



**The Geography Teachers' Association
of New South Wales Inc.**

ANNUAL CONFERENCE

***Geography –
Making a Difference for Australia***

Friday 30 August 2013

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Susan Caldis



- Susan Caldis is the Senior Project Officer Humanities and Social Sciences, leading on the curriculum development for Geography and Economics-Business.
- She joined the Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA) in September 2010 and steered the *F-10 and Senior Secondary Australian Curriculum: Geography* through to Ministerial endorsement, publication and implementation.
- Susan is a GTANSW Councillor and currently completing a Masters of Educational Research, specialising in Curriculum and Pedagogy.

Susan Caldis



Bio continued

- Prior to joining ACARA, Susan had, for 15 years, been teaching Geography in Sydney based government and independent schools, and working with teachers and students from regional NSW as part of their HSC preparations.
- Susan has been Head of Faculty, an HSC and SC Geography marker, teacher Mentor and also a leader of various initiatives related to project-based learning and quality teaching across a Community of Schools in the Northern Sydney region.
- Susan has placed particular emphasis upon fieldwork within her teaching of Geography and is looking forward to implementation of the Australian Curriculum for Geography – in the hopes that she will be able to return to the classroom and teach it!

Susan Caldis



Abstract

- Interpreting the Australian Curriculum: Geography
- The *Foundation to Year 10* and *Senior Secondary Australian Curriculum: Geography* have been endorsed by the Standing Council on School Education and Early Childhood (SCSEEC) and published on the Australian Curriculum website.
- States and territories are in various stages of implementation. This presentation will provide an opportunity to engage with the *Australian Curriculum: Geography* and explore its structure, underpinning concepts and intent.



Gordon Waitt

Bio

- Gordon is Professor of Human Geography in the School of Earth and Environmental Sciences, at the University of Wollongong. Here, he is a member of the Australian Centre for Cultural Environmental Research; a group of scholars who are applying geographical research methods to issues of sustainability.
- His research interest is in the relationships between people and place. The aim of his work is to better understand the inclusive and exclusive qualities of place-making. In recent years he has worked mostly within social and cultural geography.
- Gordon has explored the process of place-making within a range of projects that include nature reserves, world heritage sites, sports grounds, regional centres, pubs, nightclubs, festival sites and houses.



Gordon Waitt

Abstract

“It smells disgusting”: the personal geographies of plating-up kangaroo

- This paper explores why eating to might be helpful to teaching personal geographies, specifically concepts like place and sustainability.
- To do so, I draw on project titled *Food Cultures* conducted within Wollongong, New South Wales, Australia. The aim of the project was to better understand the resistances to eating kangaroo at home. My entry point to this work was the call of environmental scientists and economists to substitute kangaroo in red-meat diets for a changing climate.
- Drawing on participants’ personal geographies I illustrate how eating, or not eating, kangaroo is deeply embedded in place.
- I first explore how for some people eating kangaroo helps to make restaurants and tourist places. I then turn to explore how smell and taste of kangaroo meat work against some people being able to call places home.
- To conclude I point how the personal geographies of eating provide important clues to teaching how the politics of sustainability play out spatially.

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Rebecca Nicholas



Bio:

- Rebecca has been teaching Geography in both Queensland and Victoria for 13 years, and is currently the Head of Humanities at Brisbane State High School.
- She has always had a keen interest in incorporating spatial and Web 2.0 technologies in the Geography classroom. Rebecca is the Secretary of the Australian Geography Teachers' Association and was on the Advisory Board for the development of the Australian Geography Curriculum.
- She was involved in the development of units for GeogSpace, and is a keen geography tweeter (@geographynerd).

Rebecca Nicholas



Abstract:

- Teaching Geography at the moment could not be more exciting. There are so many wonderful Web2.0 tools that you can use to develop critical and collaborative thinking in the classroom.
- With the imminent implementation of the national curriculum, there are so many opportunities to use some of these tools in the planning of your units to further develop geographical thinking and understanding.
- This session will provide an overview of some of these tools, and will provide links to other resources that will help you find great resources to use in your classroom.

Susan Bliss



Bio

- Susan has taught Geography, Economics, Legal Studies, Accountancy, Asian Studies and Commerce in public and private schools, lectured at Sydney and Macquarie Universities and was NSW Director of Global Education (AusAID).
- She received the Institution of Education Research award for Outstanding Doctoral thesis, the University of Sydney Teaching Excellence Award, Outstanding and Exceptional Professional Service Awards, McDonald Holmes Medal for Geography, GTANSW Fellowship Award, AGTA Don Biddle Award as well as numerous national and state awards for writing and editing geographical articles and journals.

