

Keynote & Distinguished Speakers

Conference Opening Address

Paul Ramadge



As one of The Age's most senior editors, Paul works on most aspects of the paper's content, from developing and polishing news lists to mounting investigations and campaigns, launching new sections, managing senior writers and developing circulation strategies. Since joining The Age as night editor in 1996, Paul has held the positions of assistant editor (news), executive editor and Saturday editor. He also edited the newspaper's inspirational and Walkley Award-winning coverage of the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games. Paul Ramadge was appointed senior deputy editor in December 2005, and in September 2008 he was appointed editor-in-chief of The Melbourne Age.

Opening Keynote Address

John Hattie



John Hattie is Professor in the Faculty of Education at Auckland University, New Zealand, and Director of Project as TTle (Assessment Tools for Teaching and Learning). He is interested in measurement models and their applications to educational problems. His research encompasses what makes the major differences to student achievement, highlights the power of feedback and the use of challenging tasks, and what this means for effective assessment. His internationally acclaimed book *Visible Learning: What actually works in schools to improve learning?* is an outstanding research which involved millions of students over a period of 15 years and represents the largest ever evidence-based research into what actually works in schools to improve learning.

Elizabeth Reid



Elizabeth Reid is the Chief Executive, Specialist Schools and Academies Trust, and has served as the SSAT's chief executive since 2001. She has wide-ranging experience of education leadership having taught in inner London secondary schools. She has also held senior positions in further and higher education and local government including as the director of education for Lothian Regional Council, the City of Edinburgh Council and the London Borough of Hackney. She currently sits as a director on the boards of the Enterprise Education Trust and the University of the Arts London, City and Islington College.

Wendy Cahill



Dr. Wendy Cahill is Head of iNet Australia, an international arm of the Specialist Schools and Academies Trust, UK. Wendy served for five years as director of academic leadership at University of Melbourne, before returning to schools education as Principal of an independent secondary school. Recipient of a Fulbright award in 1986, her study in the United States was reported in her doctoral thesis on the resource & support of educational leaders. Wendy was awarded a Fellowship of the Australian College of Educators, and in 2006 was awarded an honorary fellowship from the Australian Council of School Leaders. She currently is appointed as Senior Fellow, Faculty of Education, University of Melbourne. Her work with iNet offers opportunity to draw on her experience in professional development, as she works with a national strategy group and state-based reference groups of school principals to establish this for schools, by schools international networking for educational transformation.

Peter Couchman



Peter Couchman's reputation was forged on the ground-breaking ABC current affairs programs *This Day Tonight* and the highly respected *Four Corners*, the long-standing benchmark of Australian television journalism. Peter Couchman is one of the best MCs in Australia – meticulously prepared and with a remarkable facility for memorising material. The Couchman-style Forum will be a feature at the conference. This format will add great interest to the program and delegates will be engaged in 'having their say'. The forum will also serve to be a valuable source of feedback. Peter is also adept at the classical hypothetical which will be a highlight during the program.

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Brian Caldwell

Professor Brian J. Caldwell is Managing Director of Educational Transformations Pty Ltd in Melbourne and Associate Director of iNet (Global) of the Specialist Schools and Academies Trust in England. Brian is internationally respected for his major work on Principal Autonomy in Self-Managing Schools. He is co-director of a national project for the Australian Institute for Quality Teaching and School Leadership, based on building the capacity of schools to develop a futures focus in their educational planning. Brian provides frequent comment in the media on aspects of education, and his views have been sought by most radio and television stations in every state in Australia. He was an invited participant at the Australia 2020 Summit in April 2008.



Kerry Bissaker

Dr Kerry Bissaker worked as a classroom teacher and special education consultant teacher before commencing her position at Flinders University in 1997. Kerry gained extensive knowledge of working in collaboration with teaching teams to develop inclusive models of schooling for students with special needs. The focus of her research centred on effective learning processes for both students and teachers. From these experiences Kerry has developed two related areas of research: learning processes and outcomes for students with disabilities and/or learning difficulties (specifically in the areas of language, literacy and numeracy) and processes and outcomes of teachers' professional learning. This primary interest in teachers' professional learning has resulted in extensive work with the Australian Government Quality Teacher Project in both South Australian and the Northern Territory. Kerry has also worked closely with the staff of the innovative Australian Science and Mathematics School contributing significantly to their professional learning model.



