

A nighttime photograph of the Melbourne skyline, featuring the Spire and other skyscrapers, with the Yarra River and a bridge in the foreground. A white network of dots and lines is overlaid on the image, connecting various points across the cityscape.

TAFE

Advancing Victorian prosperity

VTA State Conference 2017

20-21 July | Rydges Melbourne, 189 Exhibition Street, Melbourne





TAFE

Advancing Victorian prosperity

Conference Overview 2017

The past quarter century has been one of the longest continuous economic expansions in Victoria's history. A key factor underpinning this has been our highly skilled and productive workforce.

In a period that has seen rapid change in the education sector, TAFE's role as a leader and fundamental contributor to the economic and social prosperity enjoyed by all Victorians continues unabated. TAFE's physical presence is unparalleled, with more than 100 campuses across the state. Offering the most comprehensive range of courses for industry, community and individuals, the TAFE network continues to play the central role in providing the education and training that is the foundation of our prosperity.

But rapid change brings both opportunities and threats. While there is much to celebrate, there is a need for continued vigilance to ensure that the Victorian TAFE network is robust and effective, proactive and responsive to continue to contribute to Victoria's prosperity.

The 2017 VTA State Conference program will consider these and other related issues, challenging assumptions, celebrating the past, and looking to the future. With a cavalcade of exciting international and national speakers, the 2017 VTA conference promises to be thought provoking and one not to be missed.

WITH THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS

Principal Sponsor



Silver Sponsors



Bronze Sponsors



CONFERENCE PROGRAM

THURSDAY 20 JULY

PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOP

1.00pm – 4.00pm

Equipping Victoria's Workforce in Transition

- **A Valley in Transition (Federation Training)**
Owen Chapman, Industry Engagement Coordinator, Skills and Jobs Centre
- **Skilling the Bay: preparing Geelong for the jobs of the future (The Gordon)**
Carley Brennan, Skilling the Bay Manager
- **Bridging the Gap: helping skilled, professional migrants enter the Australian workforce (AMES)**
Marg Davis, Counselling and Career Development Coordinator
- **Implementing Relevant Training relevant to the NDIS rollout (Box Hill Institute)**
Angela Hoare-Lippman, Acting Executive Director Educational Delivery – Schools and Contracted Delivery
- **The Role of TAFE in Youth and School in Engagement in Regional Victoria (GOTAFE)**
Jodee Price, Manager Skills and Employment

Facilitator: Helen Kronberger, Director Victorian TAFE International
(open to VTA members only)

MEETINGS

1.00pm – 2.00pm

Victorian CEO Council meeting

(open to Victorian CEO Council members only)

2.15pm – 3.45pm

Association Council meeting

(open to Victorian CEO Council members and Board Chairs only)

4.00pm – 6.00pm

Victorian TAFE Board of Chairs' meeting

(open to Victorian TAFE Board Chairs only)

