



# VATME eNews

## July 2006

The Victorian Association  
of TESOL and  
Multicultural Education

The VATME Newsletter is the official publication of the Victorian Association of TESOL and Multicultural Education Inc. (ABN 21 237 277 032) It is a forum for VATME members, and unless otherwise indicated as VATME policy, views expressed in this newsletter do not necessarily reflect the views of the Association.

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## VATME Update

### VATME VCE ESL Student Day

Saturday 2nd September, 2006

Brunswick Secondary College

Please see the flyer and registration form at the bottom of this newsletter.

### December Teacher's Day

Thanks for all your suggestions for the December Teacher's Day. We are formulating the PD day to incorporate your input.

### New VATME Website

VATME has a new-look website. We hope that it's more user friendly and easier to navigate.

A major change to the website is the [Members Section](#). To access this section you must have a username and password. This will change regularly so keep an eye out on your emails as I will be communicating any changes via these.

If you have any comments, suggestions or some content to contribute to the website please email me. VATME relies on your support and the more contributions we receive, the better the website will be for everyone.

### VATME

VATME is a professional body committed to promoting excellence in teaching English to speakers of other languages and to fostering and supporting cultural and linguistic diversity.

VATME assists teachers in schools and pre-schools, ELICOS, adult, community and industry settings. Its members also include managers, students, teacher educators, policy makers and academics. Membership is open to individuals and institutions.

**To join VATME visit**  
[www.vatme.vic.edu.au](http://www.vatme.vic.edu.au)

## Message from the President

### ACTA /TESOL International affiliation

For many years ACTA has considered the possibility of affiliating with TESOL International, and this year circumstances have finally allowed them to do this. The aim of the affiliation had always been to benefit more members of all associations, particularly those in States and Territories where a local affiliation was cost prohibitive.

ACTA is now affiliated with TESOL International and needs input into how all members will benefit from an ACTA affiliation with TESOL International.

ACTA needs to produce guidelines for its affiliation with TESOL International – in particular the fulfilment of its responsibilities to its member associations and to TESOL International

VATME has been asked to provide guidance to the ACTA Executive on the following:

1. How often should ACTA representatives attend the affiliate meetings in the US – remembering we have to attend every second year?
2. Who should attend?
3. How much will we give the ACTA attendee to represent us? Where could this money come from?
4. What will the attendee have to do on behalf of ACTA as a result of attending the conference?
5. How will we allocate the more general role of TESOL International liaison officer? And what should their duties be?

Please respond with your ideas by the 28th August so that we can convey them to ACTA.

**Julie Hebert**  
VATME President

## News Just In

### The NEiTA Teaching Excellence Awards

**Closing date for nomination extended until 14<sup>th</sup> August**

The NEiTA Foundation's National Excellence in Teaching Awards program is an opportunity to publicly recognise and encourage outstanding teachers. It is the only national awards program where school and early childhood centre communities - including teachers and students - can nominate teachers and teaching teams.

Two award streams are being offered in 2006. The NEiTA Teaching Excellence Awards and the Australian Scholarships Group Community Merit Awards.

For more information and a nomination details, visit <http://www.neita.com.au/australia/>

### Australian vocational education and training statistics: Students and courses 2005 - Summary

The national VET statistics for students in 2005 have been released by the National Centre for Vocational Education Research (NCVER).

Among other information available in the report, some statistics available include quantitative data on the languages students speak at home and their country of birth.

The report is available from the publications section of the NCVER website at: <http://www.ncver.edu.au/publications/>

### Federal Thought on Science and Innovation

The Minister for Education, Science and Training addressed the Sydney Institute in mid-July. Her speech mapped out Federal thought on Science and Innovation.

Recognising that these areas impact on the lives of all Australians, the Minister said that 'science and innovation have long been linked to the prosperity of communities and nations. This is even more so today, for science and innovation are the keys to addressing many of the challenges of the modern world.'

To read the Minister's speech in full visit <http://www.dest.gov.au/Ministers/Media/Bishop/2006/07/b011240706.asp>.