Barry Carpenter

Professor Barry Carpenter is associate director at the Specialist Schools and Academies Trust (SSAT), and a Fellow at the University of Oxford. He has been instrumental in raising awareness of children with complex learning difficulties, who require more sophisticated pedagogy to meet their potential. He has over 30 years experience in special education, and established the Centre for Special Education at Westminster College, Oxford. Barry was awarded the OBE by the Queen in 2001, for services to children with special educational needs.



Greg Clarke

Dr. Gregory Clarke is an experienced educator who has worked as a School Principal in Australia and in Hong Kong. Greg's doctoral research evaluated the effectiveness of a virtual learning experience in enhancing the transition of students from primary to secondary school. Greg is widely respected for his logical approach to educational management. His recent experience of working in Hong Kong and China has emphasized the value of cross cultural networking in education. His interests in research now finds him as a principal investigator with iNet colleagues completing in Client Consultation Study for a major university.



Jim Davies

Jim Davies is principal of the Australian Science and Mathematics School (ASMS), a public school established in partnership with Flinders University. The ASMS opened in 2003 and has established a high profile, international reputation for its innovative approaches to curriculum development and its pedagogical practice. Jim has previously held leadership positions within the education system in South Australia including District Superintendent, Principal and Superintendent leading the introduction of local school management throughout the public education system in South Australia. Prior to his career in educational leadership and administration, Jim taught agricultural science, science and health education and was the program leader at Urrbrae Agricultural High School, a special focus school in Adelaide.

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Khoa Do

Khoa Do is a film director, screenwriter and teacher who has had extensive experience working with the most disadvantaged in our community, inspiring them and guiding them to incredible success. Khoa's belief is that everyone on a team, no matter what their background or experience, is extraordinarily gifted, and our goal is to help others to realise their true potential. Khoa's own amazing story - coming to Australia as a refugee on a tiny fishing boat crammed full of people to becoming the 2005 Young Australian of the Year is a journey of courage, resilience and hope amidst incredible opposition.



David Eddy

David Eddy is Executive Director of The University of Auckland Centre for Educational Leadership in the Faculty of Education. Prior, he was inaugural Director of New Zealand's First-time Principals Programme, which two thirds of school principals have completed; Principal of Glendowie College (Auckland), Assistant Director at the International School of Amsterdam, Head of Humanities at the United World College of the Adriatic (Italy), and New Zealand's representative teacher at the United Nations International School (New York). David gives presentations about educational leadership, has co-authored journal articles and a chapter on developing educational leaders, and lectured in the educational leadership postgraduate programme. At The University of Auckland he has been responsible for educational leadership projects of \$14 million. He is the recipient of a UNICEF Award, the Prince of Wales Medallion, a Sir Woolf Fisher Fellowship, an Auckland Citizens Award, and the Secondary Principals Association of New Zealand Leadership in Education Award.



Kenn Fisher

Dr Kenn Fisher is recognised as one of the leading learning environment specialists practising in Australia and internationally. As a consultant to the OECD and UNESCO he has practised in Australia, Asia, the Middle East and Europe. Through his specialist practice in campus master planning and educational facility strategic consulting and architectural briefing, Kenn acts as the prime interface between designers and teachers to co-create learning environments for new and emerging teaching, learning and research models. Kenn focuses on internal and external learning spaces, both formal and informal. He is currently a Research Fellow, Faculty of Education, University of South Australia. Dr Fisher's latest publication, with Clare Newton as joint editor, is TAKE 8, Learning Spaces: The transformation of educational spaces for the 21st Century.



Michael Gaffney

Professor Michael Gaffney is Chair of Educational Leadership at the Australian Catholic University. Mike has wide experience as a teacher, as an education system senior executive, and as a researcher, consultant and policy adviser to Australian governments in areas of educational leadership and policy, curriculum and teaching practices appropriate to 21st century schooling. Mike has been a Director of the Australian Council for Educational Leaders (ACEL) and is an ACEL Fellow. He is a member of the iNet National Strategy Group.



