

Research Conference

2009

16-18 August,
Perth Convention & Exhibition Centre
Western Australia

Assessment and Student Learning:

Collecting, interpreting and using data
to inform teaching

This conference will explore the information that can be gained from quality classroom and system wide assessment and how effective teachers use that information to guide their teaching.

It is recognised that quality assessments are an integral part of good teaching. Highly effective teachers have been identified as those teachers who use assessments of student learning to:

- identify starting points for teaching;
- diagnose errors and misunderstandings;
- provide feedback to guide student action;
- evaluate the effectiveness of their teaching; and
- monitor individual progress over time.

Speakers include:

Professor John Gardner
Queens University Belfast

Professor Helen Wildy
University of Western Australia

Dr Margaret Forster
ACER

Professor Patrik Scheinin
University of Helsinki

Ms Jocelyn Cook
ACER

Professor Helen Timperley
University of Auckland

Dr Sandra Heldsinger and Dr Stephen Humphry
University of Western Australia

Ms Juliette Mendelovits, Dr Tom Lumley and
Ms Dara Searle
ACER

Mr David Wasson
DET NSW

Mr Peter Titmanis
Performance Measurement & Reporting Taskforce

Mr Julian Fraillon and Ms Prue Anderson
ACER

Ms Katrina Spencer and Mr Daniel Balacco
DECS SA

Professor Val Klenowski
Qld University of Technology
Ms Thelma Gertz
Catholic Education Office Townsville

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Program

SUNDAY 16 AUGUST

6.00-7.30 PM Cocktails with the Presenters – River View Rooms 4 & 5, Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre

MONDAY 17 AUGUST

8.00 AM Conference Registration – Level 2, Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre

9.15 AM Conference Opening
 Keynote Address 1
 Professor Geoff Masters, Chief Executive Officer ACER
Assessment for teaching: the half-way house
 Professor John Gardner, Queens University Belfast, Ireland

10.30 AM Morning tea and poster presentations

11.30 AM Concurrent Sessions Block 1

Session A
What makes a difference? How measuring the non-academic outcomes of schooling can help guide school practice.
 Mr Julian Fraillon and Ms Prue Anderson ACER

Session B
Reflections on the validity of using results from large scale assessments at the school level
 Mr Peter Titmanis, Performance Measurement and Reporting Taskforce

Session C
Using Assessment Data for improving teaching practice
 Professor Helen Timperley, University of Auckland NZ

Session D
Conversations with a Keynote
 Professor Patrik Scheinin, University of Helsinki, Finland.
Restricted to 30 delegates only – register your interest on your conference registration form

12.30 PM Lunch and poster presentations

1.00 PM Lunchtime talk back – **NAPLAN - issues and directions**
 Open to all delegates - bring your lunch, bring your questions.

1.30 PM Keynote Address 2
Informative Assessment – understanding and guiding learning
 Dr Margaret Forster, Research Director Assessment and Reporting ACER

2.30 PM Afternoon tea and poster presentations

3.00 PM Concurrent Sessions Block 2

Session E
PISA for teachers: Interpreting and using information from an international reading assessment in the classroom
 Ms Juliette Mendelovits, Dr Tom Lumley and Ms Dara Searle, ACER

Session F
Next Practice: What we are learning about teaching from student data
 Ms Katrina Spencer and Mr Daniel Balacco DECS SA

Session G
Culture-fair assessment leading to culturally responsive pedagogy with indigenous students
 Professor Val Klenowski, Queensland University of Technology and Ms Thelma Gertz Catholic Education Office Townsville QLD

Session H
Conversations with a Keynote
 Professor Helen Wildy University of Western Australia
Restricted to 30 delegates only – register your interest on your conference registration form.

