



Teaching and Learning Forum



FATE 2010

FRESH APPROACH TO EDUCATION

A Teaching and Learning Forum for New and Accomplished Educators

SPEAKER PROFILES

Tom Alegounarias, Board of Studies

Tom Alegounarias was appointed President of the Board of Studies NSW in June 2009. Tom is also the NSW nominee to the Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority Board (ACARA). He was previously the founding Chief Executive of the NSW Institute of Teachers and before that, Director of Equity and General Manager of Strategic Policy for the NSW Department of Education. He believes quality of curriculum and teaching underpin equity and opportunity for all students.

Dr Dianne Bloomfield, University of Sydney

As a Director of Professional Experience for the past 14 years firstly at the University of New England, Armidale and more recently the University of Sydney, Diane has been actively involved in the development of relevant curriculum and pedagogy as well as the administration of Professional Experience components within pre-service teacher education. This work within the university contexts follows a sustained career in teaching within a broad range of schools and sectors. Diane has research interests in terms of the particular contributions schools and universities make to the complex work of pre-service and in-service teachers constituting professional identities.

Dr Deborah Clarke, Charles Sturt University

Deb Clarke is a lecturer in curriculum studies at Charles Sturt University. Deb's research focuses on forming school/university partnerships can act as frameworks for professional development. She has lectured in Early Childhood, Primary Education and Secondary PDHPE programs in five NSW Universities and been a secondary teacher for 16 years in a variety of secondary schools. She was the winner of the 2006 Vice Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Teaching and the winner of the 2004 Australian College of Educators' & NSW Minister for Education and Training Quality Teaching Award.

Dr Julie Cogin, University of New South Wales

Julie is Head of School, Organisation and Management at the Australian School of Business (ASB), University of NSW. She is subject leader for the core subject "Organisational Behaviour" in AGSM's full-time MBA program and "Managerial Skills" in AGSM's EMBA. Julie also designs and delivers executive programs for many leading companies throughout the Asia Pacific region

and USA. She is a guest commentator on Business Focus television program.

In December 2007 Julie was awarded the UNSW Vice Chancellor's award for teaching excellence. In 2008 her contribution to tertiary education was recognised with a national citation from the Australian Learning and Teaching Council (previously Carrick Institute) "for dedication, enthusiasm and sustained innovation in Organisational Behaviour teaching that has resulted in an exceptional learning experience enabling students to link theory and workplace practice."

Julie is currently an ALTC reviewer for competitive grants and teaching awards. While in the role of Associate Dean (Education) at the ASB, Julie put in place a blended learning approach to teaching the Bachelor of Commerce, which is now being benchmarked by other Tertiary Education Institutions.

Julie has authored two books, "The Business Solutions Toolkit" (2006) and "Managerial Problem Solving: Frameworks, Tools and Techniques" (2009) both with Professor Robert Wood. She has written several chapters in books and published in prestigious HRM international journals.

In 2009 Julie was part of a team that secured a large research grant from the Australian Government's Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations to pilot the next National survey of high performance workplaces. She will partner with Price Waterhouse Coopers to identify and implement migration strategies for what under and mid-performing firms can do to migrate into a higher performing category. In 2006 Julie's research was recognised from the Australian and New Zealand Academy of Management when she was awarded best HRM research in 2006. In 2008 Julie was invited to be a panel judge for the Australian HR Awards, including Employer of Choice. Julie has held various management positions in the HRM arena prior to academic life. She was employed at Qantas Airways as the Director of Human Resources Manager and practiced in many areas including change management, recruitment and selection, performance management, process improvement and equal employment opportunity.

Lyndsay Connors, Australian College of Educators (ACE)

Lyndsay Connors is an Honorary Adjunct Associate Professor at the University of Sydney, and a member of the Council for the Order of Australia.

She was admitted to the rank of Fellow of the College in 1990 and, in 2001, was awarded the Annual Medal. In 1999, she received the Australian Council of Deans of Education award for outstanding service to education. She was awarded an Honorary Doctorate by the University of Canberra in 1992 and by the University of South Australia in 2000. In 2006, she was made a Member of the Order of Australia for service to education as a contributor to the development of education policy at state and national levels. From 1983 to 1988, Lyndsay Connors was a member of the Commonwealth Schools Commission and in that capacity chaired the Curriculum Development Council. From 1988 to 1991 she was Chair of the Schools Council of the National Board of Employment, Education and Training.

