



Adult Learners' Week

Happy Adult Learners' Week! I imagine most of you will be far too busy to read the Current this week so I will keep it brief. We have achieved a record number of events on the ALW calendar

(www.adultlearnersweek.org/calendar.html). Thank you to all those who have contributed. Of course we are after quality but quantity counts too! If you know of a debate that's happening but which is not recorded on our map

(www.adultlearnersweek.org/events/debate_map) please tell us about it, as we are trying to gather as much material from the debates as possible to assist in our campaign about adult literacy.

The Learning Communities Catalyst

We launched the Learning Communities Catalyst (www.lcc.edu.au) at the National Museum of Australia on 1 September. There was a good turn up and very interesting presentations. Please visit the site and leave your comments in the forums at www.lcc.edu.au/lcc/page34.html or via the feedback form at www.lcc.edu.au/lcc/page58.html.

McGarvie forum

Another of the national office's activities during Adult Learners' Week is the McGarvie forum on the role of governors in the Australian political system. Do please contribute your comments at www.ala.asn.au/interests/phorum/index.html?forumid=88723.

See www.ala.asn.au/docs/mcgarvie.html for the background paper.

Election to the Board

Nominations for the nine positions on the new Board close on Friday 22 September. Contact Margaret Bates (m.bates@ala.asn.au) if you have questions.

Integrating Vocational Education in High Schools

I am including the following in the Current given the rising profile VET in School. There is significant State funding going into the area of youth and this may be an area which the ACE sector should further explore, issues such as duty of care notwithstanding. Your comments would be welcome.

Marsden State High School in Brisbane has received state and federal recognition for its approach to school-based vocational education and training. The school provides training and job placement for students in industries that are the largest employers in their local community:- hospitality, child care, retail and automotive. Over three-quarters of current Year 12 students are studying at least one vocational training area, with a large number studying as many as six subjects. To ensure a cohesive approach to learning, regardless of the students' career choices, the school's timetabling structure allows academic and vocational subjects to be integrated equally. The exception is Work Education, a component of the Certificate I in Work Education. This includes a structured 'workplace learning' segment that allows students to attend the workplace one day per week in Years 11 and 12. For more information contact Libi Coyer, Marsden State High School, Ph 07 3299 7515, email ecoye1@eq.edu.au.

Strategic Directions for VET - CEET's 7th National Conference

Organised by the Centre for the Economics of Education and Training (CEET), the conference will discuss vocational education in schools, lifelong learning, skill shortages, education and training in regional Australia and other topics.

Date: 15 September 2003.

Venue: Ascot House, 50 Fenton Street, Ascot Vale,
Melbourne

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email: CEET@monash.edu.au

website:

[www.education.monash.edu.au/centres/ceet/ceetc
on2003/indcon3.htm](http://www.education.monash.edu.au/centres/ceet/ceetc
on2003/indcon3.htm)

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