



Angelo Gavrielatos

Angelo Gavrielatos is the Federal President of the Australian Education Union (AEU). Prior to this, Angelo was a Presidential officer of the NSW Teachers Federation between 2002 - 2008 and an Organiser

for the NSWTF in Western Sydney between 1992- 2002. He was previously a secondary teacher in Green Valley in South West Sydney. His commitment to social justice unionism is at the heart of his work.

His areas of primary responsibility have included the development and implementation of campaigns in a range of social justice areas within the Australian context and beyond. They include campaigns aimed at addressing: the rights of Australia's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander (Indigenous) students and their communities; the educational well-being of students from the lowest socio-economic status (SES) communities; the development of sound policy in the area of multiculturalism and multicultural education; and the rights of asylum seekers and refugee children and their families.



Andrea Federico

Andrea Federico is Assistant principal at St Albans South PS, situated in the Western suburbs of Melbourne. She has taught in the West for all of her teaching career and worked in both primary and secondary

settings as a Mathematics teacher and an administrator. In 2005 Andrea worked as an Innovations and Excellence leader across 5 schools including primary, special and secondary settings before taking up her current position. She worked extensively with the ANSN Habits of Mind and has presented the work of her schools at the International Habits of Mind conference held in New Zealand.

In 2006 she joined the Australian National School Network and established the Interactive Whiteboard Hub initially for her cluster schools but more recently her work has grown to now having trained over 300 teachers state wide. Andrea works actively in cultivating innovative projects and giving schools the opportunity to work collaboratively to achieve better learning outcomes for our students.



Dr Michele Bruniges

PhD MEd, GradDipEdSt, DipTeach, GAICD

Dr Bruniges has an extensive background in education practice, policy and delivery. She began her teaching career in 1980, working in primary and secondary schools

in NSW. Between 1993 and 1998 she held various positions in the NSW Department of Education and Training in assessment and reporting areas.

In 2000 she was appointed Director of Strategic Information and Planning and in 2002 she became Assistant Director-General, School Education Services in NSW. In early 2004 she was appointed Regional Director, Western Sydney supporting classroom teachers in providing quality teaching and learning.

Between 2005-2008 Michele was the Chief Executive of the ACT Department of Education and Training. In 2008 she was appointed Deputy Secretary, Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations responsible for early childhood education and care. In April 2009 she moved to her current position with the department as Deputy Secretary, Schools.

She is the recipient of numerous professional awards, including a Churchill Fellowship to study student achievement in education in the US and the Netherlands, an Exceptional Service Award from the Professional Teachers Council NSW for promoting teacher professionalism and has recently become a Fellow of the Australian College of Educators.



Dr. Louise Watson

Dr Louise Watson is an Associate Professor in the University of Canberra's Education Faculty, where she teaches in the postgraduate program and conducts research in education policy. Between 1988 and 1993 she was a policy advisor (schools) to former federal Ministers of Education, John Dawkins and Kim Beazley. Since 1996, she has published reports and articles on contemporary education issues, such as early childhood education, benchmarking student performance, the quality of teaching and school leadership and school choice. She is a member of a cross-national team of researchers investigating private tutoring and has presented this work at the International Institute for Educational Planning at UNESCO and the American Educational Research Association. In 2009, she was awarded a research fellowship from the United States Studies Centre at the University of Sydney, to investigate the dynamics of national education policies in federal political systems.



Richard Denniss

Dr Richard Denniss is Executive Director of The Australia Institute, a public policy think tank based in Canberra. An economist by training Richard's research centres on the design of market regulation, particularly in

the areas of the labour market and the environment. He has published a number of articles and monographs on new measures of national wellbeing based around the construction of the Genuine Progress Indicator for Australia.

Prior to his current position Richard worked as Strategy Adviser to Senator Bob Brown, Leader of the Australian Greens, was Chief of Staff to the then Leader of the Australian Democrats, Senator Natasha Stott Despoja and has lectured in economics at the University of Newcastle. He is an adjunct professor at the Crawford School of Economics and Government, Australian National University, has published widely in academic journals and newspapers, and is the co-author of *Affluenza: When too much is never enough* and *Australian Policy: Theory and Practice*.