During the 1990s, Ms Connors held a range of positions including Board member of the Australian Council for Education Research, member of the NSW Ministerial Advisory Committee on Teacher Education and the Quality of Teaching. In 1991, she was appointed Deputy Chair of the Board of the Australian Broadcasting Corporation.

In 2000, Ms Connors chaired the Victorian Government's Review of Public Education; and conducted the Inquiry into ACT Education Funding for the ACT Government in 2002. Following eight years working at a senior level within the NSW Department of Education and Training, Ms Connors was appointed by the NSW Government to chair the Public Education Council.

In 2007, working as an independent consultant, she was commissioned by the NSW Public Education Alliance to write two reports, one on the need to invest in the renewal of the public school teaching force and the other on the need to reform federal arrangements for schools.

Lyndsay Connors has been a forthright advocate for public schooling and for the equal entitlement of all Australians to high quality education, free from barriers arising from their social background, or sex. She has published a variety of reports and articles, jointly and individually, on schooling and on the teaching profession.

Dr Lloyd Dawe, Formerly University of Sydney

Lloyd Dawe has a passion for mathematics and the support of teachers in schools to teach mathematics creatively through child centred learning. He taught for many years at the University of Sydney as an Associate Professor of Mathematics Education.

Since retirement he has published a series of school mathematics textbooks for years 7 to 10, and teacher resource materials in mathematical thinking. He now works mainly as a mathematics consultant in schools, supporting teachers in their classrooms, catering for students with special needs, and trying out innovative approaches to learning.

Lloyd also mentors university teachers of mathematics from the People's Republic of China as part of an ongoing scientific China/Australia cooperation program at the University of Sydney. During his career, Lloyd has taught in many schools around the world, including schools in Edinburgh and London where he helped prepare gifted students for Oxford and Cambridge.

Lloyd has been Head of a Mathematics Department in a NSW secondary school, Head of the Mathematics Department of Sydney Teachers College, and a visiting scholar in many different countries, including Hong Kong, England, Scotland, Wales, Canada, and the United States. He is strongly committed to social justice issues such as poverty and malnutrition, and ways in which mathematics can contribute to student learning in such areas. He has participated in Australian aid projects in the third world including Western Samoa, Papua New Guinea, the Solomon Islands, and more recently Tanzania. Within Australia he has spent many years supporting remote Aboriginal schools in the Northern Territory.

Dr John DeCourcy, Australian College of Educators

Dr John DeCourcy is NSW president of the Australian College of Educators, and in his day job is Head of Strategic Accountabilities Services for the Catholic Education Office in Parramatta. His background includes 24 years as a school deputy and principal in Australia and New Zealand, a Masters in theoretical structural chemistry, and a professional lifetime working on how we support young people in learning.

Professor Stephen Dinham, Australian Council for Educational Research (ACER)

Professor Stephen Dinham is Research Director of the Teaching, Learning and Leadership research program at the Australian Council for Educational Research.

Stephen Dinham taught in government secondary schools in NSW before being appointed to the University of Western Sydney where he held a number of positions including Head of the Department of Curriculum Studies, Associate Dean (Postgraduate) and Associate Professor.

In 2002 he took up a position as Professor of Teacher Education, Pedagogy and Professional Development at the University of New England. In 2005 he took up the position of Professor of Educational Leadership and Pedagogy at the University of Wollongong. He is also currently a Professorial Fellow at the University of Melbourne and Visiting Professorial Fellow at the University of Wollongong.

Steve has conducted a wide range of research projects (more than 60 funded) in the areas of educational leadership and change, effective pedagogy/quality teaching, student achievement, postgraduate supervision, professional teaching standards, teachers' professional development, middle-level leaders in schools, and teacher satisfaction, motivation and health.

