Evidence Exchange 2016

SPEAKERS

Anthony Mackay AM

Chief Executive Officer, Centre for Strategic Education (CSE)

Anthony Mackay AM is CEO, Centre for Strategic Education (CSE) Melbourne, Inaugural Chair, Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership (AITSL), and Inaugural Deputy Chair, Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA). Tony is CoChair of the Global Education Leaders Partnership (GELP) and Inaugural Chair of the Innovation Unit Ltd, England.

He is Consultant Advisor to OECD/CERI. Tony is a founding member of the Governing Council of the National College for School Leadership in England. Tony is a member of the International Advisory Board for the Centre for International Benchmarking NCEE, Washington DC.

Tony is an Honorary Fellow in the Graduate School of Education at the University of Melbourne, a Council Member of Swinburne University of Technology, a Board Director of the Australian Council for Educational Research, the Asia Education Foundation, the Foundation for Young Australians, and Teach for Australia.

Cath Apanah

Assistant Principal, Montrose Bay High (TAS)

Cath is a passionate advocate for public education and is driven to improve both staff and student learning. She is currently the Assistant Principal for Raising the Bar at Montrose Bay High in Hobart, Tasmania where she is responsible for improving literacy outcomes for students.

Cath and the Literacy Team have used data to inform a whole school focus on writing through the development and implementation of a Write to Learn program. The program has worked to build the capacity of staff to plan for and deliver targeted teaching strategies. The team has used visible data sharing and feedback and support mechanisms with staff combining success and accountability. The next step for the team is to develop a peer observation and coaching cycle to further embed the changes to practice and build internal momentum and challenge.

Cath has been teaching since 2004 and has specialised in working in high schools with a low socio-economic profile across, Tasmania, Western Australia and the UK. She has held a variety of leadership positions with responsibilities including leading whole school professional learning, leading the teaching and learning of grade teams and learning areas, developing and implementing a Beginning Teacher Induction Program and behaviour management. In 2016, Cath was recognised as an emerging educational leader through her selection as a Rising Star by The Educator Magazine.

Jason Borton

Principal, Richardson Primary School (ACT)

Jason Borton has been an educator in the ACT public school system since 1996. During this time, he has worked across a number of school settings as a classroom teacher. Since 2004 he has been a school leader in three different schools before being appointed as the Principal of Richardson Primary School in 2012.

Jason has been the President of the ACT Principals Association for the past two years and has represented the ACT at national level council meetings during that time. Jason has also been a member of the Principal's Australia Institute Change Team which has developed the Principal Certification Initiative. He is a dynamic leader who is committed to implementing innovative practices that cater for the needs of 21st Century learners.

Dr Jonathan Sharples

Senior Researcher, Education Endowment Foundation

Jonathan Sharples is a Senior Researcher at the Education Endowment Foundation, seconded from the Institute for Education at University College London, where he is exploring schools' use of research evidence. Jonathan works with schools and policy makers across the sector to promote evidence-informed practice, and spread knowledge of 'what works' in teaching and learning. This includes writing guidance on effective practices and working with practitioners to scale up knowledge.

Jonathan previously worked at The Institute for the Future of the Mind at the University of Oxford, where he was looking at how insights from brain-science research can support teachers' expertise and professional development. Prior to this he worked as a secondary school science teacher in Sydney. He is the author of *Evidence for the Frontline*, a report published by the Alliance for Useful Evidence that outlines the elements of a functioning evidence system.

Jordana Hunter

Fellow, School Education Program, Grattan Institute

Jordana Hunter is a Fellow in the School Education Program at the Grattan Institute. She has worked closely with schools, governments and the not-for-profit sector to identify the most effective ways to improve student learning and to support teachers to develop high impact teaching programs. Prior to joining Grattan, she worked in various policy roles in the Commonwealth and Victorian governments. Jordana is currently researching education system design in Australia, Singapore and the United Kingdom. Jordana is also a Director of the Tweddle Child and Family Health Service, which is an early parenting centre in Melbourne's West. She holds Honours degrees in Law and Economics from the University of Melbourne.

