# 2009 VALA Conference - Take away with the lot: *principles, pedagogy and practice*  

Love the session and want to contact the presenter?  Here’s how!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Conference session</th>
<th>Presenter</th>
<th>Contact details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| A1: “Tuan the Fat” – sustainability and bio-diversity as a stimulus for applied learning | *Grant Shannon*  
St Francis of the Fields, Bendigo.  
Grant Shannon has a background in the areas of horticulture, landscape design and construction. Discovering a passion for working with young people he became a teacher and is now Co-ordinating the Environmental Education Program at St. Francis of the Fields Primary School just outside Bendigo. He has almost completed a Master Degree in Applied Learning and is passionate about catering to his students’ needs through a true applied learning approach. | St Francis of the Fields Primary School  
46 Blucher Street, Strathfieldsaye 3551  
Ph: (03) 5439 3191  
www.fields.sand.catholic.edu.au |
| A2 and D10: VCAL RiverConnect Project at Notre Dame College                        | *Julie Hodgkins and Gary O’Brien*  
Julie has been a secondary teacher for almost thirty years. She has a Bachelor of Business and a Diploma of Education. Julie has been involved with VCAL since its inception in both a teaching and co-ordinating roles. Notre Dame College was one of the pilot schools which trialled the VCAL program in 2002.  
Gary O’Brien has been a secondary teacher for over thirty years (twenty years in a technical school and the last fourteen year in a secondary school). He has a Bachelor of Arts and a Diploma of Education. He has been involved in VCAL since joining the teaching staff two years ago. | Notre Dame College  
139 Knight Street  
Shepparton 3630  
Ph: 5821 6622  
www.notredame.vic.edu.au/ |
| A3: Applied literacy activities for VCAL students                                   | *Corinna Ridley*  
Victoria University | Victoria University  
PO BOX 14428, Melbourne, 8001  
Ph: 9919 4000 |
| A4: Extend your learning: applied learning courses for teachers and those interested in becoming teachers | *Damian Blake, Deakin University and Simon O’Mallon, LaTrobe University* | Damian Blake  
School of Education, Deakin University, Geelong 3217  
Ph: 5227 3379  
Simon O’Mallon  
Faculty of Education, La Trobe University  
c/o PO Box 199  
Bendigo 3552  
Ph: 5444 7222 |
| A5: Content driven Drama | Phunktional (Arts company) and Robby Bishop (Strathmore S.C)  
Over the last five years Phunktional has successfully delivered arts programs that deal with the sensitive issues of sexual assault, body image, drug addiction, youth suicide, adoption and racism. Using a broad cross-section of artistic forms such as dance, theatre and film, Phunktional uses the arts to provide a forum to discuss these difficult issues as well as deepen cultural understanding. | 166 Sturt Street, Southbank, VIC 3006  
Ph: 8256 9683  
info@phunktional.com  
www.phunktional.com/ |
|---|---|---|
| A6: COUNT ME IN: Sure-Fire Activities for Large Groups  
C6 and D6: NO PROPS: INSPIRING GAMES WITH NO EQUIPMENT | Mark Collard  
**Inspire your group**  
Mark is one of Australia’s most experienced and qualified adventure educators, and one of a very small number of international facilitators working with Project Adventure Inc – a global non-profit organisation that trains others in the use of group-based activities and facilitation.  
Mark is the author of the top-selling activity publications 'No Props: Great Games with No Equipment' and 'Count Me In: Large Group Activities That Work.' He worked as a Senior Trainer for Project Adventure Australia for 10 years, and now operates as a free-lance facilitator throughout Australia, USA and south-east Asia. | Inspire Your Group  
mark@markcollard.com  
http://www.inspireyourgroup.com/ |
Karen has been a clown, consultant, creative and is now a DOL. She loves teaching and curriculum, and getting everyone else excited about it!  
John Tabone has been a practicing Applied Learning teacher since the introduction of VCAL. He has applied his passion and industry experiences to develop many community partnerships and integrated projects which can be adapted into any Applied Learning setting. His area of expertise is linking industry and business with the many projects he has developed | Karen Dymke  
Luther College  
Plymouth rd,  
Croydon 3163  
Ph: 9724 2000  
www.luther.vic.edu.au/  
John Tabone,  
Catholic College Bendigo  
Barkly Street  
Bendigo 3550  
Ph: 5445 9100  
www.ccb.vic.edu.au/ |
| A8: The ESL / VCAL program at North Geelong Secondary College | Lawrence Jordan, VCAL teacher and Kristin Cook, VCAL Coordinator, 2008  
Lawrence, with a varied background in teaching and small business was employed by the Geelong English Language Centre at the beginning of Term 3, 2008 to develop a VCAL program for ESL students at North Geelong Secondary College. He is currently employed at North Secondary College to continue the program in 2009. | North Geelong Secondary College  
Separation St  
North Geelong 3215  
Ph: 5278 9399  
| A9: Applied learning and a national curriculum | Michelle O’Brien, Manager Youth Transitions, Department of Youth, VCE & Community Education, Victoria University | Victoria University  
PO BOX 14428,  
Melbourne, 8001  
Ph: 9919 4000 |
**A10: Cool e-learning tools for young people**

