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23rd National Vocational Education and Training Research Conference (No Frills)



The annual conference of the National Centre for Vocational Education and Research provides an opportunity for researchers and practitioners in the vocational education and training (VET) sector to come together to present, discuss and share information about key issues facing the sector. The conference will run from 9-11 July and will be held at Hemisphere Conference Centre and Hotel at Holmesglen's Moorabbin campus.

Keynote speakers this year are Steve Sargent, President and Chief Executive Officer of GE Australia and New Zealand, and Mark Burford, Executive Director of Mitchell Institute for Health and Education Policy. More information about the conference is available on the [NCVER website](#).

Once again, the NCVER team who produce VOCEDplus will be presenting a pre-conference workshop. Titled 'Preserving our research: the archival role of VOCEDplus', the workshop will take participants on a guided tour of VOCEDplus with a focus on the special collections

contained within the database. There will also be a focus on tips and techniques on finding relevant information (both past and present), including NCVER publications, landmark reports and grey literature. Attendees will discover how they too can preserve their research and make it available to other researchers. To attend the workshop, register for the conference via the [conference website](#).

[Papers](#) from past 'No Frills' conferences are available in VOCEDplus and presenters are encouraged to [submit their papers](#) to the VOCEDplus team after the conference.

Latest poll

The areas of focus for the education and training sector are constantly changing as needs evolve and new topics rise in importance. We have identified five key areas relating to education and training:

- Governance of education and training systems
- MOOCs
- Quality assurance in education and training
- Work integrated learning
- Youth unemployment

We need your help to identify which of these is currently the most important. Visit the [VOCEDplus homepage](#) to lodge your vote.



New Subject Guides available

The team behind VOCEDplus produces a number of subject guides that provide a useful place to start when researching a specific topic. Each guide includes subjects and keywords to use for searching VOCEDplus, a selection of items in VOCEDplus on the topic, and relevant resources and organisations.

Two new subject guides have just been released, relating to topics that are growing in the tertiary education sectors. These are [MOOCs](#), and [Vocational rehabilitation](#).



Access the complete list of subject guides via the **Tools** tab on the VOCEDplus website. If you have a topic you would like us to produce a guide for, please let us know via the [feedback form](#).

New VOCEDplus feature: FAQs

VOCEDplus has recently released a frequently asked questions page to assist users in using the resource. Questions are grouped into topics covering searching VOCEDplus, working with search results, and other VOCEDplus features and services.

If you want to know how to limit your search to peer-reviewed items, what is My Selection, or what RSS feeds are available? Then consult the FAQs.

FAQs about... Searching VOCEDplus

- [How do I enter search terms in the basic search box?](#)
- [How do I search for multiple terms?](#)
- [What are BOOLEAN operators?](#)
- [How do I search in a specific field?](#)
- [How do I combine search terms in different fields?](#)
- [What is the difference between criteria and keywords?](#)

This page is still a work in progress and any feedback would be appreciated. Send your comments via the [feedback form](#), including suggestions for areas not covered.

Help us promote VOCEDplus

The VOCEDplus librarians are always looking for avenues to promote the database to existing and new users. This includes writing targeted articles to be published in journals, trade magazines or newsletters of specific professional groups.

Publications that have recently promoted VOCEDplus include:

- [HERDSA News, Volume 36 No. 1 April 2014](#), published by the Higher Education Research and Development Society of Australasia - see our article on page 21
- Australian Department of Industry's [Skills @ Work Newsletter - December 2013 edition](#)
- The Association of Career and Technical Education's February edition of [Techniques](#), published in the United States (members access only)

If you belong to an association that may be interested in publishing an article promoting VOCEDplus to members, let us know via our [feedback form](#).

How the rankings stack up

With the 2014 World Cup in Brazil happening, a quick look at the VOCEDplus statistics for the top ten ranked teams showed a wide range of use, with Germany the biggest user over the past 3 years.

