

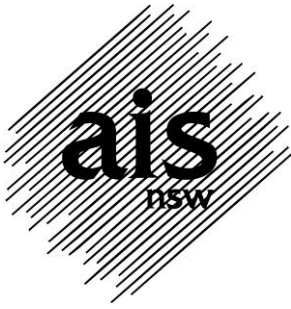
Vocational Education and Training Network Reflection Report

Trinity Grammar School hosted an exciting initiative to welcome 100 Vocational Education Teachers and Coordinators from across the membership of the Association of Independent School (AIS) at its recent "VET Network Day" on Friday 7 December 2012.



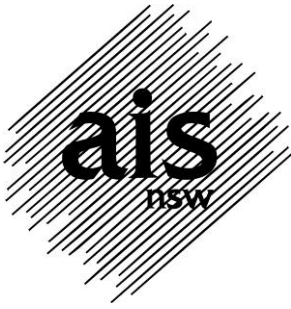
In a year which has already seen so many changes to this exciting and rapidly changing sector, the need to recognise and provide professional development for VET teachers is a crucial element for any organisation in knowing the specific skills that the industry requires. This network day allowed VET practitioners to be more informed about the training packages requirements and industry standards to have a better understanding of their own continuous improvement strategies for training and assessment. The day also allowed the opportunities explore the challenges we face as practitioners in Validation and Moderation in VET and to engage with keynote speakers that have extensive knowledge of the VET sector. VET in schools has grown dramatically since 2001.

This year approx 30 800 students were enrolled in at least one HSC Vocational Educational and Training or VET course. Of these, 19 917 were enrolled in one or more of the VET curriculum frameworks across our schools in NSW and having important events like this day can help to promote best practices in VET in this exciting and rapidly changing sector.



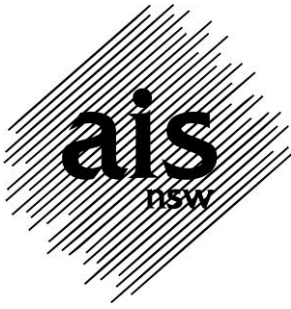
The program content during the day included:

1. The opportunity to network and share resources with other VET practitioners across the sessions.
2. The opportunity to network through closer association with industry.
3. The opportunity to explore pedagogical issues and ways to improve the quality of VET within your school.
4. The opportunity to learn how to manage VET processes in your school environment.
5. To develop outreach and create opportunities in understanding new ideas, sharing and developing resources and continuous improvement strategies in promoting best practice in vocational education and
6. Finally, the opportunity to receive new developments from the AISRTO, the Board of Studies and Industry stakeholders regarding the curriculum requirements and practical mentoring opportunities.



The more **specific aims** of network day included:

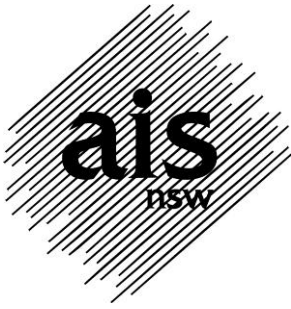
- To give all VET Teachers a chance to learn, network and share vocational training information in the friendly environment of a school setting.
- To allow for reflection of the presenters' proposed services in promoting best practices in VET.
- To give the VET Teachers and Coordinators an opportunity to network with other delegates in various industry curriculum frameworks in Auto / Construction / Metals / Primary Industry, Electrotechnology, Entertainment, Hospitality, Business Services / Retail / Financial Services and Information Technology activities.
- To give the VET Teachers and Coordinators an opportunity to establish links with Industry to assist in "real life" educational opportunities learned in class.
- To explore pedagogical issues and ways to improve the quality of the VET education experiences for their students.
- To develop outreach and create opportunities in understanding about new ideas, sharing and developing resources and continuous improvement strategies in promoting best practice in Vocational Education and Training.



The participants enjoyed working with other educators from a variety of schools in providing relevant industry and practical mentoring opportunities. The Network Day was also a form of professional development to help the VET educators to be informed and updated about their VET curriculum requirements. The presenters at this Network Day used a variety of powerful techniques for idea generation, idea evaluation and implementation, which included strategies in VET assessment and validation that educators would need to know for compliance requirements.

