



Geography Teachers Association of NSW presents

REGIONAL CONFERENCE

WRITE ON AND LOG ON

Friday 14 September 2018

Vibe Hotel, Canberra Airport

The GTANSW 2018 professional learning focus is on literacy, Geographical Inquiry Skills, pedagogy and spatial technologies in the Geography classroom.

Program

TIME	ACTIVITY	WORKSHOP PRESENTER
8:15am – 8:45am	Registration	
8:45am – 9:45am	KEYNOTE: Geography Write On	Dr Misty Adoniou
9:45am – 10:30am	WORKSHOP 1 1(a) How sentences and words work – focus on Geography OR 1(b) Taking Geography Outdoors: Fieldwork for Primary Teachers, Stages 1 to 3	Dr Misty Adoniou Darren Watt
	10:30am – 11:00am	Morning Tea
11:00am – 11:30am	WORKSHOP 1 (continued) 1(a) Secondary Teachers Literacy based workshop OR 1(b) Taking Geography Outdoors: Fieldwork for Primary Teachers, Stages 1 to 3	Dr Misty Adoniou Darren Watt
	11:30am – 1:00pm	WORKSHOP 2 2 (a) ICT and Geography OR 2 (b) Taking Geography Outdoors: Fieldwork for Secondary Teachers, Stages 4 to 6
1:00pm – 1:45pm		Lunch
1:45pm – 3:00pm	WORKSHOP 3 3(a) Using ABS data in the Australian Curriculum OR 3(b) Using PBL to teach Geography OR 3(c) Pens and maps. Literacy and mapping skills for Stages 2 and 3	Patrick Curtin Ben Archer Sharon McLean

Participant fee: \$250 member or \$260 non-member

Regional Conference registration [CLICK HERE](#)



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About the workshops and presenters

Keynote: Geography Write On

In this keynote we will look at the data that shows that students struggle with the transition from primary to secondary school. They find the shift to more complex writing particularly difficult, as well as the requirement to write differently across the discipline areas. We will look at the expectations inherent within writing tasks for Geography to see what the challenges might be for students as they move from writing in the primary school to writing in the secondary school.

Workshop 1 (a): How sentences and words work – focus on Geography

In this workshop we will examine more closely how sentences and words work within texts that students may be required to read and write in Geography. The presenter will model strategies for teaching sentence structures and vocabulary, using Geography texts. Participants will then work together to apply those same strategies to samples of student writing in Geography. We will focus particularly on identifying challenging vocabulary in texts, and strategies for teaching that vocabulary.

Presenter – Dr Misty Adoniou

Dr Adoniou is an Associate Professor in Language, Literacy and TESL and teaches undergraduate and post graduate teacher education courses in Language and Literacy. She has received numerous teaching awards, including an OLT National Citation for Outstanding Contribution to Student Learning and the Vice-Chancellor's Award for Teaching Excellence. She was the lead writer for the national English as an Additional Language Teachers Resource which accompanies the Australian Curriculum and has served on several national advisory boards.

Workshop 2 (a): ICT and Geography

Different ICT tools, including Apps for fieldwork, will be examined and demonstrated. The focus will be on the free spatial technology tools including Google Earth, National Geographic Mapmaker, Google Tour Builder, Scribble Maps and ESRI Story Maps.

Links will be made to topics of the Australian Curriculum and NSW Syllabus. Planning templates will be provided and participants given the opportunity to examine each tool and apply to a current topic they are teaching by designing appropriate classroom activities.

Presenter – Lorraine Chaffer

Lorraine Chaffer is President GTA NSW, Bulletin Editor, Geography Consultant and Author. She has 37 years teaching experience and is currently developing resources for the new Geography Syllabus K–10, assisting schools in programming, creating fieldwork opportunities and using creative pedagogies to develop deep knowledge and understanding to effectively teach the new K–10 Syllabus and Stage 6. Lorraine has a passion for physical Geography and developing new teaching resources.

Workshop 1 (b): Taking Geography Outdoors – Fieldwork for Primary

Workshop 2 (b): Taking Geography Outdoors – Fieldwork for Secondary

The fieldwork workshops will take teachers through a variety of fieldwork equipment and strategies that can be applied at school or in the broader local area so that students develop primary research techniques.

Presenter – Darren Watt

Darren is the Principal of the Riverina Environmental Education Centre, Wagga Wagga. He has 25 years teaching experience with the NSW Department of Education in Rural and Remote settings. He has worked predominantly in K–12 Central Schools across multiple stages and KLA's with extensive experience in distance education via video conferencing technologies. Darren's approved areas of teaching include Science, Biology and Chemistry teacher and five years ago he transitioned into the field of Environmental Education. Darren supports NSW Department of Education schools with Science and Geography fieldwork skills, Sustainability, Aboriginal and Environmental education.



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Workshop 3 (a): Using ABS data in the Australian Curriculum

Using ABS data in the Australian Curriculum will focus on showing and demonstrating ways to use census data across various stages. This will include looking constructing population pyramids, mapping data using online tools and excel, as well as using the ABS Online tools to generate specific tables and maps.

Presenter– Patrick Curtin

Patrick has worked at The King's School in Sydney from 2014 to 2016 and is now teaching at Canberra Grammar School since 2017. Patrick is currently teaching Australian Curriculum and HSC Geography and is particularly Interested in encouraging students to find and use data to gather a better understanding of the world around them.

Workshop 3 (b): Using PBL to teach Geography

This workshop will look at the how Project Based Learning can be used in the teaching of geography and also in integrating humanity subjects.

Presenter – Ben Archer

Ben has been a secondary teacher, curriculum coordinator, careers advisor, pastoral care coordinator, relief teacher coordinator, timetabler and Vocational Education teacher in Catholic and Independent schools in the Northern Territory and ACT. He is a firm



believer in the scholar-practitioner model of education and is dedicated to modelling a lifelong learning model for his students. Lecturer, Canberra Faculty of Education and Arts, Australian Catholic University

Workshop 3 (c): Pens and maps. Literacy and mapping skills for Stages 2 and 3

This workshop will look at the use of story books in developing geographic understanding and teachers will gain experience in a variety of topographic mapping skills. Teachers will then be engaged in using these skills in developing literacy activities for students.

Presenter – Sharon McLean

Sharon has taught in a variety of boys and girls secondary schools teaching History and Geography and has been at Saint Ignatius' College for thirteen years and the Head of Geography for ten years. During her teaching career, she has been the Convener of the NSW Catholic Trial Examination Committee and also a member of the Geography Teachers Council where she has also holds the position of Vice-President.



**NSW
EDUCATION
STANDARDS
AUTHORITY**

Geography Teachers' Association of NSW through the Professional Teachers' Council NSW – NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA) as the endorsed provider of QTC Registered professional development for the maintenance of accreditation at Proficient, Highly Accomplished, and Lead levels.

Completing the **GTA NSW Regional Conference: Write On and Log On**, 14 September 2018 will contribute **5 Hours & 30 Minutes** of NESA Registered PD addressing 2.5.2; 3.3.2; 3.4.2; 7.4.2 from the Australian Professional Standards for Teachers towards maintaining Proficient Teacher Accreditation in NSW.

www.gtansw.org.au