



**Ms Margaret Banks** *Chief Executive, Northern Territory Department of Employment, Education & Training*

Margaret was appointed as Chief Executive in October 2005.

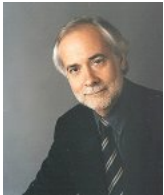
For the previous 18 years, she held a number of senior positions in the Department of Education and Training in Western Australia.

These included Deputy Director General Schools, Executive Director Student Services, District Director for Swan and Superintendent for technology and enterprise. She also held a senior position for the Western Australia Curriculum Council secretariat where she oversaw the writing of the Curriculum Framework.

Margaret has also held project management roles for National Curriculum, Literacy and for Isolated and Distance Education. She has held lecturer positions at the University of the South Pacific, Fiji, Western Australia Institute of Technology (now Curtin University) and served on the Murdoch University Senate for three years.

During her career, Margaret served as chair, director or council member on a number of boards, trusts, authorities and councils. Recently she joined the Board of the Curriculum Corporation and Menzies School of Health.

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**Tony Mackay**, *President, Australian Curriculum Studies Association  
Executive Director, Centre for Strategic Education*

Tony Mackay's consultancy work at school, state, national and international levels focuses on strategic directions in education; curriculum and assessment policy P-12; strategic planning for government bodies, education agencies and boards; school leadership; school effectiveness, improvement and review; teacher professionalism; and conference and think tank facilitation.

Tony is Executive Director of the Incorporated Association of Registered Teachers of Victoria; Associate Director (Principal Consultant), National Curriculum Services; Senior Fellow, Centre for Applied Educational Research, Faculty of Education, The University of Melbourne; Vice President of the Australian Curriculum Studies Association; Governing Council Member and Think Tank Chair, National College for School Leadership, UK; and Consultant Advisor, Department for Education and Skills, UK.

He is a Committee Member of the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority and a Board Member of the University of Melbourne's Faculty of Education. He is also a Fellow of the Australian College of Education and the Australian Council for Educational Administration (Victoria).

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**Mr John Halsey** *MEd, Grad Dip Ed Admin, Dip T (Sec), FACE  
Executive Officer, Rural Education Forum Australia  
Senior Lecturer, School of Education, Flinders University*

John is a Senior Lecturer in Educational Leadership and Management at Flinders University, the Executive Officer for the Rural Education Forum Australia and a consultant in rural education through the Center for Relational Learning to the Public Education Department, Santa Fe, New Mexico.



He is also undertaking doctoral research on how principals of rural schools construct their roles.

Prior to joining the Rural Education Forum Australia and Flinders University, John was a teacher, a principal of two schools, Associate Director of the Senior Secondary Assessment Board of South Australia, an Executive Director in the South Australian Department of Education and Children's Services and a Chief of Staff to a State Minister for Education and Children's Services.

He also was a project officer with the Australian School's Commission Choice and Diversity in Education initiative, has been a Fulbright Scholar and has represented Australia at the South Pacific Education Forum.

In 2004/05, John conducted Australia wide research to map the current pre-service teacher placement programs, with a particular focus on rural and remote education. In 2006, John completed research arising from the mapping to determine the main cost drivers of a country placement for pre-service teachers and how they impact on dispositions towards a rural teaching career.

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### **Charlie King**

Charlie has been a sport broadcaster with the ABC since 1994. Based in Darwin, he commentates local Australian Rules, Rugby Union, Rugby League, Netball, Hockey and cricket.

He presents 'Territory Sport' on the Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC) television in the Northern Territory and each Saturday he hosts, as a part of Grandstand, Sport talk on ABC Darwin and Territory Radio. Territorians are renowned for their love of sport; both as players and spectators. Football, Sepak Takraw, netball, you name it, they play it. Charlie King is in the thick of it all, Northern Territory style.

He currently coaches Australian Rules in Darwin and is the coach of the NT Women's Australian Rules team. He is also a football umpire, plays tennis, cricket, golf and is an avid runner.

