

THE SUCCESS OF NEAS AUSTRALIA

The past five years has seen a transformation of NEAS, responding to changes in the economic, political and educational landscape of Quality Assurance in Australia. NEAS' Quality Assurance process is supporting our members in doing the right things, the right way. Quality assurance can only be effective when all stakeholders understand and embrace its challenges and benefits. Developing a culture of quality requires strong, committed stewardship from leaders in this sector such as NEAS. NEAS provides the framework to support all areas of education and training in its efforts to foster a culture of quality.

Australian international education is a world-leading brand. Hundreds of thousands of students are attracted to Australia each year, and Australian teaching and research is delivered around the world. It provides high-quality education for students at all levels, from school through to higher education, vocational education and training and English language tuition. It is a valuable component of the Australian economy, and it builds capacity and networks for national and international business and industry. However, there continues to be significant opportunities to expand and improve our education offerings (Australian Government, 2016).

As a response to this environment, NEAS has led the way in Quality Assurance, adding new dimensions of stakeholder feedback to our Quality Assurance Process. Services to members have expanded with the addition of NEAS Assist, NEAS Benchmarking and NEAS Premium Endorsement. These services integrate with one another to provide a sophisticated snap shot of the quality of each member centre. Members are provided with ongoing support and information through the NEAS Quality Learning Series, NEAS News and website.

OUR GROWTH

NEAS is now poised to extend more services to more members. Providing quality assurance to a wider segment of Education and Training in Australia and globally can make future growth possible. Strategy for growth has been focused around six strategic pillars: Trust, Capability, Reach, Capacity, Innovation and Leadership. NEAS has served the English language-teaching arm of international education and has begun to extend quality assurance to all areas of education and training.



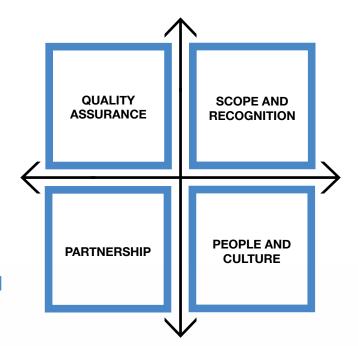
NEAS AUSTRALIA VISION: LEAD GLOBAL PRACTICE IN QUALITY ASSURANCE IN EDUCATION AND TRAINING.

NEAS AUSTRALIA MISSION:



ADVANCE GLOBAL QUALITY
ASSURANCE IN EDUCATION AND
TRAINING

EMPOWER KNOWLEDGE PARTNERSHIPS WITH EDUCATION AND TRAINING COMMUNITIES





NEAS: PRINCIPLES

QUALITY ASSURANCE

Quality is at the heart of everything we do.

SCOPE AND RECOGNITION

We are the global leaders and innovators in quality assurance.

PARTNERSHIPS

Strategic engagement underpins our services. We position for purpose.

PEOPLE AND CULTURE

We strive for excellence, we listen, we learn. We are here to make a difference.

NEAS: GOALS

QUALITY ASSURANCE

- Build industry capacity through strategic interventions that foster growth, sustainability, innovation and best practice in education and training
- Deliver a total customer satisfaction promise, from Board members to frontline staff, through a member oriented service culture
- Enhance service quality to ensure competitive advantage and complementary positioning with other Quality Assurance organisations

SCOPE AND RECOGNITION

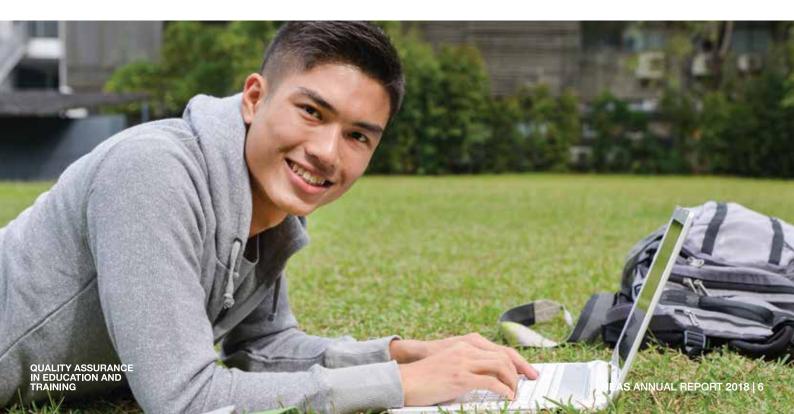
- Grow and maintain membership, both locally and offshore
- Build the NEAS brand portfolio to encompass new products and services, thereby increasing recognition, reputation and global awareness of NEAS
- Take a global leadership role in the driving of quality in teaching and learning

