

eVALBEC May 2009

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>

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

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1. 'Navigating Laneways' 2009 VALBEC Conference

William Angliss Conference Centre, 555 La Trobe St Melbourne.

Thursday May 7 Preconference sessions 3.00 – 5.30pm

Friday, May 8 full day program 9.00 am – 5.00pm

Details and registration at <http://www.valbec.org.au/conf09/reg.htm>

2. Book launch 'Reading The Fine Print'

Thursday May 7, 6 pm at the William Angliss Conference Centre

Details at <http://www.valbec.org.au/booklaunchinvite.htm>

Rosie Wickert will launch 'Reading the Fine Print: A history of the Victorian Adult Literacy and Basic Education Council (VALBEC) 1978 – 2008' by Beverley Campbell.

The book will be on sale at the launch for \$30

After the book launch you can pay and order online at www.valbec.org.au (live after the book launch)

Pre-payment or purchase order is required

Cost: \$30 plus \$10 postage and handling (in Australia)

Overseas and bulk purchase - email us for a price

3. Fine Print 2009 Teachers' and Students' Writing Issue

The Fine Print editorial committee wants to celebrate the learning and insights of ALBE students and to celebrate the work of teachers through publishing their writing.

Students, we ask that you use the broad theme of 'memory', as an inspiration. This theme could include memories of people, places, life turning points, precious objects, holidays, emotions, or any significant event that you want to write about.

Both poetry and prose are welcome.

Teachers, we ask you to write about how you help your students with not only the processes and mechanics of writing but also how you inspire, build confidence, and help your students find a voice.

Submission Guidelines

Electronic texts only

Word limit for students 250 words

Word limit for teachers: between 250 and 500 words

Please include a title for the piece, your name, learning institution, and place where you live.

The editorial committee will select pieces that best fit the guidelines and represent a diversity of learners and teachers.

Please email all contributions to VALBEC at info@valbec.org.au

Deadline: June 19th, 2009

4. AGM & Twilight Forum

Victoria University, Flinders Street Campus

Thursday June 18th 2009, 6.30 pm – 8.30 pm

Members and friends of VALBEC are invited to the Annual General Meeting of the Council that will be preceded by a Twilight Forum

Victoria University, City Flinders Campus, 300 Flinders Street, Level 9 Room C9.15

Map: <http://www.vu.edu.au/campuses/city-flinders>

A light supper will be provided

Twilight Forum

"Community Wide Study Circle Programs - Dialogue to Change"

Mark Brophy was awarded a Ph.D. from Victoria University for research into Swedish study circles, then under a Fulbright visited Everyday Democracy in the US who use study circles to address issues such as race, terrorism,

educational reform and interfaith tensions; often with hundreds and even thousands of participants. Mark consequently founded the Australian Study Circles Network which builds upon Swedish and US models.

Annual General Meeting

Reports on the 2008 VALBEC year will be presented and the new Executive committee will be elected.

The VALBEC committee is a dynamic and collaborative group who meet once a month to discuss, plan and take action on behalf of members and the ALBE field.

New members are welcome.

Nomination forms <http://www.valbec.org.au/05/docs/AGMnomforms.pdf>

RSVP by June 14th 2009 info@valbec.org.au

5. New Group - CGEA Champions

The CMM General Studies and Further Education has formed a group of 'CGEA Champions' to facilitate the capacity of providers to be involved in the implementation and review of the CGEA through the provision of professional development opportunities. The convenors of the group are Stephanie Goetze-Thies from Daylesford Neighbourhood Centre and Tim Morris from RMIT. Projected activities for the group include participation in a CGEA panel session at the upcoming VALBEC conference, review of the curriculum document, validation of assessment tools, and preparation for an ACFE funded CGEA Assessment PD Day to be held in September (Date TBC). For more information on any CGEA matters please contact the CMM – Nadia Casarotto and Liz Davidson sicmm.generalstudies@vu.edu.au Phone 9919 8327 (Liz) or 9919 8347 (Nadia).

6. Deputy Prime Minister's Awards for Excellence now open

Minister for Education, Employment and Workplace Relations, the Hon. Julia Gillard MP, has opened the nominations for the 2009 Minister's Awards for Excellence for employers of apprentices in 22 regions across Australia.

The awards, supported by Skills Australia, profile employers working in positive ways to retain employees; particularly significant in times of economic difficulty. The awards also demonstrate the commitment to investing in people and can position organisations as innovators in a rapidly changing world.

Application forms <http://www.australianapprenticeships.gov.au/>

Applications close 11 May 2009.

Each regional winner receives \$5000 prize money, a certificate and a trophy. Enquiries to ministersawards@deewr.gov.au

7. Vocational Graduate Certificate and Vocational Graduate Diploma in LL&N

Two new qualifications- a Vocational Graduate Certificate and Vocational Graduate Diploma in LL&N are being developed by the Innovation and Business Skills Australia (IBSA) for LLN practitioners delivering to adults in and beyond the VET sector. The qualifications will be additions to the Training and Assessment Training Package (TAA). The Vocational Graduate Certificate has a teaching design and delivery focus and the Vocational Graduate Diploma a policy and research focus.

For a full explanation of Vocational Graduate Certificate and Vocational Graduate Diplomas in the Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF) please visit http://www.aqf.edu.au/vgc_vgd.htm

IBSA is keen to gather feedback on the qualification structures and unit content which are now available for viewing at http://www.ibsa.org.au/content/currentprojects/Voc_Grad_LLN.html until **May 30 2009**.

To provide feedback on the IBSA feedback register please select *Review & Feedback Register* on the IBSA page listed above.

8. Review of TAA40104 Certificate IV Training and Assessment

A paper from Innovation & Business Skills Australia reviews the fitness for purpose of the Certificate IV in the TAA04 Training and Assessment Training Package and makes a series of recommendations as to ways in which it might be improved are outlined in the paper.

Proposed model for the entry level qualification and how to get involved in the consultation process at

http://www.ibsa.org.au/content/currentprojects/TAA40104_Review.html/

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11. Contact VALBEC

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

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