Susan Bliss



Bio continued

- Susan has been an active member of GTANSW since 1961. During this time she served as president, vice president, councillor and editor.
- Sue has convened and presented a variety of topics at more than 200 professional development activities, in urban and rural NSW, interstate and overseas. She has written in excess of 100 refereed journal articles and a textbook author for Macmillan (*GeoWorld*), Jacaranda (*Geoactives*) and Pearson.
- Susan has been a HSC and SC writer and examiner, and consultant for United Nations, ACARA and NSW Board of Studies

Susan Bliss



Abstract

Year 7/1 Atmospheric or Hydrologic hazard

Elaborations

- explaining economic, environmental and social impacts of a selected atmospheric or
- hydrologic hazard on people and places
- describing community responses to the hazard
- Inquiry and skills
- using graphs, weather maps and satellite images examine temporal and spatial
- patterns of a selected hydrologic hazard in Australia, and another region of the world,
- for example countries of the Asia region

Susan Bliss



Abstract continued

Year 8/1 Geomorphic or Biotic hazard

Content Descriptor

- causes, impacts and responses to geomorphic hazard

Elaborations

- investigating the natural causes and spatial distribution of a geomorphic hazard e.g.
- volcanic eruptions, earthquakes, tsunamis, landslides and avalanches or biotic hazard
- such as a bushfire that effects a landscape
- o describing how the effects caused by geomorphic hazards are influences by social,
- cultural and economic factors e.g. where people choose to live, poverty and lack of
-

Jenny Curtis

Bio

- Jennifer Curtis is very happy to have recently joined the NSW Global Education Project team. She had been the studies of Asia state adviser with the NSW Department of Education and Communities for over a decade and was most recently the Secondary HSIE Senior Curriculum Adviser.
- Jennifer is a K-12 teacher with a love of human geography, having studied primary education and anthropology, including Asian and Pacific studies. Her last postgraduate degree was a study of Curriculum History of Asian Social Studies in NSW schools. She has worked in schools in the Illawarra and South-western Sydney; Fiji, London and Singapore.

Abstract

- Integration of Global Education resources within ACARA Geography Curriculum

Morning Tea



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Lindsay Swan



Bio

Board of Studies:

- 1999 – present
 - Board Inspector, Human Society and Its Environment
 - Areas of responsibility:
 - Curriculum development and syllabus maintenance in HSIE K-12; including Stage 6 subjects.
 - Advice to schools and teachers; parents and students; school systems including Examinations – curriculum validity; HSC, Non-Government school registration, registration for home schooling, special projects as determined by Board and Office priorities.
- 1998 Curriculum Officer Stage 6
- Other Board of Studies:
 - Supervisor of Marking, Chair - Examination committee, Member - Examination committee and Syllabus advisory committee
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 - Supervisor of Marking, Chair - Examination committee, Member - Examination committee and Syllabus advisory committee

Dr Tracey McAskill

Bio

- Dr Tracey McAskill began her teaching career as a tutor in the Department of History and Politics at James Cook University in the late 1980s.
- She has since worked as an assistant professor at Zayed University in the United Arab Emirates and in a number of different Queensland schools as a teacher, a secondary school Head of Department in Technologies, English and Humanities and more recently as a Deputy Principal at a primary school.
- She commenced work at ACARA in early 2010, initially as a Senior Project Officer. She was appointed a manager in curriculum in February 2012 and is currently managing the development of Economics and Business, Civics and Citizenship, Health and Physical Education and Languages.

Lorraine Chaffer



Bio

Teaching experience

- Experienced teacher with NSW Department of Education and Communities
- Teacher of Geography years 7 – 12 for 37 years
- *Head Teacher Social Science*(15 years)
- *Head Teacher Administration* (5 years)
- *Head Teacher Teaching and Learning* (5 years)
- HSC Geography marker
- School Certificate Exam Committee member

Lorraine Chaffer



Bio

Professional development of Geography teachers

- NSW Geography Teachers Association member and Vice president
- NSW GTA Fellowship for demonstrated commitment to the study and promotion of Geography in NSW.
- Presenter for NSW GTA professional learning conferences and workshops
- Presenter at NSW GTA HSC Lectures
- NSW Consultation Committee on new Australian Curriculum re Geography in NSW

Lorraine Chaffer



Bio

Author

- Developed free units of work for use in local Central Coast schools (unpublished)
- Co-author of Oceanwatch Resource: Our Valuable Estuaries.
- Contributor to NSW GTA Bulletin
- Author of Jacaranda GEOactive 2 Teacher Edition
- Author of Jacaranda GEOactive 1 Teacher Edition
- Development of online resources for Jacaranda GEOactive series.
- Co- Author Macmillan Geoworld Series for Australian Curriculum

Lorraine Chaffer



Bio continued:

My passion for Geography is reflected in two challenges I set myself:

- For myself: Teach outside the square, engage students in thinking and send them out of the Geography classroom with new knowledge and understanding of the world and their role in its future.
- For my students: Leave my classes knowing something geographical they did not know when they arrived, still asking questions and wanting to come back for more. When this happens the subject leaves the classroom and connects students with the world they live in

