ACAL eNews
September 2008

ACAL eNews is the electronic newsletter of the Australian Council of Adult Literacy (ACAL) and is distributed free to people interested in adult literacy and numeracy. See below for subscription details or to unsubscribe.

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1. ACAL has a new email address
It’s info@acal.edu.au
Please change your address book now.

Other email addresses with @pacific.net.au will cease to function in the next few days.

2. Pre-Conference Forum – Thursday 2 October
Adult literacy, numeracy and lifelong learning: a cross-sectoral dialogue

Join Senator Ursula Stephens (Parliamentary Secretary for Social Inclusion) and Dave Tout as we examine the implications of the ALLS survey for different sectors and work towards developing a framework for social inclusion through building literacy into a whole of government approach to policy development.

A range of speakers from the health sector, from industry, and welfare sectors will examine how literacy relates to issues of social & economic exclusion. Representatives from not-for-profit organisations will also present models of what works, barriers to social inclusion and other issues.


3. ACAL Conference
The conference title ‘Surfing outside the flags: catching waves, avoiding
rips’ has been chosen to reflect the venue for the conference and also as a metaphor to raise issues and provoke debate. Conference themes include: Indigenous literacy & numeracy, vocational & workplace literacy & numeracy, meeting the literacy & numeracy needs of African refugees, numeracy, and community literacy.


4. ACAL AGM
If you have an interest in the future of ACAL, please join us; voting is available to financial members.
The agenda for the Annual General Meeting is
1. Confirm the minutes of the previous AGM held on Thursday, September 27, 2007 in New Zealand
2. Receive and adopt an annual report from the Executive
3. Receive and adopt the audited accounts of ACAL
4. Elect new office bearers and Executive Committee for 2008-09. (State and territory representatives are appointed by the local associations)
5. Announce state and territory representatives
6. Appoint the auditor, Sean Denham and Associates
7. Close meeting
More details, nomination forms and constitution at http://www.acal.edu.au/AGM/08AGM.htm
(Some earlier invitations had a dead link for the nomination form. You can get a nomination form by following the link shown immediately above or go to the ACAL website and follow the link on the front page.

5. Western Australia news
WAALC has been busy with post-conference tasks after our very successful Adults Only state conference in July. We have also prepared responses to the discussion paper for WA’s Strategy for Adult Community Education 2009-2013 and the Exposure Draft of the New Employment Services 2009-12 Purchasing Arrangements.

6. Hear and see Literacy Live again
You can listen and view recent Literacy Live sessions at http://www.acal.edu.au/literacylive/recordings.htm. The most recent addition is the session of Michelle Eady and the work of the Sioux Hudson Literacy Council which is making groundbreaking strides to reach adult Aboriginal learners who reside in remote, isolated communities of Northwestern Ontario, Canada. This literacy organization services learners within the community and surrounding area. The 35 communities, which have a total population of approximately 35,000 people, are often only accessible by plane in the summer months and ice roads during the winter.
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info@acal.edu.au
P 03 9546 6892
F 03 9546 0421
http://www.acal.edu.au
GPO Box 2283 Canberra ACT 2601