

Each symposium is allocated 1.5 hours in the program.

<b>Name of session:</b>	<b>Sex, sexuality and relationships education in schools: can a national approach ever be achieved?</b>
<b>Organiser/s of session:</b>	Peter Aggleton Christy Newman
<b>Focus of session:</b> <i>Note: The section will be put on the website and used in marketing materials</i>	Australia is home to a rich diversity of approaches to sex, sexuality and relationships education in schools. Some young people receive balanced and reasonably comprehensive sexual health education, others receive little or nothing at all. For some, the focus is on biology and reproductive health, for others respectful relationships is the major concern. While the Australian Curriculum sets out a framework for provision, it is open to interpretation at state and territory level. Ongoing debate about approaches to gender and sexual diversity further complicates the picture. Speakers in this Symposium will discuss whether a more comprehensive and consistent approach is possible, and how inter-sectoral work might bring it about.
<b>Learning Objectives for session (expected outcomes):</b> <i>Note: The section will be put on the website and used in marketing materials</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Enhanced awareness of existing forms of sex, sexuality and relationships provision in schools in Australia</li> <li>● Appreciation of the advantages and disadvantages of a more consistent/coherent approach nationally</li> <li>● Understanding of facilitators and barriers to achieving such an outcome</li> <li>● Strengthened appreciation of the value of inter-sectoral collaboration in work to education young people, parents and communities about sex, sexuality and relationships</li> </ul>
<b>Preferred delivery type (live or pre-recorded).</b>	Pre-recorded
<b>Session Moderator/chair (if required)</b>	Professor Peter Aggleton
<b>Topic 1:</b>	<b>Setting the scene: The emperor's new clothes?</b>  In September 2015, Australia's education ministers endorsed the Foundation – Year 10 curriculum. One of the

<p><b>Speaker 1:</b> Associate Professor Deana Leahy, Education Futures, Faculty of Education, Monash University <b>Speaker Email:</b> deana.leahy@monash.edu <b>Time Allocation:</b> 10 minutes</p>	<p>ambitions of the new national curriculum was to provide a clearer understanding of what students should learn, regardless of where they live in Australia or which school they go to. This introductory presentation will explore some of the state-based tensions that emerged throughout the development of the national curriculum, with special attention to HIV and relationships and sexuality education.</p>
<p><b>Topic 2:</b></p> <p><b>Speaker 2:</b> Professor Kerry Robinson Director, Diversity &amp; Human Rights Research Center, School of Social Sciences, Western Sydney University <b>Speaker Email:</b> K.Robinson@westernsydney.edu.au <b>Time Allocation:</b> 10 minutes</p>	<p><b>The politics of and challenges to initiating a National Curriculum on Sexuality and Relationships Education in Australia.</b></p> <p>This presentation will look at the SRE curriculum in the two Australian states of NSW and Victoria, highlighting similarities and differences and how these have been influenced by different government political agendas. Drawing on findings from research on the perspectives of parents and teachers in these two states, the following questions will be examined: who should be involved in conducting this education with young people, what it should and should not entail, and when it should begin. In the light of these differing perspectives, the possibilities and potential benefits of a national curriculum are explored</p>
<p><b>Topic 3:</b></p> <p><b>Speaker 3:</b> Dr Cristyn Davies, Discipline of Child &amp; Adolescent Health, Faculty of Medicine and Health, The University of Sydney <b>Speaker Email:</b> cristyn.davies@sydney.edu.au <b>Time Allocation:</b> 10 minutes</p>	<p><b>Barriers and facilitators to implementing sexual health education in schools</b></p> <p>Using an education intervention about Human papillomavirus (HPV) and HPV education in 40 schools across two Australian jurisdictions (WA &amp; SA) as a case study, this presentation focuses on the implementation of sexual health education. Drawing on insights from teachers, school and community nurses, immunisation nurses and students, key barriers and facilitators to the provision of quality sexual health education in schools are identified, including the relationship between curricula and implementation. The curriculum, whether state-based or national, is one component of a complex assemblage impacting the interpretation, quality and implementation of sexual health and relationships education offering opportunities and challenges for a coherent national approach.</p>

<p><b>Topic 4:</b> <b>Speaker 4:</b> Associate Katie Fitzpatrick, Faculty of Education &amp; Social Work, University of Auckland, Aotearoa New Zealand <b>Speaker Email:</b> k.fitzpatrick@auckland.ac.nz <b>Time Allocation:</b> 10 minutes</p>	<p><b>A world of possibility?</b></p> <p>In contrast to Australia, New Zealand has a mandatory national policy in sexuality and relationships education. The policy has recently been updated. Despite this, there remain barriers to achieving curriculum change in schools, as well as ongoing tensions between interventionist approaches and educative approaches to teaching and learning. This presentation will discuss ways in which these tensions might be negotiated and resolved, signalling opportunities for work elsewhere in Australasia.</p>
<p><b>Topic 5:</b> <b>Speaker 5:</b> Bonnie Lee, Manager – Schools and Community, Family Planning Victoria <b>Speaker Email:</b> blee@fpv.org.au <b>Time Allocation:</b> 10 minutes <b>Proposed content:</b></p>	<p><b>Interpretation, implementation and expectations</b></p> <p>The provision of consistent and comprehensive relationships and sexuality education programs across schools has been the goal, but not the experience, of a team of educators working at Family Planning Victoria (FPV). This presentation will explore the differences FPV educators have encountered with respect to the interpretation of curriculum, the implementation of programs, and the expectations of teachers, parents/carers and young people within schools, across schools and across school sectors. The implications of this experience for a coherent national response will be discussed.</p>
<p><b>Discussant:</b> Professor Jen Gilbert Faculty of Education, York University, Canada</p> <p><b>Speaker Email:</b> jgilbert@edu.yorku.ca <b>Time Allocation:</b> 20 minutes</p> <p>[Jen is an international leader in the fields of sexuality education, youth studies, health and LGBTQ issues in education]</p>	<p><b>Concluding reflections</b></p> <p>In this concluding session, Jen Gilbert will offer some reflections on the following questions, drawing on wider international experience.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Is a national approach to sexual health and sex and relationships education desirable?</li> <li>2. What are the possibilities and pitfalls for adopting a national approach to this work?</li> <li>3. How do local and national politics shape versions of what might be achieved?</li> <li>4. How can we move towards a more consistent approach to sexual health and sex and relationships education? What happens if we can't?</li> <li>5. How might we work with different sectors to support more consistent delivery of sexual health and sex and relationships education?</li> </ol>