He has an extensive publication record (more than 260 publications) of books, book chapters, refereed journal articles, and articles in professional journals, newspapers and magazines. His most recent book is *How to Get Your School Moving and Improving* (2008). He is a frequent presenter at international, national and state conferences (over 350 presentations) in countries such as the USA, Canada, England, New Zealand, Sweden, Scotland, Germany, Switzerland and Crete as well as every Australian state and territory) and has conducted consultancies with a variety of educational bodies nationally and internationally.

Steve is a Past President of the NSW Branch of the Australian College of Educators and chaired the Steering Committee responsible for the NSW Minister for Education and Training and ACE Quality Teaching Awards introduced in 2001 until 2007. In June 2002, he was appointed to the Interim Committee for the NSW Institute of Teachers and in August 2002, to the Commonwealth Review of Teaching and Teacher Education. Professor Dinham is a Fellow of the Australian College of Educators, a Fellow of the Australian Council for Educational Administration, and a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Management. In 2005 he was awarded the Sir Harold Wyndham Medal by the Australian College of Educators in recognition of his contributions to education. In 2006 he was awarded a national Carrick Australian Award for University Teaching - Citation for Outstanding Contributions to Student Learning.

Andrew Fraser, Catholic Education Office

Andrew Fraser is passionate about learning and teaching for both students and teachers and has expertise in providing leadership in this area. He is committed to the strengthening of the teaching profession, and enhancing the capacity of teachers to be leaders for learning in the 21st Century. He is an experienced classroom teacher.

Currently Andrew is a Team Leader: Learning Frameworks with the RE and Learning Services Team of the Catholic Education Office, Parramatta where his responsibilities include researching, promoting and developing innovative practices and paradigms for effective learning and teaching and supporting processes for building teacher capacity. Prior to that Andrew was a senior leader with CEO Sydney and was a key team member in developing CEO Sydney's Learning Framework and Assessment is for Learning statement. In 2004 Andrew was seconded to the NSW Institute of Teachers to assist in the establishment of the Institute.

During 2006 Andrew undertook a Churchill Fellowship which took him to Canada, England, Scotland and Germany to examine teacher-led innovation and development to improve professional practice. As well as being a Churchill Fellow, Andrew is a member of the Australian College of Educators, the Australian Council for Educational Leaders, the Australian Curriculum Studies Association and the International Congress of School Effectiveness and Improvement.

Gina Grant, Board of Studies

Gina has been Inspector, Science at the Office of the Board of Studies since 2003. In this role she is responsible for the management of K–12 Science curriculum development in NSW and the inspection of non-government schools for registration and accreditation. She has been the Coordinating Inspector of the Boards program for registration and accreditation. She brings to this position extensive science teaching experience (K-12) across schools in both the government and non-government sectors.

Gina began her career as a teacher of science. She has been a Head Teacher of Science and Coordinator of Professional Learning in independent schools in Sydney, Senior Curriculum Officer (Science) at the Office of the Board of Studies, Science Consultant at Department of Education and Training. She has been a member of HSC examination committees, a senior HSC Marker, Supervisor of Marking for HSC and School Certificate. Gina has provided consultancy support for curriculum development projects at state and national level and to international schools.

Jennifer Holt, The Scots College

Jennifer Holt believes passionately that learning must be real and relevant. She has a keen interest in education and emerging technologies. She strives to “teach students to solve problems with their heads, creating solutions with their hands.”

Jennifer completed a Bachelor of Education (Design and Technology) degree at the University of Sydney in 2006 and is currently teaching at The Scots College, Sydney. Previously she spent her first year teaching at MLC School Sydney. Over the past 4 years, Jennifer has developed extensive experience using a wide range of technologies in the classroom, more recently she has been experimenting at Scots with using mobile devices in the learning environment to enhance and spark creativity in students. In 2009 Jennifer was sponsored as a delegate to USA for the International Technology Engineering Educators Association (ITEEA) Conference, awarded The NSW Teachers’ Guild Award for Excellence in Teaching for early career educators. She also received the Dr Robert Iles AM Award for Outstanding Classroom Practice presented by The Scots College. In addition, one of her students received the 2009 People’s Choice Award on the ABC television show The New Inventors.