PARTNERSHIPS

- Engage in complementary relationships with Commonwealth and other government regulators for the benefit of learners and providers
- Achieve productive working relationships with complementary peak bodies
- Lead global network of quality assurance organisations

PEOPLE AND CULTURE

- Ensure all assets and resources within NEAS are aligned and support the NEAS mission
- Empower stakeholders through professional development, continous engagement, reflective practice and open communication
- Communicate and demonstrate international leadership in a culture of quality



TRUST & CAPABILITY

Building on and maintaining the trust and capability of NEAS is essential in keeping members engaged and continuing to renew their membership. This has been done by heightening the capability of the various internal stakeholders of NEAS. The NEAS Advisory Council has continued to support outreach and industry engagement. They have also assisted in reaching out to potential members and maintaining good relations with existing members. NEAS Staff have continued with their professional development to build capability and scope.

In the last two years, NEAS has seen formalised relationships with English Australia, UECA, ACPET, TEQSA and ASQA. NEAS has worked closely with government bodies such as Austrade, Home Affairs, DET and State and Federal Governments. Through these relationships and MOUs, NEAS has contributed to quality assurance of Education and Training nationally.

Existing products have been enhanced and streamlined, with more efficient systems and processes embedded in member organisations and with the NEAS Staff and Regional Assessors.

REACH & CAPACITY

Another area of growth for NEAS is around building reach and capacity. By developing multiple communities of practice, NEAS has reached more members, in more regions. Membership categories have been enhanced and extended to VET, TAFE, agents, partners, teachers, government and industry and online providers. Synergies have been explored to extend our quality assurance process to the wider international education community.

A client relationship database and a new NEAS LMS has been utilised to track and support a growing networked community of organisations, individuals, partners, teams and regions. NEAS News and the website, in conjunction with the LMS have been utilised to expand reach with professional development and resources for members, the QLS workshops and pre-QA checklists and models. This has enabled identification of new member categories allowing for expansion of NEAS products.

NEAS is seen as the Quality Leader for Education and Training in Australia and is invited to the table for many industry decision-making events, workshops, steering committees and round-tables.

INNOVATION & LEADERSHIP

The long-term goals of the NEAS 2020 strategy have been to demonstrate innovation and leadership in Quality Assurance for all members of Education and Training globally. NEAS will strive to be the preferred international model for QA. Other countries especially in the ASEAN region are looking to NEAS for models and best practice in Quality Assurance in the sector. There will be global membership categories and the NEAS conference in Sydney in 2019 will be truly international with a strong representation from South East Asia. NEAS Australia has become synonymous with Quality Assurance.



DEVELOPING A CULTURE OF QUALITY REQUIRES STRONG, COMMITTED STEWARDSHIP FROM LEADERS IN THIS SECTOR SUCH AS NEAS.





NEAS ONLINE

One important innovative opportunity has been the development of online systems and processes including a NEAS LMS. This is allowing parts of the quality assurance process to be completed online, allowing a greater number of members to complete the process with less red tape. Virtual communities of practice have been created, allowing for members and other stakeholders to communicate, network and share solutions to quality issues they experience. The Quality Learning Series is now offered online, allowing for members to build a portfolio of professional development without the large expense of travelling for workshops. Data, metrics and learning analytics have enabled an evidence-based approach to determining member behaviour and further support needed. The NEAS LMS has also allowed for forums, discussion boards and member postings, allowing different member categories to conenct and be peer supported. Building capabilities in online delivery has not only futureproofed NEAS but has developed the capacity to quality assure online education providers in Education and Training.

