



VALA PD Induction Day 2010 Report

prepared by Linnet Hunter Education Officer

Table of Contents

1. Overview	1
1.1 Introduction	1
1.2 Attendance	1
1.3 Program	1
2. Evaluations	2
2.1 Method	2
2.2 Overall score	2
2.3 Comment summaries	2
2.3.1 <i>General comments</i>	2
2.3.2 <i>What was the most valuable part of the day for you?</i>	2
2.3.3 <i>Improvements</i>	2
3. Recommendations	3
Lessons learned	3
Follow-up	3
Questions to consider	3
Appendices	4
Appendix 1 Program	4
Appendix 2 Evaluations	5
<i>General comments</i>	5
<i>What was the most VALUABLE aspect of the day for you?</i>	6

Should anything be done differently?

1. Overview

1.1 Introduction

Due to the increasing numbers of enrolments in VCAL program, and the subsequent increase in the numbers of teachers involved in VCAL, many of whom have no previous experience in this area, it was decided that an Induction Day would be a valuable addition to the PD calendar. Two other Induction Days, run by VCAA in November 2009 and WMR in December 2010 were very well attended, but some teachers do not know that they will be taking VCAL until the commencement of Term 1, or are only aware of the challenges they will face once they have been in the classroom for a few weeks.

The date was planned for the second week of Term One, Wednesday February 17th at the William Angliss conference centre, chosen for its centrality and accessibility.

1.2 Attendance

The day was planned for an optimum attendance of 75 participants, with three workshops running concurrently after the main introductory sessions. Although we were doubtful whether we would reach this number at this time of year, as it turned out, the registrations were filled approximately five days before and we had a waiting list of 25 people, demonstrating a huge need. On the day, attendees who believed the school had registered them turned up and we did our best to accommodate them. This meant that the final figures were:

Participants= Members 31 + Non members 51 + Presenter/helpers 13 = **95 participants**

1.3 Program

A copy of the program is included in Appendix 1.

2. Evaluations

2.1 Method

Evaluation forms were included in the information packs and the PD certificate of attendance was provided upon receipt of the evaluation form at the end of the day. This resulted in a high number of forms returned (69 from a possible 82), enabling a representative summary to be made of the comments. These are supplied in Appendix 1 and summarised below.

2.2 Overall score

The participants were asked to rate the conference from 1- 5 where 1 was disappointing and 5 was fantastic. **94%** rated it as good, excellent or fantastic.

2.3 Comment summaries

2.3.1 General comments

Overall the day was deemed a great success in providing extremely valuable information, ideas and networking opportunities. Most people were happy with the venue, although access is always an issue for country and regional members. Comments particularly focused on the fresh information, new program delivery options on offer and the high standard and relevance of the presentations.

2.3.2 What was the most valuable part of the day for you?

The opportunity to network, share ideas with other teachers, talk through difficulties and ideas was overwhelmingly the most valuable part of the day for most participants. Some sessions were highlighted, and the provision of the displays and resources were also noted.

2.3.3 Improvements

In general participants felt that little needed to be changed, although quite a few mentioned the difficulty of hearing the presenter in the main room. Other suggestions ranged from regional tables to assist with speed networking to the provision of more time to ask questions.

3. Recommendations

Lessons learned

This is a highly popular and much needed PD that perhaps requires a larger venue to accommodate the need.

Teachers value networking time and the structured approach to enabling this should be repeated, and other methods trialled.

Follow-up

A tentative booking for Wed February 16, 2011 has been made at the Victoria University Conference Centre in Flinders St Melbourne for 110 participants.

Develop the speed networking idea further and use it in other PD settings, perhaps with regional tables as suggested.

If William Angliss used again, ask this particular venue to invest in a lapel microphone.

Emphasise in next year's advertising that this is aimed at people new to VCAL as experienced practitioners were disappointed at the level of some workshops.

Questions to consider

- How might this impact on the VALA annual conference held in the same term?
- How might this model be repeated in regional settings?

Appendices

Appendix 1 Program



VALA VCAL Induction Day

Love the job you're in

**Wednesday, February 17, 2010
William Angliss Conference Centre**



Welcome to the first VALA VCAL Induction Day.

We believe that there'll be something for you, whether you're

- a beginning teacher with VCAL classes
- an experienced teacher but new to VCAL
- new to VCAL coordination
- looking for some support to help you keep loving your job

Our thanks to the generous and busy practitioners who have agreed to share their applied learning experience.

