

2022 SKILLS CONFERENCE

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

THEME:
**MAKING AN
IMPACT**

 #SKILLS2022

WEDNESDAY 15TH JUNE 2022

DOCKSIDE DARLING
HARBOUR



**Apprentice
Employment Network**
NSW & ACT

WELCOME TO THE 2022 SKILLS CONFERENCE

On behalf of the Apprentice Employment Network NSW & ACT and its members we welcome you to the 2022 Skills Conference at Dockside Darling Harbour.

The impact of the Boosting Apprenticeship Commencements Initiative has seen a significant financial investment and increase in apprenticeships and traineeships. We are now faced with significant candidate shortages with a record number of open apprenticeships and traineeships across all sectors and locations.

Today's theme on "making an impact" will look at the role we play in influencing, educating and skilling the next generation of young workers.

We thank you for supporting this event, the Group Training Industry and we hope you enjoy your day.

Jason Sultana
Executive Officer
Apprentice Employment Network NSW & ACT

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CONFERENCE PROGRAM

Apprentice Employment Network NSW & ACT 2022 Skills Conference

Wednesday 15 June 2022 - Dockside Darling Harbour
Conference Program

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9.00am (15 Mins)	Opening Remarks & Welcome Jason Sultana, Executive Officer - Apprentice Employment Network NSW & ACT Craig Randazzo, Chairperson - Apprentice Employment Network NSW & ACT
9.15am (10 Mins)	Major Sponsor Address Stephen Brady, Managing Director - TAFE NSW
9.25 am (45 Mins)	TAFE NSW meeting the evolving needs of industry Belinda McKinnon, Relieving Chief Delivery Officer - TAFE NSW Mark Hawkins, Regional General Manager - TAFE NSW Jen Perkins, Head of Infrastructure Energy& Construction - TAFE NSW Facilitator - Dianne Dayhew, Chief Executive Officer - National Apprentice Employment Network
10.10am (20 Mins)	Sponsor Session - Do you need \$1m to enjoy retirement? Peter Treseder, Education Manager - AustralianSuper
10.30am (30 Mins)	Morning Tea
11.00am (30 Mins)	NSW Minister Address The Hon Alister Henskens - NSW Minister for Skills and Training. Minister for Science, Innovation and Technology
11.30am (30 Mins)	In Focus - Making an Impact Vanessa Lesnie, Principal Consultant - Social Outcomes Facilitator - Craig Randazzo, CEO - Skillset
12.00pm (15 Mins)	NSW Shadow Minister Address Tim Crakanthorp MP - NSW Shadow Minister for Skills and TAFE.
12.15pm (30 mins)	In Focus - Fragmentation & Photo-Ops - The failures of Australian Skills Policy through COVID Alison Pennington, Senior Economist - Centre for Future Work (The Australia Institute) Facilitator - Jason Sultana, Executive Officer - Apprentice Employment Network NSW & ACT
12.45pm (45 Mins)	Lunch
1.30pm (40 Mins)	The changing face of career advice Chris Davis, Director Industry & Community Relations - Training Services NSW Jenine Smith, President - Careers Advisers Association of NSW & ACT Facilitator - Dr Peta Skujins, Director - Australian Apprenticeships & Traineeships Information Service
2.10pm (40 Mins)	The increasing focus on Women in Trades Soumaya Najjarin, Senior Project Officer, Trade Pathways Program - Training Services NSW Facilitator - Kellie Howard, CEO - Squad
2.50pm (10 Mins)	Short Afternoon Tea
3.00pm (35 Mins)	Innovation and partnerships Andrew Sezonov, Group General Manager - WPC Group Alan Sparks, Chief Executive Officer - East Coast Apprenticeships Facilitator - Tom Emeleus, General Manager - NECA Training and Apprenticeships
3.35pm (60 Mins)	Keynote Presentation - Leading through uncertainty Dr Ali Walker - Human Connection & Culture Scientist
4.35pm (5 Mins)	Closing Remarks and End Jason Sultana, Executive Officer - Apprentice Employment Network NSW & ACT

SPEAKERS



JASON SULTANA
*Executive Officer, Apprentice
Employment Network NSW & ACT*

Jason is the Executive Officer of the Apprentice Employment Network NSW & ACT since 2015. Jason has 20 years experience in the VET industry including in the AASN, RTO, Recruitment and Labour Hire space. He is passionate about unlocking the potential of young aspiring leaders to be their best, provide clear direction, achieve their career goals and inspire young talent to take opportunities as it presents to them.



