

A SCHOOL LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA FULL DAY CONFERENCE



**AUG**  
**17**

VICTORIA UNIVERSITY  
CITY CONVENTION CENTRE LEVEL 12  
300 FLINDERS STREET, MELBOURNE  
COST: \$280 FOR MEMBERS (NON-MEMBERS \$380)

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## Introduction

School Library Design, how we create and use space, is of primary importance to school communities. This conference seeks to explore creative possibilities for library spaces and offer inspiration and ideas that can be replicated and reinvented in any school library context. How we develop spaces that meet the needs of learning and teaching, now and into the future, is both exciting and challenging.

School libraries are flexible, collaborative and stimulating spaces and this conference program gives practitioners tools, evidence and examples of ways to reinvent and grow the possibilities that are offered by a vibrant school library.

## Conference Program

<b>8.30am</b>	<b>Registration</b>
<b>9.00am</b>	<b>Welcome</b>
<b>9.15am - 10.00am</b>	<b>Keynote: Kevin Hennah</b> Maintaining Relevant School Libraries
<b>10.00am - 10.30am</b>	<b>Featured Address: Anne Whisken</b> Participatory Design for School Library Learning Spaces
<b>10.30</b>	<b>Morning Tea and Trade Exhibition</b>
<b>11.00am - 11.55am</b>	<b>Concurrent sessions: Round One</b>  <b>1. Carmel Byrne</b> More than a MakerSpace  <b>2. Caristiona Tait</b> Libraries the Musical  <b>3. Camilla Elliott</b> A Learning Commons Journey: Ten Year Transition  <b>4. Diana Kelly</b> Designing a Library Space: Vision, Purpose, and What Do I Do Next?
<b>12.00pm - 12.30pm</b>	<b>Ben Conyers</b> Operationalising the Design
<b>12.30pm - 1.30pm</b>	<b>Lunch and Trade Exhibition</b>
<b>1.30pm - 2.25pm</b>	<b>Concurrent sessions: Round Two</b>  <b>1. Faye Jamieson</b> Creating Vibrant Collaborative Spaces on a Budget  <b>2. Carolyn O'Brien</b> Intentional Accidents: Making Students Collide with Books  <b>3. Cheryl Taylor and Andrea Hines</b> Voice, Vision and Flexible Design  <b>4. Felicity Gilbert</b> Five Steps to Effective, Creative Spaces
<b>2.30pm - 3.15pm</b>	<b>Kevin Hennah</b> Continued – Library Reinvigorations

## Conference Sessions

### Keynote

#### Maintaining Relevant School Libraries

**Kevin Hennah**

*Change is inevitable, but maintaining relevance is a matter of choice!*

Join Library Consultant Kevin Hennah for a dynamic Keynote presentation which provides countless initiatives to drive usage and bolster the relevance of school libraries. Covering both design and reinventions, emphasis will be placed on ideas that support curriculum and can be driven by library staff. Advice will be supported by impressive usage stats from schools that have implemented Kevin Hennah's advice and a showcase of dozens of inspirational library makeovers he has worked on internationally.

Be inspired by:

- Best practice in school library design & renovation
- Showcase of international library design achievements
- How libraries can to maintain relevance in a world driven by online resources
- Strategies to help print compete with new technologies
- Challenging or building on the Dewey Decimal System through genre-based initiatives
- Innovations in library-specific signage
- Contemporary promotional and marketing strategies for school libraries
- Developments in independent and collaborative workspaces, study and meeting spaces

**Kevin Hennah** has carried out approximately 2000 onsite consultations at libraries internationally. His keynote presentations and workshops have been delivered throughout Asia, Europe, the USA, Canada, the UAE and Australia. He has a wealth of ideas to share and is passionate about keeping libraries relevant.

Kevin's background includes over 20 years experience working with international retail brands such as The Body Shop, Kathmandu, OshKosh and Westfield on store design, layout and visual merchandising. In 2002 he made the transition to work with libraries on strategies to maximise productivity of space, improve presentation and maintain relevance. His understanding of the operational requirements of libraries is coupled with practical advice that is sensitive to budget restrictions and challenges traditional thinking. He is the author of *The Victorian Public Libraries' Image Handbook* and the featured author in *Rethink!: Ideas for Inspiring School Library Design*.

Kevin has had input into the design of dozens of new libraries internationally. He also provides guidance to library staff on the coordination of self-managed

makeovers at all budget-levels. Through this process, he has helped clients achieve a significant increase in usage by creating what he refers to as the 'Post-Internet Library' – a level playing ground between print and online resources.

