



WOMEN IN ADULT &  
VOCATIONAL EDUCATION

## Women in Adult and Vocational Education Newsletter

Issue Number: 1

Year: 2022



**WAVE** is a national network of women involved in VET, adult education and the broad field of work-related education and training. WAVE provides seminars & workshops, research, policy advocacy and advice, as well as networking on an international, national and state basis. We are supported within each state by local representation that in turn contributes collaboratively to national events and governance. W:[www.wave.org.au](http://www.wave.org.au) E:[wave@wave.org.au](mailto:wave@wave.org.au)

### Welcome

**WAVE looks forward to working with you in 2022.**

This is our first Newsletter for the year, and it outlines what is happening in the sector and some of the work we are undertaking with your support, contributing to issues of importance for women in adult and vocational education.

Take some time to look over our website and familiarise yourself with the work of WAVE.

Visit: [www.wave.org.au](http://www.wave.org.au)

Or visit and follow our Socials:



### Interested in becoming a paid member?

Membership fees are called for in October each year. If you pay now, it will take you through to October this year. To become a paid member of WAVE contact us via email [wave@wave.org.au](mailto:wave@wave.org.au) and we will send you an invoice, or just pay online and let us know.

WAVE membership fees for 2021-2022 are:

- \* **Individual \$50 or \$30 if you are re-joining**
- \* **Organisation \$100 or \$75 if you are re-joining**

Have you ever thought about giving a bit of your time to working with other women in adult and vocational education? Currently we have no representatives in NSW, ACT and Tasmania. All Executive Members must be financial members. Let us know if you are interested.

Linda Simon (National Convenor) [wave@wave.org.au](mailto:wave@wave.org.au)



## The WAVE/Sue Salthouse Grant for research into gender and disability

WAVE has established a grant in memory of our long-time member Sue Salthouse.

It is our intention for this to be an annual grant and look forward to awarding it again this year at the AVETRA conference 2022 to a practitioner or researcher to support research on 'gender and disability'.

We hope to soon publish a paper arising from last year's grant – from Annemaree Gibson and Annie Carney at Box Hill TAFE. The paper will focus on teacher capability to support learners of all abilities.

The grant of \$1000 will help support research in this area. To apply you need to submit an abstract to present a paper at the AVETRA conference, and further information will then be provided once your abstract is accepted.

The AVETRA Conference: *Are we there yet? Building a research community to shape VET's future*, will be held from 28-29 April.

### **Abstract submissions close March 8, 2022.**

Submit your abstract via the online link:

<https://dg.eventsair.com/avetra-2022-conference/abstracts>



## Meet our 2021-2022 WAVE team

### **National Committee**

Linda Simon: WAVE National Convenor  
Jan Edwards: WAVE Secretary  
Annette Bonnici: WAVE Treasurer  
Elaine Butler: WAVE Ambassador  
Regional and rural: L'Amour Gina-Whewell

### **ACT Convenor**

Vacant (interested - email us today)

### **Northern Territory Convenor**

Raelke Grimmer

### **Queensland Convenor**

Jane Newton  
Deb Parker

### **Victoria Convenors**

Kira Clarke  
Sally Thompson

### **Western Australia Convenors**

Sue Thompson  
Sarah Leftwich

### **New South Wales Convenor**

Vacant (interested - email us today)

### **South Australia Convenors**

Jan Edwards

### **Tasmania Convenor**

Vacant (interested - email us today)

For more information about your executive team visit our website or email us today:

[www.wave.org.au/leadership/](http://www.wave.org.au/leadership/)



## International Women's Day

### UN Women

The theme for International Women's Day, 8 March, 2022 (IWD 2022) is, "**Gender equality today for a sustainable tomorrow**", recognizing the contribution of women and girls around the world, who are leading the charge on climate change adaptation, mitigation, and response, to build a more sustainable future for all.

Learn more: <https://www.unwomen.org/en/news-stories/announcement/2021/12/international-womens-day-2022-gender-equality-today-for-a-sustainable-tomorrow>



**UN Women Australia** have adapted the theme to read:

In 2022 we'll be celebrating under the International Women's Day theme, Changing Climates: Equality today for a sustainable tomorrow – "a theme that recognises the contribution of women and girls around the world, who are working to change the climate of gender equality and build a sustainable future..."

Learn more: [https://unwomen.org.au/unw\\_events/virtual-iwd-event-2022/](https://unwomen.org.au/unw_events/virtual-iwd-event-2022/)

We hope you will take the opportunity to celebrate by holding events at TAFE and other adult education campuses, either face-to-face or online. I doubt there are more important themes to be highlighting at the moment and in the lead-up to the Federal elections.

## Gender, Climate Change, & Security: Making the Connections

Given the IWD theme for this year, you may be interested in reading this report from the Women's UN Report Network.

