

# Keynote Presenters



**DR KEN BOSTON**

Dr Ken Boston is Managing Director of TAFE NSW and Director-General of Education and Training. He is a Fellow of the Australian College of Education, a Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society and a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Management. He is Deputy Chairman of the Australian Council for Educational Research, and is an active member of a large range of other Boards and Committees.



**DAVID ELDRIDGE**

David Eldridge works for The Salvation Army Australia Southern Territory and is responsible for programs supporting homeless people and a range of youth services. He worked for 15 years at the Crossroads Network in Melbourne and has been on a number of committees including the Kirner Government's Reference Group on Youth Homelessness and the Prime Minister's Youth Homelessness Taskforce. David currently chairs the Commonwealth Government's Youth Pathways Taskforce, which is developing a range of positive opportunities for young people making the school to work transition.



**SHARAN BURROW**

Sharan Burrow is the new President of the Australian Council of Trade Union Organisations and the immediate past Federal President of the Australian Education Union. Her career as an educator includes ten years of teaching in secondary schools in western New South Wales, five years as a Regional Organiser for the NSW Teachers' Federation and three years as the Senior Vice President of the NSW Teachers' Federation. Sharan is an active member of a range of national and international Boards and Committees.



**BRENDA GARRARD-FORSTER**

Brenda is Manager, Competence & Career Services, Ericsson Australia Pty Ltd. Brenda has been in the IT&T industry for eleven years and worked for companies such as Rockwell, Telstra, GEC-Marconi, Wang and for the past four years with Ericsson. Brenda's role very much focuses around the education sector as a whole and implementing new initiatives into Ericsson to assist in developing young people. Brenda's presentation will explore the current climate of skills shortages faced by the IT&T Industry. She will explore attracting and retaining young people into the industry, from Year 7 students through to final year university students.



**ALAN COMAN**

Allan Coman is the principal of Stella Maris College in Sydney, one of 100 schools selected for the innovation and Best Practice Project. He was previously the Principal of Bradfield College in NSW. Alistair Mant in his book 'Intelligent Leadership', refers to him as 'an educator of genius'. He was one of only ten leaders from across the world featured in the best selling book. As Principal of Stella Maris College, Allan Coman has taken a school with a high proportion of difficult students who had failed elsewhere and turned them into students who take pride in being enterprising and enthusiastic.



**MARK MCCRINDLE**

The 1990's have introduced us to a new market segment. A market segment too large for any business to ignore. They make up one quarter of our total population – known as Generation-X

they are those born between 1968 and 1983. Already well established as one of Australia's leading experts of Generation-X, Mark McCrindle now speaks internationally to corporations involved in training, managing, or marketing to this generation which comprise one in five Australians.



#### COL MCCOWAN

Col Mc Cowan is the Head, Careers and Employment at Queensland University of Technology. Col has been a teacher, guidance counsellor, training officer, manager of a career resources development unit, principal policy officer, director of a career company and a career consultant. He has published three books, was a member of the national Career Education Task Force, and is co-author of a State government report on career advisory services.



#### RICHARD TEESE

Richard Teese is Associate Professor and Reader in Education in the University of Melbourne and Director of the Educational Outcomes Research Unit. Since 1995, the EORU has tracked VET students into employment and tertiary education and written a series of reports on outcomes and student attitudes. The research unit in collaboration with RMIT researchers, Jack Keating and Veronica Volkoff, has recently established the Centre for Post-Compulsory Education and Training, an ANTA-funded research partner. CPET has launched a national three-year longitudinal survey of 30,000 young people entering VET along with complementary samples of early school leavers and students completing Year 12 who do not enter VET.



#### DR JOHN SPIERINGS

Dr John Spierings is a research strategist with the Dusseldorp Skills Forum, a not-for-profit association concerned with the development of innovative Australian youth education, employment and training policy. He worked previously as a senior researcher at Melbourne, Monash and Adelaide universities. Dr Spiering's publications include *Jobs for Young Australians* and *A Brush with History, The Painters Union and The Australian Labour Movement*. John is also a contributor to *Against the Odds, Young People and Work* and edited *Australia's Young Adults and The Deepening Divide*.



#### MOIRA SCOLLAY

Moira Scollay is the Chief Executive Officer of the Australian National Training Authority. ANTA is a national statutory authority which works with industry and the Commonwealth, State and Territory governments to develop a nationally consistent vocational education and training system that is respon-



#### AVRIL SALTER

Avril is principal at Whittlesea Secondary College. The school operates cooperatively with the WEDG Group for work placements and with Kangan Batman Institute for off-site training in 11 programs. The school's VCE/VET program has grown from one student in 1998 to 327 this year. 85% of the school's Year 10 group has enrolled in a VCE and/or VET program in 2000. Avril is a member of the VCE/VET Working Party of the Department of Education, Employment and Training (Vic).