



2025 NAFEA Conference Program

* **Disclaimer:** This program is a draft and may be updated. Final details will be confirmed closer to the event.

Wednesday, 29 October 2025 – Friday 31 October 2025
Novotel Geelong / Djilang

WEDNESDAY, 29 OCTOBER 2025		
TIME	SESSION	ROOM
18:30-20:30	Welcome Reception <i>Join us for the opening of the 2025 NAFEA Conference! Reconnect with colleagues, forge new professional friendships, and set the tone for an inspiring few days ahead. Enjoy a relaxed evening of conversation and refreshments as we celebrate the start of the conference together.</i> <i>Whether you're a first-time attendee or a returning guest, this is the perfect opportunity to settle in and immerse yourself in the NAFEA community.</i>	Tempo Kitchen & Bar

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THURSDAY, 30 OCTOBER 2025			
TIME	SESSION		ROOM
08:30 - 09:00	Registration/Tea/Coffee		Conference Lobby
09:00 - 09.20	Welcome from NAFEA Exec and Housekeeping Welcome to <i>Country Wadawurrung</i> Traditional Owner: Ash Skinner		Peninsula
09:20 - 10.00	Opening Keynote Address: Professor Walter Eppich, University of Melbourne <i>Dr. Walter Eppich is Professor of Work Integrated Learning in the Department of Medical Education and Collaborative Practice Centre at the University of Melbourne. A paediatric emergency doctor, educator, and researcher, he helps teams unlock their collaborative potential and optimize their performance in high-pressure environments. He holds a PhD in Health Professions Education and an Advanced Diploma in Professional and Executive Coaching. His teaching and research help teams enhance performance and learn from adversity to emerge more capable, resilient, and adaptive. He studies the intersections between simulation and workplace learning, focussing on interprofessional collaborative practice, team reflection, and conversational learning</i>		Peninsula
10:00 - 10:20	Morning Tea		Conference Lobby
10:20 - 11:20	Breakout rooms – Disciplines Education Discipline Health Discipline General WIL & WIL Systems		
11:20 - 12:50	Peninsula	Bellarine	Ceres
	Concurrent 1	Concurrent 2	Concurrent 3
	Building Connections: Bridging Students and Industry Through Project-Based Summer Program <i>Ilizel Villanueva Retita and Michele Hannon, UNSW</i>	Strengthening WIL Partnerships: The role of engagement specialists to enhance partner retention <i>Michaela Fors and Jayme Liu, RMIT University</i>	Improving Future Work-Integrated Learning Opportunities for Students with Disabilities <i>Dr Rosemarie Herbert, Monash University Neurodiversity and accessibility</i>

