

# Invitation

## to the Australia Vietnam Skills Conference Vocational Education and Training for Industry

Dear Colleagues,

You are invited to the Australia – Vietnam Skills Conference ‘*Vocational Education and Training for Industry*’ in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam on Wednesday 23 October (9.00am – 4.30pm followed by a networking event until 6.00pm).

The Skills conference is co-organised by the Australian Embassy, Government of Vietnam and the Australia Chamber of Commerce Vietnam. The Conference brings together government, industry and training providers to share ideas and world’s best practice.

With outstanding speakers and panellists from Australia and Vietnam, the Conference program will focus on the transformative power of vocational education and training. It will demonstrate how industry, training providers and government can work together to raise the profile of vocational education and training as an aspirational career pathway and ensuring that our graduates meet the skilling need of industry now and into the future.

If you are working in the vocational education and training sector and would like to join the Conference, please email us at: [skills@auschamvn.org](mailto:skills@auschamvn.org) by Friday 18 October 2019.

Sincerely,



**Ms Joanna Wood**  
Education Counsellor  
Department of Education  
Australian Embassy in Vietnam



**Mr Phillip Dowler**  
President  
Australian Chamber of  
Commerce in Vietnam



**Dr Truong Anh Dung**  
Deputy Director-General  
Directorate of Vocational Education & Training  
Ministry of Labour, Invalids and Social Affairs  
Vietnam



Australian Government



BỘ LAO ĐỘNG - THƯƠNG BINH VÀ XÃ HỘI  
TỔNG CỤC GIÁO DỤC NGHỀ NGHIỆP  
DIRECTORATE OF VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING

# Australia Vietnam Skills Conference

## Vocational Education & Training for Industry

Wednesday,  
23 October 2019  
Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam





# Australia Vietnam Skills Conference Vocational Education & Training for Industry

23 OCTOBER 2019

HO CHI MINH CITY, VIETNAM

**Aim** ..... The Conference brings together government, industry and training providers to share ideas and world's best practice to promote vocational education and training cooperation and skills for the future

**Co-organisers** ..... Australian Government, Government of Vietnam and AusCham Vietnam

**Date** ..... Wednesday 23 October 2019

**When** ..... 9.00 am to 4.30pm (8.00 am registrations open) followed by a networking event until 6.00pm

**Where** ..... Mai House Saigon, 157 Nam Ky Khoi Nghia Street, (entrance on Ngo Thoi Nhiem Street), Ward 6, District 3, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

**Speakers** ..... Outstanding Australian and Vietnamese speakers and panelists from industry, government and institutions

## Program

Time	Topic	Speaker
8.00	Registration desk opens	
9.00 – 9.10	Welcome and scene setting	<b>Ms Joanna Wood</b> Education Counsellor Australian Embassy
9.10 – 9.30	Official opening ceremony	<b>Government of Vietnam (TBC)</b> <b>Ms Julianne Cowley</b> Australian Consul-General in Ho Chi Minh City
9.30 – 10.00	<p><b>Key note speaker</b></p> <p>Topic: <b>'The transformative power of vocational education and training'</b></p> <p><i>Aim: to focus on the importance of working with industry and how working with industry has helped KOTO's students and graduates. KOTO is a story about the transformative power that VET can have and why VET is a pathway to success.</i></p>	<b>Mr Jimmy Pham</b> Founder Know One Teach One (KOTO)
10.00 – 10.30	Morning Tea	Served outside the room
10.30 – 11.15	<p><b>Industry Panel</b></p> <p>Theme: <b>Planning for Tomorrow: Action for Today</b></p> <p>Panel facilitator: Mr Nicolas Alderdice – Learning Vault</p> <p><i>Aim: to focus on what training providers need to do now to ensure their graduates are ready for industry now and into the future.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Mr Mario Dimovski</b> Tradiebot Industries</li> <li>• <b>Ms Tash Fee</b> Australian VET Alumni</li> <li>• <b>Mr Carl Peters</b> Lincoln Electric</li> <li>• Representative from VinGroup</li> <li>• Representative from Bluescope Steel</li> </ul>
11.15 – 12.00	<p><b>Showcasing Excellence: Raising the Status of VET</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presentation of the <b>real skills for real careers</b> initiative to raise the status of VET In Australia.</li> <li>• Benchmarking international best practice through WorldSkills competitions.</li> </ul> <p><i>Aim: to help highlight how government and industry can work together to improve the status of VET, so that it is seen as an equally attractive pathway as university education</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Ms Wendy Walker</b> Department of Employment, Skills, Small and Family Business, Australian Government</li> <li>• <b>Ms Alexandra Haughton</b> WorldSkills Australia</li> </ul>