*Debbie Soccio and Howard Errey, Senior e-Learning Consultants, e-Work*

Debbie has worked in the adult literacy field for 17 years. She currently works for e-Works as a senior e-learning consultant focussing on embedding e-learning into training programs. Her particular interests are in the field of supporting teachers to develop programs and e-learning resources for students. She is particularly interested in assisting staff to incorporate the use of multimedia to document the journeys that students are taking in their own lives and in their formal learning. Debbie is interested in using new technologies (including audio based activities in online learning and using digital stories to provide interactive multimedia materials for students.)

Howard is an Educational Consultant at e-Works. Trained as a psychologist, he is interested in how online identity, networking, collaboration can create connectedness to support e-learning. Howard’s background includes projects to support and engage students in education using various online, web2.0 and mobile tools.

**B1: Numeracy in real life**

*Sue Gunningham*

Sue has worked in both primary and secondary schools, was the state-wide middle years numeracy project officer for DEECD and currently lectures in middle years maths education at RMIT.

Sue has presented teacher professional development for many years and she has a Doctorate in mathematics education. Sue has written numerous articles and books in relation to mathematics (including the Cambridge VCAL Numeracy book) and she has a particular interest in linking mathematics to the real world.

**B2: An Introduction to VCAL and Applied Learning**

*Cornelia de Brincat*

Project Manager – VCAL Unit, Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority

Cornelia manages a number of projects within the VCAL unit, including the VCAL curriculum reviews, VCAL Achievement Awards, quality assurance, delivery of induction programs for new VCAL providers and delivery of Themed VCAL programs.

Cornelia has been involved in education for a number of years and has taught within the school, TAFE and Higher Education sectors. Cornelia is currently undertaking a PhD in curriculum provision for post compulsory students in Victoria, at the University of Melbourne.

**B3: Literacy games bag**

**D8: Safe-T1: OHS for young workers**

**E1: Cars, Road safety and more**

*Jan Hagston, VALA Project Manager*

Jan has been involved in VCAL since its inception. She believes all resources should have an applied learning approach and is keen to see that the resources developed through this project model applied learning pedagogy.

She is as passionate about literacy as she is about applied learning and is keen to see basic literacy skills developed through activities that are fun.

**e-Works**

Level 21, 390 St Kilda Road
Melbourne 3004
Ph: 9661 8700
info@eworks.edu.au
www.eworks.edu.au/

