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Welcome from the President

Hi to all,

I’m really looking forward to this term. 2nd Term is always a busy one for DATTA Vic, with our state conference and lots of other activities.

The Design for People conference at Harvester Technical College on May 15 and 16 is shaping up to be an exciting event - we’d love to see you there (for one or two days). If you have teachers new to the Technology area who need to build their skills and gain confidence in Wood and Plastics, think about registering them for the Basic Skills sessions that I’m running on Sat 16th. Of course, there are lots of other fantastic sessions for all Technology teachers, and our keynote speakers this year, Ian Dryden (City of Melbourne) and Alisha Ryans-Taylor (Engineers Without Borders), will be great!

Just before the holidays, DATTA Vic, with the help of the NGV, ran an inspiring planning session for ‘Design Make Think’ Primary project. We’re hoping that with the input of the primary and secondary teachers, and representatives from the NGV, Deakin University and Engineers Without Borders, we will be able to create great resources and professional learning opportunities to strengthen the teaching of Design and Technology in Primary schools. You can read more later in the newsletter, and we’ll keep you posted - please contact Laura at pl@datta.vic.edu.au if you would like to be involved.

It was great to see lots of DATTA Vic members at the Top Designs opening last month. I’m always inspired by the work of our VCE students. It’s another fantastic year for the D&T and Systems Engineering areas with great student work in all materials. Hopefully, many of you will be taking student groups in to see the display, or coming along to our Top Designs teacher PL sessions. Otherwise, if you have the opportunity, try to get in to see what our students can produce (with the support of their great teachers).

The publication of the latest iteration of AusVELS based on the Australian Curriculum (that includes an updated Technologies curriculum) is now scheduled for publication in Term 2. Timing may be influenced by decisions made at a national level, but we’ll keep our fingers crossed.

All the best for this term, and I look forward to seeing you at the conference in May

Jill Livett
Design for People
The DATTA Vic Annual Conference
15th & 16th May 2015, Harvester Technical College Sunshine

*Design for People* will provide an exciting opportunity for educators to explore best practice in new technologies and fresh approaches to learning and teaching - all within the context of sustainable and ethical design.

Don't miss it - registrations are now open! You can view the conference program [HERE](#) and book your place [HERE](#)
Humanitarian Design & Engineering PL Workshop
with Akorn Education Services & Engineers Without Borders

For teachers of Design & Technology and Systems Engineering.

Thursday 23rd April, from 10am – 3pm at 150 Palmerston Street, Carlton

Join volunteers from Engineers Without Borders' overseas humanitarian and nation-wide school outreach programs in this hands-on workshop, looking at design, engineering, STEM & cross-curricular working. Learn how to help your students;

- Develop key design and engineering skills such as problem solving, critical thinking, time management and team work
- Focus on technology as key to the development of solutions to humanitarian problems
- Take part in sustainable development activities
- Experience new skills and learnings in a friendly, collaborative and fun environment
- Discover the work of professional engineers
- Focus on technology as key to the development of solutions to humanitarian problems

You will also work with Akorn to develop ideas for STEM and cross-curricular projects that could take place in your school.

This workshop is a partnership between DATTA Vic, Akorn Educational Services and Engineers Without Borders Australia

Cost: Members: $180 (includes lunch)/Non-members: $279 (includes lunch and DATTA Vic membership)

To book, click HERE or contact Laura at pl@datta.vic.edu.au
Professional Learning for Bendigo Region Teachers

Calling All Bendigo region teachers of PD&T and Systems Engineering….

Wednesday 29th of April, 4pm - 6pm, Discovery Science & Technology Centre, 7 Railway Place, Bendigo, 3550

DATTA Vic and the Discovery Science and Technology Centre are teaming up to offer an exciting professional learning opportunity for teachers of Design & Technology in the Bendigo area.

Participants will have the unique opportunity to work with Discovery educators on an interactive Design Thinking workshop, along with the chance to explore the centre’s 100+ science and technology exhibits. You’ll spend time with regional colleagues exploring best practice for teaching innovation, get to know the centre staff and discover more about their extensive education programs for students.

Cost: $70 for DATTA Vic members, $100 for non-members

For more information and to book, click HERE or contact Laura at pl@datta.vic.edu.au
Happy Anniversary agIdeas!