#### Kevin Continued!: Library Reinventions

**Kevin Hennah**

Costs may not be huge, but ideas will be abundant as Kevin Hennah finishes the day with big ideas that can be implemented on a limited budget. Display, promotion and the overall presentation of school libraries are put under a spotlight as Kevin presents fresh, innovative ways to reinvent the image of school libraries and prove that creativity can be more powerful than funding!

### Featured Address

#### Participatory Design for School Library Learning Spaces

**Anne Whisken**

School libraries are spaces in which very particular learning takes place. This learning sits at the heart of innovation and creativity. In school libraries, students learn how to use information critically, ethically and creatively as part of their subject learning; they learn how to select and read fiction of increasing breadth and depth; and they learn how to manage their time and resources so they can study independently and with others. How might we design library spaces and arrange furniture and collections to facilitate and enhance that learning? Participatory action research can bring stakeholders into the design process so that library staff work with administrators, architects, teachers and students to imagine, design, test and refine spaces and collection arrangements to meet learning intentions. This session covers research and practices that can be applied to design of new libraries as well as to achieving ongoing change in small ways that make a difference to library learning spaces. It shows ways through which views about libraries can be transformed from seeing them as places of storage, to understanding them as curated experiences as specialist as the science lab, the gymnasium and the art studio.

**Anne Whisken** is Head of Library at Carey Baptist Grammar School. She has studied and worked in the library field for many decades, chiefly in school libraries, and has undertaken redesign and rearrangement to ensure library spaces enhance the learning intentions of the school. Continuous study and research supports the decisions she makes with library teams. Most recently, a new library has been built at Carey, bringing together new ideas about what is possible in very different library learning spaces. The design process was recorded in SLAV's online journal *Synergy* and a ScoopIt: *Library Learning Spaces*.

## Featured Address

### Operationalising the Design

#### Ben Conyers

The State Library is over 160 years old and from the day it first opened it has been a place of knowledge, creativity, enterprise and innovation where everyone is welcome and access to information is free. The library is still true to those principles but, like all organisations, it needs to adapt and evolve to meet the changing needs of its community.

As part of that transformation, the State Library will be delivering the first half of its Vision 2020 redevelopment project later this year. This project will ultimately be delivering 40% more spaces to the public. In these spaces there will be new service offerings and we will be engaging with new audience segments. Although the architectural designs are now all set in concrete, another design project of equal significance, but not so obvious, is how we are re-designing our whole operational model so that we can deliver on the vision of our redevelopment project and stay true to our principles. We are a library for all in a changing world.

**Ben Conyers** has held several roles across the university, public, state and business library sectors, all with a strong customer focus. In his current role as Implementation and Change Manager, he is overseeing planning and implementation of projects, programs and services to support the transition of library operations into the redeveloped spaces realised through the library's \$90 million Vision 2020 redevelopment project.

In his previous role as the Manager Service Delivery & Design, he managed service delivery in a library with over 2 million visitors and over 250,000 customer and information interactions with those visitors each year. Ben was the Project Manager on the State Library Victoria's Future Service Model Project which in 2015 was awarded the best service design model at the Good Design Australia awards.

## Concurrent Sessions: Round One

### 1. More than a MakerSpace

#### Carmel Byrne

*Invent to Learn* by Gary Stager and Sylvia Martinez was the inspiration for our MakerSpace, so when there was an opportunity to attend the Constructing Modern Knowledge (CMK) Institute in USA in 2017, I went all out to make it happen. The outcome – after decades in various teaching roles, – I was a 'born again' teacher! I was keen to make our MakerSpace a collaborative learning area that added the "wow" factor to our Beacon Centre Library but came back keen to add the 'maker' pedagogy and mindset to the Beaconhills 'Learning that Matters' philosophy; and the amazing thing was that many of my colleagues were keen to embrace these ideas and to work out how we could best implement it for our learning community. CMK is not your usual

professional development activity where presenters say (during Powerpoint presentation) 'do as I say, not as I do'. At CMK you take off your teacher's hat and put on your learner's hat. My 2017 group constructed (over 4 days) a tricycle, made from cardboard, that an adult could ride! At the time of writing this, I am very excited about what I might take away from CMK 2018.

Since starting her teaching career in the late 1970s with a very challenging primary class in Sydney's outer South-west, **Carmel Byrne** has been passionate about engaging students in learning. She has a Diploma in Teaching, a Bachelor of Special Education, a Master of Educational Studies and a Diploma in Holistic Counselling. She has taught classes from Year 1 to Year 11 in State, Catholic and Independent Schools. In her current position, as Head of Information Services at Beaconhills College, Berwick Campus, Carmel and her team focus on building a strong reading culture and helping lead innovation in the broader school community.

