

## **Symposium – ‘Teacher preparation for the VET sector’**

The changing nature of the VET practitioner and the constant evolution of the VET sector itself poses challenges to those involved in the many forms of VET teacher preparation in Australia. This symposium will focus on the issues that confront those who work in the area of VET teacher preparation. It will aim to distil the principles that apply across the sector with a particular focus on appropriate pedagogies. It will juxtapose the legislative and policy context beside the aspirations of teacher educators. It will utilise the research from a number of practitioners in the area.

### **Outline of the Symposium**

#### **Ros Brennan Kemmis**

**Topic:** Pedagogy, legislative requirements and the role of the University in VET teacher preparation (10 minutes)

#### **Erica Smith**

**Topic:** Embedding the Certificate IV in University VET teacher education programs - a case study from Charles Sturt University (10 minutes)

#### **Pat Forward**

**Topic:** Aspirations for teacher preparation: evolution or revolution? (10 minutes)

#### **Michele Simons**

**Topic:** VET teacher preparation and the new VET professional - what is needed and how can this be achieved? (10 minutes)

#### **Nada Maio**

**Topic:** New Teacher preparation in TAFE NSW – South Western Sydney Institute - a case study in multiple pathways towards teacher recognition. (10 minutes)

### **Speaker Backgrounds**

#### ***Roslin Brennan Kemmis***

Senior Lecturer, Charles Sturt University

Ros has worked in all sectors of Education and Training. Her work at Charles Sturt University has involved practicum coordination and teaching in the range of vocational education and training teacher preparation programs that are offered. Her research interests and publications include extensive study of Indigenous employment in the VET sector, online learning and pedagogy in VET.

#### ***Erica Smith***

Associate Professor, Charles Sturt University

Erica has been working in VET teacher-education for twelve years and before that was a TAFE teacher and personnel manager in industry. She was founding convenor of AVTEC, the Australian VET Teacher Education Colloquium. She has undertaken several research projects on VET teachers and teaching, including some national projects on the effects of competency-based training on teachers' roles. She is the proud possessor of a Certificate IV in Training and Assessment and (possibly equally

proudly) was a member of the national steering committee for the TAA Training Package.

***Michele Simons***

Associate Professor, University of South Australia

Michele Simons is a Senior Lecturer in adult, vocational and workplace learning in the School of Education at the University of South Australia. She is an active researcher in VET and is currently Program Director for the undergraduate adult and vocational education program within the school.

***Pat Forward***

Federal TAFE Secretary, Australian Education Union

Pat Forward was elected to the position of Federal TAFE Secretary in January 2004. She previously held the position of Federal TAFE President for six years, and was at the same time Vice President TAFE in the Victorian Branch of the AEU. Pat has taught in Victorian TAFE Colleges, at university and in schools. She is an advocate of the public TAFE system in Australia, and is committed to maintaining and extending the status of the profession of TAFE teaching, for all TAFE teachers.

***Nada Maio***

Institute Teacher Education Coordinator, TAFE NSW - South Western Sydney  
Institute

Nada has worked in this role for the past three years. Her experience has been in teaching and learning at all levels (from Kindergarten to Adult), including extensive work in developing pre-service and full time teachers in quality classroom and assessment practice in a range of different contexts.