---

**0400 642 888**

sue.gunningham@bigpond.com

---

**Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority**

41 St Andrews Place
Melbourne 3002
Ph: 9651 4435
vcaa.vcal@edumail.vic.gov.au

---

**VALA**

PO Box 938
Springvale South 3172
Ph: 9687 0336
jan@vala.asn.au
| B4: The VCAL and pathways beyond school | **Damian Blake**  
Senior Lecturer, Deakin University  
Damian is a senior lecturer at Deakin University and is currently conducting research projects investigating applied learning in schools and higher education. | School of Education, Deakin University, Geelong 3217  
Ph: 5227 3379 |
| B5: Using Advance as an effective strategy for youth engagement | **Lynn Gunning**  
Program Manager – Advance, Office for Youth  
Lynn Gunning is the Program Manager of Advance – A Victorian Program for Youth Development, which encourages young people’s participation and volunteering in community life.  
Lynn has a background in Health Promotion and Leadership programs and is passionate about encouraging participation. | Office for Youth  
GPO Box 2392  
Melbourne 3001  
Ph: 9208 3199  
| B6: Managing Risk | **Peter Langridge**  
CFA | CFA – Country Fire Authority  
Ph: 9262 8444  
| B7: Developing Community Partnerships to strengthen your VCAL or Applied Learning Program | **John Tabone**  
Applied Learning Co-ordinator, Catholic College Bendigo  
John has been a practicing Applied Learning teacher since the introduction of VCAL. He has applied his passion and industry experiences to develop many community partnerships and integrated projects which can be adapted into any Applied Learning setting. His area of expertise is linking industry and business with the many projects he has developed. | Catholic College Bendigo  
Barkly Street  
Bendigo 3550  
Ph: 5445 9100  
[www.ccb.vic.edu.au](http://www.ccb.vic.edu.au) |
| B9: The Developmental Assets: 40 Building blocks all kids need. | **David Spike**  
College chaplain, Luther College  
David is fascinated by the factors that promote a positive school culture and help kids build strong connections to their community. He enjoys working with young people and the energy and passion they generate. | Luther College  
Plymouth rd,  
Croydon 3163  
Ph: 9724 2000  
[www.luther.vic.edu.au](http://www.luther.vic.edu.au) |
| B10: Passport to Democracy – engaging students through active citizenship | **Alex Markham**, Senior Education Officer, Victorian Electoral Commission and **Vivienne Brown**, Office for Youth  
Developed by the Victorian Electoral Commission, Passport to Democracy helps students make the connection between politics and the things that matter to them.  
Throughout this short course students consider how they can make an impact on the issues they care about and ultimately how they can engage with democracy to achieve positive change.  
The VEC provides participating schools with a course outline, audio visual resources, on-site training, help and class support.  
**C1: Integrating Literacy and Numeracy in the classroom**

*Pauline Morrow and Chris Tully*

Kangan Batman TAFE

Pauline and Chris have worked at Kangan Batman TAFE for about 18 years each.

Pauline came to TAFE from the secondary system. She is a recognised expert Literacy teacher who has worked on a number of curricula and projects focused around getting students involved in learning and assisting disadvantaged students in accessing education.

Chris came to TAFE with a background in industry and later secondary education. She has taught numeracy to youth across Adult literacy, VCAL and VCE and consults to mainstream courses across the institute.

**C2: VCAL Assessment**

*David Gallagher, VCAA*

David Gallagher has been involved with secondary education for over 35 years. During this time he has been a class room teacher, careers counsellor, Executive Officer for the Geelong Regional Vocational Education Council, the manager for VET in Schools with the Victorian Department of Education and Training and is currently the VCAL Manager with the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority.

**C3: The Critical Path to Partnerships**

**E3: Fire Up Connections - Students working with Communities**

*Kay Hawkins*

CFA Youth Education Partnerships

CFA youth education partnerships can take many forms from: hosting a visit; to volunteers conducting one or a series of sessions around the work of CFA; to training, where young people join as volunteers. There are numerous projects the goal of which is that students do something about their communities safety, which can count towards Personal Development, Literacy, Numeracy or Work Related Skills. All of this can be negotiated locally for the partnership agreement and will depend on the availability of CFA personnel, the fire season, and what is required. Contact Kay Hawkins 9262 8411 or your CFA Area HQ.

**C4: Understanding and connecting Creative Process**

*Simon O’Mallo*

Faculty of Education, LaTrobe University

Stylista/Modelista; Designer/Maker; ISS Fellow; BA Arts; GD VisArt; GD AdEd; MA Design;

Simon currently lectures in Design and Technology at La Trobe University, Bendigo, Vic.

His Masters thesis focussed on the psychology and physiology of intuition in the creative process, an area he is passionate about.