	WIL Partnerships	WIL Partnerships		
11:50 – 12:20	Concurrent 4 The "Oh No" Moment in WIL: Turning Placement Disasters into Learning Opportunities <i>Anne McLeod, Charles Student University Risk Management, Safety and Wellbeing</i>	Concurrent 5 Program-wide WIL Reflections in Mathematics and Statistic <i>Dr Geetika Verma, Kerri Morgan, Yan Wang and Asha Rao, RMIT University WIL Partnerships</i>	Concurrent 6 CSU Indonesia Librarianship Internship <i>Anita Dewi, Charles Sturt University</i>	
12:20 - 13:15	Lunch			Conference Lobby
13:15 - 13:45	Concurrent 8 Improving Pre-Placement Compliance Support Using GPT-Based Tools <i>Michael Roldan and Blake Knapping, University of Melbourne AI, Automation and Emerging Technologies</i>	Concurrent 8 Coordinating Clinical Placements During Institutional Transformation: The Role of SA Health’s Better Placed Team in Supporting Adelaide University <i>Melissa Connor, Department for Health & Wellbeing, SA Health WIL Partnerships</i>	Concurrent 9 Measuring the Impact of Engaging in WIL <i>Leoni Russell, RMIT University WIL Partnerships</i>	
13:45 - 14:15	Concurrent 10 From practice to publication: Supporting emerging voices in WIL <i>Ricky Tunny and Ondine Bradbury, NAFEA</i>	Concurrent 11 Rural health staff learning environments <i>Keryn Wright, University of Melbourne Rural & Regional</i>		
14:15 – 14:45		Concurrent 12 Enhancing equity and support for diverse learners in clinical health WIL settings <i>Karim Yacoub and Roula Kyriacou, RMIT University Equity, Diversity and Inclusion</i>	Concurrent 13 Clinical placements are risky business: a systematic scoping review of risk governance in clinical education <i>Raelynn Tong, University of Melbourne Risk Management, Safety and Wellbeing</i>	
14:45 - 15:15	Concurrent 14 Opening Doors: Collaborating with Internal Teams to Expand Engineering WIL Opportunities <i>Varsha Jogoo and Sandy Wong, UNSW WIL Partnerships</i>		Concurrent 15 Fit to Practice or Flatlining on Compliance? The impact of email marketing on student engagement with clinical compliance requirements <i>Rebecca Lever and Aimee Ahu, Southern Cross University Risk Management, Safety and Wellbeing</i>	
15:15 – 15:45	Afternoon Tea			Conference Lobby
15:45 – 16:15	Concurrent 16 Provocations of Practice with Partnerships <i>Bianca Greig (UNSW Science) and Ondine Bradbury (ACU Education) WIL Partnerships</i>	Concurrent 17 Alumni perspectives to inform inclusive and equitable WIL in multi-disciplinary settings <i>Dr Sarah Briant and Stephanie Bonson, Queensland University of Technology Equity, Diversity and Inclusion</i>	Concurrent 18 Breaking Barriers: Integrating Indigenous industry and its perspectives into university programs <i>Levi Foster, RMIT University Indigenous knowledges & perspectives</i>	
16:15 -14:55	Day One Closing Keynote Address: Professor Michelle J. Eady, University of Wollongong Australia <i>Dr. Michelle J. Eady is a Professor in the School of Education, Faculty of the Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities at the University of Wollongong, Australia. She is a Fellow of both the Higher Education Research and Development Society of Australasia (HERDSA) and The International Society for the Scholarship of Teaching & Learning (ISSOTL), and holds a Senior Fellowship of the Higher Education Academy (SFHEA). Michelle, a Fulbright Scholar and the current past-president of ISSOTL, holds a national teaching citation for her work in quality teacher preparation. Her research interests include the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL), Work integrated learning (WIL), Indigenous Studies and current issues in Education. She looks forward to making meaningful connections with others who are passionate about Teaching and Learning!</i>			Peninsula
17:00 Day 1 Close				