Time	Topic	Speaker
12.00 – 1.15pm	Lunch	Buffet lunch served in the dining area
1.15 - 2.00	<p><b>WORKSHOP A</b></p> <p><b>Topic: How to work with Industry</b></p> <p>Institutional autonomy is a hot topic in Vietnam but the question facing many VET colleges is how to work with industry. How do you ensure your Teachers are engaging with industry to ensure the programs they deliver meet the needs of employers and the learners are job ready. The purpose of this workshop is to hear real examples of how industry and education institutions can work together to meet the skill needs now and into the future.</p> <p><b>Workshop leads:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Ms Alexandra Haughton (facilitator) - WorldSkills Australia</li> <li>● Mr Connor Gibson – Tradiebot Industries</li> <li>● Mr Toby Jones – Learning Vault</li> <li>● Mr Victor Lim – Lincoln Electric</li> <li>● Dr Kelly Cassidy – Swinburne University Vietnam</li> <li>● Professor Rick Bennet – RMIT University Vietnam</li> </ul> <p><i><b>Aim:</b> to provide participants and training providers with practical examples on how to work with industry to develop skills training programs and curriculum that is industry focused</i></p>	
2.00 – 2.30	<p><b>WORKSHOP B</b></p> <p><b>Topic: Australia and Vietnam models of institutional collaboration</b></p> <p>This an opportunity for providers to find out how they could improve education outcomes and delivery in their institutions and increase employment outcomes for graduates and revenue for the College.</p> <p><b>Workshop leads:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Chisholm Institute (Australia) – (facilitator)</li> <li>● Vietnamese College (TBC)</li> <li>● Mr Carl Peters – Lincoln Electric</li> </ul> <p><i><b>Aim:</b> to provide participants with practical ways for institutions to collaborate with each other and some of the key successes from Chisholm’s engagement with 25 Colleges in Vietnam</i></p>	
2.30 - 3.00	<p><b>Policy and incentives from the Government of Vietnam to foster collaboration between VET institutions and industry (TBC)</b></p>	<p><b>DVET leader</b></p>

Time	Topic	Speaker
3.00 – 3.30	<p><b>Women in VET: How to attract more women into vocational education and training</b>  <b>Case Study: Ms Tash Fee, Training Manager and Owner – Australian VET Alumni</b></p> <p>Tash is not only leading the way in providing training solutions for everything from fire safety and first aid to drilling and gas test monitoring, she is also a role model for women seeking to enter non-traditional careers.</p> <p>After facing her own challenges during her career as a mechanic, Tash dedicates much of her time to opening doors for women who wish to enter the mining industry, including the commencement of Women in Mining and Safety Week (WIMS) which offers free nationally accredited training courses for women wanting to get into the mining industry.</p> <p><i><b>Aim:</b> this is an opportunity to hear from a leading VET alumni on how to attract more female VET students and workers to traditionally male dominated trades</i></p>	
3.30 – 4.15	<p><b>Panel Session:</b>  Theme: <b>Promoting VET as an aspirational career pathway</b></p> <p>Panel facilitators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ms Wendy Walker – Australian Government</li> <li>• Ms Alexandra Haughton – WorldSkills Australia</li> </ul> <p><i><b>Aim:</b> the participants will hear from successful young people on how VET has transformed their careers and lives and why VET is a pathway to a successful career</i></p>	<p><b>Speakers</b></p> <p><b>Australia</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Ms Maxine Colligan</b> WorldSkills Australia (Car Painting)</li> <li>• <b>Ms Tash Fee</b> VET Alumni (Construction and Property)</li> <li>• <b>Mr Odin Lowsley</b> VET Alumni (Graphic Design)</li> <li>• <b>Mr Christopher Matkowski</b> WorldSkills Australia (Cookery)</li> </ul> <p><b>Vietnam</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Mr Le Thanh Duong</b> WorldSkills Vietnam (Web Technologies)</li> <li>• <b>Mr Tran Van Phuc</b> WorldSkills Vietnam (IT Software Solutions for Business)</li> <li>• <b>Mr Nguyen Thai Phuong</b> WorldSkills Vietnam (Water Technology)</li> </ul>
4.15 – 4.30	<b>Conference Closes</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DVET/MOLISA leader</li> </ul>
4.30 – 6.00	<p><b>Networking function</b>  Participants invited to move to the Networking function</p>	

