

Plenary sessions

Keynote speaker, Thursday 30 January 2014

Professor James Arvanitakis



Professor James Arvanitakis is a Professor in the Humanities at the University of Western Sydney and the Head of the UWS Leadership Academy. He is also a member of the University's Institute for Cultural and Society. His research areas include hope, trust, political theatre, piracy and citizenship. James has worked as a human rights activist throughout the Pacific, Indonesia and Europe. He is currently working with the Whitlam Institute looking at issues confronting Australia's democracy.

James' latest book, *Contemporary Society: A sociological analysis of everyday life*, was launched with Oxford University Press in February 2009 and gave rise to 'Sociologic' – a weekly radio show on FBI Radio (94.5fm). A regular media commentator, he has published in both the academic and popular press including *New Matilda* and *The Conversation*.

James was a former banker and advocate for free trade, but having witnessed child and indentured labour, has worked to develop sustainable, socially just and equitable economic policies with organisations such as the Centre for Policy Development, where he is a research fellow.

He has worked extensively with a number of non-government organisations, including Oxfam International Youth Partnerships and Youth Engagement Program as well as Aid/Watch, as well as working extensively with a number of other justice-based organisations.

After being internationally recognised for his innovative teaching style, in 2012, James was awarded the Prime Minister's University Teacher of the Year Award – Australia's most prestigious teaching award.

James is a regular speaker at national and international conferences, delivering keynotes and research papers. While he has many testimonials, the one he is most proud of is from a group of students who, after a keynote at Taronga Park Zoo, insisted on taking his photo and said, "Dude, you're awesome!"

Keynote address

From lecturing to teaching like a pirate: Engaging students as active citizens

Bringing together both my research on citizenship and innovative pedagogical approaches, in this session I will highlight how the contemporary student should not be simply typecast as disengaged and disinterested. Rather, I argue that we must understand both the contemporary environment and changing nature of engagement and promote not only good teaching practices, but a sense of active citizenship both within and beyond borders. Given the changing environment, promoting a sense of active citizenship is fundamental to the future of universities and our student's career prospects. Drawing on a number of interactive exercises, I will aim to reflect on student engagement and how we can 'teach like pirates'.

Panel discussion, 8.45am Friday 31 January 2014

Transform, innovate and engage in new higher education environments

With an increasing focus on national standards and the impact of a demand driven system in the higher education sector, providers of higher education are facing a challenge to transform, innovate and engage students in their education. Institutions are challenged to reconsider their education models and practices that recognise the changing make up, needs, backgrounds and experiences of students in their institutions.

The panel session will involve senior representatives from our Western Australia universities. Discussion will be on the changing nature of the student body and the environment that universities provide to support the participation and retention of their increasingly culturally and linguistically diverse students, students from a wider socio economic background, indigenous students and students with disabilities.

Conference participants will be encouraged to submit questions in advance. Questions will also be invited from the audience.

Facilitator

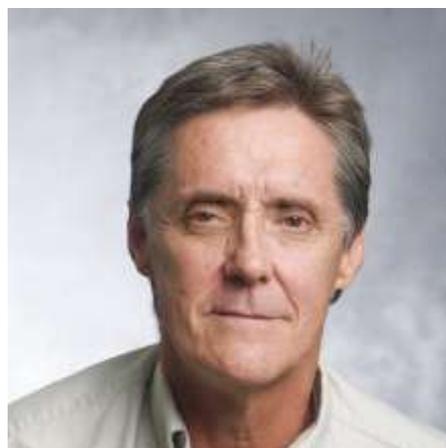
Winthrop Professor Denise Chalmers, Director, Centre for the Advancement of Teaching and Learning, University of Western Australia

Panelists

1. Professor Andrew Taggart, Pro Vice Chancellor Murdoch University

As Pro Vice Chancellor, Professor Taggart is responsible for our campuses and the wider Murdoch community at Rockingham and Mandurah/Peel and engagement with their communities. In addition he supports the Vice Chancellor and Deputy Vice Chancellors at Murdoch in aspects of their portfolios that link with his varied roles.

Professor Taggart also has responsibility for developing research and teaching partnerships with India and the sub-continent and is a regular visitor to the region. He works closely with City of Rockingham, which funds the City of Rockingham Chair in Education, to support the sustainability of the Campus.



