

Conference presenters

garden. His house generates solar power, recycles sewage and grey water, and harvests rainwater for house and garden use. Jerry is a director of The Seed Savers' Foundation – a community organisation which conserves rare and heritage plants. He is a member of the Australian Institute of Horticulture, the Horticultural Media Association, a patron of the Australian and New Zealand Solar Energy Society and an executive member of the Queensland Conservation Council – Queensland's peak conservation organisation.

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

Gwyneth Beale

Gwyneth is an early childhood trained teacher and teacher librarian. She brings these qualities and experience to her job as librarian for the Indigenous Support Unit. She has a passion for supporting children, families and staff of Indigenous kindergartens by creating and distributing support materials to the kindergartens.

Dr Julie Davis

Julie is a senior lecturer in the School of Early childhood, Queensland University of Technology, specialising in early childhood education for sustainability. Julie is co-founder of the Queensland Early Childhood Environmental Education Network and co-author of the popular title, *Early childhood environmental education: Making it mainstream*, published by Early Childhood Australia in 2003. In 2004, she led a research project at a children's centre in Brisbane examining the processes and outcomes of its long-running whole centre sustainability project. This led to a chapter in the international *Handbook of Sustainability Research* (2005), published to mark the commencement of the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (2005-2014). She is a member of the Steering Committee of the Queensland Sustainable Schools Initiative. In 2007, Julie was invited to the inaugural international gathering on, "The role of early childhood education in sustainable development", held in Guttenberg, Sweden. A current research project investigates the impacts of an early childhood water education program for early childhood services in northern New South Wales. Julie is a leader of a multi-university project in Queensland aimed at embedding education for sustainability into pre-service teacher education.

Liz de Plater and Bronwyn MacGregor

Through valuing each others' histories, Liz and Bronwyn have contributed to the development of the SEEDS Mental Health Promotion Framework, each with their own combination of Head, Heart and Hands.

Liz has an NES background (Finland) with the unenviable record of attending 18 schools in three different countries. Her work experiences have varied from being a secretary in a large mining town, to managing a huge corporate short-term money market portfolio, to doing research for universities, to working in the community sector as a social worker and family therapist, to working with young parents and their infants, to now managing the SEEDS project in Health Promotion (QHealth).

Bronwyn, a Rockhampton girl, travelled and gained a diversity of work experiences before settling back in Brisbane with her

husband and their little girl. She has been an infant teacher, a preschool teacher, Montessori teacher, a tutor in Distance Learning in NZ, a contractor to Early Childhood Planners and Consultants (NZ), a policy officer for the Department of Families (Child Care Unit), a trainer with TAFE, a fieldwork liaison with Open Learning Institute, a senior project officer with Disability Services Queensland and is now SEEDS project officer with Queensland Health.

Miriam Guigni

Miriam, from the Centre for Equity and Innovation in Early Childhood University of Melbourne, has been working in early childhood education for 17 years. In this time she has been a teacher, director, consultant and university lecturer. She holds a B.Ed (early childhood) Honours and is currently enrolled in a PhD at the Centre for Equity and Innovation in Early Childhood, University of Melbourne. Miriam is looking at the troubles and enchantments of working for equity, social justice and activism in early childhood education. Miriam is an active member of the Social Justice in Early Childhood group and the founder of the Critical Curriculum Community Networks. Miriam has a passion for social justice and strives to bring equity into all parts of teaching, learning, curriculum making and professional development. She has a love for the performing and visual arts. Miriam is beginning to publish her research, both nationally and internationally, with a focus on equity, social justice and activism in early childhood education.

Marilyn Heyneman

Marilyn is a kindergarten teacher from Wakari Kindergarten – one of 22 kindergartens with the Dunedin Kindergarten Association. She has been teaching in the early childhood sector for 12 years and has always been passionate about quality early childhood education, continually reflecting on practice that ensures best outcomes for children. Marilyn has been involved in professional development, keeping up-to-date with current theory and practice.

Jackie Huggins

Jackie Huggins AM is of the Bidjara (Central Queensland) and Birri-Gubba Juru (North Queensland) peoples. Jackie holds many leadership positions in organisations across the country. She is currently co-chair of Reconciliation Australia, a director of the Telstra Foundation, director of the Australian Centre for Indigenous History, (Australian National University), adjunct professor in the School of Social Work and Applied Human Sciences, (University of Queensland), Member of the Indigenous Advisory Board of the Queensland Centre for Domestic and Family Violence Research, (Central Queensland University), former Chair of the Queensland Domestic Violence Council (2001), former Commissioner for Queensland for the National Inquiry into the Separation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Children from their Families (1997), and former member of the ATSIC Review Panel (2003). She authored *Auntie Rita* (with Rita Huggins 1994) and *Sistergirl* (1999). In 2000 she received the Premier's Millennium Award for Excellence in Indigenous Affairs. In 2001 she was awarded an Australia Medal (AM) for her work with Indigenous people, particularly reconciliation, literacy, women's issues and social justice, and in 2007 Jackie was named University of Queensland Alumnus of the Year.