18:30 - 23:00	NAFEA 21st Birthday Conference Dinner <i>Join us for a night of celebration as we mark 21 years of NAFEA at this special anniversary conference dinner. Reflect on our shared achievements, enjoy a delicious meal, and raise a glass to the people, partnerships, and progress that have shaped NAFEA's journey.</i> <i>Expect an evening of local Geelong produce, lively conversation, and dancing—complete with a surprise or two to honour this significant milestone. Whether you've been with NAFEA since the early days or recently joined the community, this is a moment to celebrate together.</i> <i>Dress to impress and prepare for a night to remember!</i>	Peninsula
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FRIDAY, 31 OCTOBER 2025			
TIME	SESSION		ROOM
08:30- 09:30	Explore Geelong <i>Discover the rich history, vibrant culture, and stunning waterfront of Geelong. This is an opportunity stretch your legs, take in the sights and explore all that Geelong has to offer. Don’t forget your walking shoes!</i>		
09:30– 10:00	Registration/Tea/Coffee		Conference Lobby
10:00 – 10:10	Conference Opening		Peninsula
10:10 – 10.50	Day 2 Opening Keynote Address: Dr Faith Valencia – Forrester, Charles Sturt University <i>Dr. Faith Valencia-Forrester is a leading expert in Work-Integrated Learning (WIL), experiential education, and higher education strategy. With a strong background in learning experience design, professional development, and academic capacity building, Faith has worked extensively to enhance student employability, industry partnerships, and inclusive learning environments.</i> <i>Currently serving as Academic Lead Work-integrated Learning at Charles Sturt University, Faith is passionate about integrating innovative pedagogies, social impact projects, and digital learning strategies to bridge the gap between education and real-world challenges.</i> <i>A champion for equitable and accessible WIL opportunities, Faith has contributed to national and international initiatives that empower students to engage in transformative learning experiences. Faith brings insights, practical strategies, and thought-provoking perspectives to redefine the future of education and workforce development.</i>		Peninsula
11:00 - 11:30	Morning Tea		Conference Lobby
	Peninsula (cabaret)	Bellarine (theatre)	Ceres (cabaret)
11:30— 12:00	Concurrent 19 Beyond the Checklist: Embedding Risk Visibility, Safety and Wellbeing into Rural WIL Systems <i>Jo Schneider , CEO, DVE Solutions</i> <i>Nalini Klopp, Director Graduate Career Readiness (Flinders University)</i> <i>Larissa Pearce, Managing Consultant (DVE Solutions)</i> <i>Rural & Regional</i>	Concurrent 20 Enhancing Business Placement Experience for International Students: Adapting Student-Centered ‘6S’ Internship Program Delivery Model <i>Dr Zhifang Wu, University of South Australia</i> <i>Equity, Diversity and Inclusion</i>	Concurrent 21 Student Voices - The principle WIL partnership <i>Dr Simon Thornton, Beatrice Leake and Le Minh Nguyen (Students) RMIT University</i> <i>WIL Partnerships</i>
12:00 – 12:30		Concurrent 22 Enhancing employability preparedness for international students: Insights from WIL and broader support strategies <i>Pragya Kapil and Louisa Tobin, University of Melbourne</i> <i>Equity, Diversity and Inclusion</i>	Concurrent 23 Placement-WIL Host Guide (WHG): Developing an Open Education Resource <i>Dr Karen Young and Dr Sophie McKenzie, Deakin University</i> <i>WIL Partnerships</i>
12:30 – 13:00	Concurrent 24 Administering Work Integrated Learning (WIL) at Scale: Leveraging Data and Dashboards for Impact <i>Michele Hannon and Naureen Shehzad, UNSW</i> <i>AI, Automation and Emerging Technologies</i>	Concurrent 25 Bibliometric analysis and systematic literature review on Work-Integrated Learning (WIL): prepare international students for the global job market <i>Jinhua Cui, University of South Australia</i> <i>Equity, Diversity and Inclusion</i>	
13:00 – 13:45	Lunch		Conference Lobby
13:45 - 14:15	Concurrent 26	Concurrent 27	Concurrent 28

14:15– 14:45	Bridging the Gap: Collaborative Practice Initiatives at the Melbourne School of Health <i>Rachael Connor, University of Melbourne WIL Partnerships</i>	Beyond the Balance Sheet: Understanding the Costs and Enablers of Work-Integrated Learning in Education and Health <i>Anne McLeod, Charles Sturt University</i>	Commonwealth Prac Payments <i>Ricky Tunny, NAFEA</i>	
	Concurrent 29 Local Impact, Lasting Skills: Regional Tours That Deliver <i>Wayne Read and Matthew Cameron, Deakin University Rural & Regional</i>			
14:45 – 15:15	Concurrent 30 Internship Hub - How to develop a personal touch with students WIL placements <i>Max Wilton, RMIT University WIL Partnerships</i>	Concurrent 31 Iterative improvement of virtual WIL <i>Stuart Barber, University of Melbourne AI, Automation and Emerging Technologies</i>		
15:15 – 15:30	Closing Remarks <i>Elysia Corallo, Conference Convenor</i>			Peninsula
3:30pm Conference Close				