

Wodonga TAFE, Charles Sturt University, AlburyCity, City of Wodonga and Gateway Community Health present

# Building Bridges 2011: *A regional early years conference*

## **Is sustainability sustainable?**

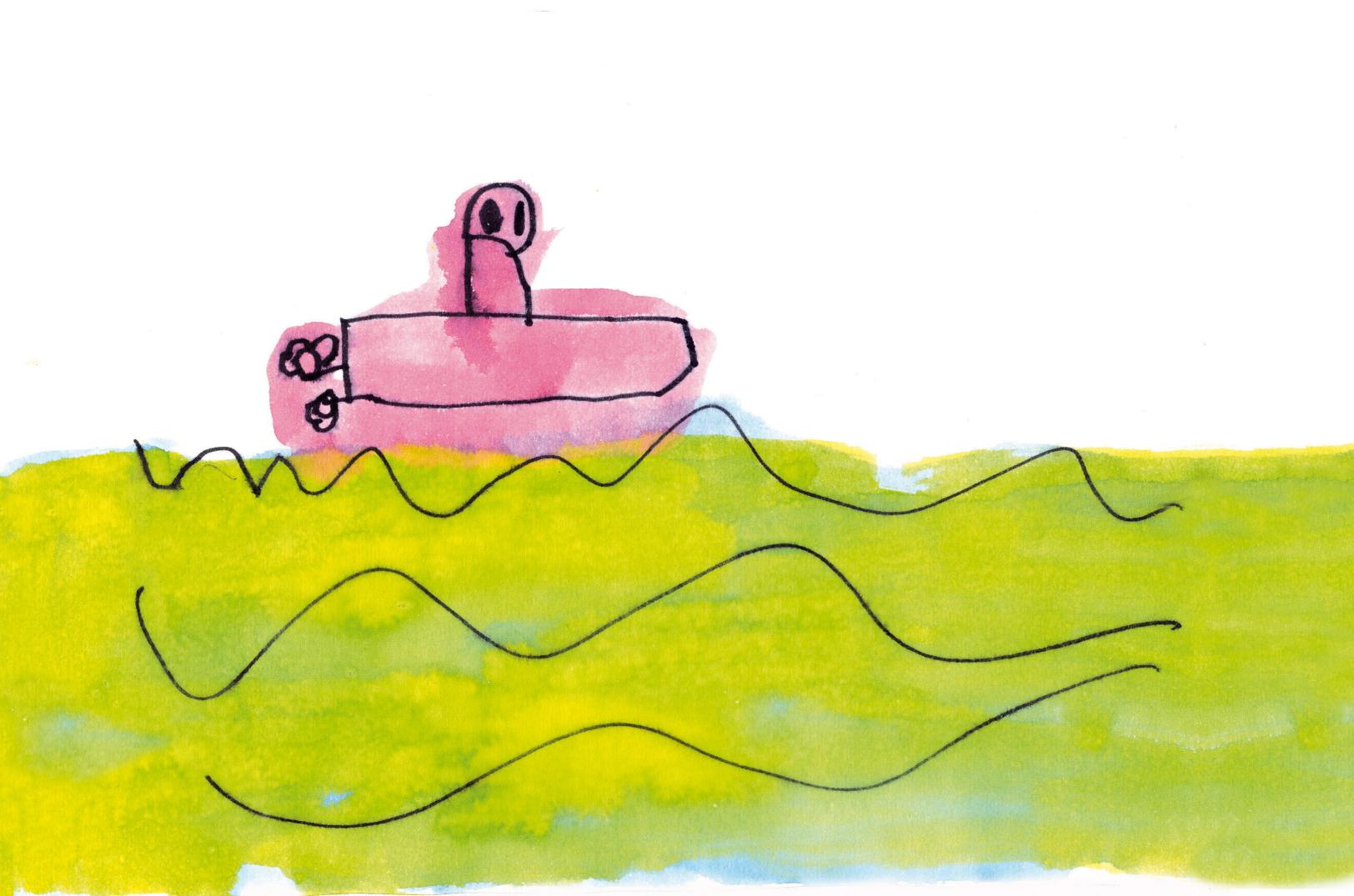
Thursday, November 17, 2011

The Valleys Restaurant, Wodonga TAFE, McKoy St, Wodonga

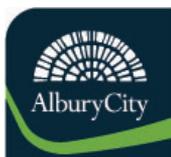
## **The four faces of sustainability**

Friday, November 18, 2011

Charles Sturt University, Elizabeth Mitchell Drive, Thurgoona



Sponsored by:



[www.buildingbridgesconference.com.au](http://www.buildingbridgesconference.com.au)

## About the conference

City of Wodonga, Charles Sturt University, Wodonga TAFE, AlburyCity and Gateway Community Health are pleased to present *Building Bridges 2011: A regional early years conference*.