Simon has a diverse industry background and came to the university after 15 years of teaching students to design and make hand-made footwear at TAFE in South Australia.
| C5: “If only we had some extra money to run that activity” | Carol Hankinson  
Southern Youth Commitment Officer, DEECD  
Carol works at Southern Metropolitan Region of DEECD. Carol has worked extensively in the Education and Health and Welfare sector. In various roles Carol has had the responsibility to ‘find’ extra funds to ensure the future outcomes of programs for young people. Over the years she has developed various methods in locating and securing grants and she looks forward to sharing these with you. | DEECD  
c/- Patterson River Secondary College  
Eel Race Rd  
Carrum 3197 |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>C6: NO PROPS: INSPIRING GAMES WITH NO EQUIPMENT</td>
<td>See A6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| C7: Creating connections with Learning Circles: Integrating curriculum with passion | Karen Dymke  
Director of Learning, Luther College  
Karen has been a clown, consultant, creative and is now a DOL. She loves teaching and curriculum, and getting everyone else excited about it! | Luther College  
Plymouth rd,  
Croydon 3163  
Ph: 9724 2000  
www.luther.vic.edu.au/ |
| C8: Surf industry studies @ Oberon HS | Stuart Hawken,  
Oberon High School  
Stui is a VCAL teacher at Oberon High School. He has enjoyed a lifetime pursuit of surfing and has extensive experience in surfing administration. He developed the Surf Industry course which is now in its fourth year. Stui received the 2007 VCAL Achievement Award for program development for this course. | Oberon High School  
12 Pickett Crescent ,  
Belmont 3216  
Ph: 52434444  
high_school.php?id_scl=560 |
| C9: Customising VCAL For Refugee and Migrant Young People | Fran MacMahon Sers  
Program Coordinator, Young Adult Migrant Education Course- YAMEC, Youth Unit, Northern Melbourne Institute of TAFE  
The YAMEC program is a full time course for refugee and migrant young people between the ages of 16 and 26 years who have had disrupted or no prior education. The program delivers nationally accredited English as a Second Language, the Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning, vocational certificates and general education subjects across three campuses of NMIT. An integral part of YAMEC is to provide support and settlement programs that assist students to overcome the barriers to education and successful participation in Australian society. These barriers include poor communication skills, lack of confidence and self esteem, effects of torture and trauma, financial disadvantage, social isolation, poor health, family breakdown and carers’ responsibilities. | YAMEC  
Youth Unit  
Northern Melbourne Institute of TAFE  
20 Otter Street  
Collingwood 3066  
youthunit@nmit.vic.edu.au |
| C10: MEET Project: Mobile Phones and Social Networking as Tools for tracking Employability Skills | Linda Mitchell  
Linda Mitchell, Curriculum Coordinator from Australian Technical College Sunshine presents about the MEET Project, an exploration into the use of mobile technology and social networking tools to engage young people and employers in the tracking and developing of employability skills in the workplace. | Australian Technical College Sunshine  
76 Suffolk Rd  
Sunshine North 3020  
Ph: 1300 282 786  
www.atcsunshine.com.au |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>D1: Maths Games and Activities that Teach and Engage</strong></th>
<th>See C1</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **D2: Walking the Talk on Managing Risk** | *Antony Giannini and Jane Bar*  
Antony is the Team Leader: Employment, Education and Transition at Berry Street. He commenced with Berry Street mid 2007. Antony has worked within a broad range of community development and social enterprise settings over the last 8 years. He was involved in the development and delivery of a range of Programs for young people in London’s East End to engage them in Training and Employment and also assisted in the establishment of a successful ‘Street Furniture’ Social Enterprise. Upon returning to Australia he was employed with the Office of Housing assisting Public tenants state-wide into Training and Employment. Currently he is managing Berry Street’s JPET and Youth Transition Programs in Latrobe and Baw Baw which assists young people to transition successfully into further Education or Employment.  
Jane, Manager Education and Support, Berry Street, commenced with Berry Street Victoria in 1998. Jane has had extensive experience working with adolescents in out of home care including adolescent community placement, foster care and residential care. She currently manages 25 programs and services which specifically work with over 220 young people and their families in Gippsland per annum.  
Over the past 10 years Jane’s work has focussed toward advocating and developing community based services and projects to promote the engagement of young people in educational, social and recreation through small group and activity based programs. Jane has been responsible for the development of Reaching More Kids Youth Mentoring Project in Latrobe and development of the Berry Street Specialist Independent School in Morwell. In addition Jane has managed the development and delivery of the Community based Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning (VCAL) in country Victoria, Young Mum’s Community VCAL and ongoing development of the Gippsland Wilderness Program.  
These programs are strength-based and facilitate young people aged 12-25 to engage in education, skills development, self-esteem, and personal support programs. Jane was nominated for a Partnership Award for the development of Community based VCAL in Victoria and in 2007 for the Robyn Clarke Award for services to young people in out of home care. Jane is currently Organisational Representative and served as Chair of the Baw Baw Latrobe Local Learning Employment Network for 3 years until 2007. Jane is currently Deputy Chair. | Berry Street  
P.O. Box 919  
Morwell 3840  
Ph: 5134 5971  
morwell@berrystreet.org.au |  |
| **D3: Scope Youth Action** | *Jennifer Gillespie Coordinator, SYa, Tina Grimes and Emily Buxton-D’Arcy SYA Field Officers, Chris Van Ingen, SYA Disability Presenter, Scope Victoria and Andrew Bruce and Ashleigh Morwood, Year 12 students, Parkdale Secondary College*  
Scope Young Ambassadors (SYa), promotes more inclusive communities and provides disability awareness and youth | Scope Young Ambassadors  
Scope Victoria  
830 Whitehorse Road  
Box Hill 3128  
Ph: 9843 2073  
cidadmin@scopevic.org |
development through youth education and participation at Scope services throughout Victoria.

