School Innovation Showcase

Australian Catholic University (ACU) proudly presents the inaugural **School Innovation Showcase.**

THE NATIONAL SCHOOL OF EDUCATION (NSE), IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE LEARNING AND LEADERSHIP ENTERPRISE (LLE), ARE THRILLED TO BRING YOU THE SCHOOL INNOVATION SHOWCASE IN NOVEMBER 2024.

Boasting the nation's largest education program with over 8,000 undergraduate and postgraduate students, ACU has a proud history of contributing to Australia's teaching workforce.

In today's innovation economy, education is a key vehicle to foster and develop the next generation of innovators, collaborators and creative thinkers. The School Innovation Showcase offers a dynamic, interactive and collaborative professional learning experience, bringing together teachers, leaders, pre-service teachers and academics to share new evidence-informed and/or best practice ideas, teaching methods, initiatives, technologies and outcomes. This unique innovation showcase will feature several keynote speakers, including recipients of state and international educational innovation awards, panel discussions, trade exhibitors, demonstrations and more.

LEANING INTO INNOVATION

ACU academics and higher education industry experts have been invited to come together and share best practice, innovative learning, establish new bonds, and discuss the evolution of education.

Presenters will share examples of how they are:

- adjusting to evolving needs of students and work-life expectations in a rapidly changing world
- developing cultures of thinking, lifelong learning, curiosity, imagination, happiness, creativity, enterprise, and innovation skills
- leveraging pedagogies and teaching models including problem-based learning, gamification, design thinking, and other strategies to develop skills for innovation
- creating authentic, inquiry-based or service learning and assessment opportunities to solve real world problems that are meaningful and engaging
- disrupting the status quo in school organisation, curriculum and operational strategies towards cultures of creativity and innovation
- using AI and other digital and design technologies to leverage deeper learning experiences for students
- supporting students with future skills to build resilience, wellbeing, inclusion, growth mindsets, character strengths, collaboration, agile thinking, risk taking, problem solving, leadership, student voice, and ability to navigate change.

EVENT DETAILS

What:
'Innovate 2024' – Innovation in Schools Showcase

Where:
St Teresa of Kolkata Building/Building 421, Craven Centre. Level 7 / 115B Victoria Parade, Fitzroy, Vic 3065

When:
Friday 15 November 2024, 9am – 4pm

PRESENTERS

ACU leaders and academics, Genazzano FCJ College, St Paul the Apostle School, Westbourne Grammar School, Loreto Mandeville Hall Toorak, Templestowe College, St Peter's Catholic Primary School.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Professor Mary Ryan, Executive Dean, Faculty of Education and Arts, ACU

What works here? Transforming practice through research and innovation

This presentation considers the crucial role of practitioner and co-designed research in schools to enable transformation of practice. Teachers face competing demands, increasingly diverse student groups and high accountability. Rather than a 'one size fits all' approach, Professor Ryan suggest that deep knowledge of the inter-relationships between self, context, technologies, and culture can enable a meta-reflexive professionalism that is needed for sustainable transformation in practice. Rather than seeking "what works?" or implementing every shiny innovation, educators should consider "what works here?"

Innovate: School Innovation Showcase program

TIME	SESSION	PRESENTER/FACILITATORS		DURATION
8.30am	Registration	All staff		30 minutes
9am	Welcome	**Professor Donna King** and **Professor Amanda Telford**		15 minutes
9.15am	Keynote address	**Professor Mary Ryan** What works here? Transforming practice through research and innovation		20 minutes
9.40am	Speed dating	**Dr Jonathon Sargeant** and **Dr Catherine Reid** Share a challenge or innovation in your context		30 minutes
10.20am	Breakout session 1	**ELECTIVE 1A** Design your future: Personalised learning **Angeline Yannopoulos, Zac Ansell** Genazzano FCJ College	**ELECTIVE 1B** The SPA Doreen Process: A new leash on learning **Frank Fabri** St Paul the Apostle School, Doreen	40 minutes
11am	Breakout session 2	**ELECTIVE 2A** Leading pedagogical and operational change in the digital era: Distributed leadership and engagement **Liam Basset** Westbourne Grammar School	**ELECTIVE 2B** Using augmented reality to create immersive, inclusive and engaging learning environments **Prof Amanda Telford** & **Kathy Green** ACU	40 minutes
11.40am	Morning tea and trade exhibition			20 minutes
12pm	Breakout session 3	**ELECTIVE 3A** Developing partnerships for youth mental health peer support accreditation **Donna Davies** and **Rob Leishman** Loreto Mandeville Hall Toorak & School TV	**ELECTIVE 3B** Artificial intelligence or human stupidity? Exploring the impact of AI on education and learning **Dr Luke Rowe** ACU	40 minutes
12.40pm	Breakout session 4	**ELECTIVE 4A** What does it mean to not have 'year levels' in a school? **Adam Cribbes** and **Matt Harris** Templestowe College	**ELECTIVE 4B** Reinventing the classroom to unlock the potential in all **Jock McMillan, Grace Frazzica** and **Ide Garvey** St Peter's Catholic Primary School South West Sunshine	30 minutes
1.10pm	Breakout session 5	**ELECTIVE 5A** Microcredentials: Unlocking tomorrow's potential STRIDE@9 at Loreto Toorak **Melissa Etherton** Loreto Mandeville Hall Toorak		15 minutes
1.30pm	Lunch and trade display and trade exhibition			45 minutes
2.15pm	Panel	**Prof John Munro, Prof Donna King, Frank Fabri, Prof Iain Hay, Angeline Yannopoulos**	Future proofing our students for tomorrow	35 minutes
2.50pm	Design sprints	**Professor Amanda Telford** and **Belinda Koolen**	A fast, fun and interactive opportunity to share an innovation, an idea you are currently implementing, or an inspiration from the showcase that you would like to trial in your school or another educational context.	40 minutes
3.30pm	Closing	**Professor Donna King**		10 minutes