CRAIG RANDAZZO
CEO, Skillset

Craig has worked for over 30 years in the vocational education, apprenticeship, disability, secondary education and employment services industries, the last 20 of which has been in the Central West and Western Regions of NSW. Craig brought his experience to Skillset in 2013 as CEO, and in 2015 his passion for the life-changing power of education and skills development was instrumental in the opening of the first Skillset Senior College campus in Bathurst, and the re-invention of the Skillset GTO as an end to end employment and skills service now branded Skillset Workforce. Craig is degree qualified from the University of Sydney with majors in Education and Psychology. He also has an Advanced Diploma of Management, is a Fellow of the Institute of Managers and Leaders, and Member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.



PETER TRESEDER
Education Manager - AustralianSuper

Peter has been in the superannuation industry for over 40, the majority of those have been with AustralianSuper. His career has focused on the design, implementation and presentation of superannuation education programs. These programs help people engage with their super, so they can enjoy a better retirement, the programs also help employers to understand the important role they have in the superannuation system. Peter believes that if you remove the "mystery" of super, you can change the attitude that people have towards it. Changing this attitude leads to a change of behaviour, which gives people the confidence to make decisions that can ultimately improve their retirement lifestyle. "Spending time now, engaging with your super, can mean less time wasted in retirement regretting a missed opportunity"



STEPHEN BRADY
Managing Director, TAFE NSW

Stephen Brady joined TAFE NSW as Acting Managing Director in December 2021. Steve has more than 20 years of experience in executive leadership in private and public sectors, including across a diverse range of NSW government agencies.

Prior to joining TAFE NSW, Steve held Deputy Secretary roles in NSW Treasury, Department of Premier and Cabinet, Revenue NSW, and most recently, he was the Chief Operating Officer of the NSW Department of Customer Service.

The hallmarks of Steve's senior executive career include driving public sector innovation through a focus on customer and community, working with industry to achieve mutually beneficial outcomes, enhancing the economic contribution of agencies and delivering strong financial stewardship.

In his current role as Managing Director, Steve is responsible for ensuring TAFE NSW is the leading provider of vocational training supporting the evolving needs of industry and learners in a rapidly changing economy.



THE HON ALISTER HENSKENS MP
NSW Minister for Skills & Training

The Hon Alister Henskens MP has been the Member for Ku-ring-gai in the NSW Parliament since 2015.

Alister is the Minister for Skills and Training, Minister for Science, Innovation and Technology and is the Leader of the House in the Legislative Assembly.

Previously Alister has served as the Minister for Families, Communities and Disability Services in the NSW Government, as the Cabinet Secretary in the NSW Government and as the Parliamentary Secretary for Finance. He has been the Chair of several Parliamentary Committees, including the Transport and Infrastructure Committee.

Alister has degrees in Economics and Law from the University of Sydney and a Master of Laws degree from the University of Toronto, Canada, where he studied under a Rotary Foundation Scholarship.

After completing his studies, Alister was a lawyer for 27 years, first as a solicitor and then as a barrister, being appointed as a Senior Counsel in 2011.

As a barrister, he worked principally in the areas of general commercial, insolvency, banking, defamation, and building and construction law.

He was also Counsel Assisting the Equine Influenza Inquiry in 2007.



DR PETA SKUJINS
Director, AATIS

Peta is the Director of the Australian Apprenticeships and Traineeships Information Service (AATIS). She is involved in undertaking research projects and data

analysis in the apprenticeships and traineeships sector, and authoring reports and web content. Peta has previously worked as a researcher focusing on pathways through education and employment and has a PhD in Psychology.



DR ALI WALKER
Human Connection Specialist

Dr Ali Walker has a PhD in Group Dynamics and is a nationally accredited mediator. Ali is the founder of Ality, a company that designs personal assessment tools to

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optimise individual and team performance. Ali has worked as a specialist advisor to organisations such as Google Australia, Suncorp, Australia Post, and NSW Ambulance among others.

Ali designs and delivers executive leadership programs that have effectively displayed measurable improvements in performance-based outcomes.

Ali is the author of the bestselling book *Get Conscious: How to stop overthinking and come alive*. Her qualifications include a Bachelor of Arts/Law (UNSW), Master's degree in International Law & International Relations (UNSW) & a Doctorate in collective behaviour (ANU).