Ms Darcel Russell

Darcel Russell is the Deputy Federal Secretary of the Australian Education Union (AEU), a position she was elected to in January 2006. Darcel began work with the AEU in July 2001 as the Federal

Aboriginal Education Officer. Darcel is a Goori woman from Minjerribah (North Stradbroke Island), in the land and seas of the Quandamooka (Moreton Bay) people, off the South East coast of Queensland.

Before working with the AEU, Darcel managed the Indigenous Studies Product Development Unit, TAFE Queensland. The unit's primary responsibilities included the development of accredited training programs specifically for Indigenous peoples, and the development of a range of print-based and multi-media resources to support the delivery of these programs. Darcel began her working life as a classroom teacher at Mabel Park State School in Brisbane and worked extensively in curriculum and instructional design. She also worked as a teacher-coordinator for the Remote Area Teacher Education Program (RATEP) in Kowanyama, Western Cape York.

Darcel is passionate about the powers of unionism and public education as tools for increasing opportunities and promoting social justice and change.

Morning session

Dr Michele Bruniges, DEEWR Deputy Secretary - Schools

Dr. Louise Watson, Associate Professor, University of Canberra, Faculty of Education

Dr Richard Denniss, Executive Director, The Australia Institute

Ms. Darcel Russell, Deputy Federal Secretary AEU

Jim McAlpine, President, NSW Secondary Principals' Council, VP Aust Secondary Principals' Assoc.

Michael Hall, Principal, Erindale College

Roseanne McDade, Principal, Bridgewater High School

Rupert Macgregor, A/g Executive Director, ACSSO

Afternoon session

Fran Hinton, former Chief Executive, Teaching Australia, Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership

Angelo Gavrielatos, Federal President AEU

Andrea Federico, Assistant Principal, St Albans South PS

Cheryl O'Connor, former CEO, Australian College of Educators

Robert Randall, General Manager, Curriculum, ACARA

Debra Hayes, School Leadership, Management & School Partnership, The University of Sydney



Jim McAlpine

Jim McAlpine is the President of the New South Wales Secondary Principals' Council (SPC) and Vice President of the Australian Secondary Principals' Association (ASPA).

His education included eight very different schools in various parts of NSW, a stint at Sydney University, and then lots of education on the job since beginning teaching at Nepean High in 1970. He has subsequently 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 ASPA for five years. He was elected as President of the SPC in 2006, and was re-elected in 2008 for another two years.

He is a Fellow of the Australian College of Educators and a Fellow of the Australian Council of Education Leaders. He can generally be found at meetings or travelling around the state, throughout Australia or overseas.



Michael Hall

Michael was born and raised in Goulburn in NSW and he was educated in public schools, graduating from Goulburn High School in 1971, Goulburn Teachers College kept him in his home town leading to the award of a Diploma in Teaching.

Michael transferred to Queanbeyan High school after several years teaching in public high schools in the Blue Mountains. Here he completed Bachelors and Masters qualifications at the University of Canberra. Michael established the Distance Education Centre at Karabar High School before gaining promotion as Deputy Principal to, yep, you've probably guessed, Goulburn High School!

Two years with Australian Rugby Union as a professional referee and referee assessor interrupted his deputy principal career in which he remained until 2000 when he entered the principalship at Lanyon High School in Canberra. Since 2007 he has been principal at Erindale College, a public education college in Canberra for Years 11 and 12 students.

Michael was a foundation President of the ACT Principals Association and is currently Vice President of ACTPA and a Vice President of the Australian Secondary Principals Association.



Rosanne McDade

As a teacher of 36 years' experience Roseanne has worked across a range of schools with wide ranging socio-economic differences in two states.

She started teaching at Claremont High School in Tasmania in the early 1970's. In 15 years of teaching in Tasmania she worked in all main population centres. Roseanne moved to the Gold Coast in Queensland in 1988 and then to Mount Isa where she taught for 3 years in a disadvantaged secondary school with a high indigenous enrolment. From there she moved to Mackay, again working as Deputy Principal in a school in a low socio-economic area. Roseanne's first role as principal was in a small, remote school in a mining area in central Queensland and then became principal of Yeppoon High, an 8-12 secondary school of approximately 900 students close to Rockhampton.

