

# SLAV MASTERCLASS SERIES 2019

## MEDIA LITERACY

SEP

13

KEEVES ROOM  
AUSTRALIAN COUNCIL FOR EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH  
19 PROSPECT HILL ROAD, CAMBERWELL  
COST: \$250 FOR MEMBERS (NON-MEMBERS \$350)



*Postman's thesis (from Amusing Ourselves to Death, 1985) was that the media frames all content as entertainment and "when a population becomes distracted by trivia, when cultural life is redefined as a perpetual round of entertainments, when serious public conversation becomes a form of baby-talk, when, in short, a people become an audience, and their public business a vaudeville act, then a nation finds itself at risk...."*

*His recommendation? Media literacy — the ability to think critically about the creation, sources, content and consequences of all media messages.'*

**From 'The urgent need for media literacy in an age of annihilation'  
Jennifer Ellen Good, The Conversation, June 11 2019**

8.45 - 9.15

**Registration**

9.15

**Welcome**

9.30 - 10.30

**Attributes of a media-literate person**

What are the components of media literacy, and how can we assess our students' level of media literacy? A number of national and international assessment programs cover elements related to media literacy. This session will examine concepts of media literacy, and what data from assessments might tell us about students' learning in this area.

**Julian Fraillon**, Research Director of the Assessment and Reporting at ACER, directs assessment projects in civics and citizenship education, and digital literacy, including the International Computer and Information Literacy Study (ICILS) conducted across 14 countries. Julian has also directed ACER's work across four cycles of the Australian National Assessment Program sample assessments of NAP ICT Literacy and NAP Civics and Citizenship for ACARA.

10.30 - 11.00

**Morning Tea**

11.00 - 12.00

**How academics can help us stay informed**

The media is in a state of upheaval. Trust is in decline, jobs are disappearing, and the digital platforms that control audiences encourage publishers to attract attention at any cost. The result is more opinion and outrage and less sober explanation of what is really going on in the world. This is where The Conversation aims to make a difference. By working only with academics who have real expertise, The Conversation exists to explain and inform, with no other agenda. This makes it a valuable resource for citizens and students and anyone who wants to be better informed.

**Misha Ketchell** is Editor of *The Conversation*. He has been a journalist for more than 20 years and in previous roles he was founding editor of *The Big Issue Australia* and editor of *Crikey*, *The Reader* and *The Melbourne Weekly*. He worked for *The Age* as a reporter and feature writer and spent several years at the ABC where he was a TV producer on *Media Watch* and *The 7:30 Report* and an editor on *The Drum*.

12.00 - 12.30

### Discussion

- ▶ What does this mean for school libraries?
- ▶ What ideas or strategies, for working with students, do these presentations suggest?

12.30 - 1.30

### Lunch

1.30 - 2.00

### Media literacy: The Editor's eye

Ever wondered how media is created and delivered to the audience? Where are the pressure/pain points in the process of sourcing and creating content, telling compelling and useful stories, and engaging with readers?

ACER's *Teacher* is an online magazine dedicated to helping teachers, principals and school staff improve their skills and practices using evidence-based approaches. Jo Earp talks about the processes, decisions and dilemmas that face the editor of a publication that aims to provide accessible, high quality, independent content.

**Jo Earp** has been Editor of *Teacher* magazine, published by the Australian Council for Education Research, since 2014. She has 20 years' experience as a journalist and editor with print and online news and education publications in the UK and Australia. Jo is also a qualified teacher, working in inner-city primary schools in northern England as a classroom teacher before moving to Australia.

2.00 - 2.30

### Libraries curating evidence

Pru Mitchell will provide a brief overview of the services of the Cunningham Library, and its role in curating educational research. The session will consider the role of school library staff in promoting research literacy in schools.

**Pru Mitchell** is Manager of Information Services at the Australian Council for Educational Research and Adjunct Lecturer, School of Information Studies Charles Sturt University. Her professional and research interests include information literacy, digital education research and professional learning. After working as a teacher librarian across K-12 independent schools, Pru spent twelve years managing national online education projects before joining ACER's Cunningham Library.

## Critical Consumers in a Digital World

What do our students need to know in order to be critical consumers and skillful navigators of information in a digital world?

Our students have an abundance of information at their fingertips. According to a 2016 report from Stanford Graduate School of Education, 'whether this bounty will make us smarter and better informed or more ignorant and narrow-minded will depend on our awareness of this problem and our educational response to it.' At Christian College Geelong this study provoked teachers of Year 8 English to create a unit in collaboration with the Library which requires students to explore, critically analyse and discuss news in the digital world, based on the over-arching question, 'What in the World is going on?' Students access a selection of current media issues provided in a variety of different modes on the School's LMS. They are encouraged to show and share their thinking through a variety of Visible Thinking Routines and demonstrate their learning through the creation of a podcast and infographic on a current social issue.

**Joanne Lowe** is a Middle School English Coordinator at Christian College Geelong with a wealth of experience teaching English across Years 5-9. She is a knowledgeable curriculum creator. Jo enjoys developing English curriculum and pedagogy that is engaging and promotes relevant contemporary knowledge and skills. Over the last five years she has developed curriculum documentation to support her middle years team in understanding and delivering creative, critical and collaborative pedagogy. Jo was an early adopter of Harvard University Project Zero's Visible Thinking Routines. She is also passionate about working with teens and helping them through the difficult middle years.

**Fiona Longfield** has worked in School libraries for the past 29 years. For the past 17 years she has been the Head of Library at Fintona Girls' School where she has advocated for the School Library to be involved in collaborating with staff in planning and supporting the specific research components of the School curriculum. Over the last few years she was actively involved in the implementation of Schoolbox as the School's LMS, particularly focusing on its use as a tool for the curation and sharing of selected digital resources to assist students in effective research. This is her first year at Christian College Geelong where she has embraced Visible and Design Thinking pedagogy and is looking forward to opportunities to expand her interest and involvement in digital resource curation using LibGuides.

For registration please see the Professional Learning page of the SLAV website:  
<https://slav.org.au/professional-learning/events-conferences>