DINNER

6.30pm

Pre-dinner drinks

7.00pm

State Conference Dinner

Celebration and recognition of Victoria's WorldSkills' Gold Medal Winners

FRIDAY 21 JULY

STATE CONFERENCE

8.15am	Registration open
8.45am	Conference Opening MC – Lindy Burns (ABC Radio presenter)
8.55am	Welcome Address Hon. Gayle Tierney MP Minister for Training and Skills, and Minister for Corrections
9.15am	Keynote address Ute Hippach-Schneider, Senior Researcher, Federal Institute for Vocational Education and Training, Germany
10.15am	Morning tea
10.45am	Panel: TAFE at the heart of community prosperity <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Associate Professor Ruth Schubert, Associate Director, LH Martin Institute• Mark Fidge, Chief Executive Officer, South West TAFE• Neil Coulson, Victorian Skills Commissioner Facilitator: Lindy Burns, MC
11.45am	Future of work Jan Owen AM, Chief Executive Officer, Foundation for Young Australians
12.30pm	Lunch
1.20pm	Panel: Addressing the gap between graduates and employment <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mark Stone AM, Chief Executive, Victorian Chamber of Commerce and Industry• Justin Hanney, Head of Employment, Investment and Trade, Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources• Craig Robertson, Chief Executive Officer, TAFE Directors Australia• Stephen Billett, Professor of Adult and Vocational Education, School of Education and Professional Studies, Griffith University Facilitator: Lindy Burns, MC
2.20pm	Preparing students for work Marc Nichol, Teacher, Holmesglen Institute (2016 Victorian Teacher/Trainer of the Year)
2.50pm	Afternoon tea
3.10pm	Plenary Panel <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ute Hippach-Schneider, Senior Researcher, Federal Institute for Vocational Education and Training, Germany• Marc Nichol, Teacher, Holmesglen Institute• Louisa Ellum, Chief Executive Officer, International Specialist Skills Institute• Stephen Billett, Professor of Adult and Vocational Education, School of Education and Professional Studies, Griffith University Facilitator: Lindy Burns, MC
4.00pm	Conference concludes

MEET OUR SPEAKERS



MC
Lindy Burns
ABC Radio presenter

Lindy Burns is one of Australia's senior radio broadcasters. During the past 27 years, she has produced and presented a range of programs for the ABC including sports reporting for Triple J, presenting the state-wide Sunday program in NSW, eight years hosting the Drive and Afternoon programs in Newcastle, before being coaxed to Melbourne twelve years ago. Lindy has been twice nominated for Broadcaster of the Year award for ABC radio.



Hon Gayle Tierney MP
Minister for Training and Skills

Gayle has a strong connection with rural and regional communities. Apart from being an advocate for regional infrastructure and employment, Gayle is also a strong supporter of environmental sustainability, gender representation, social inclusion and community development. She was the first woman to become a State Secretary of the Vehicle Division of the traditionally male-dominated Australian Manufacturing Workers Union, serving in this role from 1993 to 2006, and also as the Federal President from 2000 to 2006. Gayle also served on the Executive of the Australian Council of Trade Unions (ACTU) from 2000 to 2006. In 2006, Gayle was elected to represent Western Victoria in the Legislative Council. Gayle was appointed as Minister for Training and Skills, and Minister for Corrections in November 2016.



Ute Hippach-Schneider
Senior Researcher
Federal Institute for Vocational Education and Training (BIBB)
Germany

Ute Hippach-Schneider is Senior Researcher at Federal Institute for Vocational Education and Training (Bundesinstitut für Berufsbildung in German, or BIBB), a position she has held since 2001. Founded in 1970, BIBB is recognised as a centre of excellence for vocational research and for the progressive development of vocational education and training. Ute is a member of BIBB's "International Cooperation in Vocational Education and Training, Education Marketing" Section, where she has authored and edited almost 40 publications, including *Tertiary vocational education in Europe – examples from six education systems*, which seeks to raise the visibility of vocational training in the form of work-based learning in the tertiary education sector, giving it a higher level of appreciation and contributing towards its heightened understanding. Prior to joining BIBB, Ute was a Press Officer and a lawyer at the Press and Information Office of the Federal Government of Germany.



Associate Professor Ruth Schubert
Associate Director
LH Martin Institute

Ruth Schubert joined the LH Martin Institute in 2014 as the Program Director, VET and has since been appointed Associate Director. Ruth was previously the Director, Business Transformation with TAFE SA, taking on the role at a critical mid-way point three separate South Australian Institutes merge into one organisation. Ruth also has experience in private RTOs, the schooling sector, and 15 years in executive positions in TAFE Institutes. Ruth's research interests are in leadership, social capital, building successful communities and the structure and positioning of the Tertiary Education sector. Ruth is currently leading two major research projects, the first profiling institutional diversity of vocational education providers across Australia, and the other investigating quality teaching in the Victorian VET sector.