# ▶ SPEAKERS

## Australia – Vietnam Skills Conference Wednesday 23 October 2019



### **Mr Nicholas Alderdice**

*Learning Vault*

Nicholas has an intimate understanding of education, hospitality, business, and management, including full awareness of issues surrounding strategic direction, quality management, continuous improvement and compliance, specifically in an educational context.

This is complemented through years of experience in managerial roles looking at changing staff perceptions of industry and looking at education through both a Macro and Micro focus.

With experience in education, at a regional level as well as at a college specific level, Nicholas has the ability to provide a holistic understanding of the importance of quality education coupled with customer care and how each of these elements affects the overall operation of a college. Nicholas believes that the most effective way to change an industry, is to create job ready graduates through a rich educational experience.



### **Ms Maxine Colligan**

*2019 Skillaroo*

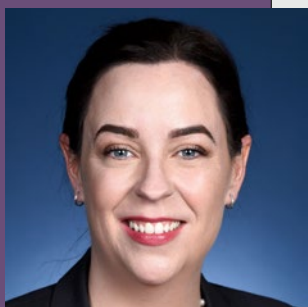
*Car painting*

Maxine Colligan completed her trade training through TAFE NSW, Sydney West and currently works at Gemini Accident Repair Centre in Cambelltown.

In the regional heats, she competed against many talented young trade's people in Sydney West for her chosen skill of Car Painting. Maxine was selected on the coveted WorldSkills Australian Skills Squad to vie for gold at the 2019 Global Skills Challenge – and she succeeded, which helped her to secure her spot as part of the Skillaroo team.

Maxine said, "For me, representing my trade at the WorldSkills International Championships in Kazan means that I get to represent other females in trades and show them that women can do anything men can do. I aspire to convince young women out there to give it a go because they will always surprise themselves with their abilities."

Maxine is the Bronze Medallist at the 45th World Skills Competition in Russia



### **Ms Julianne Cowley**

*Australian Consul-General in Ho Chi Minh City*

Ms Cowley is a senior career officer with the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) and was most recently Assistant Secretary, Health Policy Branch. She has previously served as Assistant Secretary, Staff and Welfare Development Branch, DFAT; Assistant Director General, People Policy and Planning Branch AusAID; Assistant Director General Security Branch, AusAID; and Departmental Liaison Officer, Office of the Parliamentary Secretary for International Development Assistance.

Ms Cowley holds a Master of Business Administration from the University of Southern Queensland; a Bachelor of Communication and a Graduate Diploma in Education from the University of Canberra.



## Mr Mario Dimovski

*CEO  
Tradiebot Industries*

Mario is a passionate entrepreneur and inventor pushing the boundaries of digital transformation, with a strong emphasis on innovation in the automotive industry.

Mario is at the forefront of developing technologies such as Augmented Reality (AR), Virtual Simulations, 3D Printing and Robotics

Recognised as an industry influencer Mario regularly contributes at leading innovation and industry conference events around the world as a speaker or expert on panel discussions.

Embracing the Internet of Things, Mario founded Tradiebot Industries in 2017 fast becoming one of leading innovators in the Automotive industry gaining global recognition for its creative technology projects and new to market Industry 4.0 solutions.

These digital solutions deliver new benefits to business, industry and the environment that include access to digital information, training, quality repairs, sustainability, upskilling current workforces and creating new digital skills for the next generation.



