“The Bleeding Edge and the Leading Edge - The double-edge sword of young professionals”

Many early career teachers and leaders are on the leading edge of their profession, implementing significant change in structures and pedagogical practices that can inspire student engagement and learning. Unfortunately, current research shows that close to 50% of teachers leave the profession within the first five years, representing the bleeding edge of young professionals. The key focus of the seminar will be to provide a platform in which the stories, practices, and experiences of young professionals can be heard, and relationships can be developed between experienced educators, and those on the double-edge of the profession. There will be a contemporary blend of stories from individuals that will give insight into the perspectives within classrooms around the nations.

The workshop will be an expression of leading edge ICT usage, and participants will be guided through the technology being used and the process of interacting with other educators. Then they will be given time throughout the conference to explore and connect with innovative educators across Australia, engage and offer support to young professionals who are seeking guidance within the profession, experience new frontiers in learner engagement and teacher pedagogies, and create national collaborations to improve the student learning outcomes in their own schools.

Biography

The ACE Young Professionals - South Australia, are a group of educators from the DECD, Independent and Private sectors who aim to grow the voice and presence of Young Professionals within the Australian College of Educators. As a network, they aim to build the capacity of educators in the early stages of their careers within a variety of educational fields. Lead presenter will be Jason Loke who started his teaching career in the remote Indigenous community school at Kalkaringi. Following teaching and leadership opportunities within the Australian Science and Mathematics School, Jason has recently taken up a position with Principals Australia Institute as the Associate Director of Innovations & Professional Learning. Other presenters will be Michael Murphy, Chair of the ACE Young Professionals, and two innovative leaders of education at the Australian Science and Mathematics School, Amanda Watkin and John Rowe.