### 2. Libraries the Musical

#### Caristiona Tait

John Paul College Resource Centre is more than a place where students come to do their homework at lunchtime. They come to see artwork, musical performances and share their ideas. In conjunction with the Arts faculty, the Resource Centre has been able to establish a reputation as a place to be within the JPC community. The annual Arts and Writing Competition, which is a highlight of the school calendar, enables students to display their talents and for the College to celebrate our students. Musical performances by students have been a regular feature of lunchtimes leading up to Production, featuring key performances from the leads. Currently, the RC is in discussions with the Co-Curricula Co-ordinator for Arts to launch JPC Unplugged.

**Cairistiona Tait** has been the Head of Resource Centre at John Paul College for 10 years. During this time, the Resource Centre has gone through several changes and developments. Caristiona is the convenor the Peninsula Branch of SLAV and the branch representative to SLAV Council.

### 3. A Learning Commons Journey: Ten Year Transition

#### Camilla Elliott

Moving into a newly constructed library in March this year brought a sense of arrival while simultaneously arousing a feeling that this is really just another milestone. Our journey has been a 10 year transition, starting with the Principal's mandate to 'make the Library a presence throughout the College'. It has involved a commitment to the Learning Commons philosophy of a school library, yet we have retained the traditional name of 'Library'. It has involved team work, ownership and the guidance of experts but, most importantly, it has involved a roadmap backed by a vision.

This presentation will explore our journey by identifying the heart, spirit and purpose of our new building and how it influences our role within the College. Every school

library has a different story to tell depending on school culture, the vision of the Principal, relationships with teachers and so much more. The new building is only part of the story but it's the home-base and it provides a launching place for the role of the Library within the College.

**Camilla Elliott** is Head of Library and Digital Learning at Mazenod College, Mulgrave. She is an active networker in the professional education community with a passion for authentic learning, the Learning Commons model of school libraries and applied digital learning. Camilla is a recipient of SLAV's John Ward Award for her service to school libraries. She is Vice-President of SLAV, Chair of SLAV Professional Learning Committee and a member of *Synergy* Editorial Board. She is committed to the unique role of school libraries and the importance of training library staff to enable them to perform a dynamic role within their schools. Resources are shared at [www.linkingforlearning.com](http://www.linkingforlearning.com). Twitter ID is 'camillaelliott'.

#### **4. Designing a Library Space: Vision, Purpose, and What Do I Do Next?**

##### **Diana Kelly**

The opportunity to redesign a library is one that can be both exciting and fraught with apprehension. How far will the money stretch? Will the leadership of the school be supportive of our vision? Will students and teachers like and use it? This presentation seeks to highlight the initial process undertaken by one public school teacher-librarian who was given the chance to redesign the school library. It will explore the initial planning and research undertaken to develop a 'vision' for the space, investigating current best-practice and 'future-proofing' the new space, securing stakeholder support, and ensuring that the needs of all patrons are catered for through community consultation. The strategies to make sure that the new space is aligned with the school's vision, values and strategic plan, with the aim to ultimately enhance the wider curriculum and pedagogical goals of the school, will also be explored.

**Diana Kelly** is in her fourth year teaching, working as a teacher-librarian and Year 8 English teacher at Balwyn High School – a large, 7-12 government school in Melbourne's east with approximately 2,100 students. This is her first year in the role as Head of Library, where she is currently concentrating on her passion for developing and implementing inquiry-based learning and research programs, and creating student-centred learning environments to encourage meaningful, high-quality research, inquiry, and collaboration. The redevelopment of the library project has been an unexpected blessing in her first year in a role she considers her 'dream job.'

#### **Concurrent Sessions: Round Two**

##### **1. Creating Vibrant Collaborative Spaces on a Budget**

###### **Faye Jamieson**

Changing the look and functioning of your library does not have to break the bank. A case study of the Killlester Library will give you some tips on how to make big

changes with big impact but a small price tag. With lots of visuals and resources, this presentation could help you kick start your change and not break the budget.

**Faye Jamieson** is a teacher-librarian with a passion for learning and sharing. In her current and previous roles as Head of Library, Director of eLearning and Science/Mathematics teacher, she has had the opportunity to be involved in a wide range of curriculum initiatives and changes. Faye loves the adventure and challenge of new ideas, technologies and collaborations.

