



Victorian Adult Literacy and Basic Education Council

Active, Informed, Committed Practitioners

VALBEC leads and connects the adult literacy, language and numeracy field in Victoria

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eVALBEC February 2011

This is the electronic newsletter of VALBEC, the Victorian Adult Literacy and Basic Education Council, and is sent to about 850 practitioners on the first of each month (other than January). It is also available in the 'News' section of our web site

<http://www.valbec.org.au>

Disclaimer: The activities, goods and services mentioned in eVALBEC are not endorsed

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How to submit items: <http://www.valbec.org.au/05/news.htm>

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VALBEC News

1. Feedback from the Survey

Thank you to the 93 people who completed our survey in August /September last year, we really appreciate your input. At our recent annual VALBEC planning day we reviewed the results of the survey with the following actions to be implemented:

- eVALBEC will have section headings and more spaces to make it easier to read
- *Numeracy*: will be a VALBEC priority in 2011. This will start with a numeracy forum as part of our Sharing Good Practice event (20 May) to find out exactly what is needed and who is out there to help provide it.
- If you are a VALBEC member you will continue to get a hard copy of *Fine Print* but we also plan to have a searchable database of back editions on the website.
- You may have noticed that we have already been making changes to the VALBEC website, adding FAQs and acronyms. We plan to add Resources as a new page with tips and links.
- We plan to promote our PD sessions in plenty of time and we will introduce a simple online registration.
- VALBEC has always maintained a focus on providing regional PD each year. In 2011 we plan to hold events in Wangaratta, Geelong and Bendigo and to increase coverage by trialling Elluminate for one of these events.
- We hope to increase membership and will aim to have regular incentive prizes and special offers for our valued membership.

A more detailed report is available <http://www.valbec.org.au/enhancing.htm>

Thank you again and remember we are always on the lookout for new committee members, so if you would like to contribute we would love to hear from you.

Next Committee Meeting: Wednesday 16 February

Annual General Meeting: Friday 20 May.

2. VALBEC Fees for 2011

The VALBEC Committee have determined that the membership fees for 2011 will be the same as for 2010. Invoices will be arriving about now and those who pay by February 28, 2011 will go into a draw for a copy of 'Fancy Footwork' or 'Reading the Fine Print'.

Professional Development

3. VALBEC Regional Forum • Wangaratta

'Understanding and Applying the Australian Core Skills Framework, ACSF'

Presenter: Philippa McLean

Friday, February 11, 2011 – 10am to 3pm Goulburn Ovens Institute of TAFE, Wangaratta Campus, Docker Street Wangaratta

More details at <http://www.valbec.org.au/ForumFeb2011.htm>

4. Sharing Good Practice

Friday May 20, 2011 at the William Angliss Conference Centre, Melbourne.

This one day event will provide an opportunity for practitioners to share and discuss good practice. The program will have three streams: (1) Literacy and Language practice in accredited and non-accredited programs; (2) Numeracy; (3) working with the CGEA & ACSF.

More information will be made available soon.

5. ACAL Conference Literacy on the Map: Common Visions, Different Paths

A Call for papers has been issued seeking presentations for the 34th ACAL Conference hosted by VALBEC (Conference **Tue 27 to Wed 28 Sept 2011**, Pre-conference forum Mon 26 Sept 2011)at Victoria University City Flinders Campus

More details at <http://www.valbec.org.au/2011conf/call.htm>

Fine Print

6. Programs that attract and support ALBE students

Times are changing and we want to hear from YOU! The first Fine Print issue for 2011 will feature education and training programs that attract and support ALBE students. We want to start a discussion around the issues of attracting students to courses and programs. How are you attracting ALBE students? How are you keeping them engaged? How do you support them? Do you have any innovative ideas that are working for you? Send comments of any length to fineprint@valbec.org.au

The Editorial Committee meets twice per edition in Carlton, usually on a Thursday afternoon. If you are interested in joining this committee please send your name and contact details to fineprint@valbec.org.au

Resources

7. Big Book of Literacies Training (BLT)

The 'Big Book of Literacies Training (BLT)' has been suggested as a useful resource. See this and more at Adult Literacies Online Resources

<http://www.aloscotland.com/alo/325.html>

Other information

8. Vale Christine Riddell

The VALBEC committee and the adult and higher education community were saddened by the news of Christine's passing at the end of 2010. Christine made a significant contribution to the adult literacy and numeracy fields through her teaching and research and work with ALRNNV and ALNARC. We extend our condolences to Christine's family, friends and colleagues.

9. New National Foundation Skills Strategy

The Federal Government has signalled the development of a new National Foundation Skills Strategy in their 2010 budget. ACAL is formulating a position to submit to DEEWR. Stephen Black and Keiko Yasukawa have contributed their article *Time for National Renewal: Australian adult literacy and numeracy as 'foundation skills'* published in *Literacy and Numeracy Studies* to stimulate discussion. You are invited to give feedback and comments <http://www.acal.edu.au/cms/nationalrenewal.html> before 10 February.

10. ACSF projects

DEEWR has contracted the original ACSF writing team to undertake two projects – (i) a minor revision of the ACSF (ii) development of an ACSF pre level 1 supplementary document. If you have any comments or suggestions that you would like considered by the team, please forward them by 18 March 2011 to Philippa McLean: philippa47@bigpond.com

11. Literacy and Numeracy Studies Journal

Literacy and Numeracy Studies: An international journal in the education and training of adults is published by the Centre for Language and Literacy, University of Technology, Sydney.

<http://www.education.uts.edu.au/lms/subscribe.html>

For a free subscription – just follow the prompts.

12. Volunteer Tutor Training

Carlton Neighbourhood Learning Centre, Tuesday evenings, starts March 2011. This is a seven week course for people who would like to work 1 to 1 with adults wanting to improve their reading and writing skills. For more information call 93472739

13. Employment opportunities

ACFE, ACE, RTO and TAFE managers can post adult literacy, language and numeracy practitioner job ads in eVALBEC. Send your request (50 words limit) to info@valbec.org.au by the 26th of the month.

14. Subscribe to eVALBEC?

Click this link <mailto:info@valbec.org.au?subject=eVALBEC_Subscribe> and we'll put you on the list to receive this monthly enewsletter.

15. Unsubscribe?

Just click this link <mailto:info@valbec.org.au?subject=eVALBEC_Unsubscribe> (no typing required!) and hit Send or, send an e-mail with the word Unsubscribe in the subject.

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eVALBEC is the monthly electronic newsletter of (VALBEC) the Victorian Adult Literacy and Basic Education Council.

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