MEET OUR SPEAKERS



Justin Hanney

*Head of the Employment, Investment and Trade Group
Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources*

As Head of the Employment, Investment and Trade Group, Justin Hanney works to attract and facilitate international and domestic investment, grow employment, expand Victoria's offshore trade, and develop many of Victoria's key sectors, from International Education, Food, Fibre and Agriculture, Medical Technologies and Pharmaceuticals and Digital Technology. He provides oversight to key Victorian Government entities, including Regional Development Victoria, Visit Victoria, Development Victoria, Agriculture Victoria, Trade and Investment Victoria, Small Business Victoria, and is responsible for a network of domestic and international Victorian Government Business Offices that deliver information, advisory and referral services to Victorian businesses.



Craig Robertson

*Chief Executive Officer
TAFE Directors Australia*

Craig Robertson commenced as CEO of TAFE Directors Australia in April 2017. Prior to joining TDA, Craig worked in the Victorian Government from 2015 and 2016 with responsibilities for the operation of vocational education and working with Victorian universities. Craig also worked for over 30 years in the Commonwealth Government with responsibilities in national policy and program delivery relating to employment services, funding for schools and most aspects of vocational education and training. Craig was also an inaugural member of the Australian Qualifications Framework Council formed in 2011.



Mark Fidge

*Chief Executive Officer
South West TAFE*

Mark Fidge has been CEO of South West TAFE since early 2015. Prior to becoming the CEO, Mark was the Executive Manager – Corporate Services incorporating the role of Board Secretary and Chief Financial Officer. As CEO, Mark is responsible for implementing the strategic direction of the Institute and ensuring efficiency across the Institute to meet the requirements of Government, enterprises and individuals.



Neil Coulson

Victorian Skills Commissioner

From 1999-2007, Neil held the role of the Chief Executive Officer at the Victorian Employers Chamber of Commerce and Industry (VECCI), before moving to Australian caravan manufacturer Jayco Corporation as the Chief Executive Officer from 2007 to 2012. He ran his own consulting business from 2012-2015. More recently, Neil was the Deputy Reviewer for the Governments independent VET Funding Review in 2015. Neil's experience places him in an ideal position to advise government and industry on how Victoria's training system can meet Victoria's educational and economic needs.



Jan Owen AM Hon DLitt

*Chief Executive Officer
Foundation for Young Australians*

Jan Owen is a highly regarded social entrepreneur, innovator, influencer and author who has spent the past 25 years growing Australia's youth, social enterprise and innovation sectors. In 2012 she was named Australia's inaugural Australian Financial Review and Westpac Woman of Influence; in 2014 she received the Doctor of Letters (honoris causa) from the University of Sydney; and was awarded membership to the Order of Australia in 2000. She is the author of *Every Childhood Lasts a Lifetime* (1996) and *The Future Chasers* (2014). Her lifelong mission is to unleash the potential of young people to lead positive change in the world.

MEET OUR SPEAKERS



Mark Stone AM

*Chief Executive
Victorian Chamber of Commerce and Industry*

Mark Stone is the Chief Executive of the Victorian Chamber of Commerce and is also a Director on the Board of the Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry (ACCI), an Australia Day Ambassador and Fellow of the Williamson Leadership program. Prior to joining the Victorian Chamber, Mark was the Chief Executive of Tourism Victoria. This followed a 12 year period as Chief Executive of Parks Victoria, which manages one fifth of Victoria's land area, employs 1200 staff, and has a \$4 billion asset base. In 2016, Mark was recognised for his contributions, being made a Member of the Order of Australia for contributions to commerce and industry.



Stephen Billett

*Professor of Adult and Vocational Education
School of Education and Professional Studies
Griffith University*

Stephen Billett is Professor of Adult and Vocational Education, School of Education and Professional Studies at Griffith University, Brisbane, Australia and an Australian Research Council Future Fellow. Stephen has authored a number of books in the vocational education area, *Integrating practice-based learning experiences into higher education programs* (2015). He is the founding and Editor in Chief of *Vocations and learning: Studies in vocational and professional education*, an international forum on vocational learning. Stephen has received numerous accolades for his work, including a Fulbright scholarship, a national teaching fellowship, an honorary doctorate from Jyväskylä University in Finland, and election as a Fellow of the Academy of Social Sciences of Australia.



