

Transforming the way young people acquire the technical, social and learning skills needed in the 21st century.

sunday 7 may 2006
melbourne australia



Hon Bob Hawke AC – former Prime Minister of Australia
Patron – 2006 WorldSkills Leaders Forum

"WorldSkills has, for the last fifty years, promoted the importance of excellence and best practice in vocational education and training throughout the world and is wholeheartedly committed to inspiring and encouraging the youth of today in their vocational choice. I am very proud to be associated with the organisation and look forward to making a contribution to its continued success." says Hon Bob Hawke AC.

The 2006 WorldSkills Leaders Forum brings together 4 institutions and their leaders who are putting policy into practice and actually transforming the way young people develop the skills, knowledge and values needed for lifelong learning in the 21st century. Each speaker will address the challenges they confront and present practical strategies and solutions currently being implemented.

Keynotes:



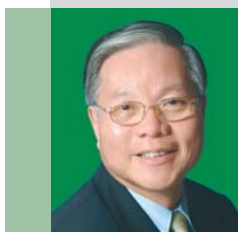
TIMO LANKINEN
Ministry of Education,
FINLAND

"Attractiveness, working-life approach and quality – the Finnish vocational education and training system"



Lt Gen (Retd) S S MEHTA
PVSM, AVSM and Bar, VSM
Principal Adviser, Confedera-
tion of Indian Industry, INDIA

"Skilling a Million Indians – Galvanizing skills formation across India"



DR LAW SONG SENG
Director & Chief Executive
Officer, Institute of
Technical Education,
SINGAPORE

"A world-class vocational technical education system in time for the future"



BRUCE MACKENZIE PSM
Chief Executive Officer,
Holmesglen Institute of TAFE,
AUSTRALIA

"How young people acquire technical, social and learning skills"

Program:

Sunday 7 May 2006
9:00am - 12:00pm
12:00pm - 1:00pm

Event
WorldSkills Leaders Forum
Leaders Forum Lunch

Venue
MECC suites 1 & 2
MECC Clarendon Room

WorldSkills Leaders Forum is proudly supported by WorldSkills Founding Global Sponsor Partners

www.worldskillsleadersforum.com



abstracts

Finnish Ministry of Education

ATTRACTIVENESS, WORKING-LIFE APPROACH AND QUALITY
– SOLUTIONS AND RESULTS IN FINNISH VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING



A presentation by Timo Lankinen

After the recession in the beginning of the 1990's, Finland has again attained strong economic growth. We believe that the considerable investments in education and training have promoted the development. Vocational education and training, both upper secondary and higher education, have been reformed to answer future challenges. Upper secondary VET offers young people and adults pathways to working-life and a competitive educational channel alongside the upper secondary general school. In higher education the new vocationally oriented sector (called polytechnics in Finland) provides high-quality professionals and supports innovations and quality of industries and services.

How did we come to this? What measures have been taken towards the strengthening of VET attractiveness and how is it going?

We have needed national decisions in educational policy and commitment to put the decisions to work, and investing funds to raise the quality of vocational education and training. We guarantee study places on the upper secondary level, either in vocational or in general upper secondary education, for all basic school leavers. There are no dead ends in the education system: all the study programmes give possibilities to further study at the next level. We have intensified marketing VET as equal pathway to higher education with upper secondary general school. VET channel is becoming highly competitive.

Confederation of Indian Industry - India



"SKILLING A MILLION INDIANS" – GALVANIZING SKILLS
FORMATION ACROSS INDIA

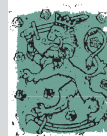
A presentation by Lt Gen (Retd) S S Mehta

In India's drive towards inclusiveness and sustainable growth, it is seeking to provide livelihood opportunities by skilling its workforce. It also seeks to integrate world standards and share a growing platform with nations committed to developing a skilled manpower base to improve the quality of life of their citizens.