**Source: The Hon Julie Bishop's address to the Sydney Institute on 19<sup>th</sup> July, 2006. <http://www.dest.gov.au/Ministers/Media/Bishop/2006/07/b011240706.asp>**

## Website Updates

### Updated VATME Website

If you haven't already, check out the updated VATME website [www.vatme.vic.edu.au](http://www.vatme.vic.edu.au)

If you've got any resources, recommendations or comments please send me an email. You can let me know about all things to do with TESOL, ESL and multicultural education that you think other teachers and TESOL professionals might find interesting.

If you're using a great book or have a classroom exercise that works effectively I'd love to hear about it. Even if you just want to tell me about your class, what you've been doing or a project your students are/have done. Student artwork can be displayed as well!

The more contributions from members, the more useful, colourful and informative the site will be.

Sarah's email: [sarah.robertson@vatme.vic.edu.au](mailto:sarah.robertson@vatme.vic.edu.au)

### The Reading Writing Hotline

This Australian Government funded hotline provides help and advice on adult literacy and numeracy education. For the price of a local call adults can call this hotline from anywhere in Australia and receive advice from a teacher on reading, writing, spelling and maths.

Information about education pathways and course providers in their local area are also available.

Phone: 1300 6555 06

Email: [info@literacyline.edu.au](mailto:info@literacyline.edu.au) or

Visit <http://www.literacyline.edu.au/>

### New Resource from NCVET Publishing Current and future professional development needs of the language, literacy and numeracy workforce

This study reflects on the professional development needs of the three sectors - vocational trainers, specialist teachers and volunteer tutors - of the Australian English language, literacy and numeracy workforce. It finds that the important issues affecting the workforce include entry pathways, attitudes, responsibilities and barriers to gaining professional development. Preferred modes of professional development delivery, along with skill gaps among the workforce, are identified to provide guidance for future workforce development planning.

Copies of this report can be purchased for \$25.30 or downloaded free of charge from the NCVET website at <http://www.ncvet.edu.au/publications/1679.html>

### Teach Abroad

This site has information about teaching, working and volunteering abroad. Search for opportunities in a particular region or country. There is also information about TEFL courses in most countries.

<http://www.teachabroad.com/>

## Conferences and Events

### Working with Diversity

Education Development Centre , SA  
Monday, 7 August 2006

Part of the Professional Development Program for Registered Training Organisations (RTOs), this workshop will assist in developing strategies to meet the diverse needs of clients. It will refer to obligations under the Australian Quality Training Framework and other legislation.

<http://www.training.sa.gov.au/OVETevents/files/links/Qualitycalendar2006.pdf>

### Cultural Intelligence: Increasing your cultural effectiveness

The University of Melbourne, Vic  
Thursday, 10 August 2006

A PD session run by Melbourne University's Faculty of Education that is aimed at all professionals working in a diverse environment.

Visit <http://www.edfac.unimelb.edu.au/weoff/cpep/programs.html> for more information.

## Resources and strategies for teaching about diverse beliefs

**Tuesday, 22 August 2006**

The Department of Education and Training's Multicultural Education Unit is running this PD session for teachers of the middle years.

There is currently no information about this session available however keep an eye out on Sofweb at

<http://www.sofweb.vic.edu.au/lem/multi/mprof.htm> or the

VATME Conferences and Events calendar.

## National Literacy and Numeracy Week

**Monday, 28 August to Sunday, September 3 2006**

Visit the website to find out more about NLNW, its past, key events, how to get involved and awards that recognize outstanding work in literacy and numeracy in schools.

<http://www.literacyandnumeracy.gov.au/2006/about.htm>

Visit the Victorian NLNW website at

<http://www.sofweb.vic.edu.au/litnumweek/>

Here you will find links to events in your area, activities and literacy projects.

## Adult Learner's Week

**1-8 September, 2006**

Adult Learner's Week is coming up again this year. Don't miss out on key events in your area.

