



# SLAV MASTERCLASS SERIES 2021

## Multilingual School Libraries – Why and How? September 16

Online  
10am to 12.10pm

**A joint professional learning event presented by the Languages and Multicultural Education Resource Centre (LMERC) and SLAV.**

This masterclass will engage with ideas around why school libraries need to support their multilingual students, what that means in relation to their educational needs and consider examples of best practice, collection development and resources.

### **Exploring understandings of plurilingualism and multilingualism in school contexts: reflections for school libraries**

**Shem Macdonald**

In this session we will explore understandings of plurilingualism and multilingualism as they relate to learning in school contexts and in light of how these ideas appear in the Victorian F-10 Curriculum. How do we view the presence of languages other than English and what does that mean for the ways teachers teach and the ways learners learn? We will consider what this all might mean for librarians and others working in and using school libraries, including those developing collections, selecting resources, and disseminating information about these collections and resources to teachers and learners.

**Shem Macdonald** is a lecturer in languages and education at La Trobe University in Melbourne. He works in initial teacher education and in-service education postgraduate courses researching and teaching subjects related to language teaching methodologies, pluri-/multi-lingualism and understandings of how we acquire and use language for both educational and other purposes. He is also current President of VicTESOL the professional association for teachers of EAL in Victoria.

### **Developing Diversity**

**Karys McEwen** will share findings from her SLAV Fellowship into multilingual collections in Singaporean school and public libraries. She will also speak about how she has used her research as inspiration to build her own diverse language collections.

**Karys McEwen** is the Library Manager at both Prahran and Richmond High School. She is the President of CBCA VIC Branch and is also a CBCA Book of the Year Judge for 2020-2021 in the Older Readers category. She writes for *Books + Publishing* and has been published in several library journals including *FYI*, *Synergy*, *Connections*, *Incite* and *The School Librarian*. Her debut middle grade novel will be published by Text Publishing in 2022.

### **Inclusion and Context**

**Maura Wilson** will outline her school library's experience in assessing the importance of language materials appropriate to their students and describe how they used LMERC as a necessary and welcome precursor to setting up our own collection. The experiences at Gleneagles indicate the vital need for inclusivity in educational approaches and how 'context' fundamentally shapes how any library serves its client base.

**Maura Wilson** is the Library Resource Manager at Gleneagles Secondary College, originally from NSW, Maura is trained as both a librarian and a teacher. Maura initially worked in public and TAFE libraries but since completing teaching qualifications she has lived and worked in remote Aboriginal communities throughout Arnhem Land and the Kimberleys for the last twenty years.

### **LMERC**

**Jenny Peck** will describe the work at the Languages and Multicultural Education Resource Centre (LMERC) to source, promote and provide multilingual resources to support teachers and learners in all education settings. LMERC is a treasure trove of bilingual and monolingual educational materials in over 79 languages. She will also share her experiences of tracking down resources in the languages of emerging communities in Victoria.

**Jenny Peck** is the manager and sole librarian at LMERC, a DET specialised library for educators and pre-service teachers. Jenny has been absorbed in the world of culturally and linguistically diverse resources for over 12 years.

### **Taking a look at Picture Books Translated into English**

#### **Margot Lindgren**

We speak English in Australia which gives us access to books from USA, UK, NZ, Canada and South Africa. Thanks to the work of some publishers who specialise in book translation we also have access to books from other languages. Often these books have won awards in their country of origin. This presentation will feature a number of very special picture books which can be shared with a range of ages preschool to upper Primary. The books all currently available here in

Australia, many in paperback. Languages represented include French, Italian, Portuguese, Chinese, Japanese, Arabic and Dutch.

**Margot Lindgren** worked as a Teacher-Librarian in NSW Primary Schools for 33 years in a variety of settings, from small rural schools to her last role at a large metropolitan campus. She believes strongly in the importance of school libraries and has a passion for children's literature which she shares through her blog – Momo Time to Read. Margot is currently the National Secretary of IBBY Australia (International Board on Books for the Young) and in 2021 she was selected as a judge for the CBCA Picture Book of the Year awards 2022-23.

### **Perspectives (and Thoughts) from an EAL Educator**

**Suveshan Sathurayar** will share practical and multilingual resources from the Languages and Multicultural Education Resource Centre (LMERC) that teachers could use to contribute to language acquisition for EAL learners in their school setting.

**Suveshan Sathurayar** currently works as an EAL primary teacher for Blackburn English Language School which is part of the New Arrivals Program (NAP) providing intensive English language programs to newly arrived students from language backgrounds other than English. Suveshan was the library coordinator at the Burwood campus for two years and supported the school librarian with evaluating and purchasing resources appropriate to primary and secondary EAL learners.

## **Registration**

Registrants will receive a recording of the event and access to the padlet of resources.

Participation certificates available on request

<https://slav.wildapricot.org/event-4379642>

SLAV / LMERC Members - \$60.00

Non- Members - \$100.00



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**LMERC is a specialised library for teachers in the areas of EAL, Languages, Cross curriculum priority areas and capabilities: intercultural understanding, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures, Asia.**

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