Roseanne returned to Tasmania at the beginning of 2009 as Curriculum Project Officer for English-literacy. When these curriculum roles disappeared she was offered the opportunity to take over the role of principal at Bridgewater High School, a school recognised as being one of the most socially disadvantaged in Australia.



Rupert Macgregor

Rupert Macgregor has worked with the Australian Council of State School Organisations (ACSSO) since 2002 as National Projects Manager and Executive Director. He was responsible for planning,

development, implementation and evaluation of a range of action research and community development projects. The focus was on building sustainable partnerships between schools and their communities, to enhance the learning and positive personal development of every child from the early years onwards.

During his extensive working career he has undertaken a wide variety of research, consulting and project management assignments for government, community and private industry organisations in various parts of Australia and overseas.



Ms Cheryl O'Connor FACE

Cheryl O'Connor has worked extensively across many areas of education. She worked as an education and a human resources consultant immediately prior to taking up the position of CEO of Australian

College of Educators. She held senior leadership and managerial positions with the NSW and ACT departments of education.

As a school principal her leadership was characterised by innovation and inclusiveness within schools and their communities and worked strenuously to address disadvantage in its many forms. An effective shared leadership style allowed many staff who worked with her to develop their own leadership strengths and many have gone on to senior leadership positions. She worked tirelessly to advance the interests of young people, families and the profession. She has a well established reputation as a public advocate for education.

Having completed 5 years as CEO of the Australian College of educators she has returned to her work as an education adviser and consultant.



Robert Randall

Robert Randall has recently been appointed as General Manager, Curriculum with the Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority. He was previously General Manager of the Interim National Curriculum Board.

Prior to taking up this new position with ACARA, Robert was Director of Curriculum K-12 with the NSW Department of Education and Training. In this position Robert was responsible for leading and coordinating the development of curriculum policy and the provision of teacher professional learning and curriculum support materials for NSW public schools K-12.

From 1996 to 2001 Robert was Director, Curriculum, with the NSW Board of Studies, where he was responsible for the management of the Higher School Certificate syllabus review program and a range of K-10 syllabus development projects.

Robert began his career as a teacher of mathematics in Perth before holding a range of positions within and beyond schools in Western Australia. These included Head Teacher, Mathematics, Project Leader, Monitoring Standards in Education, Senior Curriculum Advisor (Curriculum Policy) and Manager, Assessment and Reporting with the Education Department and Principal Consultant with the Interim Curriculum Council of Western Australia.



Debra Hayes

Debra Hayes, BSc (Sydney), DipEd (Newcastle), MA (Macquarie), PhD (Newcastle), is an Associate Professor in the Faculty of Education and Social Work, as the University of Sydney. She has

previously held posts at Griffith University and the University of Technology, Sydney. She is a co-author of Teachers and Schooling Making a Difference: Productive Pedagogies, Assessment & Performance (Allen & Unwin, 2006), and Leading Learning: Making Hope Practical in Schools (Open University Press, 2003). Her research concerns inequities in education and how these are constituted by schooling discourses and teaching practices. Her teaching fields include sociology, research methods, pedagogy and school leadership. Debra works closely with school and system-based educators in the public system, as well as community-based workers and organisations. She is a former secondary school science teacher.



Fran Hinton

Fran Hinton is a well respected educator with a strong background in education at both Commonwealth and State levels. Starting her career as a Geography teacher with the NSW Department of Education, Fran also spent considerable

time in policy and administration with the Commonwealth Department of Education. During this time she oversaw the establishment of the National Professional Development Program and was closely involved in the policy work leading to the creation of the National Schools Network.

Fran moved to ACT education in the mid 1990's and was Chief Executive ACT Department of Education and Training for 8 years. Following this period she was appointed inaugural chief executive of the Commonwealth owned company, Teaching Australia. She has been a Board member of Curriculum Corporation and Education. au, chaired the initial Benchmarking Taskforce and was an active member of the small steering group which established The Learning Federation.

Fran has been recognised for her strong contribution to the quality of education and is a fellow of Australian College of Educators, Australian Council of Educational Leaders and Australian Institute of Management.