Sue Lewin

Sue is an early childhood teacher, singer and songwriter. She has taught in Thailand, Israel, UK and Australia and is currently working with the new British early years curriculum in London. Her highly acclaimed CDs for young children (produced with Peter Stewart) include *Heave ho and over we go*, *If you can fly and Those things we do*. She co-wrote the book/CD *Dancing the boomchacha boogie* with award-winning author Narelle Oliver. In collaboration with Roz Adamson, Sue's latest CD, *The little pirate's adventure*, is a story with songs of a little pirate who responds to the ageless inner call to want bury his treasure.

Gail McDonald

Gail is the C&K early childhood education and care consultant for the Sunshine Coast region. She has many years of experience in working with the early childhood sector and has developed her understanding of quality indoor environments for young children.

Glenda MacNaughton

Glenda has worked in the early childhood field for over 30 years. She is currently a professor in the Faculty of Education at the University of Melbourne University where she established and now directs the Centre for Equity and Innovation in Early Childhood. Her years in early childhood have included work across all sectors as a practitioner and a manager and she has been a senior policy advisor to government in the UK and Australia. Glenda has a passionate interest in social justice and equity issues in early childhood and has published widely nationally and internationally on these issues. Her two most recently published books explore the politics of knowledge in early childhood and shaping early childhood curriculum.

Jenny Mansfield

Jenny has 10 years' experience as teacher/curriculum designer for P-7. She is an educational officer for CitySmart.

John Monahan and Giuliani Perez

Together these presenters have more than 40 years' experience as permaculturists and community educators. Four years ago they established Growing Communities to assist school and community organisations to respond positively to the issues of sustainability and climate change.

They have assisted more than 50 schools, run Learning in the Garden seminars for hundreds of teachers and advocated across Australia for integration of gardens into schools.

Chris Sarra

Chris is the executive director of the Indigenous Education Leadership Institute, Queensland University of Technology, based at the QUT Caboolture campus. He is currently Deadly Award Scholar of the Year 2006 and 2004 Queenslandler of the Year for services to education. He is highly regarded both nationally and internationally as an educator with a vision and plan to help other leaders change the tide of Indigenous outcomes for the future.

Archana Sinh

Archana has taught in a wide range of settings and age groups. She has been a teacher of art in India and Papua New Guinea at primary schools. She taught in the preschool room at a long day care centre in Sydney, and was a director at another long day care centre in Sydney. She taught certificate III, diploma and advanced diploma in child studies at two private colleges in Sydney. Currently she is the trainer at C&K College of Early Childhood Education. Archana is currently completing her masters in education (early childhood) from QUT.

Sharon Stuhmcke

Sharon has a varied background in early childhood teaching including six years in the early primary (Years 1&2). She has worked for around 20 years with young children. She holds a masters in education (EC) and is currently halfway through an educational doctorate. Her current research focuses on combining early childhood education and education for sustainability.

Kim Walters

Kim has more than 20 years' experience teaching in C&K centres. During 1999, Kim started using a digital camera in her room to capture the essence of children at work. Kim now travels internationally educating early childhood professionals on the ease of using digital media to enhance learning and communication. During 2006 Kim participated in a USA-led study tour of Reggio Emilia early childhood centres in Italy. Kim's website www.digitalpreschool.com.au showcases her resources which include her five book/CD packages *Step by step*, *Digital documentation*, *Digital power*, *Prep digital folio systems* and *Building waterfalls digital portfolio*. In December 2006 Early Childhood Australia commissioned Kim to write *Capture the moment*. Kim has used Microsoft Word and PowerPoint extensively to capture and showcase children's learning journeys.

Eileen Williams

Aunty Eileen identifies as a Birra Gubba/Mulingali descendant. She is an early childhood teacher and has taught in various schools in south east Queensland. Eileen has taught in TAFE and is currently working as an Indigenous consultant with C&K. Her role is supporting staff and parents in the 29 Indigenous kindergartens in Queensland.

SYMPOSIUM PRESENTERS

Jenny Cartmel

Tracy Coombes

Glenda MacNaughton

Chris Maher

Janet Robertson