Jennifer has also organised design workshops for teachers and students with the Australian designer and ABC New Inventors judge Sally Dominguez. She has a keen interest in design for a sustainable future and her students respond enthusiastically to new programs and the opportunities they are given to explore their creativity in a variety of learning environments.

Sean Kelleher, Abbotsleigh

Sean Kelleher graduated from Macquarie University in 1986, with a double major in Earth Sciences and History. After working in the Antiques trade and for ABS for a couple of years, in 1988 he joined the teaching profession at St Leo’s College, Waitara. He remained there until 1989 when he secured a position at Abbotsleigh as a Social Science teacher. During this time he has taken on numerous leadership roles at the school including Assistant Head of Social Sciences, Head of Geography and House Patron of Richardson House.

Sean has also been actively involved in a number of professional organisations and in 2000 was President of the AIS Geography Association and remained a member for the following five years. During his time at Abbotsleigh three of his students have topped the state in the HSC Geography examination.

Dr Phil Lambert, NSW Department of Education and Training

Phil Lambert has extensive experience in education as a principal, inspector, curriculum manager, policy director and Assistant Director-General. He has authored and co-authored books and presented a number of papers and keynote speeches at State, national and international conferences covering a range of topics and issues. Phil has overseen a number of major policy initiatives in early childhood, primary education, rural education and Aboriginal education. Some of these initiatives include the delivery of distance education to isolated students using satellite computer-based technologies, the review of Aboriginal Education, the expansion of preschools in NSW government schools and the class size reduction program.

Phil has been a member of a number of high level committees, taskforces and boards. He is currently a Board member of the Australian Children's Television Foundation (ACTF), a member of the Education Faculty Advisory Board at the University of Sydney, a member of the Department's International Business Council and Patron of the Early Childhood Education Council.

Dr Anthony Loughland, University of Sydney

Tony Loughland is Director of the Master of Teaching (Primary) at the Faculty of Education and Social Work at the University of Sydney. He has been an academic partner to four Australian Government Quality Teaching Action Learning Projects and has worked in a diverse range of teacher education and primary teaching positions throughout NSW. He is interested in using open-source Web2.0 applications to mobilise cost-effective pedagogies.

Christine Mae, St Aloysius Primary School Cronulla

Christine Mae was born and educated in Sydney. After completing a Diploma of Teaching in Primary Education at the St George Institute (UNSW), concurrently with studies in Music through the AMEB, she took a position as high school music teacher and subsequently undertook studies in Pure and Applied Mathematics at Sydney University.

As a mother of four young children, Christine opened a Private Music Practice, teaching up to 40 students per week, an experience which highlighted to her the extent of differences in the learning pace, style and needs of individual children. Her belief that no two children learn exactly the same thing in exactly the same way was foundational in her return to classroom teaching, where, over the last ten years she has had the opportunity to specialise in catering for the needs of children through the development of enrichment, extension, intervention and co-curricular programs in Mathematics, Literacy and Creative Arts. During this time she has continuously undertaken studies at post-graduate level in Gifted Education and Curriculum Design. In 2002 she founded the Eastern Shire Mathematics Enrichment Committee which hosts a number of events each year, bringing together gifted mathematics students from Year 1 to Year 11 on common mathematical tasks. Her mantra is "give each child a reason to come to school every day".

Dannielle Miller, Enlighten Education

Dannielle Miller is a major innovator and expert in the field of education and student welfare. She was responsible for the curriculum, staffing and quality of learning of the English faculty of a dual campus high school. As Students at Risk Coordinator for all high schools in Western Sydney, she advised the Federal Government on funding for support programs for students at risk of dropping out.

The immensely successful Lighthouse Project was Dannielle's brainchild. It pairs at-risk students with workplace mentors, helping

them develop employment skills and discover the real-world relevance of what they learn at school. Another of her innovations was an accredited Higher School Certificate (HSC) course in service learning that she developed. The curriculum nurtures students' entrepreneurial skills while involving them in meaningful community volunteer work.