Elective presentations

SESSION	PRESENTER AND ORGANISATION	DESCRIPTION
ELECTIVE 1A	Design your future: Personalised learning **Angeline Yannopoulos** Curriculum leader: technology **Zac Ansell** Director of Future Pathways Genazzano FCJ College	Unlocking the potential of each student requires a departure from the 'one size fits all' approach to education. Traditional schooling paradigms often fail to accommodate the diverse aspirations and learning styles of students and inadequately equip them for the rapidly changing world beyond school. So how can we break out of this traditional model and offer more than an ATAR score? Introducing Studio Beyond: Genazzano FCJ College's innovative education hub offering flexible, personalised learning programs to get students to where they want to go. Whether the goal is university, an internship, work or study, Studio Beyond offers a program with tailored learning and professional support. Through a blend of flexible curriculum structures and dedicated professional guidance, learners are equipped with the tools to navigate the dynamic landscape beyond the classroom. Join us in this session to explore how our approach fosters student agency and lifelong learning. Gain insights into actionable strategies for mentoring and monitoring the progress of students embarking on non-traditional pathways. Learn how to cultivate a culture of support, mentorship, and accountability within your own school. **Best Professional Learning Program Excellence Award**
ELECTIVE 1B	The SPA Doreen process: A new leash on learning (St Paul the Apostle School, Doreen) **Frank Fabri** Deputy Principal, Digital Literacies and STEM Leader St Paul the Apostle School, Doreen	Our planned session explores St Paul the Apostle School's development of STEM-based learning in conjunction with problem-based learning (PBL) and learner agency. Overall, our session aims to emphasise the benefits of a process where teachers are involved in creating a provocation for learning based on: • solving a problem or an issue that matters globally and locally • relating to the curriculum: plan, identify and measure the learning • empowerment: leadership, teamwork, collaboration • connection with the community. **Featured in the ABC's War on Waste**
ELECTIVE 2A	Leading pedagogical and operational change in the digital era: Distributed leadership and engagement **Liam Bassett** Director of Digital Learning Westbourne Grammar School	Schools continue to face the ongoing challenge of adapting and thriving amid significant technological shifts. Our journey in enacting a successful digital strategy is predicated on distributed leadership practices and the formation of our Digital Transformation Committee. Recognising that change is more than just about technology – it's about people – we adopted a collaborative approach, tapping into the collective wisdom, expertise and enthusiasm of our staff community. This presentation seeks to share our story of how this approach fosters a rich, collaborative environment, empowering educators and professional staff to become champions of change. Through embracing change management principles, we have enabled our school to navigate challenges and complexities with agility, ensuring our 80+ strategic deliverables are not just reactive but proactive and visionary. Dive into the intricacies of managing pedagogical and operational change in schools and learn how a distributed leadership model can act as a catalyst in redefining educational landscapes. **2023 5 STAR Innovative schools The Educator** **Best School Strategic Plan Excellence Award**
ELECTIVE 2B	Using augmented reality to create immersive, inclusive and engaging learning environments **Professor Amanda Telford** and **Kathy Green**, ACU **Professor Gretchen Geng**, Flinders University	The use of augmented reality (AR) in education has shown promising results in enhancing student learning experiences and understanding of complex concepts as it combines the virtual and real worlds where technologies, physical objects, and human elements exist together and enable users to interact in real time. In this session we will share the findings of a pilot study which explored the impact of implementation of an AI-embedded AR on student's learning, engagement, behaviour and enjoyment during AR-supported learning experiences. We will also provide insights into the potential benefits and considerations when using of AR technology in schools.
ELECTIVE 3A	Developing partnerships for youth mental health peer support accreditation **Donna Davies** Director of Wellbeing **Rob Leishman** Co-founder and Director, School TV Loreto Mandeville Hall Toorak and School TV	In response to the rising mental health challenges among young people, fostering peer-led mental health advocacy is a protective factor in any supportive school environment. This session will present the development of an accredited youth mental health program developed through a collaborative pilot project with Loreto Toorak, School TV and renowned psychologist Dr Michael Carr-Greg. The program aims to support young people in learning to recognise early warning signs of mental health issues in their peers, such as changes in behaviour, mood, or academic performance and supporting students in understanding how to provide appropriate support and responses. This includes knowing when and how to offer help, understanding boundaries, and being aware of when to refer a peer to trusted adults and professional services. Students will also develop communication skills to engage empathetically and constructively with their peers in distress. The pilot program demonstrated that involving students in the co-design process enhances their engagement and the relevance of the content. The feedback from the students highlighted the importance of student voice when designing any wellbeing program and the benefit of developing partnerships with mental health professionals, educators, and students in collaborative practice.