During 2008, SYa was successfully implemented in Victorian schools reaching approximately 3500 students SYa is mapped to VCAL and works in partnership with many organisations at a local level. The program, delivered by trained SYa Field Officers and SYa Presenters who have a disability, aims to create respect, understanding and acceptance of others.

Students develop an understanding of wellbeing, communication and leadership and are encouraged, with Scopes support, to develop and participate in community projects within their community.

### D4: VCAL and the Performing Arts

**Matthew Emond**  
Education Officer: Arts, Matthew Emond Consulting  
Matthew graduated from the Victorian College of the Arts with a Graduate Diploma in Dramatic Arts (Directing). His directing credits include the musical Godspell (CEO Sandhurst), Taize (Castlemaine State Festival), The Return (National Theatre Drama), Cowboy Mouth (Victorian College of the Arts), Crave (Cat and Fiddle Theatre) and Blow (Theatre Nepean). Matthew has also worked on a number of other performances. Matthew was Associate Director of The Journey Program (VET) at Actors Centre Australia, Sydney and in 2006 founded REGIONAL THEATRE WORKS, an independent production company supporting the creation of quality contemporary theatre in regional Australia. He is based in Melbourne and is currently consultant Education Officer: Arts for Sandhurst CEO. Matthew has taught at Australian Theatre for Young People, National Theatre Drama School, and VCA youth program, Actors Centre Australia and Actors College of Theatre and Television.

### D5: VCAL Lavalla  
**Brett Van Berkel**  
VCAL Co-ordinator, Lavalla Catholic College Traralgon  
Brett has a background in Horticulture and Outdoor Education. He worked with young offenders in the Adventure Therapy Program at Fulham Correctional Centre, before moving to Lavalla Catholic College as the VCAL Coordinator.

### D6: NO PROPS: INSPIRING GAMES WITH NO EQUIPMENT  
See A6

### D7: Writing on the wall: integrated assessment  
**Linnet Hunter**, Education Consultant, BCBG (Vic) P/L  
Linnet has been working at Victoria University in the Centre for Innovation in Learning and Teaching. Her past work with young people and visual literacy is now being translated into the eLearning field. She writes learning resources and offers Professional Development sessions for teachers at all levels.