*By Chantal de Jonge Oudraat & Michael E. Brown*

The security and climate policy communities tend to be comprised of people, mainly men, who are almost completely lacking in gender expertise or even gender policy awareness. As a result, the gender dimensions of security and climate issues are usually not understood, prioritized, integrated, or even considered in security and climate policy packages. It follows, of course, that gendered risks and dangers—affecting more than 7.8 billion people around the world—are not being adequately addressed and opportunities to more effectively respond are being overlooked.

Visit: <https://wunrn.com/2022/02/gender-climate-change-security-making-the-connections/>

## WAVE News

**AVETRA Conference:** WAVE will be running a symposium at the AVETRA conference. WAVE is calling out to it's members for any thoughts on speakers they would like to hear.

Email us with your thoughts: [wave@wave.org.au](mailto:wave@wave.org.au)

**Federal elections:** WAVE is developing a briefing paper for Federal politicians and candidates in the lead-up to the Federal elections.

**Pre-election budget:** WAVE will again participate in the analysis of the budget and work with the National Foundation for Australian Women (NFAW) on 'Gender Lens on the Budget'.

## Industry News

### NCVER Research: Employers highlight training needs for post-pandemic growth

By Ian White, Toni Rittie

NCVER's latest research examines how Australian employers have been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic and their future workforce training plans.

To survive financially during the pandemic, many businesses had to adjust and digitise their operations, as well as shift quickly to remote working arrangements.

As restrictions started easing in 2020, businesses were faced with changed working environments. This resulted in new staff training demands, particularly on how to operate safely in the prevailing COVID-19 business conditions, and in health and safety and infection control. Digital skills also emerged as a key training need.

Read NCVER's latest [report](#) to find out more.



### 'NoFrills' 2022 Conference

The [31st National VET Research Conference 'No Frills'](#), previously planned to be held in Melbourne, will now be delivered as a fully online event. This will enable more participants to attend and avoid the uncertainty around attendance sizes and interstate travel.

'No Frills' provides an opportunity for networking and ideas sharing in a friendly and informal atmosphere with a cross-section of industry representatives, practitioners, researchers and policymakers.

This year's conference theme is: *VET's role in transforming the future.*

Conference dates: Wednesday 6 to Friday 8 July 2022



### Want to present?



Abstract submissions to present at #NoFrills2022 are open until COB Monday 1 March 2022. Presenters will receive FREE registration. Don't miss your chance, submit your abstract today!

Learn more: [Presentation guidelines and how to submit](#)



## March4Justice2: 27<sup>th</sup> February 2022

The second annual [March for Justice](#) (#March4Justice2) is organised by March4Justice - a non-party political movement (& charity) seeking 'equality, justice, respect and an end to gendered violence' that was created in 2021 as a grass roots movement

As in 2021 it is open for registrations to join and the march will take place in many locations right across Australia, with events ranging from small community based events in suburbs and towns to larger marches in metro and city locations.

The 2021 March for Justice was successful both in numbers that participated and for keeping the focus on gender equity issues to the forefront, putting pressure on government to act.

Learn more: <https://www.march4justice.org.au/>

## STEM: Vocational learning for space careers

WAVE's South Australia State Convenor Jan Edwards shares what's happening in her state ...

In South Australia, it seems all the talk is about space. While everyone is familiar with the roles of astronauts and other visible roles, there are other roles behind the scenes for a new generation of workers. WAVE put forward a proposal to the National Careers Institute to examine these roles with a focus on vocational education and training to identify pathways between Vocational Education and careers in the space sector. A key focus was women and girls and STEM. Unfortunately, the grant application was not successful, but we keep a watching brief on all things space in case the opportunity to work in this area arises again.

The [Hamilton Secondary College in South Australia](#) opened the Mike Roach Space Education Centre in September 2017. It is the only school in South Australia with a designated facility and specialist

curriculum to lead space education. A similar facility is in Victoria at the [Victorian Space Science Education Centre](#).

The Hamilton Space Centre has four main areas which support the space science program – a simulated Martian crater and landscape with seven different geological zones, a Mission Control Room, a Briefing Room, and a space laboratory. It has been designed to provide an immersive, hands-on learning experience. The briefing room is an audio-visual experience where students watch an introductory video about some of the issues that they need to overcome in moving humans to Mars. Students will role play space scenarios with teams taking turns to operate as astronauts dressed in full space suits collecting samples on the Mars surface, and scientists monitoring data and problem solving in Mission Control. The design simulates real-life Martian explorations in the same way that NASA sends space probes to land in craters, as they are prime locations to gather samples.

However, it seems that there remains much thinking to be done about how to make the connections to space sector employment in other less glamorous and behind the scenes roles for those who want to pursue vocational learning opportunities.



*Images courtesy of Unsplash. The internet's source of freely-usable images. Powered by creators everywhere.*