BELINDA MCKINNON

*Relieving Chief Delivery Officer,
TAFE NSW*

Belinda Mackinnon is currently the Acting Chief Delivery Officer at TAFE NSW. As the Acting Chief Delivery Officer with TAFE NSW,

Belinda has responsibility for the team overseeing end-to-end accountability for students from enrolment to graduation.

Belinda has over thirty years' experience with TAFE NSW. Belinda joined as a part-time literacy and numeracy teacher and has worked as a Full-Time Teacher, Head Teacher, Assistant Director, Faculty Director, R/Institute Director, R/Deputy Director Strategy and Development, Deputy Regional General Manager, and R/Regional General Manager.



ANDREW SEZONOV

Group General Manager, WPC Group

Andrew is an education-into-employment specialist. He has spent more than 20 years designing and implementing dynamic vocational training and workforce

development programs for youth, young adults and transitioning mature workers.

He has been an expert advisor to governments in both Australia and the United States and a lead consultant on numerous major projects involving major Australian and multinational companies.

Andrew studied at Harvard's Kennedy School of Government and is a regular conference presenter, including as a keynote speaker at the prestigious International Network on Innovative Apprenticeship conference in Washington, DC.



ALAN SPARKS

CEO, East Coast Apprenticeships

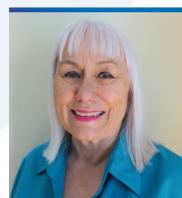
Alan Sparks joined the Australian Regular Army under conscription. He was commissioned through the Officer Training Unit at Scheyville, New South

Wales and was posted to the Royal Australian Infantry Corps. He served in the Defence Force for 27 years before taking up an appointment as CEO of one of Queensland's largest Independent Group Training Organisations.

Alan has extensive experience in project management, human resources and training analysis and delivery. He was made a Member of the Order of Australia for his leadership

and contribution to training in Defence.

Most recently, Alan has developed and implemented a new age Enhanced Pathways Program that promotes careers into the trade sectors through a unique model of Vocational Education and Training.



JENINE SMITH

*President, Careers Advisers
Association of NSW & ACT*

Having graduated as an Economic Geographer in 1981, Jenine came to the Teaching profession in 1998 after

completing her Graduate Diploma of Education. In 2001 she completed the Certificate IV in Assessment and Workplace Training along with a Certificate II in Business Services through TAFE NSW and gained her Masters of Education (Career Education) at the Australian Catholic University in 2007. Jenine was Careers Adviser at Marist Sisters College, Woolwich and currently is the Assistant Careers Adviser at Rosebank College. Having been on the Executive since 2011 Jenine has undertaken the roles of Communications Officer and Secretary. Jenine commenced as President of CAA in October 2017.



TIM CRAKENTHROP MP

Shadow NSW Minister for Skills & TAFE

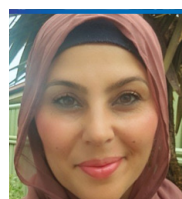
Tim has represented Newcastle in the NSW Parliament since 2014, first standing in a by-election and re-elected in 2015 and 2019. In 2021 he was elevated to the Shadow Ministry, taking on the portfolios

of TAFE, Skills and Tertiary Education.

Before he was elected Tim worked in disability care, mine safety and adult and community education, including as a clerk at WEA Sydney and teaching a course at Macarthur Community College. He also served on Newcastle council for eight years and has held positions on the boards of Northern Settlement Services and the Westpac Rescue Helicopter Service.

Tim grew up in Moruya with his two brothers and parents, who were both public school teachers. He first came to Newcastle for university and fell in love with city, later marrying a local and now raising four kids.

When not working you're most likely to find Tim on a surfboard, being a soccer dad, or getting out and about in the city.



SOU MAYA NAJJARIN

*Senior Project Officer, Training
Services NSW*

Soumaya is a Senior Project Officer at Training Services NSW leading the NSW Government's Women's Strategy to address the underrepresentation of women in trades.

With an academic background in professional writing and policy analysis, she has extensive experience working in the Federal political landscape and provided expert advice on Skills and VET in State Government.

Soumaya is passionate about making an impact on women's lives and is deeply committed to promoting trade pathways for women, unlocking barriers and empowering women to seek optimal career outcomes.



