AITD Conference 2026
13-15 May 2026 | Brisbane, QLD

Wednesday 13 May: Pre-Conference Workshop

Time	Session	
	Registration and Speaker Support Open	12:00 – 4:00 PM
12:00 PM	Lunch – Lobby	(60 mins)

Room: Ballroom Le Grand 3

Time	Session
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: Winning at Work: Lessons from the Olympic Arena Bo Hanson	Athlete Assessments & Team8 People (45 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)

Time	Session	
2:50 PM	Afternoon Break – Lobby	(30 mins)

Room: Ballroom Le Grand 3	Room: Ballroom Le Grand 1
3:20 PM — No Time to Wait: Building Agile Generalist Competencies in a Rapidly Changing Technological Landscape Rachel Kerrigan	Future Skills Organisation (45 mins)	The power of presence: Amplifying authority in moments that matter Anneli Blundell	Anneliblundell.com (45 mins)

Time	Session
4:05 PM	Move to next session

Room: Ballroom Le Grand 3

Time	Session	
4:10 PM	Workshop Plenary 2: The Science of Change: new developments and strategies Britt Andreatta	Brain Aware Training (50 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

Professional Development L&D Capabilities

- Core Practitioner Capability
- Evaluation and Impact
- Learning Culture
- Learning Facilitation
- Learning Solution Design
- Operations
- Strategy and Partnering

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Thursday 14 May: Conference Day One

8:00 AM	Registration and Speaker Support Open	8:00 AM - 4:00 PM
	Fellows Breakfast Gathering and Emerging Practitioners Breakfast	8:00 AM - 8:45 AM

Plenary Session 1: Ballroom Le Grand 2 & 3

MC: Leigh Muirhead

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	**Brain-Based Strategies for Creating Engaging Learning** Britt Andreatta | Brain Aware Training (45 mins)
10:05 AM	**Panel Discussion 1 - When Learning Meets Reality: The Neuroscience of Sustaining Focus, Adaptability and Performance** Panel Members: Anna Pitman, Loretta Mitchell, Paula Johnston, Britt Andreatta (45 mins)

10:50 AM	Morning Break - Ballroom Lobby	(30 mins)

	Concurrent Session 1: Ballroom Le Grand 2 & 3	**Concurrent Session 1: Ballroom Le Grand 1**
11:20 AM	**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** Chelsea Cheney | AAS Cassandra Grant | CSIRO (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	Concurrent Session 2: Ballroom Le Grand 1
2:15 PM	**High-Impact Learning Video: Evidence-Based Strategies for Engagement** James Foulds | Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (25 mins)	**Is 'Just-in-Time' the future of work? Why L&D have the opportunity to lead the next workforce shift** Amanda Behre | Dear Thrive Francesca Dove | elan hr (25 mins)
2:40 PM	Move to next session	
2:45 PM	**From 'Fit for Purpose' to Future-Ready: Reinventing Training for Growth** Kristy Rossi | Bakers Delight (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 2 – What the Evidence Shows: Applied Research on Learning Quality, Engagement and Decision-Making** Panel Members: Beth Hall, Deniese Cox, Dr Samantha Rush, Dr 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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Sessions and timings are subject to change.

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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: Leigh Muirhead	
9:00 AM	**Welcome to Day Two** **(5 mins)**	
9:05 AM	**Inspirational Story** **Hayley Lewis	OAM (45 mins)**	
9:50 AM	**Panel Discussion 3 - Evaluating What Matters: Rethinking Learning Impact in an AI-Enabled, Human-Centred Workplace** **Panel Members: Sue Borhan, Andrew Beveridge, Kristy Rossi, Dr Denise Meyerson (45 mins)**	
10:35 AM	**Morning Break - Ballroom Lobby**	**(30 mins)**

	Concurrent Session 3: Ballroom Le Grand 2 & 3	**Concurrent Session 3: Ballroom Le Grand 1**
11:05 AM	**The Solo L&D Lead: Building Capability Without a Team** **Simone Ainsworth	ABC (25 mins)**	**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 Sanders	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	**Concurrent Session 4: Ballroom Le Grand 1**
2:10 PM	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)	Small Levers, Big Impact: Decoding and Cultivating Your Learning Culture Hannah Ryan | Versent (25 mins)
2:35 PM	Move to next session	
2:40 PM	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)
3:05 PM	Move to next session	
3:10 PM	Creating ICONIC Learning Experiences Marc Ratcliffe | MRWED Training and Assessment (25 mins)	Less Communities of Practice, More Communities of Purpose Kylie Sturday and Darryn Gray | Crackin'LnD (Down Under)(25 mins)
3:35 PM	Move to next session	
	Plenary Session 4: Ballroom Le Grand 2 & 3	
3:40 PM	Panel Discussion 4 – Creativity That Delivers: Turning Imagination into Action in Complex Systems Panel Members: Dr Cathryn Lloyd, Jina Hardy, Nigel Collin, (45 mins)	
4:25 PM	Conference Wrap Up	
4:35 PM	Conference Close	

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