Kevin Mackay

Principal, Dandenong North Primary School (VIC)

Kevin has been an educator for 54 years. He has worked in ten very different school settings, including two specialist education centres – one of which was part of the Langi Kal Kal Youth Training Centre, near Beaufort in Central Victoria. Kevin has taught students from Prep through to adults and has been an Education Faculty Tutor with Deakin University. He has 39 years of Principal experience, including three years served as the Head Teacher of Musk Vale rural school.

Kevin has had numerous articles published in a range of professional journals and on-line forums. He currently serves as a member of the Victorian State Council of the APF. Kevin has been convener of seventeen of the Southern Metropolitan Region's annual Conferences and was a Facilitator for Principal and School Development Programs delivered by the Australian Principals Centre over a period of six years. He is convener of a Network of 21 schools called the Victorian Government Schools Continuous Improvement Cluster (VGSCIC).

Kevin is a Fellow of the Australian College of Educators. In 2010 he was awarded the peer-nominated, John Liang award, by the Principals Australia Institute. In 2013, he led the Leadership Team that was awarded the Victorian Department of Education excellence award for 'Leadership Team of the Year'. In 2013, Kevin received an OAM for services to education. In 2016 he was awarded the Sir James Darling Medal by the Australian College of Educators

Matt Deeble

Director, Evidence for Learning

Matt has more than 20 years' experience in building and running enterprises in education, health and clean technology. He was involved in provisioning the first Internet services in Australian schools and developing internet management software used by thousands of schools in Australia, NZ, the UK and USA.

More recently he has worked on data, identity and privacy projects for the National Schools Interoperability Program and on an online career profiling service in Higher and Vocational Education.

He is also a non-executive director of the evidence efficiency platform; Covidence.

Matt is responsible for Evidence for Learning's strategy, fundraising and system engagement and promotion.

Robert Randall

Chief Executive Officer, the Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA)

Robert Randall has been Chief Executive Officer of the Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA) since November 2012.

Robert brings significant experience and success in curriculum, assessment and reporting projects to this role. This experience has been gained at both state and national levels and has ranged from program design through to implementation.

He has worked at ACARA since 2009 and was previously Deputy CEO and General Manager, Curriculum, of ACARA. In the lead-up to the establishment of ACARA, Robert was General Manager of the Interim National Curriculum Board.

Robert began his career as a teacher of mathematics in Perth before holding a range of positions within and beyond schools in Western Australia. In 1996 Robert was appointed Director, Curriculum, with the NSW Board of Studies, and in 2001 took up the position of Director of Curriculum K–12 with the NSW Department of Education and Training.

Dr Tanya Vaughan

Associate Director, Evidence for Learning

Tanya is responsible for the marketing, product development, community leadership and strategy for The Toolkit.

Tanya has worked in education in policy design, implementation and evaluation in key Australian organisations including AITSL and PAI. She has consulted on international and national projects in leadership in education and evaluation with Learning First and Educational Transformations. She was lead consultant in investigating the impact of programs in the arts on outcomes for students in highly disadvantaged settings which resulted in a book for the international market.

Tanya is an Honorary Fellow at the Melbourne Graduate School of Education (MGSE) at the University of Melbourne. Tanya holds a Bachelor of Science (Monash University), Bachelor of Education (Queensland University of Technology), Professional Certificate in Instructional Leadership (MGSE) and Doctor of Philosophy (Griffith University).

FORUM PANELISTS

Ed Roper

Deputy Headmaster, Brisbane Grammar School (QLD)

Ed completed his teaching qualification at James Cook University in Townsville in 1981 and joined the staff of the School as a teacher of mathematics and junior science, with a role in the School's then fledgling Computer Department the following year. During his time at the School, Ed has been involved in coaching soccer and for a time was a Resident Master in the School's Boarding House. Ed was formerly a Head of Year (1991-2000) and Head of Mathematics (2000-2002) before joining the Senior Leadership Team in 2002 as the inaugural Head of Middle School, moving to his current position in 2006.

In his current position, Ed's primary role at the School is leading the positive evolution of the workplace culture at the School and in collaboration with other members of the Senior Leadership Team assists teachers to develop practices that directly benefit students and promote professional growth for educators. In his role, Ed has direct supervisory responsibility for the teaching development team at the School.

