to work as a public servant. I entered the public service as a lawyer and have had the opportunity to work on some of the most amazing projects over that time, such as the legal work underpinning the V8 Supercars events in Townsville and the Gold Coast. Being a lawyer for the Queensland Government has provided me with an opportunity to work on projects I could never have dreamed of. Every single day is different and every day I learn something.

In the past five years I have moved out of doing strictly legal work and am an Executive Director in the Local Government Division within the Department of State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning. I lead a team whose primary role is to support our councils. We provide funding to councils to deliver important infrastructure projects in their communities, we train councillors and work directly with council staff and councillors to ensure councils are best placed to serve their community. When someone asks me what our team does, it is quite simple – 'we help councils'. This gives me an amazing opportunity to get to know council staff, councillors and to better understand communities across Queensland and how the Government can better help them. Whilst not using my law degree directly, I still use

the underlying skills everyday – one of my key roles is to develop legislation and to get Bills through the Legislative Assembly. I brief Parliamentary Committees and often sit on the floor of Parliament steering Bills through. There is nothing quite like the rush of having Parliament pass a Bill your team has been working on for a number of years.

I married my husband Michael in 2012 and we have two daughters – Claire (named after my nanna, Clara Beeson) (6) and Amelia (2). Being a parent is the hardest job in the world! I still play netball every week and we have spent the past 20 years renovating and building houses – I love interior design and yes, love The Block.

I feel very grateful to have gone to St George SHS and thankful for the amazing teachers I had. My one tip for students is to really focus on skills such as communication and leadership and to remember that the sporting field is often the place that leadership skills are developed.

Bronwyn Blagoev