Malcolm McInerney



Bio

- Malcolm has been a teacher in South Australian Education Department schools since 1976. Malcolm considers humanities education is critical in the school curriculum and has been heavily involved in the teaching and promotion of geography over the years.
- Malcolm has a keen interest in the use of geographical information systems in schools and has developed a range of teaching resources for the use of ICT in geography. Presently he is the Chair of the Australian Geography Teachers' Association (AGTA), a member of the ACARA Australian Curriculum: Geography Advisory Panel, Executive Director of the AGTA GeogSpaceproject (an ESA Supporting Australian Curriculum Online (SACOL) project) and is the Humanities Coordinator at The Barton Senior College in Adelaide.

Malcolm McInerney



Abstract

- Malcolm will outline the development and potential of the new AGTA GeogSpace on-line resource to support the Australian Curriculum: Geography. Several weeks after the ACARA geography curriculum was published, AGTA released the GeogSpace resource to support the on-line curriculum.
- In March 2012 AGTA was successful in tendering to undertake the development of the geography on-line resources for *Educational Services Australia (ESA) Supporting the Australian Curriculum On-line (SACOL)* project.
- On 31 May 2013 the GeogSpace site went live at <http://www.geogspace.edu.au> and was met with great enthusiasm from geographers around Australia who saw the resource as required support to ensure the successful implementation of the Australian Curriculum: Geography across Australia.

Lunch



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Nick Hutchinson



Bio

- Retired geography teacher,
- President GTANSW,
- Lecturer in Education, Macquarie University.

Nick Hutchinson



Abstract

- Personal geographies: There was an inclination to include an emphasis on personal geographies in the Australia Curriculum: Geography following the ideas expressed in Living Geography from the UK (Mitchell, 2009) and the emerging literature on children's geographies.
- The intention was to focus on young people's use of place and space and their interests in the geographies of sport, fashion and music. Little remains of this initiative although traces can be seen in the Year 7 unit on liveability and the Year 9 content on student's perceptions and uses of places and spaces.

Nick Hutchinson



Abstract Continued

- It is argued that the philosophies underpinning personal geographies can be successfully applied to enliven teaching practice in both the current NSW curriculum and future Australian Curriculum: Geography.
- Web support: <http://nhutchpersonalgeog.weebly.com>

Milton Brown



Bio:

- Milton Brown is a retired Geography teacher and current manager of the SurfAid Schools Program.
- This program provides free online teaching materials that use the challenges and achievement of SurfAid as case study. SurfAid works with communities in the islands of the west coast of Sumatra Indonesia to provide practical support and resources to enable them to improve their lives.

Milton Brown



Abstract:

- This session will focus on the way in which humanitarian organization, SurfAid, is working with communities to improve health and well-being in the remote islands off the west coast of Sumatra, Indonesia.
- These islands offer opportunities for teachers and students to study a special geographical area dominated by the contrasting beauty of the natural environment and the real threat of natural disasters.
- The area is also famous for its perfect surf and this adds intrigue and excitement to the learning materials. Surfers and non-surfers are captivated by the imagery of perfect waves and teachers can use this to engage students. SurfAid continues to update its programs and modify its activities and this will be outlined in this session.

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Greg Reid



Dr Alison Gates

Bio:

- Dr Alison Gates is passionate about quality teaching in and of geography.
- She is currently an academic at Charles Sturt University where she works on research in Higher Education.
- Alison has a background in geography teacher education and professional development.

Abstract:

Topic for talk: Food security: fueling the world's population.

- This presentation will give an overview of the Year 9 *Unit 1: Biomes and Food Security* in the new Australian Curriculum.
- This presentation will explore what is meant by food security and the implications of food security at a variety of scales.
- Once thought of as an issue for the developing world, food security is now a global challenge. This presentation will draw together some key resources to support teaching in this unit.

Debra Owens



- Debra Owens is a practising classroom teacher.
- She has taught at PLC Sydney and is currently part of the Social Science team at Roseville College.
- She has authored a number of Geography textbooks including the three editions of Geography for Global and Australian Citizens, Geo Broadsheets and Macquarie HSC Geography Revision Guide.
- Debra has presented student lectures for the GTA NSW and professional development courses for teachers through the AIS NSW.

Debra Owens



- Geographies of interconnections – An inquiry based approach to the effects of chocolate production and consumption.
- The presentation will use ‘LiveBinders’, a web 2.0 tool, using the example of chocolate to illustrate the main elements of the Year 9 curriculum, which addresses the effects of the production and consumption of goods on places and environments. Using an inquiry-based approach, the unit of work focuses on the 5 C’s of 21st century learning; connection, communication, collaboration, critical thinking and creativity.

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