The Design Foundation are celebrating 25 years of their agIdeas International Design Forum with a wide range of events during Melbourne International Design Week.

Schools can take part in the Design Futures Forum and Career Expo.

There are also a wide range of master classes, including Designing Products: Get Hands On with Twitter, Pinterest and fuseproject.

And don’t forget their Educator’s Resource Kit, How Designers Work

Design Make Think - Primary Design & Technologies

Over the next 3 years, DATTA Vic will be teaming up with partners to deliver a range of resources and professional learning workshops to support primary teachers with the implementation of the new Design and Technologies curriculum.

We kicked things off on the 21st of March with a brainstorming event held at the National Gallery of Victoria. Participants, including both primary and secondary teachers, worked with staff from the NGV, Deakin University and Engineers Without Borders to begin to develop a framework for the project.

DATTA Vic is so grateful for everyone’s contribution, and is looking forward to the future of Design Make Think. If you’d like to find out more, or get involved, contact Laura at pl@datta.vic.edu.au.
News from the VCAA - Top Designs

Top Designs exhibition showcases outstanding student works produced for the Victorian Certificate of Education in a range of studies including Product Design & Technology and Systems Engineering. The exhibition opened on Saturday 21 March and runs daily until 12 July 2015.

Top Designs forums to support VCE students of both these studies are also held throughout this time—the forums consist of an introductory talk from a representative of the VCAA, addressing the School-Assessed Task using examples from Top Designs exhibited works, folios and design plans. This is followed by a presentation by an industry professional, who represents best practice within their particular field of design.

Details of dates of forums are listed on the Museum Victoria website


Leanne Compton  
Curriculum Manager, Design and Technologies  
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DATTA Vic will also be running some Top Designs Professional Learning Workshops for teachers of Product Design & Technology and Systems Engineering.

Taking place on the 2nd of May at Melbourne Museum, participants will hear from members of the selection panels and teachers of Top Designs student exhibitors. You’ll also get the chance to browse a range of shortlisted folios, as well as visiting the exhibition itself.

Bookings will open early in term 2. For more information contact Laura at pl@datta.vic.edu.au
So You Think You Can Design 2015

SYTYCD began with a bang this year, as schools throughout Victoria took part in the Week of Design from the 23 - 27 March. On the morning of the 23rd students were sent a sketching challenge and a CAD challenge, and they had the week to complete and submit them to DATTA Vic.

Judging will take place early in term 2, and the winners will be invited to take part in the SYTYCD finals, live at our conference on the 15th & 16th of May. Watch this space for more news!

DATTA Vic would like to thanks Swinburne University of Technology and Picokit for their generous support for SYTYCD.

VACC Automotive Design Awards

The VACC Automotive Design Competition is an opportunity for students to show off their course work in public, with shortlisted entries judged by representatives from Australia’s big three local manufacturers, Ford, Holden and Toyota.

HUGE congratulations go to Adam Wong & Ken Smith from Scotch College and Elizabeth Grant Brown from Northcote High School for taking the 1st, 2nd and 3rd prizes respectively in the Secondary School category.

New Resources from DATTA Vic

Have you checked out the resources page of our website recently? Well, you should! There are a range of new items, including units of work, project ideas, presentations and journals - all free to access for DATTA Vic members. And keep checking back with us - we’ll be adding new items regularly.

If you’re having problems logging-on, contact Davone at admin@datta.vic.edu.au.

And of course, if you’re not a member, we’d love you to join! Click HERE for more info.
VCE PD&T Help Days

The Academy of Design is running a fantastic program of workshops for students of VCE Product Design & Technology from May to August. Click HERE for more information and to book your place.

A Gentle Reminder!

Have you renewed your DATTA Vic membership for 2015? We'd love to have you back! You'll receive:

- access to free online resources
- discounted entry to PL workshops
- discounted entry to conferences
- discounted prices for text books
- term newsletters
- free Technotes journal
- latest curriculum updates
- expert advice & support

Click HERE to renew online, or contact Davone at admin@datta.vic.edu.au

Go On, Like Us!

Don't forget to like DATTA Vic's Facebook Page! You'll get all the latest Technology and Design news from home and abroad, and loads of ideas for classroom projects.

Plus it's a great way to stay in touch with colleagues and build a network of people interested in Design & Technology and Systems Engineering education.

Find us HERE.