Concerned about the struggles she saw countless high school girls go through with body image and self-esteem, in 2003 Dannielle co-founded Enlighten Education, which provides girls with training and support to stand up to limiting media and social messages. In 2009, as part of its Next 100 series, The Weekend Australian newspaper named Dannielle as Australia's no 1 Emerging Leader in Learning. She works with thousands of girls across Australia each year and makes regular media appearances to advise on teen issues. Author of teen parenting book *The Butterfly Effect* (Random House Australia, September 2009), she is also an avid blogger (<http://enlightenededucation.edublogs.org>). She is featured in education journals, her articles have appeared in The Sydney Morning Herald, and she is a popular speaker at youth and education conferences and forums.

Ian Moore, Trinity Grammar School

Ian Moore has the considerable experience of more than 31 years as a secondary school teacher. His passion and dedication to his work has been underpinned by the belief that teaching should be at once inspirational, imaginative, insightful and fun. This philosophy has both inspired and grown from his twin passions, teaching year 12 economics and instilling a genuine love of reading, spelling and language in toddlers. Over the past two decades, he has guided 23 Economics and Business Studies students to finish within the top ten of the entire state candidature in the New South Wales Higher School Certificate.

Terry O'Connell, Real Justice

Terry O'Connell is presently the Australian Director for Real Justice, an international non-profit organization established in 1995 to promote restorative justice processes throughout the world.

Terry spent 30 years in the NSW Police Service. For 15 years he was a senior elected official of the NSW Police Association, the largest Australian Police Union. He has been highly acclaimed and decorated for his work and overseas is often referred to as "cop from Wagga Wagga", responsible for developing the 'scripted' restorative justice conference model in 1990.

His work in the UK since 1995 has significantly influenced the broader criminal justice system, particularly in the area of youth justice. Terry was awarded the Order of Australia Medal in 2000 for his pioneering restorative justice youth conferencing. His innovative work has significantly influenced changes in youth justice in Australia and United Kingdom during the 1990's.

An example of this early work can be found in the ABC documentary *facing the Demons* that detailed a conference between the perpetrators and surviving victims of the Janallli Pizza Hut murder of Michael Marslew. He has also featured in a number of the ABC's Australian Stories, the most notable being *Murder He Wrote* involving John Button from Perth who was wrongly convicted of the manslaughter of his girlfriend in 1963. In 1994, the model was introduced into school education when Terry trained a group of Queensland teachers responsible for the C.A.C.'s (Community Accountability Conferences) pilot. In the last five years, Terry's work in school education has extended to the UK & USA.

Terry's work in education has culminated in the development of the MacKillop Model of Restorative Practices. A number of this model's approaches are unique in that it recognizes and involves the three stakeholders in teaching and learning (school staff, students and parents).

Alison Shaw , Epping Boys High School

Alison Shaw was educated in Bathurst, attended the NSW Conservatorium of Music for her tertiary studies and from since then has taught in three Boys High Schools while raising her own three sons.

In 2008 Alison received an Australian Scholarship Group NEITA Inspirational Teacher State and Territory Award, made a short video for Teachers' TV Australia and was a recipient of a Community Volunteer Award for her services to Music at Epping Boys High School. The education magazine Side by Side has also published a couple of articles on her achievements in boys' education.

Alison is currently the Music Coordinator at Epping Boys High School, facilitating fourteen music ensembles outside the classroom. She shares her passion for Music with her students inspiring them to take their music into the wider community, in formal and informal situations, entertaining young and old, with the next major performance being in the new Walt Disney Concert Hall in Los Angeles in June this year.

Jane Williams, Balgowlah North Public School

Jane completed her schooling on the Northern Beaches before graduating from Macquarie University with a BA Dip Ed. She was appointed to Hornsby South Public School through the Department of Education and Training's Graduate program. She has since taught at three Northern Sydney schools and at Macquarie University's ICT Centre.

Jane has a strong interest in early learning, particularly literacy. She has successfully enhanced teaching practices through the use of technology and has a keen interest in gifted and talented education in the early years. In 2008, Jane received an Australian Scholarship Group NIETA Inspirational Teacher State and Territory Award, for inspiring her students to achieve their best.

In her current position as Assistant Principal, Jane is responsible for the teaching and learning programs of the school's ninety-five Kindergarten children as well as the school's highly regarded public relations program. Jane is a regular presenter at regional teacher professional development programs.