4.00 PM Close of Day 1

7.00 PM Conference dinner
 Ballroom 2, Perth Exhibition and Convention Centre

TUESDAY 18 AUGUST

9.15 AM Keynote Address 3
Making local meaning from national assessment data: NAPNuLit
 Professor Helen Wildy University of Western Australia

10.30 AM Morning tea and poster presentations

11.30 AM Concurrent Sessions Block 3

Session I
An Even Start: Innovative resources to support teachers to better monitor and better support students measured below benchmark
 Ms Jocelyn Cook, ACER

Session J
Large Cohort Testing - How can we use assessment data to effect school and system improvement?
 Mr David Wasson, DET NSW

Session K
Do rubrics help to inform and direct teaching practices?
 Dr Stephen Humphrey and Dr Sandra Heldsinger, University of Western Australia

Session L
Conversations with a Keynote
 Professor John Gardner Queens University Belfast, Ireland
Restricted to 30 delegates only – register your interest on your conference registration form

12.15 PM Lunch and poster presentations

12.45 PM Lunchtime talk back – **Fair assessment?**
 Open to all delegates - bring your lunch, bring your questions.

1.15 PM Keynote Address 4
Using student assessment to improve teaching and educational policy
 Professor Patrik Scheinin, University of Helsinki Finland

2.30 PM Closing Address
 Prof Geoff Masters, Chief Executive Officer, ACER

Research Conference Accommodation

A number of rooms have been reserved for conference delegates at special conference rates at the following hotels. Delegates may access these special rates via **ACCOMMODATION** at www.acer.edu.au/workshops/conferences.html

16–18 August 2009 • Research Conference 2009 • Assessment and Student Learning

Research Conference Venue
Perth Convention Exhibition Centre

Parmelia Hilton Perth ★★★★★

14 Mill Street, Perth

Hilton Guest Room (Queen):	\$255.00 per room per night
Hilton Guest Room (Twin):	\$235.00 per room per night
Breakfast:	\$36.00 per person
Distance to Convention Centre:	4 mins walking 8 mins by car

Mount Bay Waters Apartment Hotel ★★★★★

112 Mounts Bay Road, Perth

1 Bedroom Apartment:	\$206.00 per room per night
2 Bedroom 1 Bathroom Apartment:	\$251.00 per room per night
2 Bedroom 2 Bathroom Apartment:	\$307.00 per room per night
Breakfast:	\$12.00 per person
Distance to Convention Centre:	2 mins walking 9 mins car

Perth Ambassador Hotel ★★★★★

196 Adelaide Terrace, Perth

Standard Twin:	\$130.00 per room per night or \$156 including breakfast for 2
Deluxe Double:	\$150.00 per room per night or \$163 including breakfast for 1
Corporate Double:	\$170.00 per room per night or \$183 including breakfast for 1
Distance to Convention Centre:	20 mins car 20 mins walk

Goodearth Hotel ★★★★★

195 Adelaide Terrace, Perth

Studio Double:	\$130.00 per room per night or \$142.00 including breakfast for 1
Executive Studio:	\$150.00 per room per night or \$162.00 including breakfast for 1
1 Bedroom Apartment:	\$165.00 per room per night or \$213.00 including breakfast for up to 4 people
Distance to Convention Centre:	20 mins car 20 mins walk

Medina Grand Perth ★★★★★

33 Mounts Bay Road

Premier 1 bedroom apartments:	\$375.00 per room per night
Distance to Convention Centre:	Adjacent to the Convention Centre



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Perth Convention Exhibition Centre

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Keynote Speakers

Professor John Gardner



John Gardner is a professor of education in the *School of Education* at Queen's University, Belfast. His main research areas include policy and practice in education, particularly in relation to assessment. His recent publications include *Assessment and Learning* (Sage, 2006) and his recent research activities have

included studies on assessment and social justice, assessment by teachers (ARIA) and consulting pupils on assessment (CPAL). He has over 100 peer-reviewed publications and has managed research projects exceeding £2.3million in total since 1990. He is President Elect of the British Educational Research Association, a fellow of the Chartered Institute of Educational Assessors, a fellow of the British Computer Society and a member of the UK Council of the Academy of Social Sciences.

Dr Margaret Forster



Dr Margaret Forster is the Research Director of the Assessment and Reporting Research Program at the Australian Council for Educational Research (ACER).