8.30 am	Registration opens		
9.00 am	Welcome Andrew Williamson, VALA President Overview of Applied Learning and introduction to VALA Jan Hagston and Linnet Hunter, VALA <i>Room: Auditorium</i>		
9.40 am	Where to start? An Introduction to VCAL David Gallagher, Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority <i>Room: Auditorium</i>		
10.40 am	Morning tea		
11.00 am Group A	A1 An integrated program Loretta Goldsmith, Monbulk College <i>Room: Auditorium</i>	A2 PDS What makes a strong PDS program? Jan Hagston, VALA <i>Room: Flagstaff 1</i>	A3 Designing a VCAL program for co-ordinators Michael Meehan, Box Hill Insitute <i>Room: Flagstaff 2</i>
12 noon Group B	B1 Literacy and VCAL Isabel Prince, Otway Community College <i>Room: Auditorium</i>	B2 Numeracy and VCAL Jamie Gray, Copperfield College and Gino Catalano, Williamstown High School <i>Room: Flagstaff 2</i>	B3 How VCE, VCAL and VET work together - for co-ordinators Linda Mitchell, Harvester Technical College <i>Room: Flagstaff 1</i>
1.00 pm	Lunch and displays		
1.55 pm	Speed networking Linnet Hunter, VALA <i>Room: xxx</i>		
2.30 pm Group C	C1 Introduction to Quality Assurance Isabel Prince, Otway Community College <i>Room: Flagstaff 1</i>	C2 WRS Skilling up: employability skills, work skills, OHS skills Brett Van Berkel, Lavalla Catholic College <i>Room: Auditorium</i>	C3 Managing the VCAL team - for co-ordinators Jenny Roache, Mooroolbark College <i>Room: Flagstaff 2</i>
3.30 pm	Close Evaluations and Certificate of Attendance		

The VCAA is the official source of advice for all information regarding operational aspects of the VCAL. For further information, please refer to the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority 'VCE and VCAL Administrative Handbook 2010' and the VCAA bulletin. If you require additional assistance please contact the VCAL Unit at the VCAA on (03) 9651 4445.



Appendix 2 Evaluations

General comments

Informative. It was great to hear the presenters give their angle and ideas of VCAL

Food always good and VALA PD venue fine

Valuable, insightful and expert advice and information

Good, some presenters needed more time

This was a valuable day as I was able to pull together lots of ideas

Well prepared, presented and attended. Thanks

Reinforced the idea that projects are the basis of activity and the outcomes come from that

Fantastic for people beginning in this area

Very informative, I need it, I've just joined the team

I found that most of the day was geared towards designing the overall program, which is already in place at my school

Excellent resources, opportunity to network

Heaps of info, made some great contacts, planning on running an activity with another school on the opposite side of the city

Really enjoyed my day

Country people who could not access trains have to leave extremely early to go to this site

Some stages seemed to get sidetracked and not be able to come back to the topic

Room was a little cold

Maybe to help with networking we could be given regional tables? Just an idea, I'm sure there are pros and cons

Would like to get actual tasks from PD

A very good introduction to a 'green' VCAL teacher of literacy; especially when there is no structured program at all!

A lot to absorb for a first timer but interesting

Presenters not finishing their presentations because of non-stop questions from the audience

Quite good, excellent location, rooms a little cramped

Too much 'teacher talk', not enough practical information

Very well done

Well run, comfortable atmosphere, great venue

Needed more actual information

A very informative day with much insight into an exciting program. Energizing and alerting us to the endless possibilities

I am new to VCAL. I have enjoyed the day and the willingness to share

Great networking op too!

Gave the info I needed, easy to understand, relevant, plenty of time for questions or opportunity to follow up

VALA

The day was very informative - I am new to all this

Excellent numeracy and PDS lectures

Good overview of VCAL and requirements of course

Time short for each thing

Gained lots of ideas for activities and potential projects and how easily an integrated approach could work

I found it very informative, great for new tutors

Great speakers, well organised and very informative

Being totally new to VCAL, this day has started to settle the mind

Enjoyable day, well organised, presenters informative and practicable advise. Like hands on approach, group participation

I have a excellent day all the information were very good to use in every day teaching

It was a bit airy-fairy. Needs more structure and practical help

A great introduction, I don't feel so lost

Very informative and useful. Networking good

Well paced and informative

Too much info, not enough time

Excellent info and presentations

Answered a lot of questions, but also raised some new questions about how VCAL is delivered in the organisation

Very good venue and lunch, program offered relevant and interesting

The focus and push on the integrated side to VCAL was great. It helps change the long-held mindset. Speed dating was fun

Coming from an independent school that only teaches VCAL and VET some info was useless because we don't teach VCE

Overall the day was valuable and enlightening. Some practical strategies would have improved the workshops

What was the most VALUABLE aspect of the day for you?

