

## Leading a Digital School Conference returns



Jon Bergmann



Jill Hobson

WBNet's popular digital education conference has returned to its original name for the 2015 meeting.

"We polled our delegates and they told us that *Leading a Digital School* is a much better definition of what the conference is all about. The name signifies the exciting work being undertaken by educators who are leading their schools and classrooms in a disruptive digital world," Executive Director Margo Metcalf says.

"Many delegates come back year after year and we're looking forward to welcoming them

in Melbourne at the Crown Conference Centre on Thursday 20th August... we have a great program lined up with top speakers.

"This is a real learning event. The comprehensive choice of breakouts are great learning opportunities and the small numbers in each session will mean that conversation and ideas flow freely."

Themes for the 2015 conference are *BYOT* (Thursday), *Flipping Learning* (Friday) and *Change Now* (Saturday) to draw together the ideas and conclusion of the first two days. There will be two keynotes and a wide choice

of breakout sessions for each theme. This year's expert keynotes are Jill Hobson, Mal Lee, Martin Levins, Jon Bergman, Phil Stubbs, Lee Crockett and Will Richardson.

Jill Hobson, Senior Education Strategist with Promethean will present the first BYOT keynote on *Transforming the Learning Landscape with BYOT*. She warns that as teachers introduce BYOT, fundamental changes in the learning process will occur and new strategies will be needed for managing classrooms.

Mal Lee and Martin Levins are co-authors of *Bring your own technology* (Lee & Levins

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2012). They will present the second keynote on *BYOT and the Digital Evolution of Schooling*. Their presentation will position BYOT within the wider school evolutionary context, underscoring its educational importance and its significance for schools seeking in time to achieve digital normalisation. The session will clarify key elements, highlighting the human and technological variables the research has identified as vital to successful implementation and flagging the array of benefits that flow from successful whole school uptake.

Flipped classroom pioneer Jon Bergmann is the first of the two keynote presenters on Day 2. His topic is *Flipping Your Class: Reach Every Student in Every Class Every Day*. He will demonstrate how the flipped class allows teachers to have more face-to-face time with students, allows for real differentiation, causes students to take responsibility for their learning, and allows students to master material.

Phil Stubbs Education Director with Verso Learning will present the second Day 2 Keynote on *Making Learning Irresistible*. He has spent the last three years collaborating with leading educational thinkers, classroom practitioners and students in the USA and Australia to develop a pedagogically sound response to the challenges and opportunities presented by the phenomena that is flipped learning. This alternate view connects the thinking of leading educationalists including Alan November, Michael Fullan, John Hattie and Carol Dweck and presents an opportunity for flipped learning to move from the innovators to an entitlement model for all learners.

*Present Tense and Future Perfect* is the theme for Lee Crockett's keynote on Saturday morning. He is President of the Global Digital Citizen Foundation and an optimist about the future of digital learning.



Phil Stubbs

He says: "With a cup of coffee and a heart full of passion, we embrace the day. This will be the day we work on creating the bright future we see so clearly in our minds – then our phones start flashing notifications of email, social networks, text messages and other matters far more important than the future.

"In the daily battle of the tyranny of the urgent, we succumb to a default future. Together, let's pause and discover the processes and heart-state required to manage a tense present while creating a perfect future."

*Educating Modern Learners: The Opportunities and Challenges of Schooling in the Connected World* is Will Richardson's theme for the final keynote.

"The last 10 years have seen an explosion of devices and connections that are changing the landscape of education and learning," he says.

"We now carry massive storehouses of

information and knowledge as well as billions of potential teachers in our pockets and backpacks. A new world of connected, networked, self-directed learning and creating is upon us, all of which has huge implications for schools.

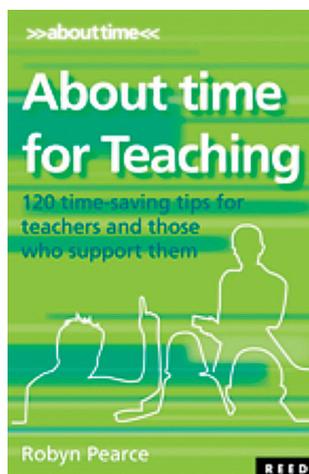
"What constitutes an education now that we can learn deeply in informal spaces outside the school walls? What are the new roles of teachers when content knowledge is ubiquitous? And how do we best prepare our students for the modern learning worlds in which they will live and work? We'll tackle these and other questions as we explore the important and complex changes and shifts that come with ubiquitous access to the Web."

**Conference program and registration**

[www.iwb.net.au/digital](http://www.iwb.net.au/digital)

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