



# News from the NAEEA

Edition 6, 2017

## NAEEA Chairperson's Message

Dear Enabling Colleagues,

We continue to wait patiently for the Senate to discuss the HESLA Bill and in particular sentiments towards the proposed changes to enabling. As anticipated, the Bill passed through its second reading in the House of Representatives last week and is now slated for discussion in the Senate the week commencing 16 October. Various aspects of the Bill continue to attract media attention with much speculation over the possible voting determinations of various crossbenchers.

As part of this newsletter issue and also attached as a stand-alone pdf, you will find an Infographic which may be politically valuable locally to keep our concerns about enabling changes on the agenda. Created by Godwin, R & Stokes, J and drawing from the work of Andrew Harvey, the Infographic provides some convincing arguments in support of maintaining enabling in its current form.

It's still not too late to present your work at the 2017 NAEAA conference or to participate in one of the research workshops planned for the event – read on.

Also, in this issue is further information about how you can become increasingly engaged with the Association. Read further to find out how to become a member of the Association Executive or perhaps how to host the next NAEAA conference.

I'm hoping that in the next newsletter the Association will be celebrating the defeat of the proposed reforms to enabling education.

In solidarity,

**David Bull, 2017 NAEAA Chairperson.**

[www.enablingeducators.org](http://www.enablingeducators.org)

## 2017 Conference

Register now for the 6th Biennial Conference of the National Association of Enabling Educators of Australia (NAEEA). The conference brings together like-minded individuals who teach, design, work-in, support or research tertiary enabling programs in all their many forms.



[Professor Adam Shoemaker](#), Vice Chancellor of SCU, will open the conference and welcome us to the University. A leading researcher in the area of Indigenous literature and culture, Prof Shoemaker is also a Commonwealth Scholar, author or editor of nine books in the field of Indigenous literature and culture, and widely published in the areas of international and digital education; race relations; and cultural studies.

### Pre-conference workshops

In addition to a full conference program, places

are still available in

two **pre-conference workshops** to be held on Wednesday 29 November. 'Researching our practice', led by Professor Mike Osborne, is designed for participants who are new to research or who are new to research in the enabling space. 'Publishing your practice' is a workshop led by Associate Professor Sharron King for participants who have undertaken some research and are now looking to publish.

### Conference Poster Presentation Extended

While abstracts for paper and workshop presentations for the Gold Coast conference closed at the end of July, we have decided to extend the opportunity to display and present a poster at the Conference. It may well be that you have a poster relevant to one of the conference themes which you would like to share with colleagues at this event. Please email all questions and submissions to: [naeea2017@scu.edu.au](mailto:naeea2017@scu.edu.au) and be guided by this site in terms of your presentation.

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## NAEEA Executive Election

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### Consider standing for Election to the NAEEA Executive

The Association will shortly be calling for nominations to participate on the Executive Committee of the Association. The Committee meets by Zoom every 6 weeks to discuss and determine actions and directions for the Association. We intend to hold elections for the Executive Committee prior to the conference this year so that the newly elected members can be announced and introduced at that event.

Positions on the Executive Committee are for a duration of 1 or 2 years. This year we have a significant number of 7 positions becoming vacant, either due to retirement or resignation, but in most cases due to the period of tenure expiring. Existing members are permitted to stand for re-election. Members of the Association can self-nominate. Later this month we will circulate a nomination form. Please consider this opportunity to join the Executive Committee of the Association.

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## Lighting the Pathway

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**The OLT Seed Grant project, "Lighting the Pathway: articulating curriculum design principles in open access enabling programs" was completed in March 2017.**

Dr Bronwyn Relf from the University of Newcastle was project lead. Other team members were Dr Nicole Crawford (University of Tasmania), Dr John O'Rourke (Edith Cowan University), Ms Sue Sharp (Edith Cowan University), Dr Barry Hodges (University of Newcastle), Mahsood Shah (University of Newcastle) and Dr Robin Katersky Barnes (University of Tasmania). As part of the project dissemination activities workshops were conducted in three states.

Workshops were held in Queensland, Tasmania and Western Australia in April and May 2017. In April, Bronwyn travelled to Queensland and presented three workshops to 50 enabling educators at the University of Southern Queensland, Central Queensland University and Southern Cross University. Nicole presented a workshop to enabling and non-enabling colleagues at the University of Tasmania and Sue and John presented a workshop at Edith Cowan University.

