



## POST-EVENT SUMMARY OF SYMPOSIA AND WORKSHOPS AT ARSC2015

*(As at 16 September 2016)*

**Tuesday 6 September: 9:00am – 12:00pm**

**Room: Swan**

**Workshop**

**Education Workshop**

Key Organiser:

**Deb Zines**

School Drug Education and Road Aware (SDERA)

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Overview:

Discussion in the educator workshop “Changing Gears through the Years” covered issues pertinent to teaching children through to young adults about road safety. The question of the importance of teaching resilience was a strong theme, as this can develop confidence and empower young people to make safe choices throughout their life – including driving and making decisions around road safety. The speakers emphasised the need to provide education programs that are evidence-based and noted that some programs have not been shown to reduce crash risk or may even increase risk taking behaviours. Other speakers discussed the challenges of convincing schools to participate in road safety initiatives; the ways that programs can be modified to be inclusive of children of different abilities; and the need to bring more information about policy and best practice to people who are responsible for the transport of children – such as family day care and other organisations involved in childcare.

Summary/Presentations (Prepared by Laurelle Tunks, ACRS):

**Associate Professor Teresa Senserrick** outlined the benefits of a resilience approach to road safety and education, drawing on her background in developmental psychology to highlight the connections between a range of issues contributing to the incidence of death and injury of young people on the roads.

In relation to the number of drivers, young people are over-represented in crashes. Factors investigated in this session included:

- Neurological development – greater susceptibility to distraction and emotional issues such as anxiety and depression, combined with a greater need for sleep.
- Role of Risky Driving Behaviour – less likely to drink drive but more likely to have a crash than older drivers
- More Situational Risk - tend to drive at night and weekends in higher alcohol usage hours and with multiple passengers.
- Driver education – traditional driver training may not reduce crash risk and advanced driving skills training can cause miscalibration and willingness to take more risk. A focus on resilience training can teach strategies for making the right choices, empower individuals and develop ways to avoid risky situations.
- RRISK – (Reduce Risk Increase Student Knowledge) is an Australian program with 500 students from a range of schools where messages are based on peer influence and resilience building skills. This is then repeated through school newsletters, media and ongoing learning opportunities to reinforce the message.
- Drive – the Drive program has almost 21,000 participants and is a resilience education approach to building skills that can empower youth to make the right choices in road safety and also to reduce other health risks.

**Anne Harris** discussed the challenges in schools to take up road safety initiatives, emphasising the need to be evidence based and evaluate the effectiveness of the interventions used. The discussion included the issue of targeting the whole population and also being able to tailor different approaches to high risk taking youth.

Target audiences need to include the parents, school students and the community.

Some training approaches lack evidence of their effectiveness:

- Off road or advanced driving training, simulator training, fear appeals or testimonials, one-off events and expos, and information only approaches do not always show ongoing change in behaviours.

More information is available at [www.roadsafetyeducation.vic.gov.au/research](http://www.roadsafetyeducation.vic.gov.au/research)

**Zora Marko** gave an overview of the issues facing the Early Learning Association in bringing road safety education to children. In their Starting out Safely program they have provided training to over 5000 educators and have presented programs to over 2150 preschools.

After finding that many providers of child care were often unaware of the issues relating to safe transport of children, they have developed policies to tailor to different parts of the sector to provide advice on child restraints and other issues to ensure that the highest benchmarks are aimed for.

To get the message out, the Family Day Care network and other organisations such as Child Protection, Disability Services have been brought on board and the policies are aligned with the Victorian Government Road Safety Strategy and Action Plan.

**Deb Zines** facilitated the sessions with a number of interactive activities for participants to think about some of the issues being raised. She also provided a presentation on the importance of

building resilience in young people, helping them to form healthier relationships and make safer choices. Schools have a role in assisting students to developing these keys for life. More information is available at [www.sdera.wa.edu.au](http://www.sdera.wa.edu.au).

**Rebekah Smith** from RACV then closed the session with details on the RACV Street Scene Program where 25,000 students have been included in sessions covering pedestrian, passenger and bicycle safety. Her discussion highlighted the challenges of being inclusive of all students – including children with autism or other special needs. Their strategies include methods which can be adapted to ensure that all children can benefit from the program.



Inviting parties



Platinum Partner



Tuesday 6 September 2016

9am-12pm

National Convention Centre,  
31 Constitution Ave, Canberra

Cost: Included for full conference delegates.

\$99 for morning Educator's Workshop only (9am-12pm).

\$160 for full day Education Stream (9am - 5pm, including lunch).

To register go to:

[www.australasianroadsafetyconference.com.au](http://www.australasianroadsafetyconference.com.au)

For questions please contact Deb Zines: [deb.zines@education.wa.edu.au](mailto:deb.zines@education.wa.edu.au)



Register  
Now!

## Calling all educators and teachers - join us to save lives and reduce road trauma...

### Don't miss the 2016 Road Safety Education Workshop

With the theme "Changing Gears Throughout the Years", the 2016 Road Safety Education Workshop will adopt a practical approach to explore the latest programs and initiatives guiding best practice road safety education throughout Australia.

Professional experiences and information from a number of age appropriate road safety and resilience programs will provide participants with a national snapshot of education strategies currently being employed to contribute to a reduction in road trauma.

Presentations will be facilitated by members of the Road Safety Education Reference Group Australasia (RSERGA) and cover a continuum of programs and strategies from early childhood to late adolescence (young adults).



#### Workshop the latest on best practice road safety education programs and initiatives from 9am-12pm:

- A resilience approach to road safety education – Assoc Prof T Senserrick (UNSW)
- Early childhood road safety education – Early Learning Association Australia
- Road safety activities in focus – School Drug Education Road Aware (SDERA, WA)
- What does good practice in road safety education look like in primary schools? (SDERA, WA)
- What does good practice in road safety education look like in secondary schools? (Anne Harris, VIC)
- Road safety education and students with special educational needs - RACV

The morning workshop will be followed by **Educating Young People** and **Education Evaluation** Sessions with topics including:

- Let's CHAT about a whole school approach to road safety and health - SDERA
- The true impact of transport safety education: Aren't we forgetting the young people? – TrackSAFE Foundation
- Social Voices: Evaluation of the Safe Mates road safety for secondary schools pilot program - RACV
- 2015 evaluation of Keys for Life pre-driver education - SDERA
- The development of Learning to Drive Frameworks in Victoria – Transport Accident Commission
- Substance impaired driving education: Educating drivers to become responsible, informed, Safe Users - REWA
- Sustainability of a child restraint program among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children in 12 communities in NSW – The George Institute for Global Health
- Road safety education intervention for primary schools in Malaysia: Any reduction in traffic casualties? - Universiti Putra Malaysia

The 2016 Education Workshop is being hosted as part of the Australasian Road Safety Conference - the largest road safety conference in the Southern Hemisphere - occurring from 6-8 September at the National Convention Centre.