"Skilling a Million Indians" is a catalytic project of the Confederation of Indian Industry, validated by international City and Guild standards, to give needed recognition and "add on" skills to the many who are informally trained on the job as well as to help galvanize skills formation across industry in India.

Skills are now seen as a global currency for a globalising world. 'Innovation' and 'Productivity' the key drivers of growth and competitiveness. Skills as a resource seem to be increasingly in deficit. For the next three decades India enjoys a demographic advantage and will have the potential to bridge the deficit gap.

The sheer size and logistics of this project let alone the diversity of existing education levels across India ensures some challenges along the way. The speaker will share the strategy, implementation and results of this ambitious and important project.



Ministry of
Education

Ministry of Education – Finland

Finland's success in the two most recent PISA surveys of learning results indicates that the Finnish education system is very effective. Finland also has the enviable success of attracting and increasing the enrolment of young people in VET - something that all nations would like to achieve.



Confederation of Indian Industry – India

The Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) works to create and sustain an environment conducive to the growth of industry in India, partnering industry and government alike through advisory and consultative processes. It is India's premier business association, with a direct membership of over 5800 companies from the private as well as public sectors, including SMEs and MNCs and indirect membership of over 95,000 organisations from around 325 national and regional sectoral associations.

abstracts

Institute of Technical Education – Singapore

A WORLD-CLASS VOCATIONAL TECHNICAL EDUCATION SYSTEM IN TIME FOR THE FUTURE – THE SINGAPORE EXPERIENCE



A presentation by Dr Law Song Seng

Vocational Technical Education (VTE) Systems play a crucial social and economic role in the development and progress of a nation. By nature dynamic, they are subjected to the forces driving change in schools, industry, society and the larger global economy. They face unique challenges, as the dynamics are more complex. The target student groups are diverse, and the image, standards and values often elusive.

Against these challenges, the Institute of Technical Education (ITE) in Singapore has succeeded in transforming itself into a world-class institution focusing on its mission “to create opportunities for school leavers and adult learners to acquire skills, knowledge and values for lifelong learning in a global economy”.

The First Education Institution in Singapore to win the prestigious Singapore Quality Award for organisational excellence in 2005, it has created a unique brand of a “Hands-on, Minds-on and Hearts-on” ITE College Education. In this respect, the speaker will share ITE’s unique challenges, key initiatives and experiences in its journey of transformation. It is hoped that the presentation will provide some useful insights on the underlying philosophy, policies, best practices and rationale for those who are involved in the development of vocational technical education systems.

Holmesglen Institute of TAFE, Victoria, AUSTRALIA

HOW YOUNG PEOPLE ACQUIRE TECHNICAL, SOCIAL AND LEARNING SKILLS



A presentation by Bruce Mackenzie

The presentation will:

- Explain why Holmesglen is attempting to create a secondary school inside a TAFE Institution;
- Outline features which seem common to successful vocational education systems in Scandinavia;
- Contrast these features with the Australian vocational system;
- Outline the principles upon which Holmesglen Institute of TAFE’s Vocational College is premised;
- Identify some of the issues that have to be addressed for the Vocational College to succeed at both a national and local level.



Institute of Technical Education – Singapore

Over the last decade ITE has undergone a major transformation focusing on its mission “to create opportunities for school leavers and adult learners to acquire skills, knowledge and values for lifelong learning in a global economy”. This transformation has led it to be a recognized global leader in technical education.

ITE now provides a high quality vocational education to the 25% of young people who don’t proceed to tertiary education.



Holmesglen Institute of TAFE – Australia

Holmesglen Institute of TAFE (Technical And Further Education) provide a practical approach to teaching with state-of-the-art facilities and diverse course options. Promoting the learning of real skills for the real world, Holmesglen focuses on the needs of growth industries including, among others, hospitality, tourism, small business, social and community services, and information technology.

Holmesglen is building a vocational college within the Institute that is being designed on global best practice.