NEAS PORTFOLIO

To think outside of the box and develop organisational agility, it was imperative NEAS expand the services it provided to stakeholders involved in Quality Assurance in International Education and Training. This involved building on the solid foundation of ELT quality assurance and extending the expertise of the organisation into new areas. This approach looked at quality assurance areas of strategy, risk and governance, online delivery, ELT qualifications and Foundation Studies. The approach looked at face-to-face activities, social and engagement activities and online activities. Support complementary to teaching has also been explored, including WHS, health and well-being, privacy protection, professional development of all staff, risk management, organisational design and change management. Finally, NEAS has leveraged its expertise to quality assure quality assurance. acting as an expert guide to other QA associations and stakeholders.

NEAS INTERNATIONAL

Another unique opportunity has been for NEAS to expand globally. NEAS has been able to provide services to regional areas and in other countries. This has involved becoming excellent at teaching and training quality assurance assessment processes, to enable and empower key regional hubs to build capacity in quality assurance in their geographical and provider category area. The NEAS Management Conference has become truly international with strong representation from South East Asia. Collaboration has been encouraged between international universities, VET and online providers, to enable a truly global approach to quality assurance.



MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

This year NEAS Australia celebrated 28 years of operation. In 2017/2018 financial year, NEAS reached a membership of more than 200 endorsed NEAS Members in six countries and online.

Core to this has been the NEAS Quality Endorsement process. Cyclic and stakeholder driven, NEAS Quality Endorsement relies on a feedback model based on inputs from students, teachers, administrative and marketing staff. Inputs comprise anonymous surveys, focus groups and meetings grounded in the NEAS Quality Assurance Framework. In FY2018, Quality Review Visits were conducted with 84 Members throughout Australia. An additional 23 were conducted offshore. 30 Quality Learning Series Workshops and three online workshops to members were scheduled, reaching 676 ELT professionals with quality professional development.

NEAS further supported the maintenance of Quality Endorsement through its annual desk review of 186 endorsed centres throughout Australia, Singapore, Indonesia, Vietnam, Cambodia and United Arab Emirates. In addition to workshops delivered through the Quality Learning Series and the annual NEAS Management Conference, frequent updates through NEAS News and supporting resources on the NEAS website, NEAS also supported the University English Language Centres of Australia with the UECA PD Fests' professional development for teachers by teachers.

In early 2018, the NEAS Board and CEO reviewed the NEAS 2020 strategy and looked at key initiatives to extend more services to more members. Member feedback during the year indicates that, in addition to monitoring quality and compliance, the services most valued by Members have been the access to NEAS Assist, NEAS Benchmarking and NEAS Premium Endorsement. Members appreciate the way in which these services integrate with one another to provide a sophisticated snapshot of the quality in each member centre, and across the industry.

In 2017 and 2018, NEAS released three courses online for managers and teachers to assist in their efforts to balance regulation with creativity.

Responding proactively to changes in the economic, political and educational landscape of Quality Assurance in Australia and internationally, NEAS has supported and given unified voice to its members through with the Commonwealth Department of Education and Training, TEQSA (Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency), ASQA (Australian Skills Quality Authority), and many industry associations including the International Education Association of Australia (IEAA), UECA (University English Centres Australia), ACPET Australian Council for Education and Training, and English Australia.

Internationally, NEAS has been fundamental in advancing QALEN (Quality Assurance in Language Education Network), promoting a common voice among nine separate and independent quality assurance and assessment services to English language teaching, across seven of the most active ELT destinations across the globe. QALEN members meet yearly to communicate and collaborate on innovative methods in Quality Assurance and Accreditation, to quality assure the quality assurance agencies, create and promote a globally recognisable quality mark, discuss issues such as care of minors and the impact of world events on English language teaching, Quality Assurance systems and processes, and to undertake mapping and benchmarking.