*Building Bridges 2011* is an analogy for strengthening partnerships between our early years' services and schools, across the border and between regions, with the hope that a mutual understanding will be created and networks will be strengthened.

When all those involved in the care and education of young children are able to work together with a shared vision, the outcomes for children will be much improved.

Sustainability encompasses many faces. This year's conference provides the opportunity to explore these four faces including:

1. Professional and personal sustainability;
2. Sustainability of community;
3. Sustainability of the environment; and
4. Financial sustainability.

## Who should attend?

People working in the following services for children aged from birth to eight years, including:

- Primary school teachers
- Child care staff
- Preschool staff
- Support services
- Family day care providers
- Playgroups
- Outside school hours care staff

## Speaker titles and biographies

### Professor Nick Klomp: Sustainability

Nick Klomp is the dean of the Faculty of Science at Charles Sturt University (CSU).

CSU's Faculty of Science is one of the broadest science faculties in Australia, covering disciplines as diverse as dentistry, nursing, veterinary science, allied health, biomedical sciences, agricultural and environmental sciences.

Prof Klomp has taught and conducted research at five different universities in Australia and overseas, obtaining his PhD from the University of Glasgow.

He is a regular science correspondent for ABC radio, going live-to-air across much of New South Wales and Victoria.

Prof Klomp has been presented the Vice-Chancellors Award for teaching excellence and been nominated for the Eureka Prize for the promotion of science three times.

He is published widely in science journals, although his major research interests are in the areas of environmental management and tertiary education.

He is invited to present at dozens of conferences and workshops throughout Australia and overseas every year.

**Presentation: Is sustainability sustainable?**

### Anthony Semann: Personal sustainability

Anthony Semann is a director at Semann and Slattery and has worked as an educator, innovator and advocate with a broad range of government and private organisations.

His skills and expertise have seen him work across Australia and overseas. Mr Semann is in demand

as a presenter, facilitator and public speaker and has qualifications in education, sociology and social policy. Mr Semann is currently completing a PhD with a research focus on leadership and courage.

**Presentation: Leading myself in order to lead others (professional/personal sustainability)**

### Colin Slattery: Financial sustainability

Colin Slattery is a director at Semann and Slattery and has held a range of senior executive positions with government agencies, the private sector and non-government organisations for 15 years.

Mr Slattery has been highly sought after as a change facilitator and coach for individuals and organisations.



Mr Slattery has qualifications in applied science, management and organisational coaching. These diverse qualifications strengthen Mr Slattery's skills as a consultant and facilitator.

Much of the work undertaken in our program focuses on attending to the needs of others, including children and families. It is however important to take time out to focus on yourself as an educator in order to meet the needs of others. This keynote presentation will unpack what it means to care for oneself, identify both the complexities and gifts in leading yourself and explore the various ways this can be achieved.

**Colin Slattery and Anthony Semann's joint presentation: When money matters – what's finance got to do with me?**

So what has finances got to do with educators? Often the realm of finances live and breathe in the offices of early childhood administrators and directors. This presentation will challenge the notion that financial literacy should sit in the responsibilities of a select few and will explore how collectively quality pedagogy means a robust understanding of finances.

**Dr Louise Hard: Professional sustainability**

Dr Louise Hard is currently head of the Murray School of Education at CSU. Prior to joining CSU, she worked in children's services in Victoria, South Australia and New South Wales.



In 2005, she completed her doctorate titled 'How is leadership understood and enacted in the field of early childhood education and care?'. Dr Hard's interest is in understanding how early childhood education and care (ECEC) personnel interpret notions of leadership and engage in leadership activity in this highly feminised field.