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### **Associate Professor Martin Jarvis**

Welsh born Martin Jarvis began his studies as a violinist. In 1971 he won a place at both the Royal Academy of Music and the Royal College Music, choosing the former as his place of study.

In 1987 he returned to Australia, taking up a position at what is now Charles Darwin University, where he is an associate professor.

Since his arrival at Darwin, Martin has received a number of awards, in particular a Centenary Medal in 2003 for services to Australian Society.

He is the author of *The String Players' Pocket Dictionary*, which has sold worldwide. His most recent research publications have taken a fresh look at the professional relationship between Johann Sebastian Bach and his second wife Anna Magdalena.

For eight years Martin was the chairman of the Centre for Social Research at CDU.

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**Mr Rob McConchie** *BSc Dip Ed MACEA PSM, Solved at McConchie Pty Ltd*

Rob McConchie is principal consultant with Solved at McConchie PL, specialising in educational research, working with a wide range of clients in Australia and overseas.

Rob was Executive Director of ACSSO 2001 - 2003, when his role was to reshape the organisation's direction and operation to work more effectively and strategically in time of rapid structural and policy change in all areas of education at both State and more particularly at Federal level.

Rob originally trained as a teacher, and his wide-ranging experience in education has been gained in Victoria, Northern Territory and the ACT. He was Principal of a number of Secondary Schools and Colleges; and for many years Director of Schools in the ACT Department of Education. During that time, he had particular responsibility for Quality Assurance processes for all ACT schools, joint responsibility for service programmes for students with disabilities, and management of a variety of student behaviour management programmes.

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**Dr Philip Mahnken**, *BA(Hons), DipEd, MEd., PhD*

Dr Phillip Mahnken began his professional life as a school teacher in the Education Department of Tasmania in 1975. He spent one year in Europe and a year working in Indonesia before undertaking Master of Education Studies with an emphasis on Applied Linguistics. He has always loved the challenge of improving Australia's performance in the study of foreign languages and cultures.

Philip's research interests moved from languages policy formulation to Computer Assisted Language Learning (CALL) in the 1990's. He completed a PhD in 2002 on student perceptions of second language knowledge, interaction and motivation in a CALL environment. Besides developing online multimedia resources, he has recently been exploring online audio-conferencing as an international language learning medium. Summer periods are given to supervision of the intensive in-country program in Lombok, Indonesia.

In 2006, a consortium of Indonesian language lecturers at four Australian universities and Universitas Mataram in Lombok won substantial funding from the Commonwealth's CASR Fund and from the Deans of Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities (DASSH) to re-design Indonesian language and culture curricula in three modes: on-campus, online and in-country. The model of collaboration is as important as the teaching resources and methods and will be significant for all university language teaching in Australia. Phillip Mahnken is Chief Curriculum Designer and the Curriculum Development office is housed in USC's Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences.

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**Anna Dall**, *University of the Sunshine Coast*

Anna Dall is Swedish born but has lived in Australia for many years. She has an extensive and diverse experience of education, having held positions as a senior administrative officer at university level, headmistress of a private K-12 school and founder and director of an international business school.

She is currently undertaking her PhD in education at the University of the Sunshine Coast, conducting a research project tentatively titled "Anything you can do Finns can do better"; a cross-national,

comparative study of 15 year old students' performance in the area of reading literacy, involving Australia, Finland, Sweden and Indonesia.

One aspect she is particularly interested in is what motivates teachers to teach (and therefore to help students achieve better outcomes).

In Finland teachers are held in high regard, becoming a primary school teacher has the same social standing as becoming a lawyer or a doctor. In an Australian survey teaching was characterized as boring, semi-professional, poorly regarded and poorly rewarded.

What can be learned from Finland? Is there a success formula, Nokia education, that can be franchised out globally?



**George Quinn** *BA(Gadjah Mada); MA; PhD;*  
*Head and Senior Lecturer with the Southeast Asia Centre*

Dr Quinn is an Indonesian and Javanese language specialist. His research interests include the literature and popular culture of contemporary Java; patterns and sites of pilgrimage in Java and Madura; and the Catholic Church in East Timor.