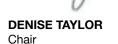
NEAS membership is voluntary and available to language centres and vocational fields associated with teaching, instructional design and academic leadership. Members join NEAS to access a unique and independent quality assurance monitoring service specifically tailored to the ELICOS Standards. They receive help with preparing for their audits, ongoing support and access to professional development. Members recognise and appreciate that the NEAS QA Framework serves to protect and enhance both their business investment, and the interests of consumers of the goods and services provided by the English language teaching industry.

NEAS is governed by a motivated and effective Board of Directors, who have demonstrated their ongoing commitment to NEAS, and are supported by the NEAS Advisory Council. The Board is pleased to report that NEAS' financials and our liquidity continue to provide a solid foundation for future growth.

Indeed, the Board and Management of NEAS would like to extend their thanks to the NEAS team, for ensuring that the strategic plan is being successfully implemented.

Finally, and most of all, we thank our dedicated quality providers for their continuing support of NEAS' role in assuring quality in international education, and for engaging with us to advise on matters associated with improvements to processes and developments of interest. We acknowledge that ELT providers everywhere are at the forefront of recognising and supporting the value and quality assurance of English language teaching in the classroom.







PATRICK PHEASANT Chief Executive Officer

PEOPLE AT **NEAS AUSTRALIA**

BOARD OF DIRECTORS



DENISE TAYLOR CHAIR Appointed June 2012, Chair Appointed February 2012, Independent Director MEd, Grad Dip Sch Lib, Dip Tch, Cert Tch, FAICD



LARRY DAVIES INDEPENDENT DIRECTOR Appointed November 2012 BCom, MCom Consultant, Windmill Tilter Consultancy



SEAMUS FAGAN ELECTED DIRECTOR Appointed February 2012 BA, Higher Dip Ed, MA Director, University of Newcastle Language Centre



CHRISTINE BUNDESEN AM INDEPENDENT DIRECTOR Appointed December 2015 BA, MA, MACE, MAICD Principal cmbGlobal



HEATHER THOMAS ELECTED DIRECTOR Appointed November 2017 BA, Dip Ed, CELTA, M. App Ling. Manager, UOW College



RUSSEL WELCH ELECTED DIRECTOR Appointed November 2017 Director, John Paul International College Retired from NEAS Australia Board July 2018



SARAH LANCE INDEPENDENT DIRECTOR Appointed May 2015 BEd, MBA, GAICD Director, LikeMinds Consulting Retired from the NEAS Australia **Board January 2018**

STAFF



PATRICK PHEASANT **CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**



ANA BRATKOVIC GENERAL MANAGER



ADRIANA LEOMIL MARKETING AND **ADMINISTRATION OFFICER** On Maternity Leave



BENJAMIN COLTHORPE OPERATIONS MANAGER



MR CAMERON HEATH MEMBER SERVICES OFFICER



MS DIANE PRICE QUALITY ASSURANCE ASSESSOR



MS MARION BAGOT QUALITY ASSURANCE ASSESSOR



MS ERIKA LAYTON BOOK KEEPER

ADVISORY COUNCIL



MR DENVER CRAIG ADVISORY COUNCIL CONVENOR Independent



MR JULIAN WILSON Institute of Continuing & TESOL Education (ICTE-UQ), The University of Queensland