He also leads and supports a number of research/community projects which grow the Campus profile and outcomes for the community. Given his work in Perth's southern corridor, he leads the recruitment of 'low SES/First in Family' students to attend university and development of partnerships with schools in the region, particularly secondary schools, local Governments, Chambers of Commerce and a range of business and industry partners. Currently he is leading a social inclusion in education project (funded 2012-2016 \$5.028 million) in the region.

2. Professor Colleen Hayward, Head of Kurungkurl Katitjin, Edith Cowan's Centre for Indigenous Education and Research

Professor Colleen Hayward is a senior Noongar woman with extensive family links throughout the south-west of WA. Professor Hayward has for more than 30 years provided significant input to policies and programs on a wide range of issues, reflecting the needs of minority groups at



community, state and national levels. Among Professor Hayward's many achievements, she was inducted into the WA Women's Hall of Fame (2012) and received a Member in the General Division of the Order of Australia (AM) in the Queen's Birthday 2012 Honours List for her long standing work with Indigenous communities.

Professor Hayward is currently Head of Kurongkurl Katitjin, Centre for Indigenous Education and Research, Edith Cowan University, a position she holds concurrently with that of Pro-Vice-Chancellor, Equity and Indigenous

3. Mr Malcolm Fialho, UWA's Senior Diversity Officer, Office of Equity and Diversity, The University of Western Australia

Malcolm Fialho has spent more than 20 years working in the area of human rights and holds postgraduate qualifications in cross-cultural psychology and is passionate about further developing and deepening an informed understanding of race through enquiry, dialogue and debate. His current work in developing 'Courageous Conversations About Race' is considered to be at the 'leading edge' of cultural competency building and breaks new ground in the area, bringing a power-based analysis of race and culture.

The UWA 'Courageous Conversations about Race' initiative aims to further develop cultural competence and literacy among participants.



4. Professor Sara de Freitas, Associate Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Teaching and Learning) Professor of Teaching and Learning, Curtin Teaching and Learning, Curtin University



As the Associate Deputy Vice Chancellor and Professor of Teaching and Learning, Sara heads up the Curtin Teaching and Learning team which is fostering excellence in teaching and learning among all the Faculties at Curtin. In her previous role, Sara was Director of Research at Coventry University, UK, where she has led the formation and development of the Serious Games Institute, a hybrid model of research, business and study, the first institute of its kind.

Over her academic career, Sara has published extensively in the areas of: higher education policy, pedagogy and technology enhanced learning. She has published seven books and over 100 journal articles, conference papers and reports. She currently sits on over 100 program committees and advisory boards and has undertaken over 100 keynotes, presentations and public lectures.



The Higher Education Research and Development Society of Australasia (HERDSA). The HERDSA WA Branch has been a long-term partner of the Teaching and Learning Forum, and will hold its Annual General Meeting **at lunchtime on Thursday 30 January**. Please join us to find out what HERDSA has been involved in over the past year and plans for 2014.

If you are interested in contributing to the HERDSA WA Committee, we welcome nominations for the following vacant positions:

- UWA (Discipline rep)
- Murdoch (Teaching and Learning rep)
- Murdoch (Discipline rep)
- Notre Dame (Teaching and Learning rep)

As a member of the committee you have the opportunity to contribute to planning professional development events and assist with organising one or two events at your institution per year.

See the WA Branch website: <http://our.murdoch.edu.au/Educational-Development/Scholarship-of-T-and-L/HERDSA-WA/>

About HERDSA

The Higher Education Research and Development Society of Australasia is a scholarly society for people committed to the advancement of higher and tertiary education. It promotes the development of higher education policy, practice and the study of teaching and learning. HERDSA has members across Australia and in Hong Kong and New Zealand. There are branches in most states which aim to promote practices within their state by offering professional learning, networking and events.

HERDSA also publishes the journal Higher Education Research and Development, regular print-based and email newsletters and 'Green Guides' – short, practical books about learning and teaching approaches. The HERDSA Fellowship scheme recognises high quality reflective practitioners in higher education.

HERDSA web-page: <http://www.herdsa.org.au/>

About HERDSA WA

In line with HERDSA's international and national aims, the WA Branch of HERDSA promotes a scholarly society for people committed to the advancement of higher and tertiary education. HERDSA WA runs a series of free seminars from local, national and international presenters. As a follow-up from the annual HERDSA conference, the WA Branch hosts a half-day mini-conference named 'HERDSA Rekindled', which reprises presentations by the WA conference presenters. We welcome you to join as a member to this friendly and collegial group. Further information and online registration is available at http://www.herdsa.org.au/?page_id=36.