Dr Forster has extensive experience in the area of assessment and reporting and works as a consultant nationally and internationally. She has direct experience in the development of support materials for teachers, and policy makers. She conceptualised and co-authored the first Developmental Assessment Resource for Teachers (*DART English Upper Primary*), and is co-author of the ACER *Attitudes and Values Questionnaire*, and the *Assessment Resource Kit* (ARK) materials. She wrote the introductory overview to the *Discovering Democracy Assessment Resources*, and prepared the introductory materials for the Curriculum and Standards Framework II information kit that was distributed to all schools in Victoria (*Progress Maps: A Teacher's Handbook*).

Dr Forster has a particular research interest in the collection and use of achievement data to improve learning. She co-directed the National School English Literacy Survey (NSELS) and co-authored the NSELS report. She has written a number of general research based publications on the reporting of student achievement including *A Policy Maker's Guide to International Achievement Studies*, and *A Policy Maker's Guide to Systemwide Assessment Programs*.

Recent national consultancies on the revision and implementation of assessment and reporting frameworks include work with the Western Australian Curriculum Council, the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority and Education Queensland. Recent international consultancies include work for The World Bank in India, for the Peruvian Ministry of Education, for AusAID in Papua New Guinea and the Philippines, for UNICEF, for the Scottish Executive, and for the Hong Kong Curriculum Development Institute.

Dr Helen Wildy



Dr Helen Wildy is Professor and Dean of the Faculty of Education at The University of Western Australia. Formerly a Mathematics teacher she taught in government and independent schools in Western Australia and Victoria. She currently conducts research and supervises doctoral and Masters students in a

range of leadership and school improvement topics. She has been chief investigator or co-chief investigator in research projects worth more than \$4m since 2000. Her academic papers are published widely in refereed national and international journals. For the past 9 years she has worked with school sectors in Western Australia on projects to present national assessment data in formats that are accessible to school leaders and teachers. She is Director of *Performance Indicators for Primary Schools (PIPS) Australia*, a literacy and numeracy assessment program for students entering school, used by over 800 schools in all Australian states and territories.

Professor Patrik Scheinin



Patrik Scheinin is a Professor of Education and the dean and former vice dean of the *Faculty of Behavioural Sciences* at the University of Helsinki. Among other administrative tasks he is vice chair of the Board of the Open University of Helsinki, board member of the Helsinki Area Summer

University, vice chair of the Central Campus Library Committee of the University of Helsinki, and a former vice director of the Department of Education. He received the University of Helsinki Scholarship for Especially Talented Young Researchers for two three-year periods 1986 and again 1989.

Scheinin is vice director and a founding member of the Centre for Educational Assessment, member of the steering group of the Finnish PISA Project, and is a former board member of the Helsinki University Collegium for Advanced Studies. He is an expert and referee for several scientific journals, foundations, and conferences, and has been scientific expert for projects of the Finnish National Board of Education, as well as of the Swedish National Agency for Education. He is a member of several national and international research associations.

His research interests are cognitive abilities and thinking skill, self-concept and self-esteem, their structure and development, educational interventions promoting development of cognitive abilities and personality, educational assessment and evaluation research, as well as teaching and learning in higher education.

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Conference Secretariat

Enquiries can be directed to:

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Australian Council for Educational Research

www.acer.edu.au/workshops/conferences.html

TRAVEL

We are pleased that Qantas has been appointed the official airline for the conference.

Qantas has set up a dedicated online booking facility for Research Conference 2009 delegates to provide instant access to the latest online discount offers.

This link can be accessed at

www.acer.edu.au/workshops/conferences.html

PARKING

The PCEC carpark operates 24 hours 7 days a week. It offers a staffed Customer Service Centre and closed circuit television.

The rates are:

- 24 Hour, Multiple Entry - \$21.50 per ticket
This option provides a 24 hour multiple entry and exit. Unless indicated otherwise, ticket validity times will be from midnight on nominated date. .
- 10 Hours Continuous Parking, Single Entry - \$17.00 per ticket
This option provides single entry and exit, 10 hours continuous parking.