

SEPLA-CON 2023 CHANGE, CHALLENGE AND CHOICE

ICC Sydney | 17th and 18th July 2023

Call for Abstracts







Call for Conference Abstracts

Important Dates

Abstract Submissions are due by Wednesday, 5th April 2023

Authors will be advised of the outcome of their submission by Wednesday, 10th May 2023

> Final PowerPoints are due by Friday, 14th July 2023

Conference Dates Monday, 17th July and Tuesday 18th July 2023

Convened by:



Invitation to Participate

The NSW **Special Education Principals' and Leaders' Association** (SEPLA) are excited to invite you to attend **SEPLA-CON 2023** to be held at the ICC Sydney on Monday, 17th and Tuesday, 18th July.

Our theme for SEPLA-CON 2023 is: 'Change, Challenge, Choice'.

We believe this year's theme reflects the changes to our system and evolving initiatives, the challenges we have and will face, and the choices we can make. This theme will not only provide an opportunity to build on existing knowledge and practice but look at the reality of what we do and how we support ourselves and our profession. The SEPLA-CON 2023 Organising Committee are seeking submissions relating to the following themes:

Change

Specialist settings are being recognised more than ever before as a valued part of the suite of provisions that support the complexity and variety of student needs in NSW.

So many changes are occurring such as restrictive practices policies and guidelines, student and parent experience initiatives, disability advocacy by external agencies, funding, covid ILSP and so much more. Mapping change and being able to make sense of so many interlocking initiatives work in our schools will require all of us to develop smarter and more sustainable ways of managing change. We aim to have keynotes and workshops that look at change management in a holistic and practical way to support us all at this time.

Challenge

A challenge can mean many things to many people. Challenges can be provocative, and stressful but also the spark that can lead to new thinking, new solutions and new ways of being.

Our speakers, keynotes and workshops will also focus on challenges, but not just from our usual education think-tank but also from a broader social and world context. The challenges in education at present are heavily affected by external changes such as the Disability Royal Commission and various other governmental inquiries. How we manage and adapt to challenges is key to our success and we hope that the speakers will provide provocations and simple approaches that can support us all in our day to day work.

Choice

Choice can mean many things, from command decisions, which can only be made by you, delegated decisions, which may be made by anyone, avoided decisions, where the outcome could be so bad that the choice should not be made, and simple decisions that are a given.

As we know, much of what happens to us in our schools and settings is beyond our choosing, but how we choose to react and integrate these external forces into our work and to make this achievable and sustainable is heavily dependent on our choices.

The conference aims to have speakers talk about choice, how we make choices and how we can become more effective and intuitive choices in our work and lives generally.

The Program Committee would also welcome abstracts that address the theme of working with students with emotional and behavioural difficulties and trauma informed practice.

NESA Accreditation

The SEPLA-CON 2023 Organising Committee is planning to register the School Teams Day, Monday, 17th July, with NESA as a 5-hour registered course. Please note NESA hours are only recognised for NSW attendees.

Therefore, the requirements for all Conference abstracts are shown below:

Each abstract must align with one or more of the following Australian Professional Standards for Teaching and the subsequent descriptors, specified below.

Standard 1: Know students and how they learn.

1.3.2 Design and implement teaching strategies that are responsive to the learning strengths and needs of students from diverse linguistic, cultural, religious and socio-economic backgrounds.

1.5.2 Develop teaching activities that incorporate differentiated strategies to meet the specific learning needs of students across the full range of abilities.

Standard 2: Know the content and how to teach it.

2.5.2 Apply knowledge and understanding of effective teaching strategies to support students' literacy and numeracy achievement.

Standard 5: Assess, provide feedback and report on student learning.

5.4.2 Use student assessment data to analyse and evaluate student understanding of subject/content, identifying interventions and modifying teaching practice.

In order to achieve this goal and obtain accreditation, all presenters must provide as part of your abstract submission:

- Sufficient information regarding content of your presentation to state how the presentation will improve knowledge and practice related to the Australian Professional Standards for Teachers as listed above.
- An outline of the activities for participants during the session what will participants be expected to do? What will the presenter be doing? (This means that at some stage, the participants are not only listening, but stop to use the information provided to engage in productive thought/discussion to extend their learning.)
 - Some examples may include:
 - brainstorming in a small group or with the person next to you
 - written responses to questions posed
 - analysis of a scenario or data etc.

Resources:

https://www.aitsl.edu.au/standards https://educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/wps/portal/nesa/teacher-accreditation/meetingrequirements/the-standards

Presentation Types

The SEPLA-CON 2023 Organising Committee aim to create a Conference program with a mix of the following presentation types:

- Workshops (45 minutes)
- Oral Presentations (45 minutes)
- Posters (on display over the 2 Conference days)

Workshops

Workshop sessions will be 45 minutes in length. Presenters should aim to make their workshop as interactive and engaging as possible. Please allow time for questions, comments and discussion. Workshop presenters are required to provide a copy of their PowerPoint presentation to the Committee prior to the Conference. Please indicate in your submission the maximum number of delegates to attend your workshop.

Oral Presentations

Presenters not wishing to include an interactive component to their session can submit an abstract for an oral presentation. Oral presentations will be 45 minutes in length. Oral presenters are required to provide a copy of their PowerPoint presentation to the Committee prior to the Conference.

Posters

Presenters wishing to submit a poster presentation must submit an abstract of up to 450 words. If accepted, the poster must not exceed the size of A0 (1189-841mm) and be brought along to the Conference for display. All accepted posters will be displayed for the duration of the Conference.

Essential Details

The following guidelines apply for the submission of all abstracts:

- All abstracts must be submitted via the online Presentation Portal available from the Conference website
- Abstracts should be no more than **450 words in length.**
- Submissions <u>must</u> include a biography of the presenter of up to 200 words. Submissions not including a biography of the presenter **will not be considered**.
- Abstracts must include the following information:

Author(s): Presenter:	Preferred Given Name, and Surname of all Authors Name of person/s who will present the presentation at the Conference
Title:	e.g. Mr, Mrs, Ms, Dr, Prof for all persons listed above
Position:	Official job title of all presenter/s e.g. AP Support, Deputy Principal etc
Organisation:	The organisation/institution with which the presenter/s are affiliated
Contact Details:	Phone and email details must be provided for the presenter/s
Presentation Title:	This is the title that will be included on the Conference app,
Strand:	Conference website and promotional material for the Conference. Please indicate the most appropriate strand for your presentation as outlined in the dot points in this document.

• Abstracts for concurrent presentations should be submitted by no later than Wednesday, 5th April 2023. Presenters will be advised of the outcome of their submission by no later than Wednesday, 10th May 2023. The Committee reserves the right to accept or reject any submissions.

• The Conference Organisers and/or Committee will communicate only with the 'first author' of a presentation. In the case of co-authored presentations, it will be the responsibility of the 'first author' to pass on to the co-author(s), communications from the editors.

Please note: The presenting author/s must register to attend the conference for at least the day in which they are scheduled to present. If there are other authors who are attending the Conference to present, they must also register to attend the conference. Please visit the Conference website for all registration details.

Further Information

For further information regarding the Conference, please contact:

Julie McGraw

Senior Conference Manager GEMS Event Management Australia Phone: +61 2 9744 5252 Email: registration@gemsevents.com.au

For further information regarding the content of the Conference, please contact:

Matthew Johnson

Conference Convenor SEPLA Email: matthew.johnson@det.nsw.edu.au

