

AITD Conference 2026

13-15 May 2026 | Brisbane, QLD

Wednesday 13 May: Pre-Conference Workshop

	Registration and Speaker Support Open		12:00 - 4:00 PM
12:00 PM	Lunch - Lobby		(60 mins)
	Room: Ballroom Le Grand 3		
1:00 PM	Workshop Introduction Ben Campbell AITD, CEO (5 mins)		
1:05 PM	Welcome to Country Professor Benny Wilson (5 mins)		
1:10 PM	Workshop Plenary 1: The Science of Change: new developments and strategies Britt Andreatta Brain Aware Training (50 mins)		
2:00 PM	Move to next session		
	Room: Ballroom Le Grand 3	Room: Ballroom Le Grand 1	
2:05 PM	AITD Capability Framework in Action Michelle Ockers Learning Uncut (45 mins)	The Capability Playbook for an AI-Enabled Workforce, How L&D can redesign systems, not just skills Beth Hall Culture Edge (45 mins)	
2:50 PM	Afternoon Break - Lobby		(30 mins)
	Room: Ballroom Le Grand 3	Room: Ballroom Le Grand 1	
3:20 PM	Future Skills Organisation: Digital Proficiencies Sally Browner TBC (45 mins)	Credible Communication - Amplifying authority in moments that matter Anneli Blundell Anneliblundell.com (45 mins)	
4:05 PM	Move to next session		
	Room: Ballroom Le Grand 3		
4:10 PM	Workshop Plenary 2 Winning at Work: Lessons from the Olympic Arena Bo Hanson Athlete Assessments (45 mins)		
4:55 PM	Workshop Close		
5:30 PM	AITD Conference Welcome Gathering Bar Pacino, 175 Eagle St, Brisbane City		5:30 - 7:30 PM

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Thursday 14 May: Conference Day One

	Registration and Speaker Support Open		8:00 AM – 4:00 PM
8:00 AM	Fellows Breakfast Gathering and Emerging Practitioners Breakfast		8:00 AM – 8:45 AM
	Plenary Session 1: Ballroom Le Grand 2 & 3		
	MC: TBC		
9:00 AM	Welcome to Day One (10 mins)		
9:10 AM	The Honourable Ros Bates MP Minister for Finance, Trade, Employment and Training (10 mins)		
9:20 AM	10 Brain-Based Strategies to Create Engaging Learning Britt Andreatta, Brain Aware Training (45 mins)		
10:05 AM	Panel Discussion: When Learning Meets Reality: The Neuroscience of Sustaining Focus, Adaptability and Performance Panel Members: Kathryn Jackson, Loretta Mitchell, Paula Johnson, Britt Andreatta (45 mins)		
10:50 AM	Morning Break – Ballroom Lobby (30 mins)		
11:20 AM	Concurrent Session 1: Ballroom Le Grand 2 & 3	Concurrent Session 1: Ballroom Le Grand 1	
	Social Learning at Scale: How the Australian Public Service is transforming leadership and management development at all levels using cohort-based social technology powered by technology Kristin Boag APSC (25 mins)	Teams and Team Roles in the Age of AI Talan Miller, Belbin Australia (25 mins)	
11:45 AM	Move to next session		
11:50 AM	Facilitating Learning Through Co-Production: Reflections From Facilitator and Learner in the STEM-INSIGHTS Capability Enhancer Initiative Dr Lauren McKnight CSIRO Education and Outreach (25 mins)	Unlocking Collective Intelligence: An Immersive Workshop in Creative Problem Solving Gergana David Big Bloom (25 mins)	
12:15 PM	Move to next session		
12:20 PM	Canberra Institute of Technology (CIT) VET Blueprint Project – ‘Build a Future Ready Workforce’ Michelle Holden CIT (25 mins)	Capability at Scale: How to Build High-Impact Learning for Frontline, Operational and Dispersed Workforces Sue Borhan Cater Care (25 mins)	
12:45 PM	Move to next session		
12:50 PM	10x Capability: Amplifying Skills, Accelerating Growth, and Staying Agile in Complex Organisations Dr Maria Montesano Department Of Defence (25 mins)	Strategic Capability Mapping: Embedding Leadership and Technical Frameworks for Organisational Impact Kathleen Gaynor, OD Consulting (25 mins)	
1:15 PM	Lunch – Ballroom Lobby (60 mins)		

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Thursday 14 May: Conference Day One Cont..

