



Hemisphere
Conference Centre
488 South Road
Moorabbin
17-18 July

2014



VTA STATE CONFERENCE
**Public VET Providers
– Strong and Capable**



Victorian TAFE Association

Register online at www.vta.vic.edu.au



VTA State Conference 2014

Public VET Providers – Strong and Capable

17-18 July

Hemisphere Conference Centre
488 South Road, Moorabbin

With thanks to our sponsors:



Thanks to Holmesglen Institute for
printing the conference program.

Thursday 17 July

4.30pm **VTA Association Council***

6.30pm **Pre-dinner drinks**

7.00pm **Conference Dinner
Dinner Speaker**

John Caldwell, Victorian Australian of the Year 2014

* Agenda papers will be forwarded to all TAFE Board Chairs and CEOs

Friday 18 July

7.30am **TAFE Board Chairs' and CEOs' breakfast meetings**

8.45am **Registration**

9.00am **Conference Opening**

9.05am **Welcome Address**

The Hon. Nick Wakeling MLA, Minister for Higher Education
and Skills

9.30am **Panel Session – States' responses to implementing VET
contestability and entitlement models**

Chair: Dr John Mitchell, Managing Director, John Mitchell &
Associates

- Jodi Schmidt, CEO, TAFE Queensland
- Jeff Gunningham, Chief Executive, TAFE SA
- Jill Jamieson, Managing Director, Polytechnic West
- Pam Christie, Managing Director, TAFE NSW

11.00am **Morning tea**

11.30am **Strategies for attracting women trade apprentices**

Fiona Lawrie, Owner/Founder Fanelle Apprentice and
Tradeswomen Network

12.00pm **Workshops**

1. Governance: Reputational Risk

Convenor: Peter Heilbut, CEO, South West TAFE

- Tim Janes, Director, Fulcrum Risk Services
Sponsored by Governance Institute of Australia



2. Partnerships and Pathways

Convenor: Maria Peters, CEO, Chisholm Institute

- David Battersby, Vice-Chancellor, Federation University
Australia
- Anne Jones, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic and
Students), Victoria University
- Mary Faraone, CEO, Holmesglen Institute

3. International Development

Convenor: Nick Hunt, CEO, William Angliss Institute

- Julian Hills, Executive Director International Education,
Migration and Employment, DSDBI
- Rebecca Hall, Director International Education, DSDBI

1.00pm **Lunch**

1.45pm **Future policy directions for public VET provision in Victoria**

- The Hon. Daniel Andrews MP, Leader of the Opposition
- Sue Penniciuk MLC, The Greens

2.45pm **Afternoon Tea**

3.00pm **Commentators' Panel – the future of VET in Australia**

- Dr John Mitchell, Managing Director, John Mitchell & Associates
- Dr Mary Leahy, Coordinator, Master of Education Policy
(International), University of Melbourne
- John Ross, Higher Education Journalist, The Australian

4.00pm **Close**

**MC – Jim Grant**

Jim is a founding partner of Dattner Grant with extensive experience at the most senior levels of international business, and as a member of the executive teams of several major corporations before co-founding Dattner Grant. Jim's areas of specialty include working with senior executive teams on a wide range of matters.

**John Caldwell**

Born in 1977, John was the unfortunate victim of a traumatic childhood. His childhood experiences, however, is ultimately what led him to pursue his work with the anti-bullying sector, recently being named as an ambassador for The Alannah and Madeline and White Ribbon Foundations. John was honoured for his anti-bullying work when he was named as the 2014 Victorian Australian of the Year. Today, John is Chief Executive Officer of RWR Group. He is a happy ending to an otherwise tragic epidemic.

**The Hon. Nick Wakeling
MLA**

Nick served as a local councillor with the Knox City Council from 2003-2005 before being elected as the Member for Ferntree Gully in 2006. In 2008, he was appointed as Parliamentary Secretary and the following year as Parliamentary Secretary for Community Services. In 2010, he became Parliamentary Secretary for Health before being promoted to Cabinet Secretary in 2013. Nick was appointed as Minister for Higher Education and Skills in March 2014.