Lynne Goodwin

Lynne Goodwin is the Principal of Arthur Phillip High School, Parramatta. She believes her students must be technologically literate if they are to compete in the complex world of work in the 21st century. The school's approach is unique – they emphasise the core basics but package them for modern students by using 21st century digital technologies. As a leading technology school for more than a decade the school has developed a creative approach to personalising learning for every student in all aspects of literacy/numeracy and study skills. Students and their parents have access to this personalised program online. 1 to 1 laptop learning has been a feature at the school for many years. Each student has learning targets and can access specific strategies online to assist their learning. This focused approach has seen a significant increase in student achievement in the school.

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Michael Horn

Michael Horn is the Executive Director, Education and co-founder of Innosight Institute, a non-profit think tank devoted to applying the theories of disruptive innovation to problems in the social sector. He recently coauthored 'Disrupting Class: How Disruptive Innovation Will Change the Way the World Learns' (McGraw-Hill: June 2008) with Harvard Business School professor and best selling author Clayton M. Christensen and Curtis W. Johnson, president of The Citistates Group. The book uses the theories of disruptive innovation to diagnose the root causes of schools' struggles and suggests a path forward to customise an education for all students and the way they learn.



Jane Jarvis

Dr Jane Jarvis is a lecturer in education at Flinders University in Adelaide. She has previously worked as a school counsellor, teacher, learning specialist, behaviour intervention practitioner, and educational consultant in gifted education, special education, and disability services in Australia and the United States. Jane currently works with schools in Australia and overseas on differentiating the curriculum to meet the needs of diverse learners and has research interests in differentiation and inclusive schooling, creative problem solving, giftedness and students with learning difficulties.



Jim McAlpine

Jim McAlpine is the President of the New South Wales Secondary Principals' Council (SPC). He has served public education at Springwood High, Orange High and the Western Region (Board Liaison), before being selected as Principal of Tumut High in 1990. He obtained the principalship of Moss Vale High on merit in 2001. He has been on the executive of the SPC for 11 years and the Australian Secondary Principals' Association (ASPA) for five years. He was elected as President of the SPC in 2006. He is a Fellow of the Australian College of Educators and a Fellow of the Australian Council of Education Leaders. He is on the Advisory Group for the Office of Educational Leadership at the University of New South Wales, and on the Australasian Strategy Group for iNet (International Network for Educational Transformation).



Lila Mularczyk

Lila is in her 9th year as Principal at Merrylands High School and 6th year as Deputy President of the NSW Secondary Principals' Council and 7th year as an SPC Executive Member. As an SPC Executive and Senior Executive Lila is/or has been responsible at a State level for Student Services, Welfare and Equity, Leadership, Role of the Principal, Sustaining Quality Schools and Principal Authority and Autonomy projects, Professional Learning and State Assembly Programs; Mentor/Coaching, Technology, School Website Service. She has lectured at several Sydney universities and has her Masters in Education. She has been awarded an ACEL Educational Leadership Fellowship and a Department of Education Merit Service Award to Public Education. Lila has represented and presented on behalf of SPC and The Australian Secondary Principals' Association (ASPA) in Australia, New Zealand, China and Singapore.



Clare Newton

Clare Newton is a senior lecturer in the Department of Architecture, Building & Planning and Chief Investigator of the Smart Green Schools Linkage Project at the University of Melbourne. As an architecture academic teaching construction, sustainability and design, her research explores links, translations and gaps that occur between architecture as 'concept' and architecture as 'occupied building'.

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Susan Nikakis

Dr Susan Nikakis is Senior Gifted Education Programs Officer at the Catholic Education Office Melbourne. Her Doctoral thesis was entitled 'What makes an expert teacher of the gifted?' She is a critical friend in the gifted programs at National Gallery of Victoria. Susan's soon to be published book *Differentiation makes all the Difference* follows her much read *Expert Educators* (2009). Susan has held positions of responsibility in six Catholic secondary schools, including that of Individual Differences Coordinator, Director of Studies, Director of Learning, Director of Welfare and Discipline and Deputy Principal. She sees catering for the needs of gifted students as a matter of justice.



Michael Phillips

Michael has been a member of the Principal Class for ten years and is currently Principal of Ringwood Secondary College. His school, located in the outer eastern suburbs of Melbourne, is a large and highly successful co-educational State School with 1360 students and 100 staff. The school draws from a predominantly middle class area and enrolments have steadily increased during the past 15 years. The college is seen as a leading school in the Performing Arts and student success is celebrated widely through our Halls of Excellence and Achievement. Opportunities for student leadership are extensively acknowledged. ICT is being widely embedded to improve student learning. He is committed to the development of leadership learning to support student engagement, participation and achievement. As an educational leader, his increasing focus is on driving pedagogical reform to achieve these outcomes.



