

**Wednesday 6 September - Pre Conference Workshops**

8.00am - 5.00pm   Registration desk open		
9.00am -12.30pm	Room: Meeting room C4.3	Room: Meeting room C4.9
9.00am -10.30am	Workshop One Presenter: Dr. Wenn Lawson The autism spectrum and gender dysphoria	Workshop Two Presenter: Mr Michael John Carley New trends in businesses hiring employees on the autism spectrum: prospects and realities
10.30am -11.00am   Morning Tea	Workshop Three Presenter: Dr. Tom Tutton and Ms. Caroline Mills Sensory vs Behaviour: evidence based assessment and intervention	
11.00am -12.30pm	Workshop One continued... Presenter: Dr. Wenn Lawson The autism spectrum and gender dysphoria	Workshop Two continued... Presenter: Mr Michael John Carley New trends in businesses hiring employees on the autism spectrum: prospects and realities
12.30pm - 1.30pm   Lunch - attendees own arrangements	Workshop Three continued... Presenter: Dr. Tom Tutton and Ms. Caroline Mills Sensory vs Behaviour: evidence based assessment and intervention	
1.30pm -5.00pm	Room: Meeting room C4.3	Room: Meeting room C4.10
1.30pm -3.00pm	Workshop Four Presenters: Dr. Wenn Lawson, Ms. Judy Brewer and Dr. Olivia Gatfield An inclusive approach to autism research	Workshop Five Presenter: Dr. Stephen Shore Bullying: practical solutions for eradicating bullying for individuals with autism
3.00pm - 3.30pm   Afternoon Tea	Workshop Six Presenter: Dr. Peter Vermeulen Autism and the predictive mind	
3.30pm -5.00pm	Workshop Four continued... Presenters: Dr. Wenn Lawson, Ms. Judy Brewer and Dr. Olivia Gatfield An inclusive approach to autism research	Workshop Five continued... Presenter: Dr. Stephen Shore Bullying: practical solutions for eradicating bullying for individuals with autism
		Workshop Six continued... Presenter: Dr. Peter Vermeulen Autism and the predictive mind

**Thursday 7 September - Conference Day One**

8.00am - 5.30pm   Registration desk open		
9.00am -11.00am	Room: Darling Harbour Theatre (doors open at 8.30am) Conference Opening: John Doyle AM, Master of Ceremonies Welcome to Country: Uncle Allen Madden Welcome: Dr. Emma Goodall, member of the Autistic Community Welcome to APAC 2017: Adrian Ford, Chair of the APAC 2017 Organising Committee	
	Keynote Plenary One Presenters: June Riemer and Lee Casuscelli - Using 'strong and deadly' partnerships to raise awareness and increase understanding of autism in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities across Australia	
	Keynote Plenary Two Presenter: Dr. Peter Vermeulen - Autism and happiness: from neurodiversity to neuroharmony	
11.00am - 11.30am   Morning Tea - Exhibition in Gallery (Sponsored by Epic Assist)		
11.00am -11.30am	Parent / Carer Networking and Wellbeing Morning Tea (Hosted by Positive Partnerships) Room: Cockle Bay One	
11.00am -11.30am	Autistic Space - Meet and Greet (Hosted by Dr Emma Goodall and Ms. Alexandra Robinson) Room: C3.1	
11.30am -10.00pm	Room: Darling Harbour Theatre Session Chair: Judy Brewer AO	Room: Parkside One Session Chair: Joan McKenna Kerr
11.30am -12.15pm	Keynote Symposium One Presenter: Winthrop Prof. Andrew Whitehouse - Australia's first national guidelines for autism diagnosis	Keynote Symposium Two Presenter: Dr. Trevor Clark - In pursuit of happiness and independence - identifying the strengths and exceptional abilities of people on the autism spectrum to enhance positive post-school outcomes
12.15pm -1.00pm	Presenter: Prof. Cheryl Dissanayake and Dr. Josephine Barbaro - Identification and diagnosis of autism in Australia: Driving change in developmental outcomes through Social Attention and Communication Surveillance (SACS)	Presenter: Ms. Denise Phua - Education and employment models for persons with autism: the singapore odyssey
1.00pm-2.00pm   Lunch - Exhibition in Gallery (Sponsored by Autism CRC)		