Helen Johnston

Dean - Teaching Development, Brisbane Grammar School (QLD)

Helen Johnston's professional life began as a Research Officer with the Department of Defence, after completing a Bachelor of Arts (University of Queensland). It was later, while working as a tour guide in Europe, that she made the decision to become a teacher and returned to study at the University of Canberra (English and ESL).

Her first decade of teaching was in regional Queensland high schools, as well as two years in North Carolina's public schools. In 2006, Helen joined Brisbane Grammar School's teaching staff, and was appointed Head of English in 2011, a year in which there was opportunity to help lead significant change with the introduction of the Australian Curriculum, and the School's post-trial launch of its one-to-one Tablet PC program. Currently Dean of Teaching Development, Helen enjoys supporting the School's professional learning community. She has most recently completed the Professional Certificate in Instructional Leadership (University of Melbourne's Graduate School of Education).

Helen McCullough

Principal, East Ayr State School (QLD)

Helen McCullough has been a State School Principal in Queensland since 2001. In this time, she has worked in a range of diverse school contexts and geographic areas throughout the state. Helen has served in contexts ranging from Band 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9 throughout her career which has enabled a rich understanding of curriculum implementation and her driven passion to improve the educational opportunity for all students.

For the most part of her career, Helen has worked in the North Queensland Region. Currently she is Principal of East Ayr State School which has a total enrolment of 540 students and 70 staff. In 2015 – 2016 Helen has led her team to yield higher student academic progress and achievement through an explicit improvement plan that places deep teacher knowledge of Australian Curriculum as a catalyst for significant improvement at the school. In 2015, Helen was selected to work in partnership with North Queensland Region to develop a set of 'look fors' that are used during instructional walks with Assistant Regional Directors for all schools within the region. East Ayr State School's work has been heavily documented through work in the Queensland State Schools Evidence Hub and Learning First Research teams that have visited to research early years reading. In 2016 Helen was awarded North Queensland Principal of the Year and East Ayr State School was awarded North Queensland State School of the Year in the Showcase for Excellence Awards.

Dr Lee-Anne Perry AM

Executive Director, Queensland Catholic Education Commission

Dr Lee-Anne Perry AM is the Executive Director of the Queensland Catholic Education Commission.

During her long standing involvement in Catholic education, Dr Perry has held a number of leadership roles including Principal of All Hallows' School, Brisbane (1999-2015), Mt Alvernia College, Kedron (1993-1998) and Mt Carmel College, Wynnum (1990-1992). Her teaching career has spanned State and Catholic schools in New South Wales and Queensland.

Dr Perry has served as a member of various state and national associations and committees concerned with education, including currently the National Catholic Education Commission, the Queensland University of Technology Council and the Queensland Education Leadership Institute.

Dr Perry holds a Doctor of Education, Master of Education, Bachelor of Education (First Class Honours), Diploma of Christian Leadership, Fellow of the Australian Council for Educational Leaders (Queensland), Fellow of the Australian College of Educators, Graduate of the AICD, and Honorary Professor of the Australian Catholic University.

Renee Cowpe

Deputy Principal, Hilltop Road Public School (NSW)

Renee began her teaching career in special education. She has since worked in a number of NSW Public Schools as both a classroom teacher and in leadership positions such as, the WSR TEN Facilitator, Assistant Principal, Instructional Leader and is currently a Deputy Principal at Hilltop Road Public School. She is passionate about innovation in education and believes relationships and trust are essential for all stakeholders in order to build positive, authentic and engaging learning environments.

Ryan Dunn

Lecturer, Melbourne Graduate School of Education

Ryan Dunn is a lecturer at the University of Melbourne and educational consultant, his university work focuses on practitioner research, educational leadership, primary mathematics and teacher professional learning. Ryan has worked extensively in the United States, where he led large-scale research and professional learning projects in New York City and California. He is in his final stages of a PhD thesis under the supervision of John Hattie, focussed on the effectiveness of practitioner research as a form of teacher professional learning.

I have engagements all day on the 17th of October, but should be able to move things around on most other days in late October.