##### **2. Intentional Accidents - Making Students Collide with Books**

###### **Carolyn O'Brien**

What do 'click-bait', phishing, Google Adwords and our library, the Discovery Centre, have in common? Each is designed to 'catch' you, the consumer, in an *intentional accident*; that is, the designer planned to entice you into further investigation. The way that we design and engineer our spaces and collections plays a pivotal role determining more than just traffic flow through the area. The result is students (and staff) colliding with books in often surprising and unintentional ways. Space is integral in the DC, complementing the collection and flow. The intentional inclusion of space can serve, like that favorite chair in your local café, as a place for time to stop and be 'caught'. The open use of our library space, and the way that the collection is displayed, doesn't just have an effect upon borrowing statistics. More importantly, the design of our DC makes a cultural statement and has a direct impact upon relationships; between students and books, students and staff, and students and their learning.

**Carolyn O'Brien** is currently studying a Diploma of Library and Information Studies, an interesting process in time management and discipline. She feels privileged to be managing the Discovery Centre at Belgrave Heights Christian School. Carolyn facilitates the learning spaces and resources, enabling learning and teaching to flourish. She is passionate about her role in engaging the students in a culture of accessible literacy improvement opportunities. The Discovery Centre team provide the support and enthusiasm to deliver the school's desired outcomes and to share the ethos of the Discovery Centre space. Carolyn has seen her role grow and change over the last decade and has been empowered to embrace innovation in what is the central hub of the school.

##### **3. Voice, Vision and Flexible Design**

###### **Cheryl Taylor and Andrea Hines**

Galen Catholic College is a co-educational secondary school with 1200 students. The library service came under severe scrutiny in early 2015, firstly due to the amalgamation of the junior and senior library spaces, and then the downsizing of the entire library into a double portable space. During this time, staff worked strongly to continue their high level of library service provision and used the reduced student contact time to forge alliances and provide strong curriculum support to Learning areas across the school. Library staff ensured

they had a strong voice in all forums and all levels across the school. In 2017, Galen Catholic College acknowledged the value placed on the provision of good library services by providing funds to build a purpose-built library/resource centre.

Library staff worked closely with the architect to ensure that their vision for a truly flexible space was achieved. We opened our new library building in February 2018 and the building is a light, bright, open space. Its flexible design will ensure we can provide modern library services to the school community today and into the future.

**Cheryl Taylor** is a library technician who has worked across the past ten years in school libraries, both in the State and Catholic sector. Cheryl has been SLAV Treasurer, a Committee of Management member from 2015 to 2018, and convener of the North East Region of SLAV since 2014. Cheryl is passionate about libraries and their role in providing curriculum support through a modern and flexible service model. She is passionate about supporting staff and students to develop skills and strategies to succeed in the digital world.

Cheryl was a member of the Junior School Planning Group and used the knowledge she gained to help include new ideas into the plans. When planning commenced for the new library, Cheryl instigated much of the data collection and the surveys which added overwhelming evidence to support the creation of a flexible, multi-use space.

**Andrea Hines** is a library technician who has been working at Galen Catholic College for 10 years. With previous careers in the media and local government, Andrea has brought a wealth of experience in marketing and customer service to the Galen library.

Winner of the 2014 IEU Jan Bavington Award, Andrea used her bursary to attend conferences and workshops relevant to the argument that modern school libraries should be vibrant, multi use facilities which address the needs of modern curriculum practices.

Andrea was a member of the Learning Spaces Working Party at the school and played an integral role in the planning and outfitting the new library space.

#### **4. Five Steps to Effective, Creative Spaces Felicity Gilbert**

In an Ideas Economy, we face an education landscape that is rapidly changing. The onset of communication technologies means that our students are preparing to enter a global marketplace. Their employability will not be determined by their credentials so much as their experience, their output and their ability to be continuous and self-motivated learners. They will need to be entrepreneurs. As educational institutions and libraries, we need to design creative learning and maker spaces that inspire discovery, creative and critical thinking, digital fluency and prepare our students to be directors of their own learning for life. This can be achieved in five steps: Start With Why; Community; Skilled Staff; Adaptive Design for Adaptive Learning; Programming.

**Felicity Gilbert** has over 14 years of experience in public and school libraries. In her five years at Yarra Plenty Regional Library as New Technologies Coordinator, she developed many creative and learning spaces, including five makerspaces, and designed learning programs for nine branch libraries and two mobile libraries. She has written papers and presented her ideas at VALA and ALIA and her makerspace programming was presented at IFLA Lyon. She currently works at Loreto Mandeville Hall Toorak.

**Registration:**

<http://slav.org.au/real-libraries-collaborative-spaces-17-august-2018-conference-registration/>