**Jodi Schmidt**

Jodi Schmidt was appointed as the first Chief Executive Officer of TAFE Queensland in July 2013. In the role of CEO, Jodi leads the reform of TAFE in Queensland which she commenced in her former role of Deputy Director-General, Training and Employment in the Department of Education, Training and Employment (DETE). Since 2010, Jodi has held various roles within the DETE leading the implementation of initiatives to align the training and higher education sectors and helped shaped the current reform of the state's public provider through her work with the Queensland Skills and Training Taskforce.

**Jeff Gunningham**

Jeff is the Chief Executive of TAFE South Australia and responsible for TAFE activities across the State. Prior to joining TAFE SA, Jeff was working as a freelance consultant in Perth. He has held the positions of Principal and Chief Executive of Swansea College in the UK, and was the inaugural Managing Director of Education and Training International in Western Australia. He has been the CEO of three other TAFE colleges in Australia as well as the Higher Colleges of Technology in the United Arab Emirates. His expertise is broad based and covers areas such as training partnerships, strategic management, leadership development, managing change, and international business development.

**Jill Jamieson**

Jill was appointed Managing Director of Polytechnic West in February 2013. Polytechnic West is one of the largest and most diverse state government training providers in Western Australia, supporting the highest number of apprentices, and also maintains higher education provider status. Prior to joining Polytechnic West, Jill was a member of Challenger Institute of Technology's executive with responsibility for the delivery of training and workforce development services across the Institute's nine schools. Jill has extensive experience in the design and implementation of regional and industry workforce development strategies and in building organisational capability to provide flexible, responsive and customised services.

**Pam Christie**

Pam Christie is Managing Director of TAFE NSW. Her key responsibilities include positioning TAFE NSW to meet the State's skill priorities and working with industry to ensure a highly skilled and productive workforce. Pam began her career as a secondary school teacher, worked overseas as an Australian volunteer and for the Adult English Migrant Service. She has held senior government positions in the vocational education and training sector, leading regulatory and funding reforms in NSW including major reforms related to apprenticeships. Pam has headed up two TAFE NSW Institutes, and led the initiative to establish TAFE NSW as a higher education provider.

**Fiona Lawrie**

Fiona Lawrie started her career in interior design, and in-between jobs she worked as a barista in a small cafe. The owner of a local automotive repair centre was buying his lunch and asked if she had any friends interested in an apprenticeship. Could this be a new career? When she asked if he would take on a female, he replied, "If she can do the work, she can have a trial." With minimal experience, Fiona went down to the workshop. A two week trial turned into a three month trial, competing for an apprenticeship with a male candidate. After three months, Fiona started trade school and swore to never look back. She has since received many awards and been recognised as a high achiever at Box Hill Institute.

**Tim Janes**

Tim Janes is a Director of Fulcrum Risk, an Australian business continuity and risk management consulting company. Tim has over 20 years' experience providing business continuity, incident management and risk consulting services to organisations in Australia, Asia and Europe. He has worked with organisations in diverse industries, such as media, local and federal government, education, transportation, retail, logistics and financial services. Tim has an MBA from Imperial College, London University and a Bachelor of Arts from Oxford Brookes University. He is a regular trainer for business continuity, reputation and risk management workshops and frequent contributor of original articles for local and international publications. Tim is also, is the President of the BCI Australasian Chapter, and a Member of the Business Continuity Institute.

**Mary Faraone**

Mary Faraone, Chief Executive of Holmesglen Institute, has extensive experience in the VET sector, working with industry, RTOs and at TAFE. Mary has been at Holmesglen since mid-2003 and in her previous role as Executive Director Educational, Development and Design was instrumental in the growth of Holmesglen, securing the 2006 Melbourne Commonwealth Games training project, the 2006 Asian Games in Doha and educational reform project in Bahrain and Qatar. Mary has led the Institute's higher education agenda, and the Institute is now widely recognised as a leader in non-university higher education delivery.



Professor David Battersby

Professor David Battersby is Vice-Chancellor of Federation University

Australia. Prior to joining the University in 2006, he held various senior appointments at Charles Sturt University in New South Wales including the positions of Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Pro Vice-Chancellor, Head of Campus and Dean of Faculty. Professor Battersby also worked in New Zealand at Massey University. He is the recipient of awards from the Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Scheme, the Commonwealth Relations Trust, the Australian-Japan Foundation and the British Council. He has undertaken consultancies for UNESCO and the OECD and a number of government agencies.



