

Subject: ACAL eNews Aug 2011
Date: Sunday, 28 August 2011 12:10 PM
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ACAL eNews

August 2011

ACAL eNews is the electronic newsletter of the Australian Council of Adult Literacy (ACAL) and is distributed free to people interested in adult literacy and numeracy. See below for subscription details or to unsubscribe.

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1. Literacy on the Map: Common Visions, Different Paths – 26 to 28, Sept 2011

Registration is still open for the ACAL Conference at <http://www.valbec.org.au/2011conf/>

See the full program at <http://www.valbec.org.au/2011conf/progframework.htm>
We have registrations from across Australia as well as New Zealand and Singapore.
Get your's in now! <http://www.valbec.org.au/2011conf/reg.htm>

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2. Forum • 'Transitions and Transformations'

A full day focussing on literacies that learners encounter when making the transition from one sector to another.

See the program at <http://www.valbec.org.au/2011conf/forum-speakers.htm>
Register at <http://www.valbec.org.au/2011conf/reg.htm>

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3. ACAL AGM

The ACAL AGM will be held on Tuesday, Sept 27, 2001 as part of the ACAL Conference. More details to members later.

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4. Reports

4.1 Working together: Integrated language, literacy and numeracy support in vocational education and training

A research report has recently been published: *Working together: Integrated*

language, literacy and numeracy support in vocational education and training by Stephen Black and Keiko Yasukawa from the University of Technology, Sydney. Based on a national email scan of LLN providers, in-depth interviews with more than 50 VET teachers and managers, and three case studies, the research investigates various models of integrated LLN support in Australia. The report concludes with recommendations for VET policy, pedagogy and professional development for effective integrated LLN support on VET courses.

The project was funded by DEEWR and the report is available at: <http://www.rile.uts.edu.au/projects/working-together.html>

4.2 Public Consultations on Employability Skills

Ithaca Group has been contracted by the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR) to develop a framework that will build upon existing frameworks to more clearly define the underpinning skills needed for successful participation in work. A series of consultations were held during August around the country to identify issues that might impact on the further development and implementations of the framework.

See the Background Paper for the consultations at <http://www.acal.edu.au/downloads/employabilityskillsconsultationbackgroundpaper.pdf>

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5. Adult Learners Week 2011

Adult Learners' Week begins September 1st and runs until September 8th. .

For more information on events for Adult Learners' Week go to: (<http://www.adultlearnersweek.org> <<file:///localhost/owa/redir.aspx>>).

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6. CGEA Numeracy Review 2011

In 2011 the Numeracy component of the Certificates in General Education for Adults (CGEA) are being reviewed and updated. Three public consultations about the proposed changes to the numeracy units are being held.

- For further information about the review including receiving copies of the current draft units prior to the meetings contact Dave Tout at ACER on tout@acer.edu.au

- To book your place at a consultation please RSVP prior to the event to Taryn Tran at VU on 03 9919 5440 or taryn.tran@vu.edu.au

Consultation 1: 1.30pm -3.30pm on Wednesday 7th September, VU City Flinders campus, 300 Flinders St, Melbourne: Room C906

Consultation 2: 1.30pm -3.30pm on Friday 9th September, BRACE Education Training & Employment Limited, 602 Urquhart Street, Ballarat: Room No: 103 - ITC Building

Consultation 3: 1.30pm -3.30pm on Thursday 15th September, ACFE Regional Office, Corner of Kirk and Haigh Streets, Moe (The meeting room is on the 1st floor)

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7. States

7.1 Tasmania

'Innovations in Adult Literacy' TCAL State Conference

Saturday, October 8, 2100

Glenorchy LINC, Terry Street, Glenorchy

A conference program will be emailed and/or posted to TCAL members two weeks prior to the conference.

7.2 NSW

The NSW ALNC state conference will be held on 9 December at UTS. The conference title is: **Partnerships, Participation and professionalism (the *other* PPP)**.

Jo Lo Bianco has agreed to be a keynote speaker. More details available soon.

7.3 Victoria

'A Fuller Sense of Self' book launch Sept 8

'A Fuller Sense of Self' is a touching collection of stories told by adult literacy students, describing their life and learning.

This story-gathering project records the stories of six adult literacy students across Melbourne and regional Victoria. More <http://www.valbec.org.au/afsos.htm>

7.4 Queensland

QCAL 2011 State Conference 'Strategising'

Friday 4 November and Saturday 5 November

Keynote Speaker: Professor Diana Coben

More info@qcal.org.au

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8. E-learning innovation empowers Indigenous learners

The benefit e-learning can provide to trainers is highlighted by a new resource, the *Indigenous voices: teaching us better* website <http://indigenousvoices.cdu.edu.au>, which has been developed by Charles Darwin University with support from an Australian Flexible Learning Framework E-Learning Innovations grant.

The project aim was to build the capacity of the workforce to effectively train Indigenous learners.

The first step in this process was for vocational education and training (VET) trainers to develop an awareness of the experiences of Indigenous learners in education. This involved Indigenous people telling stories about their experiences in education, which were recorded as audio or video files.

These stories have been made available to trainers via a website. In addition, the website contains the stories of VET trainers' experiences in working with Indigenous students, and tips for trainers to deliver culturally appropriate training. Here at TAFE Western we have a growing number of rural and remote, geographically isolated indigenous students wishing to complete Certificate II Conservation Land Management. This project focussed on creating eLearning materials to support the delivery of the Certificate II Conservation Land Management course, for geographically isolated, aboriginal learners in the Western Institute of TAFE, New South Wales.

This project should be viewed as the initial step of our overall vision for the

development of a complete online course. The project has supported the creation of a set of introductory and underpinning knowledge resources for 10 units in the new Certificate II in Conservation and Land Management training package (AHC10). The majority of these resources can be played back on both a standard TV/DVD player and a computer – an important feature because many of our learners have no or only limited access to computers in their home and / or work environment. In addition, we have created a Moodle space for teachers which has our new resources and other e-learning tools available in one central point for use in their classrooms or to help with the class planning and session development.

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