



What do educators and trainers need to know?

Exploring LLN qualifications for vocational educators and trainers

Sue Shore, University of South Australia
Keiko Yasukawa, University of Technology Sydney

AVETRA 2010 - Shore & Yasukawa

Who is talking about LLN now?

'too many adults (literacy levels) too low to work in a knowledge-based economy or meet everyday life demands' - SA Higher Ed Minister (2008)

'the figures are shocking'... 'we all intuitively know that if you can't read and write then learning other things is very difficult indeed' - Julia Gillard, ABC Radio 2008

'Poor literacy and numeracy skills impact on all facets of everyday life and limit life opportunities and job prospects... Other ABS statistics reveal a correlation between average weekly earnings and literacy levels (Illawarra Mercury 2008)

Lift the unacceptably low level of adult language, literacy and numeracy to enable effective education, labour market and social participation. (Skills Australia 2010, p.3)

What do educators and trainers need to know?

AVETRA 2010 - Shore & Yasukawa

Have 'we' been here before?

- * International Literacy Year, 1991
- * DEET 1991, Australian Language & Literacy Policy.
- * Black, 1992, *Ensuring Quality Adult Basic Education Provision*
- * Scheeres, Gonczi, Hager & Morley-Warner, 1993, *The Adult Basic Education Profession & Competence: Promoting Best Practice*
- * NSDC, 1994-5, wide range of professional development curricula (e.g. ALT, ANI)
- * Wyatt, Janek, Mullins, & Shore, Feb 1997, A professional development implementation strategy for the adult literacy, English as a second language and numeracy fields. DEETYA
- * McGuirk 1999 Literacy and Numeracy in the Cert IV AWT

What do educators and trainers need to know?

AVETRA 2010 - Shore & Yasukawa

What has shifted?

- * Are industry and employer groups asking the same question as practitioners, researchers and teacher educators?

Scheeres, Gonczi, Hager & Morley-Warner, 1993, *The Adult Basic Education Profession & Competence: Promoting Best Practice*

Vs

VET Grad Cert/Dip in LLN Practice, 2010

What do educators and trainers need to know?

AVETRA 2010 - Shore & Yasukawa

What does this mean for developing LLN professional knowledge?

- * The capacity of the LLN workforce to meet the growing demand
- * The fragility of LLN professional networks and associations
- * The lack of access and range of professional development
- * The precarious nature of LLN work
- * Cross-sectoral engagement: rhetoric(s) vs realities

What do educators and trainers need to know?

AVETRA 2010 - Shore & Yasukawa