Some **items** of note from the day included:

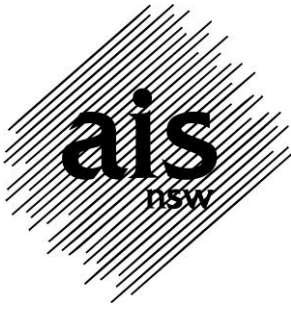
- A new AIS website has been developed.
- A new AIS VET database is being developed that will record teacher qualifications and professional development hours.
- The AIS is organising writing teams to develop scope and sequences and assessment tasks for Construction and Primary Industries.



The 2012 VET Network day presenters included:

1. *The Challenges We Face As Practitioners in VET* by Gail Evans, Director of G.E. Consultant Pty Ltd
2. *Making Connections* by Kathryn Taylor from Turning Point Consulting Pty Ltd
3. *Board of Studies – VET Curriculum and Qualifications* by Maureen Jones from the Board of Studies
4. *AIS RTO Update* by Heather Chand from the Association of Independent Schools of NSW
5. *Industry Engagement Panel Discussion* by Rajeev Arora, Leon Drury, Kathryn Taylor, Helen Stig, Alex Carbonett and Ashraf Salem
6. *Auto / Construction / Electrotechnology / Metals and Primary Industries Session* by Peter Gallagher, Hunter Trade College
7. *Business Services / Retail / Financial Services / Entertainment Industry Session* by Pam Atkinson from M.E.T. School Wagga Wagga
8. *Hospitality Industry Session* by Jane Morton, The Hills Grammar
9. *Information Technology Industry Session* by Angus VanderSchyff from Broughton Anglican College
10. *Keryn Bache exhibition session* by Keryn Bache from TAFEshop South Australia
11. *Fernando Ravello exhibition session* by State Training Services
12. *Helen Stig exhibition session* by Management Institute of Australia





The VET Industry engagement panel which included **Leon Drury, Kathryn Taylor, Helen Stig, Alex Carbonett, Ashraf Salem** and chaired by **Rajeev Arora**, provided an ideal platform to discuss validation, continuous improvement and assessment that can help teachers with promoting best practices in Vocational education and Training.

Some of the aspects of the Network Day that benefited individuals attendance:

- Interactive and group centered sessions with other teachers.
- Networking opportunities with other teachers to share resources.
- Ability and opportunity to meet with colleagues from other VET sectors.
- Open discussion opportunities and time with presenters.
- Great information given by presenters.
- Opportunities to network and a focus for future VET directions.
- Hearing concerns and voices of other VET teachers.
- The opportunity to promote the importance of the VET sector.
- The opportunity to meet, share and exchange ideas.
- Round table conversations during the interactive sessions.
- Hands-on things and scenarios for specific VET learning areas.

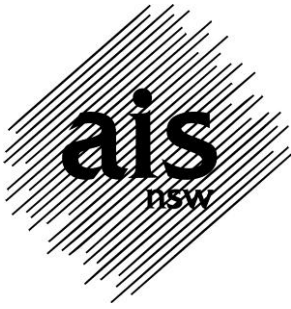


VET Network Lunch

Feedback responses from the VET Network Day participants:

What was your objective in attending and was this objective achieved?

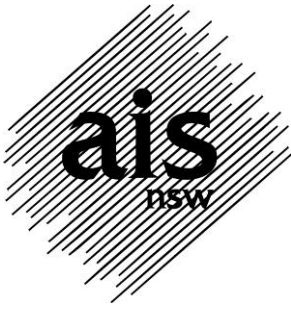
- Learn how to validate assessment tasks and meet other teachers delivering frameworks.
- To learn about the VET system and AIS requirements.
- To learn new ideas, sharing and developing resources.
- To network, engage in the delivery of VET.
- Industry currency and improving my teaching and delivery in VET
- To be informed about the changes of syllabus and resources.
- To learn about competency tasks, assessment validation and moderation.
- To learn more about assessment validation and VET framework.
- The networking opportunities.
- I am new to the VET sector and was interested with the topics on the agenda.
- To improve the VET education experiences for our students.
- The objective to learn, network and share vocational training information was achieved.
- To be updated regarding compliance and current state of the curriculum frameworks.



