

Joe Lo Bianco holds the Chair of Language and Literacy Education at The University of Melbourne and is also Associate Dean (International) in the Faculty of Education. He is Honorary Professor in Language Education at the University of Hong Kong.

He was author of Australia's first, and the English speaking world's first multilingual, language policy. Entitled *The National Policy on Languages (NPL)* it was adopted in 1987 and has guided state and federal policy and is continually cited internationally today as an exemplar of rational, effective and pluralistic language planning. He was Director of the National Languages and Literacy Institute of Australia between 1989 and 2001.

Joe has been invited to advise on language policy, literacy education, bilingualism, the integration of indigenous and immigrant minority children into mainstream schools, anti-racist and multicultural education in many countries including all states and territories of Australia, two provinces of Canada, New Zealand, Sri Lanka, South Africa, Thailand, two regions in Italy, Vietnam, the Council of Europe, the Japan Foundation, several Pacific Island nations, and in several parts of the UK, especially Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland among others.

Since 2006 he has been commissioned by the Royal Thailand Institute to help guide the development of a policy based on the NPL and by the Government of Ireland to develop a 20 year strategy for the revival of Irish.

He has more than 120 refereed publications as well as 30 major reports and books. Recent books include:

Australian Literacies: Informing National Policy on Literacy Education (with P. Freebody, 2001);
Australian Policy Activism in Language and Literacy (with R. Wickert, 2001);
Voices from Phnom Penh, Development & Language,(2002);
Teaching Invisible Culture: Classroom Practice and Theory (with C. Crozet 2003);
Language Policy in Australia, (Council of Europe, 2004)
The Emergence of Chinese, (2007); Special Book Issue of Language Policy;
China & English: Globalisation & Dilemmas of Identity (with J. Orton & G. Yihong, late 2008)
Language Learning from the Inside: Japanese and Italian ((with R. Aliani, 2009)

He is a Council member and Fellow of the Australian Academy of the Humanities, Fellow of the Australian Council of Educators, was awarded the Order of Australia, the Centenary Medal, the title of *Commendatore nell'ordine di merito della repubblica Italiana* and was awarded the Australian College of Educators 2007 College Medal.