Julie Podbury

Julie Podbury was appointed to the position of Principal at Brighton Secondary College in 1996, after 4 years as Assistant Principal at Chandler Secondary College. In the fourteen years at Brighton she has transformed that school. A once ineffective school with a population of 600 and falling, it now boasts over 1200 students, an enrolment zone and a raft of first class programs for staff and students. Brighton is renowned for being at the edge of educational transformation under Julie's leadership. Under her leadership, Brighton is an early adopter of DEECD initiatives: Brighton was a successful Leading School Fund school, a State and Regional Reference School for Performance and Development Culture, and Julie participated in the High Performing Principals Program in 2005. In 2005 she was a finalist in the Outstanding Leadership Award. In 2010 she is a leading Coach of aspirant and struggling Principals for DEECD in the Southern Metropolitan region. Julie is known as an innovator and has outstanding skills in Technical, Educational and Human Leadership.



Paul Sheahan

Paul was an Australian cricketer who played in 31 Tests and 3 One Day Internationals between 1967 and 1974. Educated at the University of Melbourne, Paul Sheahan was Headmaster of Melbourne Grammar School until March 2009, and formerly Headmaster of Geelong College. Paul Sheahan currently holds the post of Vice President of the Melbourne Cricket Club and plays regional club cricket in Geelong. He is delighted to host the Breakfast with the Champions in the Olympic Room on the Monday of the Conference. Paul Sheahan has been a valuable member of iNet having served on the Principals' Reference Group for a number of years.



Margaret Varady

Margaret was appointed by the Minister for Education and Training, 1 January 2002 to 31 December 2009 as a Fellow of Senate of the University of Sydney. Born in New Zealand, Margaret completed secondary school at small district high school, then attended Otago University (BSc) followed by Epsom Teachers College (Dip Ed). She taught in Whangarei, New Zealand until 1972 when she moved to Sydney. She taught at Maroubra Girls High School and various other schools, and was consultant / PEO at the Board of Studies before being appointed Principal, Sydney Girls High School. She retired in 2008. Margaret is also on the Trust at Centennial Parklands, the board of NSW Mental Health Education, is an ambassador for the Children's Hospital Foundation and a member of Friends of Stewart House. She has special interest in the culture of schools (and institutions); academically selective schools; developing young women leaders; public education and community involvement At present she contributes significantly to the University of NSW Leadership program.

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Sheree Vertigan

Sheree Vertigan joined the Executive of Australian Secondary Principal Association (ASPA) in 2006 and is President of ASPA 2010/2011. Appointed Principal at Reece High School in 2002 after a time as Assistant to the District Superintendent, Sheree is widely respected for her unique leadership skills. Both Reece High School and Sheree have been the recipients of a number of awards including: James D McConnell for educational facility project excellence; Design Share Award for Innovative Learning Environment; Learning Together Award for the transformation of secondary education, Hardie Fellowship and Leading Australia's Schools Outstanding Principal Award.



Sally Walker

Professor Sally Walker is Vice-Chancellor and President of Deakin University. She has had a distinguished career in the law and as an academic administrator. She has undertaken a broad range of professional activities, including representation on policy-making bodies, committees and the boards of various organisations. Professor Walker has been described as having incisive intellect, impressive leadership qualities and deep respect for qualities and standards.



David Warner

Dr David Warner is Principal of ELTHAM College of Education, Melbourne, and CEO of both ELTHAM and Melbourne City School. Both are non-selective, independent, co-educational K-12 schools that are leaders in 21st century schooling transformation. Dr Warner is an innovator, author and change leader. He has worked as teacher and principal in the public and independent school sectors, as a researcher and labour market analyst, in TAFE and higher education throughout Australia and internationally.



Greg Whitby

Greg Whitby is the Executive Director of Schools and leads a system of approximately 80 Catholic schools serving the Catholic community of greater Western Sydney. He has 30 years combined experience in K-12 schooling and senior system leadership. In recognising the critical link between good teaching practice and student learning outcomes, Greg Whitby is working to build the capacity of school leaders and teachers through a whole-of-system approach to professional learning.