Dr Quinn is presently researching popular pilgrimage and sacred sites in Java and Madura.

Amongst his publications are *The Novel in Javanese* (Leiden,1992) translated into Indonesian under the title *Novel Berbahasa Jawa* 1995); *Hidup Berwarna* (Sydney,1989); and *The Learner's Dictionary of Today's Indonesian* (Sydney, 2001). He has also completed an English translation of the Indonesian novel *Sukreni Gadis Bali* (1936) by Anak Agung Pandji Tisna.



**Dr Carol Hayes**

Dr Hayes completed her PhD thesis, *A Stray Dog Howling at the Moon - A literary biography of Hagiywara Sakutaro*, at Sydney University in 1996.

Her research interests include:

- Pre-modern, modern and contemporary Japanese literature;
- Contemporary Japanese film;
- Ethnicity, Cultural Identity and the individual in literature and film;
- Translation theory and practice; and
- Japanese Language Teaching Methodology.

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**Fiona Mueller, Teacher, Canberra Grammar School**

Fiona Mueller trained as a secondary teacher of German, French and Italian. She has taught in government and non-government schools in Australia and the United States and has spent time in European schools as part of her commitment to international exchange programs.

After stepping down from the position of Head of Languages at Canberra (Boys') Grammar School in 2000, Fiona was appointed to the role of Senior Education Officer in Languages at the New South Wales Board of Studies. In 2003 she began research for a PhD in education, completed earlier this year.

Bringing together her background in the Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF) Reserve and her interest in literacy and languages, she has also taught part time in the Military Communication Program at the Australian Defence Force Academy, where she led a research project titled *Tertiary students' perceptions of their competence in English and their preparedness for tertiary study*.

The survey of over 600 cadets elicited numerous responses from those who had studied languages in the post-compulsory years of schooling and attributed much of their self-confidence and competence in spoken and written English to this.

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**Ms Kathe Kirby**, *Executive Director, Asia Education Foundation*

Kathe Kirby is Executive Director of The Asia Education Foundation and Asialink at The University of Melbourne – Australia's largest Asia–Australia Institute.

Kathe has a long background in education having worked as a secondary school teacher, university lecturer in education and as a senior policy officer in the Department of Education, Victoria, prior to joining Asialink in 1993 to run the AEF.

The AEF is a national strategy to lead and promote the studies of the countries of Asia in Australian school curriculum. Kathe's expertise focuses on leading change and innovation in education.

Over her career she has worked at the cutting edge of student focused learning, the use of ICT in schools and vocational education. In 2001 Kathe was awarded a Churchill Fellowship to investigate studies of Asia in schools in the US, UK, Japan and Korea. The work of the AEF has been recognised internationally as world's best practice in developing curriculum that prepares children for an interconnected world in which the Asian region will increasingly play a central role. In 2007, Kathe was nominated as an education finalist in The Bulletin's Smart 100.

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**Ms Deborah Cohen**, *Education Manager, Australian Children's Television Foundation*

Deborah is responsible for the development of the ACTF's educational resource packages and the Learning Centre materials. She has many years experience in education as a teacher and as a curriculum officer; writing and developing education resources, providing professional development and curriculum implementation.

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**Mr Angelo Gavrielatos**, *Deputy Federal President, Australian Education Union*

Mr Gavrielatos has been the Deputy Federal President of the AEU since July 2003.

He was elected unopposed as Deputy President of the NSWTF for 2006-2007. During 2002-2005 Angelo was the Senior Vice President of the NSWTF.

Prior to being elected as Senior Vice President, Angelo had been an Organiser in Western Sydney since 1992. Prior to this, he was a secondary teacher in Green valley in South West Sydney.

Angelo's commitment to social justice unionism is at the heart of his work. His areas of primary responsibility include 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 asylum seeker and refugee children and their families
- 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
  - International solidarity.
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**Ms Jennifer Branch** *President, Australian Council of State School Organisations (ACSSO)*

Jennifer Branch has been President of the Australian Council of State School Organisations (ACSSO) since 2005; and previous to that held positions of Senior Vice President and Vice President of ACSSO.