- Good mix of presenters.
- The opportunities to network with other staff and how they approach VET delivery.
- To be more informed and aware about the VET sector.
- To reflect and update my knowledge in the VET framework.
- Keeping aware with the compliance procedures.
- Increased understanding of VET in Schools.
- Industry currency.
- Gain knowledge in VET requirements and networking.
- Keeping currency with information and ideas.
- To network with the industry.
- To upskill/new knowledge/understanding.
- To keep up to date with VET expectations.

Which speakers were you particularly interested in hearing?

- Industry panel chaired by Rajeev challenged my thinking about Validation and and continuous improvement strategies.
- Maureen Jones from the Board of Studies was very informative
- VET in Schools Curriculum update was excellent and relevant.
- Gail Evans was very relevant and helpful.
- Kathryn Taylor was excellent, inspiring and engaging. It gave me a different perspective from a parent/teacher of what we need to do for preparation in the workplace.
- Heather Chand and Trish Thompson updates were excellent.
- Construction session was excellent.
- Helen Stig was excellent with good knowledge of the VET sector.
- Networking with other Hospitality teachers and gaining updates to the training package.
- I always enjoy Gail Evans delivering workshops in assessment practices.
- Industry session on Information Technology was great.
- Maureen Jones from the Board of Studies was very informative and engaging.
- Jane Morton was excellent with the Hospitality update.
- Pam Atkinson provided good structure in the framework session.
- Good range of topics.

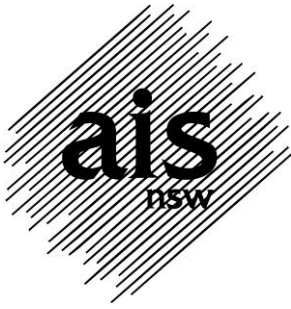


Do you feel the range of topics covered were adequate? What other topics do you feel could have been addressed?

- Good range of topics from a one day inservice.
- The lolly jar activity to meet new people was fantastic. Well done Fred.
- More on Training Plans. It would be good to have Industry Skills Council reps attend future network days.
- More ITAB's should be involved in the industry sessions.
- Industry Panel session was excellent
- All speakers were helpful.
- More information and strategies on record keeping.
- More on developing Industry Engagement.
- More about assessing in the workplace.
- More information regarding audit requirements with ASQA.
- More time to work through sample assessments and how to validate them to satisfy compliance.
- More detail for compliance officers on internal auditing.
- Spending more time working through sample audit information.
- More topics on programming and WHS for future network sessions.
- More time needed on individual course areas.
- Having a separate session for compliance.
- More on resource opportunities.
- The day was very full and all areas very relevant.

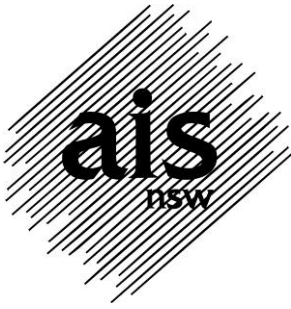
What aspects of the session/activity did you gain the most benefit?

- Session 1 on challenges was great and it was good to see others were facing the same issues.
- I would like to do more work on validation and moderation.
- Last session was important because it gave me time to brainstorm and share resources with other teachers.
- Making connections with other teachers in my framework.
- BOS presentation was very relevant.
- Information about the changes to requirements and relevant bodies.
- Assessment and Validation.
- Industry specific sessions were engaging.
- Talking to other teachers and understanding their challenges.
- New primary industry curriculum updates.
- Parallel session were excellent and relevant to my area of teaching.
- Industry sessions were great for networking.
- The industry panel was very useful in guiding industry engagement
- More time given in subject areas.
- Brainstorming with other VET teachers. I am very lucky to have had the opportunity to attend.



Any other Comments?

