

IVETA Hotline

Issue: No. 3, 2015

Message from the IVETA President



Carmel Thompson, 2015-2016 President

Have you noticed how time passes by so quickly these days? Three months have passed since my last message and there are a number of positives in this edition I can report on. Your IVETA Executive Team have been very busy!

We have finalised our two year strategic plan and decided that this year we will particularly focus on improving membership services, developing a recruitment initiative to attract new members and with the use of technology/skype we will improve communication processes to support and stay in touch with our executive committee. With a global organisation whose membership is drawn from over 52 different countries and whose Executive Committee come from 10 different countries, it is quite a challenge sometimes just to have meetings whereby all have the opportunity to participate across many international timelines. But IVETA's logo of "The Handshake Across the Globe" is our model of how we focus on sharing cultures and experiences so we all learn from each other. It is something I am very committed to.

The IVETA International Conference (World TVET Conference 2015) held in Kuching, Sarawak from 25-27 August 2015 was a huge success. The theme was "Quantum Leap: Transformation and Globalisation of TVET – Living Skills in the 21st Century". It was the most successful international conference IVETA has ever held. There were over 750 delegates from 22 different countries and the keynote and guest speakers were of the highest calibre. The program commenced at 8.00 am each day and often we were still going well into the night experiencing the incredible hospitality of our hosts and the local delegates. Lots of networking took place which laid a platform for us to mix and talk about IVETA. We already have over 60 new members from this conference with many more expected to join over the next couple of months. Thank you so much to the Conference Organisers for all their hard work and particularly their Chairman and our Vice President for South Asia – Dato Haji Baharudin Bin Haji Abdullah. Further comments on the Malaysian Conference are available on our website.

The highlight of the conference for me was the Educational Tour I took on the third day. I have been on many educational tours at conferences over the 30 years I have been in vocational training but this one really made a strong impression on me. We visited the Centre of Technical Excellence Sarawak. If you want to learn more about this very special training centre known as [CENTEXS then click on this link](#) as our IVETA National Secretary Margo Coultrey has provided a brief summary of the visit. Of particular interest to me was the four week program called 'mental fitness training' which is built into the course to develop skills such as attitude, team building, confidence, communication etc. These foundation skills are the ones required to be evident in our graduates as they enter the world of work and are being demanded by our employers. This is an essential outcome of graduates of the CENTEX programs and they are quickly snapped up by industry on completion of the program.



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Membership



Welcome New Members!

IVETA Welcomes its Newest Members - [click here for a list of members who recently joined IVETA](#)

Be sure and keep your IVETA membership current!



Information:

- [IVETA Officers](#)

The international conferences we partner with host organisation around the world are a major attraction to our members and an excellent way for us to meet new contacts and share and learn what works in vocational training. Next year the IVETA Conference will be held in Fiji – 23-25th August 2016 so make sure you write those dates in your diary. A great place to take the family and stay on a few days afterwards for a holiday. [Click here for the conference information.](#)

- [IVETA Regions](#)
- [Directory \(Members Only\)](#)
- [IVETA Web Site](#)
- [Contact IVETA](#)

Another initiative that has eventuated as a result of the Kuching Conference is that one of our new members, Wendy Perry of Workforce BluePrint, and her team have set up an IVETA Linked In site. We hope you will all actively join the network and use this as a tool whereby we can share ideas and get to know each other better. [Click here to visit the LinkedIn Site.](#)

Finally I would like to remind you all that our Annual Business Meeting and Conference with the theme “TVET – Adding value to education” will be held in New Orleans from 18-19 November 2015. [Click here for conference details.](#) Hope to see you there where we can do some serious learning, networking and have some fun!

Carmel Thompson, IVETA President

UPDATE ON EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP:

Last year at the Nashville Executive Meeting it was agreed that a new position be created on the Executive to support the President with issues relating to the review and updating of our By-Laws, Constitution, Agreements with Regional Offices, Country Liaison Appointments, Microgrant Contracts etc. We felt we needed someone with possibly a legal background to oversee these matters and report to the Board.

The good news is that Ms Mari Konturi of Finland who is a lawyer has agreed to take on this role. Many of you already know Mari well as she has been Vice President for Europe for four years and was currently standing in that position until a replacement was found. Mari now stands down from the Vice Presidency for Europe and is appointed Executive Director of IVETA. Congratulations Mari!

Dr Brenden Tempest Mogg from the UK has been seconded into the position vacated by Mari until the next official elections are held in December 2016. Dr Brenden is President of Warnborough College (UK and Ireland), Warnborough Worldwide, Warnborough Publishing and Chairman of the Warnborough University Alliance. He is founder of ‘Dr Brenden Education Solutions’ (www.drbrinden.co.uk) where he prepares students for entry into top schools and universities, and provides a fast-track gateway for mature candidates to obtain an undergraduate or graduate degree through recognised prior learning and competencies assessment. We appreciate Dr Brenden taking on this position.

This just leaves us with one vacancy – Vice Presidency for Middle East and North Africa. We have offered the seconded position to an applicant but it has not yet been confirmed but we are fairly confident that we will fill this position and that we will have a full and active Executive Committee until December 2016 when new elections will be held.

There is so much happening within IVETA currently but then again so much more to do. I am grateful to have a full and active Executive as we work through our strategic goals.