Jennifer has been actively involved in public schooling in Tasmania since her daughter started preschool, representing the interests of parents on the Tasmanian State School Parents & Friends organisation from 2001, subsequently becoming their Vice President and in recent times (and currently continuing) the State President.

At State level Jennifer's work on a range of projects and advisory committees has gained the recognition of formal Awards from the Minister for Education. And at federal level, Jennifer's wide-ranging commitments include active membership on an extensive range of national steering committees, advisory groups, planning forums and policy development processes.

Jennifer is a passionate advocate for an effective public education system which achieves the highest standards and provides access to an appropriate range of opportunities that can enable and assist every child to achieve their potential.

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**Marlene Dingle** *LOTE Project Officer, Loddon Mallee Region, Department of Education Victoria*

Marlene Dingle began teaching languages in the 1970's and has been a German teacher and LOTE consultant in both metropolitan and regional Victoria. In recent years Marlene has primarily worked in professional development as German Project Officer with the Victorian Department of Education and Training, German Language Consultant at the Goethe-Institut Melbourne and is currently the LOTE Regional Project Officer in the Loddon Mallee Region for the Victorian Department of Education.

She has contributed to the development of a range of teaching resources for students such as the Melbourne Museum LOTE kit and the German Textbook "Feuerwerk" and has taught teachers participating in LOTE retraining. The focus of her work has been to strengthen the quality of language teaching in Victoria for colleagues and language learners, to build students' love of learning languages and to motivate them to continue.

Marlene has recently produced the *Making a World of Difference* DVD to promote the learning of languages. It was motivated by the many positive experiences with learners of languages and the desire to share their messages about the importance of languages education with a wider audience.

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### **Mr Chris Althaus, CEO, Australian Mobile Telecommunications Association**



Chris Althaus is the Chief Executive Officer of the Australian Mobile Telecommunications Association (AMTA). Chris was appointed to this role in December 2005.

AMTA is the peak national body representing Australia's mobile telecommunications industry and operates programs covering telecommunications policy, infrastructure, health/safety, recycling and law enforcement / national security. AMTA represents mobile Carriage Service Providers, handset manufacturers, network equipment suppliers, retail chains and other suppliers to the industry.

Before joining AMTA Chris was the Chief Executive Officer of the Australian Trucking Association for 5 years. The ATA is the peak industry organization representing all aspects of Australia's \$30b road transport sector responsible for moving over 80% of Australia's land based freight.

Prior to joining the ATA Chris spent 15 years in the forests sector in roles such as; Executive Director of Timber Communities Australia and Director of Market Development for the National Association of Forest Industries.

Chris has a Bachelor of Science from the Australian National University; a Graduate Diploma in Economics from the University of Canberra; and a Business Administration Diploma from Georgetown University, Washington, DC.

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**Mr Neil Groll - CTO, Leopard Labs.**



Neil Groll is the CTO and co-founder of Leopard Labs. Leopard Labs is an innovative Australian-owned IT company, which has developed a world first mobile content filter. The filter, called mozone, enables parents to manage internet, SMS, MMS and other content accessed from their child's mobile phone. Neil has worked in the mobile telecoms field for over 10 years, and has held senior IT management positions at Alcatel, Virgin Mobile, MTN, and Engin.

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**Dean Warren – Senior Leaders Program**

Dean has worked in the Australian football industry for the past 19 years, 14 years in various Game Development roles in Queensland before moving to Victoria in 2002 to take up a position in the AFL Development Department.

In 2004, Dean was promoted to his current position of AFL National Participation Manager. This position is responsible for the strategic growth and development of the game at all levels below the AFL competition. The role requires the ongoing management of existing participation programs (e.g. NAB AFL Auskick, Indigenous, Schools) and the development of new programs in collaboration with State and Territory football bodies to engage potential growth segments (e.g. AFL Recreational Football & Multicultural Programs).

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