TOM EMELEUS

General Manager, NECA Training and Apprenticeships

Tom is the General Manager of NECA Training and Apprenticeships with 20+ years' experience in the Energy and

Electrical Contracting industries. He has led vocational training in large organisations and driven national strategy for the electrical industry through several directorships for 10+ years.

Tom has worked in management, technical training, human resources, learning and development, internal audit, engineering, infrastructure development and project management roles.

Tom has a bachelor's degree in Electrical Engineering and International Studies (Indonesian) with First Class Honours and a Master of Engineering Management. Tom is also a board member of the National Apprentice Employment Network (NAEN).



CHRIS DAVIS

Director Industry & Community Relations, Training Services NSW

Chris Davis has over 20 years experience in the VET Sector. Over that period he has managed the expansion of a

large private RTO, and developed a new national one. Since moving into the NSW Department of Education in 2008 Chris has worked across all areas of Training Services NSW, including Apprenticeships and Traineeships, Regional Operations and Smart and Skilled. Most recently he has led the implementation of several key initiatives including, workforce development to support Disaster Recovery (2020), the Refugee Employment Support Program (2017), and the Regional Industry Education Partnerships (2017). Most recently he has been selected as the NSW Department of Education's lead for the implementation of Careers NSW.

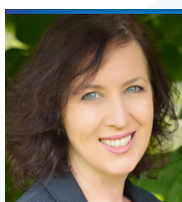


KELLIE HOWARD

CEO, Squad

Kellie is a passionate leader who thrives on seeing her team and business grow and succeed.

Having worked in the GTO/RTO industry for 8 years, she feels incredibly lucky to be part of a community-focused business. Feeling rewarded constantly by the stories of apprentices, trainees and candidates turning their hard work, training, and dedication into successful careers.



DIANNE DAYHEW

CEO, National Apprentice Employment Network

Dianne Dayhew is the National Executive Officer of the National Apprentice Employment Network, the member body

representing the network of group training organisations that employ some 25,000 apprentices and trainees around Australia.

Originally an educator in primary and tertiary education, Dianne also has a professional background in the arts and creative industries.

Dianne worked with the Construction and Property Services Industry Skills Council for more than six years, initially running their NSW ITAB contract for construction and property services, and later as General Manager of Policy.

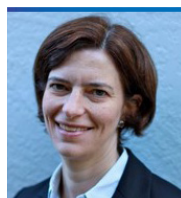


ALISON PENNINGTON

Senior Economist, Centre for Future Work

Alison Pennington is Senior Economist at the Centre for Future Work, associated with The Australia Institute. She conducts research on economic issues facing working

people including the future of jobs, skills and training, collective bargaining, and the role of government. Alison is a regular national media commentator on TV and radio, with writing published on platforms including The Guardian and The New Daily. Alison has held previous roles with the Commonwealth Department of Finance, public sector unions, and music teaching.



VANESSA LESNIE

Principal Consultant, Social Outcomes

Vanessa is a social change practitioner and strategist with more than 25 years experience working with the community, government and corporate sectors, in

Australia and abroad. Vanessa has been at the forefront of growing social innovation and impact investing in Australia and the Pacific. Her special areas of expertise include social research, evidence-based social project design and management; payment by outcome contract and social impact bond design; theories of change and impact measurement frameworks; and social innovation and finance. Vanessa was a founding Director on Impact Investing Australia's Board and is currently a Director on the Board of Community Legal Centres Australia.



MARK HAWKINS

Regional General Manager, TAFE NSW

Mark Hawkins is the relieving Regional General Manager TAFE NSW (South) and has over twenty years of experience in the VET sector. This includes teaching

and educational delivery, development and management, specialising in the construction trades and building disciplines. He has extensive experience in senior VET leadership and managerial roles, business development and strategy, and the development and management of educational facilities and infrastructure.

Mark has over thirty years' experience in the construction industry and is a qualified tradesperson and Licensed Builder and Supervisor. His broad industry experience includes working in roles within the residential, commercial and civil construction sectors.

Mark is a passionate and strong advocate for trades training, the VET sector and the construction industry.

NSW Department of Education

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THE APPRENTICE EMPLOYMENT NETWORK NSW & ACT

The Apprentice Employment Network NSW & ACT is made up of 30 Group Training Organisations servicing all industries across two states. For more information visit our website - www.aennswact.com.au

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*Eligibility criteria applies. RTO 90003 | CRICOS 00591E | HEP PRV12049



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