## Ms Tash Fee

*VET Amumni  
Construction and Property  
Training Manager and Owner*

Tash Fee first began her career as an automotive mechanic where she spent some years as a diesel fitter in the mining industry.

Seeing an opportunity to provide tailor-made mining training and safety courses for the mining industry and beyond, Tash commenced her own business, TNT Training Solutions, with its own registered training organisation, Drilling Skills Australia, where she is the company's trainer and assessor.

Tash is not only leading the way in providing training solutions from fire safety and first aid to drilling and gas test monitoring, she is also a role model for women seeking to enter non-traditional careers.

After facing her own challenges during her career as a mechanic, Tash dedicates much of her time to opening doors for women who wish to enter the mining industry, including the commencement of Women in Mining and Safety Week (WIMS) which offers free nationally accredited training courses for women wanting to get into the mining industry.

Tash has five Diplomas, three Certificate III, two Certificate II, and a Certificate IV Training & Assessment.



## Mr Connor Gibson

*Immersive Technologies Developer  
Tradiebot Industries*

Connor is the Lead VR Creator at Tradiebot Industries and is currently working on an innovative Virtual Reality Spray Painting Simulator SprayVIS which provides industrial training solutions that harness engaging, interactive and immersive teaching methods.

He has been involved in the Augmented Reality and Virtual Reality world for over 7 years since graduating from the Academy of Interactive Entertainment (AIE) in Sydney Australia. Connor also specialises in creating user interfaces and experience for VR and AR, creating a range of prototypes and applications for clients that include some of the biggest banks in Australia.

With his experience, Connor aims to find suitable solutions for any AR or VR experience.





### **Ms Alexandra Haughton**

*Partnerships & Brand Manager  
WorldSkills Australia*

Alex passionately leads the development of partnerships and the brand while championing young Australians in skills and trades excellence at WorldSkills Australia. Alex brings a wealth of knowledge from solution selling, event strategy and brand awareness through strengthening relationships. Through her work at WorldSkills Australia, she is determined to give VET the voice it deserves and show the world how important skills are.



### **Mr Toby Jones**

*Commercial Director  
Learning Vault*

Toby Jones has a love and passion for both teaching and emerging technologies which has led him to spend the last 10 years in the education and tech sectors of the UK and Australia.

Over the last 5 years in Australia, Toby's has predominantly worked in the Vocational Education sector, being a champion for how digital learning tools and enhance all forms of educational delivery.

Coming from a family of teachers Toby is fascinated by the human element of teaching and how this will evolve in an era of digital education.



### **Mr Victor Lim**

*Regional Director of Sales  
Lincoln Electric*

As Director of Business Development for Education and Training, South East Asia, Victor has been discussing with key government officials and technical schools involved in the skills and labour development in South East Asia to better understand the issues faced by each country. Victor is responsible for growing the business in the region, building sales teams to support distributors and customers and continue to increase market share.

Victor Lim has been in the welding business for a total of 38 years developing the welding market for Lincoln Electric in South East Asia. Twenty two years as a Lincoln distributor and now in his sixteenth year



## **Mr Odin Lowsley**

*VET Alumni*  
*Graphic design*

2018 Vocational Student of the Year Award - Runner-up

Odin was the 2018 Queensland Training Awards Vocational Student of the Year, the Vocational Student of the Year runner-up at 2018 Australian Training Awards, and is a member of the Australian VET Alumni.

After completing a Certificate III in Multimedia in Year 10, Odin went on to complete a fulltime Diploma in Graphic Design at TAFE Queensland, rather than continue to Year 11.

To be accepted to study the course at such a young age, Odin was interviewed to assess his ability to study among peers who were in their 20s. He graduated at the top of the 2017 class.

Odin was accepted to study a double-degree at Griffith University (Business and Design) at the age of 16.

His ultimate goal is to design for Lego



## **Mr Cristopher Matkowski**

*2019 Skillaroo*  
*Cookery*

Sydney's Cristopher Matowski is no stranger to feeling the heat in the kitchen. As a third-year apprentice Chef at The Star Entertainment Group: The Star Culinary Institute, he's used to working hard and delivering top-notch results. The same goes for his WorldSkills journey. Cris discovered cooking through his family, explaining, "my mother, father and grandparents love to cook, but they are not involved in the cooking industry. However, I took that passion when I was younger and pursued it as a career through school and work placements."