DR SUSAN DELAHUNTY Explore English



MR IVANO BUORO Ultimo College, TAFE NSW



MR SIMON WINETROUBE Curtin English, Curtin International



MR CALLUM COWELL UWA Centre for English Language



MS ROSA PARK Kaplan International English Sydney



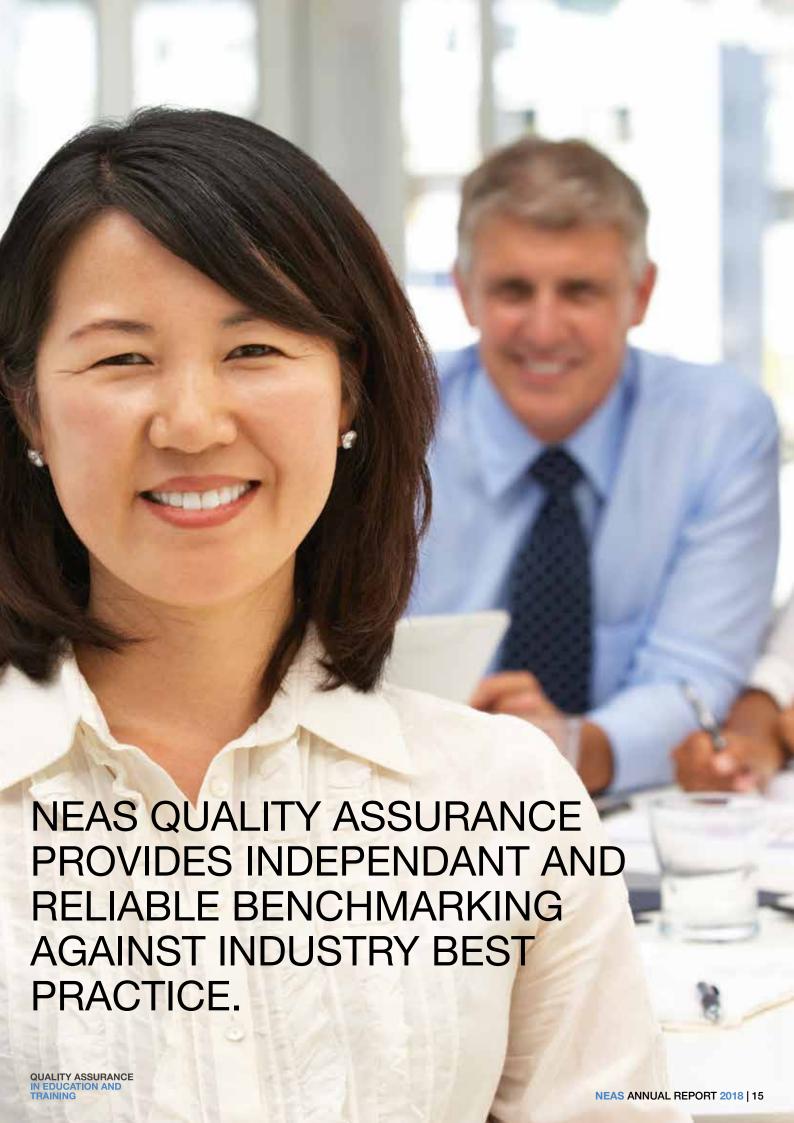
MS HEIDI REID Times Academy



MR DAVID YOO Australia Pacific College



MR SIMON CRAFT Inforum



2017-2018 ACTIVITIES

NEAS QUALITY ASSURANCE FRAMEWORK WITH ACTIVITY SUMMARY

NEAS Quality Endorsement relies on a stakeholder-driven feedback model based on inputs from students, teachers, administrative and marketing staff. Inputs comprise anonymous surveys, focus groups and meetings grounded in the NEAS Quality Assurance Framework. The Quality Assurance Framework was updated this year to introduce a seventh Quality Area focusing on strategy, risk and governance.

The Framework now comprises the key areas:

- A. Teaching, Learning and Assessment
- B. The Student Experience
- C. Resources and Facilities
- D. Administration, Management and Staffing
- E. Promotion and Student Recruitment
- F. Welfare of Students Aged Under 18 Years
- G. Strategy, Risk and Governance

From 1 July 2017 until June 30 2018, 84 Quality Review Visits were conducted by NEAS staff throughout Australia, and 23 offshore. 7600 students and upwards of 1800 staff members completed the anonymous surveys. Quality Review Visits to members are scheduled every two years. NEAS supports the maintenance of Quality Endorsement through its annual desk review, workshops delivered through the Quality Learning Series and the annual Managers Conference, frequent updates through NEAS News and supporting resources on the NEAS website. Members can access the Quality Assurance Framework and supporting documents such as The Plain Guide on the NEAS website.

As at 30 June 2018

NEAS centres Australia	148
QRVs in Australia	84
NEAS centres International	38
QRVs International	23

NEAS QUALITY LEARNING SERIES (QLS)

The NEAS Quality Learning Series (QLS) entered its fourth year of delivery. Sponsored by IELTS and Ebecas, the QLS workshops reflect issues that arise out of NEAS quality assurance processes, including the Annual Return of Information and Quality Review visits, as well as suggestions from NEAS members.