Professor Anne Jones

Professor Anne Jones leads Victoria University's academic and students portfolio which includes

the Centre for Collaborative Learning and Teaching working on teaching and learning quality, curriculum design and innovation, course governance and blended learning; the Dean of Students' portfolio focusing on academic support, the University's retention and success strategy and student wellbeing services; and the portfolio of the Academic Registrar which provides all student administrative services. The portfolio is also responsible for strategic leadership of the University's vocational education strategy. She has significant experience in working across the VET:HE interface and is a keen follower of emerging tertiary education policy.



Julian Hill

Julian Hill, Executive Director, International Education, Migration and Employment at DSDBI,

oversees support for international education providers to develop offshore markets and improve student experience, and also Victoria's skilled and business migration program, employment programs and legislation. Julian joined the Victorian public sector in mid-2002 working in metropolitan planning, including as Executive Director, Strategy Development, DSE and Executive Director, Urban Development, DPCD. Julian also led regional delivery for Planning, Local Government, Regional Development, Community Development, Aboriginal Affairs and Sport.



Rebecca Hall

Rebecca has over 20 years' experience in the international education

sector. Her senior positions include leadership roles with Gold Coast City Council, Queensland Department of Education and Training, TAFE Directors Australia and Griffith University. In 2014, she commenced in the role of Director International Education for DSDBI in the Victorian Government. Rebecca is a passionate advocate for international education and has a unique understanding of the critical factors impacting institutions and communities in a globalised world.



The Hon. Daniel Andrews MP

Daniel Andrews grew up in regional Victoria, moving

to Melbourne in 1990 to attend Monash University. Daniel entered the State Parliament in 2002 representing families in Melbourne's South Eastern suburbs. He was appointed to the Cabinet in 2006. Appointed Health Minister in 2007, he devised the landmark Victorian Cancer Action Plan and funded the state's first Comprehensive Cancer Centre. Daniel was elected the Leader of the Victorian Labor Party in December 2010.



Sue Pennicuik MLC

Sue is the Greens member of the Victorian Legislative Council for Southern

Metropolitan Region. Elected to the Legislative Council of the Victorian Parliament in 2006, Sue's portfolio responsibilities include Arts, Sport, Tourism, Employment, Justice and Education. Sue continues to prioritise and raise education and training issues in parliament.



Dr John Mitchell

Dr John Mitchell is Managing Director, John Mitchell & Associates, a

research-based consultancy company he established in 1992. John is a prominent author, researcher, evaluator, analyst and strategist, with over twenty years' experience managing his private practice. He specialises in workforce development and strategic and change management in education, and works regularly in the health and public service sectors. As an independent researcher, John has provided business, marketing and strategic planning and consulting advice to many Australian universities, TAFE Institutes in Australia, multiple hospitals and health services, industry bodies and corporations, and a range of Commonwealth departments and most state and territory governments.



Dr Mary Leahy

Mary is an academic at Melbourne Graduate School of Education, University of Melbourne.

She has an extensive background in research and policy focussing on access to education, training and employment. Recent research projects include: post-school destinations of young people in NSW; mapping funding flows in the VET sector; assessing the feasibility of non-competency based qualifications; and investigating pathways within education and between education and employment. This and earlier research informs her teaching in the Master of Education Policy (International) (MEPI) and in the Graduate Certificate in Tertiary Teaching (GCTT) and supervision of research higher degree students.



John Ross

John Ross is a higher education journalist with The Australian. He reports across the range

of tertiary education issues, specialising in VET policy, international education and research. He has won journalism awards from the National Press Club, Universities Australia, the International Education Association of Australia, the Migration Institute of Australia, the Australian Council of Deans of Education and the Council of International Students Australia. He joined The Australian in mid-2010 after working for several years with Campus Review. He has also freelanced for publications including The Sydney Morning Herald and The Good Weekend.

Registration

All information about the Conference, including online registration, is available at www.vta.vic.edu.au

Registrations close Thursday 10 July



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