Cris was trained at TAFE NSW Ryde and kicked-off his WorldSkills journey at the regional competition in Sydney. Rivalry was fierce in Cookery, but he won a Gold Medal at the 2018 WorldSkills Australia National Championships, and followed that up with Silver at the 2019 WorldSkills Australia Global Skills Challenge in Melbourne.

Cristopher received a Medallion of Excellence at the 45th World Skills Competition in Russia



## **Mr Carl Peters**

*Director of Global Education*  
*Lincoln Electric*

Carl is the Director of Global Education of Lincoln Electric. He started out as a trainee at Lincoln Electric and has been staying with the company ever since. He is responsible for developing Lincoln Electric's global education strategy. Before his current, he was the Director of Technical Training for 14 years, Director of Motorsports Marketing for 6 years and Sales Manager for 4 years. Carl managed the Lincoln Electric welding school, the technical sales training program, distribution training programs and end user training programs. He also developed Lincoln Electric's motorsports marketing program.

Carl holds a Bachelor degree in Industrial Engineering Penn State University. He is a member of the American Welding Society and the Chair of AWS Scholarship Committee, the Chair of IIW Commission XIV on Education and Training, a Board member of the James F. Lincoln Arc Welding Foundation, the Global Industry Partner representative for WorldSkills International.



### **Mr Jimmy Pham AM**

*Founder*

*Know One Teach One (KOTO)*

Jimmy Viet Tuan Pham emigrated with his mother and four older siblings from Vietnam in 1974, eventually settling in Australia in 1980. Jimmy's professional background in tourism and hospitality management brought him back to Vietnam in 1996. He first witnessed the plight of at-risk youth on the streets of Hanoi, and KOTO was born. In 2019, KOTO is celebrating its 20th Anniversary.

Jimmy received the POSCO TJ Park Prize, the second largest and most prestigious award in South Korea in 2017. He was awarded the Overseas Applied Research Fellowship with the International Specialized Skills Institute (ISSI) in 2016. In 2013, he was appointed a Member of the Order of Australia (AM), an honour acknowledging his significant service to the community, particularly with marginalized children and youth in Vietnam.

Jimmy is currently completing his EMBA on a scholarship awarded by the AusCham Vietnam chapter. He is expected to complete his studies in 2019.



### **Ms Wendy Walker**

*Director*

*Partnerships, Awards and Influencers*

*National Careers Institute*

*Department of Employment, Skills, Small and Family Business*

Wendy Walker is the Director of the Partnerships, Awards and Influencers section in the National Careers Institute.

Wendy's core responsibility is the delivery of the Australian Training Awards, which she has managed for the past 14 years and management of the Australian VET Alumni, an element of the VET Information Strategy designed to raise the status of vocational education and training in Australia.

In addition, Wendy manages the contracts for Australian Government funding to WorldSkills Australia and National Skills Week and oversees the production of the monthly Skills@Work publication.

Wendy has more than 25 years' experience working in VET and her section was awarded an Australia Day Achievement Award medallion for the successful delivery of the Australian Training Awards in 2013.



### **Ms Joanna Wood**

*Education Counsellor*

*Australian Embassy in Hanoi*

Joanna Wood is the Australian Government Education Counsellor for Vietnam and Thailand. Joanna has worked for 20 years in the Australian Government in the areas of climate change policy and programs; employment policy and international education. Prior to joining the Australian Public Service Joanna worked for 15 years in the private sector including business development, stockbroking and she established and managed a successful social enterprise for five years.

Joanna has ten years' experience in the area of International education and skills including providing high level policy advice to international governments and multilateral organisations. Joanna led the development of the Australian Government's International Skills Training courses initiative, including overseeing the piloting the International Training and Assessment courses for vocational trainers and assessors in 10 countries to over 800 learners.

Joanna holds a Master of Public Policy, specialising in International Policy from the Crawford School of Public Policy, Australian National University (ANU) and a Certificate IV in Training and Assessment from Canberra Institute of Technology (CIT).