Concurrent Session 2: Ballroom Le Grand 2 & 3

2:15 PM High-Impact Learning Video: Evidence-Based Strategies for Engagement

James Foulds | Department Of Foreign Affairs and Trade (25 mins)



Concurrent Session 2: Ballroom Le Grand 1

Is 'Just-in-Time' the future of work? Why L&D have the opportunity to lead the next workforce shift

Amanda Behre | Dear Thrive (25 mins)



2:40 PM Move to next session

2:45 PM Building AI Literacy Through Practice: How L&D Teams Can Learn by Doing

Dr Natalie Francis | Department Of Defence (25 mins)



Behind the Curtain: Diagnosing the Hidden Dynamics that Make or Break Capability and Organisational Change

Gabrielle Harris | Interchange (25 mins)



3:10 PM Move to next session

3:15 PM Beyond 'Learning in the Flow': Designing Work as the Engine of Learning

Kestrel Stone | Elemental Projects (25 mins)



Coaching at the Core: Transforming Learning in High-Turnover Care Environment

Leah Asensio | Hammondcare (25 mins)



3:40 PM Afternoon Break - Ballroom Lobby

(30 mins)

Plenary Session 2: Ballroom Le Grand 2 & 3

4:10 PM Panel Discussion - What the Evidence Shows: Applied Research on Learning Quality, Engagement and Decision-Making

Panel Members: Beth Hall, Melissa Banelis, Deniese Cox, Samantha Rush, Chris Campbell (45 mins)

4:55 PM Day One Close

5:30 PM Networking Drinks - Ballroom Lobby

5:30 - 7:00 PM

7:00 PM AITD Excellence Awards Dinner - Ballroom Le Grand 2 & 3

7:00 - 10:30 PM

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Friday 15 May: Conference Day Two

AITD State Breakfasts 7:30 AM – 8:30 AM

Registration and Speaker Support Open 8:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Plenary Session 3: Ballroom Le Grand 2 & 3

MC: TBC

9:00 AM Welcome to Day Two
(5 mins)

9:05 AM Inspirational Story
Hayley Lewis, OAM (45 mins)

9:50 AM Panel Discussion – Evaluating What Matters: Rethinking Learning Impact in an AI-Enabled, Human-Centred Workplace
Panel Members: Peter Brace, Sue Borhan, Andrew Beveridge, Neil Coulson, Peter LePage (45 mins)

10:35 AM Morning Break – Ballroom Lobby (30 mins)

Concurrent Session 3: Ballroom Le Grand 2 & 3

11:05 AM The Solo L&D Lead: Building Capability Without a Team
Simone Ainsworth | ABC (25 mins)



Concurrent Session 3: Ballroom Le Grand 1

Clarity in the Middle: How Middle Managers Resolve Role Ambiguity and Lead with Confidence
Sally Foley-Lewis, Sally Foley-Lewis (25 mins)



11:30 AM Move to next session

11:35 AM Meeting Employees Where They're At: Changing How We Consume Learning in the Modern Age
Téa Angelos, Vivlo Learning (25 mins)



Pros vs Cons: Choosing the Right Learning Solution for Your Context
Trinity Ryan and Cathy Saunders, Qld Department Of Families, Seniors, Disability Services And Child Safety (25 mins)



12:00 PM Move to next session

12:05 PM X Factor: Unleash your secret superpower
Yamini Naidu, Yamini Naidu Consulting (25 mins)



The Identity Trap: Why Self-Leadership Is the Missing Link in Transformation
Glin Bayley, SimplyGlin (25 mins)



12:35 PM Move to next session

12:35 PM Visual storytelling secrets: Effective PowerPoint design tactics for facilitators
Cameron Pegg, Communication Skills Academy (25 mins)



How to collaboratively design and develop accredited training to support the energy transition in QLD
Brian Inglis, Inglis Consultants Pty Ltd (25 mins)



1:00 PM Extended Lunch and Networking (Meet the Presenter) – Ballroom Lobby (70 mins)

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Friday 15 May: Conference Day Two Cont..

Concurrent Session 4: Ballroom Le Grand 2 & 3

The learners we never get to meet: Building practitioner capability to support motivated learners who are stuck outside our digital doors
Dr Deniese Cox | Teachingonline.com.au (25 mins)



Concurrent Session 4: Ballroom Le Grand 1

Small Levers, Big Impact: Decoding and Cultivating Your Learning Culture
Hannah Ryan | Versent (25 mins)



Move to next session

Presence to Power: Building Leadership Capability in Post-Institutional Workplaces
Madeline Miller | Coaching With Madeline (25 mins)



Cultivating Curiosity: The Leadership Capability AI Cannot Replace
Dr Hayley Linthwaite | Performance Frontiers (25 mins)



Move to next session

Creating ICONIC Learning Experiences
Marc Ratcliffe | MRWED Training and Assessment (25 mins)



ALess Communities of Practice, More Communities of Purpose
Kylie Sturday | Transport For NSW (25 mins)



Move to next session

Plenary Session 4: Ballroom Le Grand 2 & 3

Panel Discussion - Creativity That Delivers: Turning Imagination into Action in Complex Systems
Panel Members: Cathryn Lloyd, Paul Fairweather, Jina Hardy, Nigel Collin, Andrew Komodor (45 mins)

Conference Wrap Up

Conference Close