### D8: Safe-T1: OHS for young workers  
See B3
### D9: School to work transitions

**Samantha White**  
Field Consultant- Schools/Industry Unit VECCI Apprenticeship Services  
VECCI has been actively involved in the administration, application and policy positioning around school-based traineeships and apprenticeships. As a result VECCI Apprenticeship Services has committed specialised resources through their Industry/Schools Unit to encourage the uptake of School-based with the aim to facilitate successful school to work transitions.

**VECCI Apprenticeship Services**  
19 Ellingworth Pde  
Box Hill 3128  
Ph: 0418 508 574  
swhite@vecci.org.au

### D10: VCAL River Connect Project at Notre Dame College

See A2

### E1: Cars, Road safety and more

See B3

### E2: Using Inquiry Based Learning to develop Real Life Skills

**Dr Adrian Bertolini**, Director, Intuyu Consulting  
Dr Adrian Bertolini has been training individuals, businesses and schools around Australia in inquiry-based learning for the past 10 years. He redeveloped the ruMAD? (aRe yoU Making A Difference) program for the Education Foundation and took it from a small Victorian program to being delivered nationally. Recently he has been working with schools around Victoria as well as a number of community organisations (CFA, Red Cross, Brotherhood of St Laurence, etc) to develop student-oriented learning approaches and materials to enable community groups to link more effectively with schools.

**Intuyu Consulting**  
21 Charming St  
Hampton East 3188  
intuyuc@gmail.com

### E3: Fire Up Connections - Students working with Communities

See C3

### E4: Community VCAL – How can it be improved for providers?

**Mick Murphy**  
CEO, Baw Baw Latrobe LLEN

**Baw Baw Latrobe LLEN**  
PO Box 415  
Trafalgar 3824  
Ph: 56332868

### E5: Empowering young consumers

**Shane O’Connor and Roslyn Mullins**, Consumer Affairs Victoria  
Shane O’Connor and Roslyn Mullins lead Consumer Affairs Victoria’s popular Consumer Education in Schools (CEIS) program. Shane brings over 25 years of secondary school experience and more than 2 years experience with CEIS to his current position. Roslyn is a former well known employee of the VCAL section of the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority. She brings a wealth of knowledge about all aspects of VCAL and applied learning to her position in the CEIS program. This program is continuing to develop a range of resources that link applied learning and consumerism in an engaging and effective manner.

**Consumer Affairs Victoria**  
Ph: 8684 6043  
### E6: Efficient thinking principles - Lean Manufacturing

**David Caughey,** VCAL Curriculum Coordinator, Hallam Senior Secondary College  
**Janne Dempster** – SMR Youth Commitment  
**Michael Taylor** – Education and Training consultant  

The Efficient Thinking Principles learning program relates directly to VCAL Work Related Skills strand but has applications across all strands. The program was initiated by the Victorian Skills Commission to promote Lean Manufacturing. The learning program included excursions, student collaboration and independent learning. The program also examined the Efficient Thinking principles in relation the students VET studies and Structured Workplace Learning program.

### E7: Using Creativity to Inspire Learning

**Maria Filippow**  
Artistic Director / CEO, Visionary Images  

With ten years history behind it, Visionary Images collaborates with marginalised youth to produce high quality art and design projects through the use of new technologies. A highly successful project in 2008 was the Alure Project – an interactive media game set in Melbourne’s CBD which engaged the public and communicated the ideas and experiences of the young people involved.

### E9: Overview of SYN Education programs and teacher resources

**Nicole Hurtubise**  
SYN Education & Training Manager, Syn FM  

Nicole Hurtubise is the Education and Training Manager at SYN Media and a long time community broadcaster in Melbourne.

### E10: Animation using Stop Motion Photography and Claymation

**Daniel Rizeman**  
Create a vibe  

Daniel Rizeman, education consultant from Create-A-Vibe, runs classes and workshops using multimedia activities with students, teachers, organisations and community groups. Much of Daniel's work consists of community filmmaking projects with at risk and marginalised student groups. Some of the films Daniel has produced with students have been broadcast on community TV Channel 31 and have also been screened at the St Kilda Film Festivals education section ‘Armed and Dangerous’. Contact Daniel to find out more about claymation multimedia classroom activities and workshops contact.