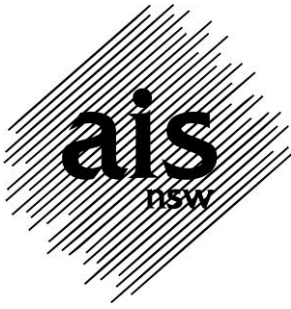
- This is my 3rd VET Network day and the program is better each year. The program flowed very well and covered a number of important challenges in Vocational Education.
- Thank you for your efforts. The program and facilities were outstanding.
- The presenters kept to time very effectively. Our time was valued and people were not allowed to go off task.
- Great meals and friendly hospitality staff.
- Students managing the registration table was an excellent idea.
- Well organised and communicated.
- Catering was of extremely high quality. Great variety and quantity.
- Service and facilities were first class.
- Please include another networking meeting like this one. Excellent concept.
- Thank you for a great day.
- An inspiring network day.
- Food was excellent. Yum!
- Thank you Fred for organising another wonderful day.
- The day has been very beneficial. Congratulations on another successful event.
- Very good location to hold this important professional development day.
- Appreciate the professional program organised by Trinity Grammar School.
- Looking forward to attend another day.
- Thank you, a very interesting day and lovely school.
- I am very lucky to have had the opportunity to attend.
- I could not have suggested a better venue on all grounds.
- I enjoyed the Trinity location experience. Beautiful school grounds.
- Thank you so much for a wonderful learning experience.
- Well done and thank you for a great experience and opportunity.
- Participants questions and comments were very well received and useful.
- Location and hospitality was excellent.
- This Network Day was very useful.
- Very well organised and worth the effort.
- Venue/food/everything went so well.
- Looking forward to have another session in 2013.
- Looking forward to having more of such valuable opportunities.



L to R – Helen Stig, Kathryn Taylor, Rajeev Arora, Maureen Jones, Gail Evans and Dr Frederick Osman

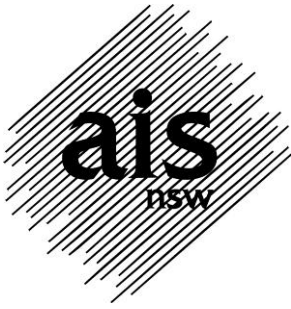
Can I conclude by saying on a personal level that I thoroughly enjoyed hosting the **VET Network Day** for the 3rd time because it reflected a great and powerful hands-on program which can be seen in the outcomes, results and feedback of responses. I would like to thank our Year 11 TEEP Business Service students that helped handle the registrations on the day and the AIS in supporting this event, particularly Heather Chand and Trish Thompson (VET Coordinators) and to all our wonderful speakers and presenters on the programme that have given their time in participating in the **2012 VET Network Day**. I am hoping that we can all again contribute to the next phase in supporting VET teachers through the provision of good induction and mentoring in the near future because a successful mentoring partnership is a career development experience to be enjoyed.

Dr Frederick Osman
2012 VET Network Day Convenor



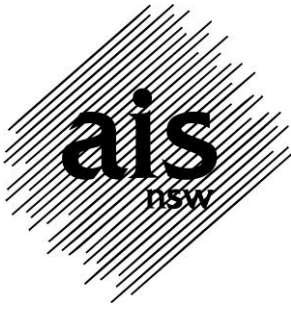
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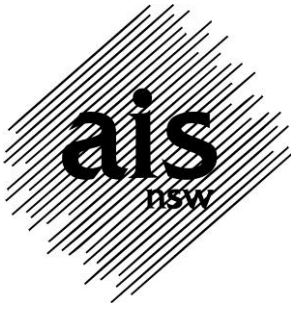
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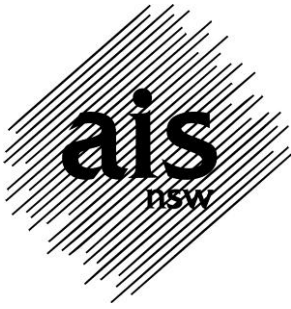
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**Dr Frederick Osman
Director of Enterprise and Vocational Education**