QLS workshops in the past 12 months have included:

Quality Area G: Strategy Risk and Governance

Quality Area D: Administration, Management and Staffing: Building a culture of quality

Quality Area D: Administration, Management and Staffing: Career development for teachers

Quality Area D: Administration, Management and Staffing: Developing creative PD programs

Quality Area B: *The Student Experience:*Enhancing the student experience

Quality Area D: Administration, Management and

Staffing: Motivating teachers

Quality Area B: The Student Experience:

Student engagement

Quality Area A: Teaching, learning and assessment: Using Research to inform teaching practices

Quality Area D: Administration, Management and Staffing: Career development for teachers

NEAS also offered Online QLS sessions, aimed at business owners, Principal Administrators and Academic Managers.

A total of 36 QLS sessions were offered over the course of the year, in Brisbane, the Gold Coast, Melbourne, Perth, Sydney, Cairns and Adelaide, with consistently strong turnouts. Feedback from participants was overwhelmingly positive, with over 90% of participants indicating that the sessions would help them to do their job better. The opportunity to network with and share ideas with peers was of particularly high value.

As QLS sessions are free to NEAS members, we depend on the generosity of member centres who agreed to host them. Our thanks this year go to International House Sydney, Kaplan International English, Discover English, The University of Adelaide College, AAC Language Centre, International House Brisbane, Inforum Education Australia, Victoria University, Academy of English, Central Queensland University, Explore English, Phoenix Academy, Ozford College and Cairns Language Centre.

GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

TEQSA, ASQA and NEAS continue to enjoy a strong collaborative relationship and one which adds value to NEAS members, who choose to invest in quality. NEAS was again admitted to the ASQA Panel of Audit Services. This involves NEAS conducting ELICOS audits on behalf of ASQA for vocational and stand-alone ELT providers.

TEQSA is also engaged in an ongoing dialogue with NEAS. This collaborative element of the NEAS / TEQSA has evolved providing greater value to TEQSA in all matters realting to quality.

The Queensland Department of Education continues to recognise NEAS in legislation as a baseline compliance requirement for high school providers of ELT courses to international students, and NEAS continues to work with the Boards of Studies to conduct quality assurance assessments on independent schools which enrol ELICOS students.

NEAS INTERNATIONAL

COLINTRY

As at 30 June 2018, NEAS had a total of 38 international centres, with 25 of those centres given the NEAS "tick" of quality endorsement, assisting in raising NEAS' profile in the South-East Asian region and supporting its international members with their continual improvement processes.

NI IMBER OF CENTRES

OCCIVITIES NOWIDELT OF CENTILES	
Vietnam	29
Cambodia	4
Indonesia	3
Singapore	1
UAE	1

NEAS MANAGEMENT CONFERENCE

The 2018 Management Conference, Beyond the Digital Revolution in ELT, drew more than 315 participants to Pyrmont's Doltone House on 9th, 10th and 11th May. With an opening plenary by the Futurist Chris Riddell, the conference signified the need for understanding the digital revolution and utilising it in ELT.

The program offered 40 sessions across three streams and participants were presented with potentially transformational ideas around professional development, student engagement, leadership and the integration of disruptive technologies.

Dinner guests were entertained by Comedian Jean Kittson, who quizzed the audience in ELT, while providing hilarious stories to remember.

NEAS thanks the generous sponsors whose support contributes to the continuing success of the Conference.

CamTESOL 2018 CONFERENCE

The 14th Annual CamTESOL, held at the Institute of Technology of Cambodia, Phnom Penh, on 10 – 11 February 2018, saw the NEAS team reinforce NEAS' global leadership role in supporting quality in the teaching and learning of English and other languages.

NEAS General Manager, Ana Bratkovic, presented grants to two researchers at the Regional ELT Research Symposium. The Symposium, which is traditionally held the day before CamTESOL, attracts researchers from around the region and showcases their research outcomes in a full-day of presentations.