Visit <http://www.adultlearnersweek.org/>

## Human Rights Medal and Awards 2006

**'Dockside', Cockle Bay Wharf in Sydney, Australia**

**Friday, 29 September, 2006**

The Human Rights Medal and Awards, presented by the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission, celebrates the achievements of individuals and organisations that have made an exceptional contribution to the advancement of Human Rights in Australia. The Commission is calling for nominations from both individuals and organisations.

Visit [http://www.humanrights.gov.au/hr\\_awards/index.html](http://www.humanrights.gov.au/hr_awards/index.html)

## ACAL National Conference

### *Literacy: it's everyone's business*

**Hilton Adelaide, Adelaide SA**

**Friday 6 - Saturday 7 October, 2006**

This year's ACAL National Conference will look at questions of responsibility in adult literacy and numeracy.

Visit the conference website at

<http://www.sacal.sa.edu.au/conf06/> for more information or

email Sue Phillips: [Adelaide@literacy.sa.edu.au](mailto:Adelaide@literacy.sa.edu.au)

## Cultural Diversity Quest Information Session

**Languages and Multicultural Education Resource Centre, Melbourne**

**Tuesday, 29 August, 4:30-6:30pm**

The Cultural Diversity Quest for students .

P-12 teachers, coordinators and principals have a chance to find out how to get their students involved in the Quest at this information session. Teachers of previous student winners will speak and some of the winning entries will be showcased.

To attend the session RSVP Clare Hardie, Multicultural Programs Unit by Monday 21 August.

Ph: 9349 1418 Fax: 9349 1295

or email: teacher's name, school and contact number to [hardie.clare.c@edumail.vic.gov.au](mailto:hardie.clare.c@edumail.vic.gov.au)

## VATME Newsletter 2006 Schedule

August	VATME News #4
September	e-News bulletin
October	VATME News #5
November	e-News bulletin

## Contact VATME

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## The VATME News

VATME e-News is emailed to members five times per year in addition to five VATME newsletters. All newsletters are posted in a secure spot on the VATME website. Contributions from members are very welcome.

To contribute or subscribe to the VATME newsletters, go to [www.vatme.vic.edu.au](http://www.vatme.vic.edu.au) or contact the newsletter editor at [vatme@vatme.vic.edu.au](mailto:vatme@vatme.vic.edu.au)

For queries regarding the content or to advertise in the VATME News please contact the newsletter editor at [vatme@vatme.vic.edu.au](mailto:vatme@vatme.vic.edu.au)

**The Victorian Association of TESOL and  
Multicultural Education proudly presents**



## VCE ESL Student Day 2006

Students are invited to attend a series of sessions on VCE ESL. Sessions will provide overviews of note-taking, language analysis, text-response and writing tasks. Experienced VCE ESL teachers will present on the day.

**Date:** Saturday, 2nd September 2006

**Time:** Registration from 12pm, Sessions commence at 12:30pm

**Venue:** Brunswick Secondary College

**Cost:** \$44.00 (incl. GST) per student - refreshments will be served

**Please note:**

VATME asks each school to organize registration and payment on behalf of their students.

**Unfortunately, we are unable to accept payment on the day.**

ESL / English teaching staff are invited to attend with their students. Please indicate your attendance on the form below.

### VATME VCE ESL Student Day 2006 Registration Form

Teacher's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Name of School \_\_\_\_\_

Type of school: Government  Catholic  Independent

Region \_\_\_\_\_

Number of student's attending:  Teacher attending

Please write names of students below. Please attach a separate sheet if more than 3 students will be

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

**Contact Details**

School mailing address \_\_\_\_\_

Work phone \_\_\_\_\_ Work fax \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosed cheque is for \$ \_\_\_\_\_ payable to VATME

Please send a tax invoice

Email \_\_\_\_\_

**Register your  
students now!**

**Please complete this registration form in full and return to VATME with payment, or request an invoice.**

**Registrations are considered confirmed unless otherwise notified.**

**No refunds will be given for cancellations after 24th August.**

**VATME  
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(PO Box 298)  
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**Email: [vatme@vatme.vic.edu.au](mailto:vatme@vatme.vic.edu.au)  
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