**Carmel Thompson
PRESIDENT, IVETA**

Centexs Highlights Gold Standard for Technical Training in Sarawak

IVETA was honoured to be invited to partner with the Sarawak Skills Development Centre in holding the World TVET Conference in Kuching Malaysia from 25 to 27 August 2015. At the conclusion of what was an incredibly stimulating and exciting conference, a number of

conference delegates including several of us from the IVETA Executive were privileged to have the opportunity to visit and tour the Centre of Technical Excellence Sarawak known as Centexs.

The Centexs brand is expressed as '*setting the gold standard for technical training in Sarawak*'.

It is a new centre. It was officially launched by the Governor of Sarawak in October 2014 and is spearheading Sarawak's determination to build the skills needed for Sarawak's rapidly growing industry base and economy.

There are currently six program areas - oil and gas, construction, electrical, port, manufacturing and hospitality and 500 students annually but with a clear plan to expand the occupations covered and extend to new campuses. All the trades are industry-certified and conducted in partnership with industry to ensure that the students graduate with skills that meet industry needs and labour market demands.

But all those are just facts. It's visiting Centexs that makes you feel inspired. I've worked in the Australian vocational education and training system for 16 years and I'm proud of our system but I learned so much from Centexs about engagement with industry for real world skills and how if TVET is seen as high status and high outcome it motivates students and staff to achieve as nothing else can. There is also a focus on entrepreneurship, equipping students with the skills and belief in the value of establishing a small business which can grow and prosper, an integrated approach we could learn from in Australia where so much of our economy is powered by small business.

We were privileged to meet with the CEO and his management team, and teachers and students in the electrical, tailoring (part of the manufacturing program), welding and hospitality programs. Without fail we met teachers with long and current industry and business management experience and students excited about their studies and the prospects of success ahead. I was also personally impressed by the inclusion in the programs of 'mental fitness training', a concept I understand to be about building resilience and the capability to effectively manage the ups and downs of today's world of life and work.

Attendance at international conferences is always inspiring. They offer intellectual stimulation, new ways of thinking and new friendships that span the globe. But in addition, for me, it's always the stories of students and the outcomes they achieve that really lift me and stay with me. I thank the staff and students of Centexs for sharing their stories and offering me the chance to learn from them.

If you want to learn more <http://cte-sarawak.my/about.php>

- by Margo Couldrey, IVETA General Secretary



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IVETA News

Registration Deadline for the 2015 IVETA Annual Conference Approaching - November 1 - Join your colleagues in New Orleans! Registrations are now being

accepted for the 2015 Conference in New Orleans, Louisiana, USA. Cut and paste this Web address in your browser:

<http://iveta.org/2015AnnualConference> or [Click here for more information](#)
The agenda is available by [clicking here](#).

IVETA Journal - The latest issue of the Journal will be issued soon electronically. Consider submitting an article for the next IVETA Journal. [Click here for information on how to submit an article for publication](#) or cut and paste this Web address in your browser: <http://iveta.org/journal>

MicroGrant - IVETA offers MicroGrants to qualified institutions. [For more information, click here](#).

IVETA Board Update/Strategic Plan - Your Executive Committee held a Board Meeting in Malaysia in August during the International Conference to discuss the Strategic Plan. [Click here for the IVETA Strategic Plan document](#).

The 2015 International Conference in Malaysia - A great Success!
More than 800 gathered in Kuching for a very successful conference August 25-27. [Click here for a summary of the meeting](#).

Executive Secretariat/Contact IVETA

Please contact me if I can answer questions about your membership, the Web site or any other inquiries. As the new Executive Secretariat, I am available to assist you. Click here for [contact information](#) or cut and paste this Web address in your browser: <http://iveta.org/contact>

I look forward to answering your questions about IVETA!
Christine Gardner, Executive Secretariat

Events



IVETA Annual Conference 2015 - United States
IVETA will meet in New Orleans, Louisiana, Nov. 18-19, 2015.
[Click here for more details](#) or cut and paste this Web address in your browser: <http://iveta.org/2015AnnualConference>

International Conference 2016 - Fiji
SAVE THE DATE! August 23-25, 2016
[Call for Presentations is OPEN!](#)
[Click here for more information and to submit a proposal](#)

Region News

North America -

Dr John Gaal presented apprenticeship information at the White House. [Click here for more information and picture](#)

Europe:

EFVET Conference October 2015

The next EFVET Annual International Conference will take place in Paphos, Cyprus 21st - 24th October 2015. The topic of the conference is Excellence in VET making - the difference.

More information available at: http://efvet-conference.eu/index_photo.html#about

More information about EFVET, European Forum of Technical and Vocational Education and Training available at: <http://www.efvet.org/>

EuroSkills2016

Visit Skills Competitions in Europe, Euroskills2016 will take place in Gothenburg, Sweden next year. Information available at <http://euroskills2016.se/>

Region Reports Available:

[Europe](#)

[Latin America and Caribbean](#)

Current Research from Australia

Regulating and quality assuring VET: international developments

The opening-up of the market for education and training, including vocational education and training (VET), has increased the importance of regulation and quality assurance mechanisms in ensuring the integrity of qualifications. This report investigates approaches to the regulation and quality assurance of vocational education and training in a number of countries: New Zealand, selected European member states (Finland, Sweden, United Kingdom), Canada (province of Ontario) and two accrediting agencies in the United States. The insights gained from this investigation into the practices applied overseas could be used to inform the development of VET regulatory and quality assurance approaches in Australia. [Click here to read more.](#)

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