Her research interests include leadership and management in ECEC, leading curriculum development and integrated services. Dr Hard has published in the area of leadership, presented many conference papers and teaches in undergraduate teacher education subjects. **Presentation: Enriching our early childhood community. The field of early childhood is a dynamic and diverse community of professionals.**

**Tracey Young: Environmental sustainability**

Tracey Young is an active committee member of Environmental Education in Early Childhood (EEEC Vic inc) and an executive member of the Victorian Early Childhood Australia organisation (ECA), where she has established a sub group with a focus of advocating for sustainability.



With a background in early childhood education and care, and a lifelong interest in environmental and animal welfare issues, Ms Young completed a diploma of sustainability at the

National Centre for Sustainability, which further developed a vocational calling for the principles and practice of education for sustainability.

Tracey has co-authored three publications with Sue Elliott including Just Discover: Connecting Children With The Natural World, Just Investigate: Science and Technology Experiences for Young Children and two chapters in The Outdoor Playspace Naturally.

Tracey was the recipient of the 2008 Jean Denton Memorial Scholarship that enabled her to complete a masters of education. In 2010, Ms Young was awarded the Barbara Creaser Memorial Lecture award, in recognition of her work as an advocate for early childhood education for sustainability.

**Presentation: The importance of environmental sustainability.**

**Carol A Burgess Early Years Learning Framework (EYLF)**

Carol Burgess is the New South Wales president of Early Childhood Australia (ECA). Ms Burgess is also the course director for the Bachelor of Teaching (birth to five years) and Bachelor of Education (birth to five) at Charles Sturt University (CSU) and a senior lecturer in early childhood education and care (ECEC) at CSU.



Ms Burgess has extensive experience as a teacher in primary schools, and as a teacher and director in early childhood settings as well as a consultant and adviser for the early childhood sector. Ms Burgess has published and presented at conferences both nationally and internationally in a number of spheres.

These papers have included areas on practice-based learning, fieldwork education, educational interactions and curriculum, team-based leadership and exploring relationships between quality leadership activities and outcomes for professional development for early childhood teachers.

Ms Burgess is currently working as the academic adviser for the CSU-led project, *Building Workforce Capacity for Early Childhood Education for Inland and Indigenous Australia*.

Her position as course director and lecturer in early childhood, as well as the membership she holds in many early-childhood professional organisations, gives her a unique understanding of the field worldwide.

**Presentation: Bringing it altogether with the EYLF.**

### Accommodation

For accommodation information or advice please visit [www.alburywodongaaustralia.com](http://www.alburywodongaaustralia.com) or phone the conference organisers on (02) 6023 6300.

### Registration information

1. Simply complete the attached registration form (one per delegate) and email, fax or post it with payment details to the conference organisers on the numbers provided.
2. Please note registrations are not processed without the required payment.

### Cancellation

If you cancel your registration before 5pm on Friday, October 21, 2011, you are entitled to a full refund of all monies paid, minus a \$20 administration fee.

No refunds are available if you cancel after this date, however substitute delegates may be sent.

All cancellations must be made in writing to the conference organisers:

### Registration fees

Full registration is \$150 and includes:

- Thursday evening dinner and keynote address
- Friday sessions plus morning tea and lunch

### Conference website

The conference website has been put together to enable us to provide delegates with more details about the conference and the presenters.

It will be updated as we draw closer to the conference, make sure you regularly check it out at [buildingbridgesconference.com.au](http://buildingbridgesconference.com.au)

### Organising committee

Shelli Hardwick  
City of Wodonga

Celia Hillman  
Charles Sturt University

Louise Hard  
Charles Sturt University

Rebecca Bates  
AlburyCity

Annie Pryse  
Wodonga Institute of TAFE

Donna Mlejnek  
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### Conference organisers

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## Thursday, November 17

### Is sustainability sustainable?

6pm	Registration and pre-dinner drinks
6.30pm	Welcome and dinner
7pm	Keynote address and Early Childhood Australia award presentation

## Friday, November 18

### The four faces of sustainability

8.30am	Registration and trade displays
9am	Presentations and roundtable discussions
1pm	Lunch - Tours, massage or yoga
2pm	Workshops
4pm	Bringing it all together with the Early Years Learning Framework and closing address