SESSION	PRESENTER AND ORGANISATION	DESCRIPTION
ELECTIVE 3B	Artificial intelligence or human stupidity? Exploring the impact of AI on education and learning **Dr Luke Rowe** ACU	In this session we will explore the profound effects that AI has on the educational landscape and the minds of our students. This session will critically examine both the promises and pitfalls of AI integration in classrooms in a balanced but provocative manner. Topics will include how AI can enhance learning through personalised education, rapidly provide and build worked examples, and offer new and creative ways of engaging students in their learning. However, we will also explore the potential risks, such as over-reliance on AI, the erosion of deep and meaningful learning, and ethical concerns regarding misinformation, digital identity, data privacy, and algorithmic bias. Participants will gain a nuanced understanding of how to leverage AI effectively while mitigating its risks. The session will feature real-world case studies demonstrating both successful and problematic AI applications in education. We will discuss practical strategies for ensuring AI is used to enhance, rather than replace, human intelligence and creativity. This interactive workshop aims to provoke thought and encourage educators to critically assess and innovatively implement AI technologies in their teaching practices.
ELECTIVE 4A	What does it mean to not have 'year levels' in a school? **Adam Cribbes** Assistant Principal and Director of Learning **Matt Harris** and two students Templestowe College	Fifteen years ago, Templestowe College embarked on a journey of innovation and progressive education. One of the most radical ideas was the dissolution of year levels; so, what does that mean, and how does it continue to work in a school that has multiplied in size four times over? This session will cover the student experience, the teacher experience, and some of the practical implementation solutions we have tried over the years. **Awarded Winner Secondary School of the Year 2023** **Education Perfect Australian School of the Year Excellence Award**
ELECTIVE 4B	Reinventing the classroom to unlock the potential in all **Jock McMillan** Mathematics and ICT Leader **Grace Frazzica** Deputy Principal **Ide Garvey** and four-six students St Peter's Catholic Primary School South West Sunshine	Discover how St. Peter's, winner of the 2024 Global EdTech Award for Independent School's Best Digital Transformation, and recognised as a Google Reference School, have revolutionised the classroom by harnessing technology to boost engagement, make learning visible and overcoming educational barriers to strengthen family-school partnerships. Experience firsthand, the innovative strategies and digital tools that have reshaped their approach to teaching and learning. From smart classrooms equipped with cutting-edge technology to collaborative digital platforms connecting students and teachers, see how these advancements create dynamic and interactive learning environments. Moreover, learn how these tools enhance student engagement and ensure inclusivity for all. **2024 Global EdTech Award for Independent School's Best Digital Transformation and recognised as a Google Reference School**
ELECTIVE 5A	Microcredentials: Unlocking Tomorrow's Potential STRIDE@9 at Loreto Toorak **Melissa Etherton** Director of Innovation and Enterprise Loreto Mandeville Hall Toorak	As our rapidly changing world shifts, so do the microcredentials. STRIDE@9 Compass for the Future is a living program – one that prepares students for the ever-evolving demands of work and life. It is a symphony of innovation, passion and boundless curiosity. This seminar will showcase Loreto Mandeville Hall Toorak's STRIDE@9 Compass for the Future – an innovative opt-in microcredential program that utilises the Mary Ward Schools' Compass as its directional guide. Through this program students proactively engage in completing microcredential tasks aligned to the Mary Ward Schools' Compass points and their interests and passions. This dynamic initiative fosters collaboration with peers, staff, and external partners, combining short-courses, programs, and self-driven discovery projects for a comprehensive learning experience.

Register here or email
Professor Amanda Telford
to find our more:
Amanda.Telford@acu.edu.au