NEAS Quality Assessor, Nicola Gray, delivered a handson workshop to teachers on using a blended approach to the flipped classroom. The teachers were given the opportunity to practise delivering traditional and blended methodologies whilst experiencing a flipped classroom environment.

PRESENTATIONS AT OTHER CONFERENCES

DATES	CONFERENCE	PRESENTER
29 Jul 2017	UECA PD Fest, Melbourne	Patrick Pheasant, Ana Bratkovic, Ben Colthorpe
23-25 Aug 2017	ACPET Conference, Brisbane	Patrick Pheasant, Ana Bratkovic
30 Aug - 3 Sep 2017	GAELA, ST ALPHE, London	Patrick Pheasant
19 Sep 2017	UECA Director's Workshop, Adelaide	Patrick Pheasant
19-22 Sep 2017	English Australia, Adelaide	Patrick Pheasant, Ana Bratkovic, Nicola Gray
10 – 13 Oct 2017	AIEC, Hobart	Patrick Pheasant, Ana Bratkovic
28 – 30 Oct 2017	ICEF Berlin	Patrick Pheasant
25 November 2017	TESOL NET 2017	Ana Bratkovic
7-9 Feb 2018	ST ALPHE, Bangkok	Ana Bratkovic
21 Mar 2018	ASEAN Australia Education Dialogue, Penang	Patrick Pheasant, Ana Bratkovic
12 May 2018	UECA PD Fest, Sydney	Patrick Pheasant, Ana Bratkovic



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR MEMBERS

Jul-28-17	Executive QLS - Risk & Governance	Melbourne
Jul-28-17	Strategy, risk management and governance	Sydney
Jul-28-17	Building a culture of quality	Sydney
Aug-03-17	Making our centres a safe place	Adelaide
Aug-03-17	Engaging with the IELTS Test	Adelaide
Aug-04-17	Strategy, risk management and governance	MOOC1
Aug-11-17	Motivating teachers	Melbourne
Aug-11-17	Student Engagement	Melbourne
Sep-01-17	Assessing Against Learning Outcomes	MOOC2
Sep-07-17	Using Research to Inform Teaching Practices	Melbourne
Sep-07-17	Making our centres a safe place	Melbourne
Sep-28-17	Making our centres a safe place	Brisbane
Sep-28-17	Using Research to Inform Teaching Practices	Brisbane
Sep-28-17	Executive QLS - Risk & Governance	Brisbane
Oct-06-17	Enhancing the student experience	MOOC3
Oct-26-17	Building a Culture of Quality	Perth
Oct-26-17	Using Research to Inform Teaching Practices	Perth
Nov-17-17	Student Engagement	Adelaide
Nov-17-17	Career Development for Teachers	Adelaide
Nov-23-17	NEAS Premium Product Showcase	Melbourne
Nov-24-17	Executive QLS - Strategy, Risk and Governance	Melbourne
Nov-24-17	Building a Culture of Quality	Melbourne
Nov-24-17	Motivating Teachers	Cairns
Nov-24-17	Using Research to Inform Teaching Practices	Cairns
16-Feb-18	Improving the Student Orientation - new	Sydney
16-Feb-18	Career development for teachers	Sydney
9-Mar-18	Developing Creative PD Programs - new	Melbourne
9-Mar-18	Improving the Student Orientation - new	Melbourne
9-Mar-18	Improving the Student Orientation – new	Sydney
13-Apr-18	Developing Creative PD Programs - new	Brisbane
13-Apr-18	Improving the Student Orientation - new	Brisbane
20-Apr-18	Customised Professional Development for Regional Centres	Perth
20-Apr-18	Customised Professional Development for Regional Centres	Perth
18-May-18	Building a culture of quality	Adelaide
18-May-18	Using Research to Inform Teaching Practice	Adelaide
25-May-18	Developing Creative PD Programs - new	Sydney
25-May-18	Using Research to Inform Teaching Practice	Sydney
29-Jun-18	Customised Professional Development for Regional Centres	Gold Coast
29-Jun-18	Using Research to Inform Teaching Practice	Gold Coast
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