Marc Nichol

*Teacher, Tourism and Events
Holmesglen Institute*

Marc Nichol has been working in the events industry since 2001. In 2011, seeking a career change, Marc looked for opportunities to pass on his experience to the next generation of event professionals. After taking on sessional teaching work in the events program at Holmesglen, he soon realised he felt right at home in a VET environment. While at Holmesglen, Marc has actively sought to enhance students' experience within the programs he has developed and delivered. He continues to focus on best preparing students for the workplace through the initiatives he has driven including internships within industry and international study trips. Marc was awarded the Victorian TAFE Teacher / Trainer of the Year in 2016.



Louisa Ellum

*Chief Executive Officer
International Specialised Skills Institute (ISS Institute)*

Louisa has worked extensively across the education and training, not-for-profit and philanthropic sectors over the past 20 years. She is a leader in organisational and cross-sectoral partnership development and collaboration, organisational innovation and strategic development. Louisa is currently the Chief Executive for the ISS Institute that works to facilitate international Fellowships in areas of skills enhancement, innovation and education, training and industry development. She also holds the position of Chair at YACVic (Youth Affairs Council of Victoria) and has worked in and contributed to program knowledge and advice in the youth transitions area of government policy – State and Federal.



VTA State Conference 2017

20-21 July | Rydges Melbourne, 189 Exhibition Street, Melbourne

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

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FEES

Register by 14th July	Price (incl. GST)
Individual Member (Dinner and Conference)	\$550.00
Individual Member (Conference Only)	\$450.00
Members' Discount Pack (if registering 5 or more for Dinner and Conference)	\$450.00
Members including partners (Dinner only)	\$150.00
Non-Member (Dinner and Conference)	\$750.00
Non-Member (Conference only)	\$650.00

PRE-CONFERENCE SESSIONS (20 July)

Session	Open only to:	Time
Equipping Victoria's workforce in transition	VTA members	1pm – 4pm
CEO Council meeting	Victorian CEO Council members	1pm – 2pm
Association Council meeting	Victorian CEO Council members and Board Chairs	2.15pm – 3.45pm
TAFE Board Chairs' Meeting	Victorian TAFE Board Chairs	4pm – 6pm

ACCOMMODATION AND TRAVEL:

Accommodation is not included in the conference fees, and is the responsibility of delegates. Information on accommodation and travel is available on the VTA website.

PAYMENT TERMS:

Payment must be made prior to the event. Payment is made by EFT or credit card. Credit card payments must be made during registration via the secure credit card gateway. A tax invoice will be emailed to the first registrant upon completion of a valid registration.

CANCELLATION POLICY AND SUBSTITUTIONS:

The Victorian TAFE Association (VTA) reserves the right to alter the program for this event, including the presenter(s), without further notice. However the event is intended to run as advertised.

The VTA reserves the right to cancel this event due to insufficient numbers. Registrants will be notified if this occurs and payment refunded in full.

Refunds will only be issued on receipt of a written cancellation. A substitute delegate is welcome to attend at no extra charge if VTA is notified. The full fee will be refunded provided VTA receives the cancellation prior to the RSVP date of the event. No refunds will be issued if cancellation occurs after the RSVP date of the event. No refunds will be issued if the registrant fails to attend the event.

RSVP

Registrations close 14 July 2017.

VICTORIAN TAFE ASSOCIATION
Level 3, 478 Albert Street
East Melbourne VIC 3002 Australia
enquiries@vta.vic.edu.au
61 3 9639 8100
vta.vic.edu.au

The peak body for Victoria's TAFE network