Learning the various combinations of getting a VCE, VCAL, VET certificate(s)

Learning about, hearing about good practice in VCAL, networking

QA

Networking

Networking

Networking,overview of VCAL

Managing VCAL team C3

Networking, talking VCAL

To gain more insight and understanding

VALA

Meeting other VCAL teachers, sharing ideas about structure of VCAL, flexibility

Networking with other VCAL teachers

QA workshop

Networking and resources

Networking, hearing others and their delivery methods

Networking

The integrated program session, it gave me a lot of ideas

Listening to the experienced teachers, getting opinions and advice

WRS unit - helped clarify the topic very well. Excellent program, great help with practical assessment sheets

Workshop C3 - great presenter, relevant information, great resources

Workshop 3 - great ideas. Speed dating - great information was obtained

The numeracy workshop - hands on, interactive and provided excellent resources

Networking, not feeling so alone

Meeting other VCAL numeracy teachers and discussing their programs

A few programs that were discussed and discussion of what outcomes they address

Good intro to VCAL

Meeting other VCAL teachers, getting ideas

The intro to VCAL (workshop 1)

Networking opportunities in several of the workshops

Workshop session 2

Ideas open my eyes to the scope of what can be done

Networking and finding out that I am not the only person with doubts

Networking, sharing ideas

Getting an overview of how it fits together, speed networking

Brett Van Berkel

Numeracy and speed networking I found to be most illuminating because I learnt strategies that I can incorporate in my lessons/classes

A3 Michael, speed networking

Session 2

Session B2 Numeracy and VCAL

Contacts made

Opportunity to network

All great

Sorting out VCAL/VCE/VET combinability

Information, resources and networking

VALA

The displays at lunch time, some fantastic resources available

PDS and Numeracy - activities were an excellent resource. Good physical resources

Gathering resources and meeting new VCAL teachers

The integrated program workshop and networking session

Keying into resources, knowing I'm not alone, realising emphasis on structure

Session 1

Clear, concise information and resources

WRS

Gave me a better understanding of what is required to teach VCAL

Numeracy and VCAL (B2)

The talk from David Gallagher and Linda Mitchell

Finding out what experienced teachers are doing for VCAL

Gaining more info about VCAL

Workshops

Networking and what PDS can incorporate

Getting resources and having things clarified

Both of Isabel's sessions and informal networking

Having time to look at curriculum options

Clarification, important info

Introduction to VCAL

Hearing overview of VCAL session with David Gallagher was excellent

Focus on integration was

Numeracy workshop

Attention to outcomes and the various ways that these outcomes can be met

Should anything be done differently?

No

All good

No

Speakers needed to have microphones

VCE-VCAL-VET work together - use group exercise

Perhaps some more stalls/displays relating to VCAL if possible?

I would have liked to have more examples of activities I could do

New to teaching therefore more time on QA

Let the presenter do their presentation; other presenters have their timeslot to present their information as we missed

what could have been a brilliant presentation

Given a few great example tasks

Shorter lunch break, longer time in workshops

Speed networking would be better done in regions ie. Eastern, northern, so out networks are closer and more

relevant

No

More time to ask questions

More interaction with other teachers

Speaker in main room needs a lapel mic.

Attend meeting VCAL specific, other presenters attended Michael's and tried to take over

No

No

More actual PDS information

More interaction in workshops - at times content was rushed through. Perhaps a 2 day program?

No

No, all good

As a first time experiencing this I thought it was very valuable

None

More resources and practical advice

Learning activities for literacy in the classroom

Second talk - needed roaming mic. Hard to hear and see whiteboard from back

More detail in PDS

More depth on less items, spend more time on covering all outcomes

Hard to hear some presenters that didn't use PA

The venue was spacious and comfortable, airconditioning far too cold (uncomfortable)