The findings of the project were enthusiastically received by enabling and non-enabling colleagues at

each institution, generating much discussion about the relevance of the five principles of curriculum design to their respective programs. Findings of the project will be presented at the NAEEA 2017 Conference at SCU in November.

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## NAEEA Social Media

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The NAEEA is in the process of establishing a social media site. In the meantime, while the Senate debate over the Higher Education reform package rages a twitter account has been activated so you can have your say and tweet various messages. Follow the link <https://twitter.com/NAEEA01>

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## Farewell and thanks to Catherine O'Donnell

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Recently Catherine O'Donnell resigned from her position at Australian Catholic University. The NAEEA would like to extend its thanks and appreciation to Catherine who has served on the Executive Committee for several years and was the convenor of the 2013 Association conference. Catherine has made a very valuable contribution to the Association and we wish her well in her future endeavours.

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## 2019 NAEEA Conference

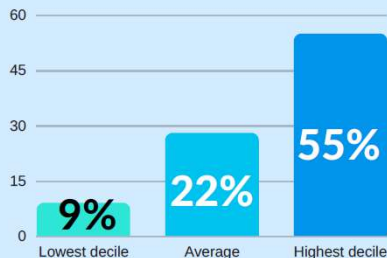
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### Would you consider hosting the next NAEEA conference?

Would you consider hosting the next NAEEA conference? The Association holds its conference on a biennial basis, with the FABENZ conference held in alternate years. Nominations are now being sought from institutions who may be interested in hosting the 2019 NAEEA conference. Interested parties should seek the agreement of their management prior to nominating. We would like to be able to announce the venue of the 2019 conference at the 2017 conference on the Gold Coast this December. Western Sydney University College hosted the 2015 conference and Australian Catholic University hosted the 2013 conference in Melbourne. Please give this opportunity some consideration and if your institution is interested in hosting the 2019 conference please nominate by email to [secretary@enablingeducators.org](mailto:secretary@enablingeducators.org)

# THE CENTRALITY OF ENABLING PROGRAMS

## TO EQUITY IN HIGHER EDUCATION



Only 9% of 18-19 year olds in the lowest socio-economic decile were participating in higher education in 2011, compared with an average of 28% across all deciles, and 55% within the highest decile.

 **30%**

Enabling programs buck this trend. In one study, 30% of students attending an Enabling program orientation were from the **lowest socio-economic decile**.



Enabling students include young parents, carers, and others identified in the Australian Priority Investment Approach as at risk of welfare dependency.



In a national survey of 2,500 students, almost two-thirds were strongly influenced to enrol by the free or low-cost nature of the pathway.

While HECS is broadly equitable, it still deters those from the lowest SES decile from accessing university.



**\$464,000**

The expected average lifetime cost (to taxpayers) of welfare dependent young carers.

## ECONOMIC IMPACT

The public subsidy of an Enabling loading is minor when compared with the costs of educational disengagement.

Enabling programs break intergenerational barriers to higher education and with it, break the cycle of welfare dependency.



**\$2.9M**

A person with a Bachelor Degree will earn around \$2.9 million over their lifetime, vs \$1.7 million for someone with Year 11 or below.

AMP & NATSEM 2012, *Smart Australians: Education and innovation in Australia*, viewed 22 August 2017, <<http://www.natsem.canberra.edu.au/storage/AMP.NATSEM%2032%20Income%20and%20Wealth%20Report%20-%20Smart%20Australians.pdf>>.

Harvey, A 2017, 'Translating academic research to higher education policy reform: The case of enabling programs', *International Studies in Widening Participation*, vol. 4, no. 1, pp. 7-17.

## Enabling education infographic

An infographic containing an important summary of key issues in enabling education.

Attached to this edition of the NAEEA newsletter is an infographic conveying key messages about the complex issues relating to enabling education. Members are encouraged to share this information about the critical importance of enabling education in higher education. Information is based on the work of Dr Andrew Harvey from Latrobe University. See Harvey, A 2017 'Translating academic research to higher education policy reform: The case of enabling programs', *International Studies in Widening Participation*, vol 4, no.1, pp. 7-17.

## NAEEA Webpage

The NAEEA webpage, available at <http://www.enablingeducators.org/> contains information about the work of the association, including updates on the Higher Education Reform Package, Special Interest Groups and other resources.

## 2017 Conference Website

For further information about the Conference go to the website - <http://scu.edu.au/naeeaconference2017/> or email [naeea2017@scu.edu.au](mailto:naeea2017@scu.edu.au).