2.00pm -3.30pm	Concurrent 1	Concurrent 2	Concurrent 3	Concurrent 4	Concurrent 5	Concurrent 6	Concurrent 7	Lightning Talks 8	Lightning Talks 9	Interactive Demonstration
Room	Darling Harbour Theatre	Parkside One	Parkside Two	Cockle Bay One	Cockle Bay Two	Meeting room C3.6	Meeting room C3.3	Meeting room C3.4	Meeting room C3.5	Level 3 Foyer
Stream	Concurrent Session	Transitions - Education	Health & Wellbeing - Early Intervention	Strengths & Interests	Inclusion Across the Ages - Education	Inclusion Across the Ages - Planning	Health & Wellbeing - Diagnosis & assessment	Transitions/Health & Wellbeing	Strengths & Interests/Inclusion Across the Ages	Interactive Demonstration
Session Chair	Jenny Karavolos	Jeannette Purkis	Cheryl Dissanayake	Trevor Clark	Giovanni Gulli	Matt Donnelly	Michelle Wong	Rowena Perritt	Mark Durie	Kaaren Haas
2.00pm -2.10pm	Headline Presentation Mark Lever, National Autistic Society, UK Too Much Information - Changing public awareness in the UK	Mr. Alan Wilson, Department of Education and Training, Victoria A new model of transition for students in schools	Ms. Jacqueline Gately, Monash University The good, the bad and the ugly: Parents' assessments of early 'intervention' for young children with autism challenges	Dr. Charlotte Brownlow and Ms. Jessica Harrison, University of Southern Queensland "Life would be completely different without them": Exploring the experience of focused interests of adults on the autism spectrum	Ms. Susanne Taylor, Griffith University Parent perceptions around accessing an appropriate educational setting for their child with autism	Ms. Sarah Judd-Lam, Carers NSW Transitioning to the National Disability Insurance Scheme: Experiences of families on the autism spectrum	Prof. Valsamma Eapen, Liverpool Hospital Subtyping autism spectrum conditions (ASC): The past, the present and the future	Dr. Kerry Bull, Noah's Ark Inc. Early Transitions - who needs to be ready?	Ms. Tahmeena Ali, University of Melbourne and Dr. Fiona Zandt, The Royal Children's Hospital Processing speed in children with autism spectrum disorder and its role in social communication	Mr. Neil Stuart Way to Play - including children with Autism in the Early Childhood Setting
2.10pm -2.20pm								Mrs. Leeanne Hawke A mother and teachers insight into the world of autism	Ms. Erin Cowie, Giant Steps Sydney Developing a measure of Student Engagement	
2.20pm -2.30pm		Dr. Roselyn Dixon and Dr. Amanda Webster, University of Wollongong A-17: an inclusion bridging model to support high school students on the autism spectrum	Prof. Andrew Whitehouse, Teletthon Kids Institute The effectiveness of a complementary early intervention trial delivered via an iPad for young children with autism spectrum disorder: The TOBY Trial	Mr. Adrian Ford, Autism Spectrum Australia (Aspect) Aspect and the Five Point Star: strengthening our person-centred approach	Ms. Philippa James, The University of Melbourne Amelioration of Hearing Problems in Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder	Ms. Leonie Lee NDIA literacy: three years on, NDIA Plan no. 7 and counting!	Ms. Pamela Jacobs, Griffith University "I Feel Like I'm Invisible" Social-emotional and academic support for adolescent girls on the autism spectrum in mainstream schools.	Mrs. Kellyanne Gianatti Transitions in Life with ASD...Whose transition is it anyway?	Ms. Sarah Crook, Autism Spectrum Australia (Aspect) New Graduate Program: Upskilling New Graduate therapists to work in an Autism Specific Role	
2.30pm -2.40pm								Mr. Guy Logan, University of Melbourne Recognising, Mobilising and Implementing Evidence-Based Practices for Inclusive Educators	Ms. Fiona McKay, Dapto High School The Joy of Circus	
2.40pm -2.50pm		Mrs. Kirsty Russell, My Home Truths: Positive Special Needs Parenting Managing a successful transition from mainstream primary to high school: one parent's journey	Dr. Kristelle Hudry, La Trobe University Early Start Denver Model (ESDM) delivery within a universal early childhood setting: A feasibility study with random assignment to inclusive vs. autism-specific playrooms	Ms. Cheryl Mangan, The Cooperative Research Centre for Living with Autism and Ms. Rochelle Johnson Technology, autism and human-centred design: Design thinking on the spectrum	Ms. Elizabeth Gadek and Meghan Williams, Autism Spectrum Australia (Aspect) Aspect Comprehensive Approach for Education Continuous Improvement Cycle	Mrs. Kim Moore and Ms. Lydia Meem, Autism Understanding Pty Ltd From trauma towards independence: A young man's journey with the help of his foster family, support network and NDIA	Dr. Fiona Aldridge, Autism Spectrum Australia (Aspect) Missed opportunities: Barriers to early diagnosis in the Australian context	Mrs. Dianna Lane, Williamstown North Primary School Schooling Finished... What Now For My 18 Year Old?	Mrs. Candy Payne, Autism Association of WA Teamwork Makes the Dream Work	Wojciech Nadachowski, Autism CRC; Craig Smith, Autism Spectrum Australia (Aspect) and Mikaela Koia, ANZ Technology is Inclusion: Accessibility & Enablement
2.50pm -3.00pm								Ms. Elizabeth Aylward, UNSW "ONE OF THE KIDS": Adapting an evidence based model of intervention to mainstream early childhood education and care settings	Dr. Danyele Foster My Equestrian Journey	
3.00pm -3.10pm	Headline Presentation Dr. Samuel Odom Families Supporting Early Communication of Toddlers with ASD	Ms. Raelene Dundon, Okey Dokey Childhood Psychology Volunteering as a Way to Prepare Teens with ASD for the Workforce	Dr. Susan Bruck, Autism Spectrum Australia (Aspect) Parents benefit from early childhood interventions too!	Ms. Tari Haar Identity, disclosure and a "meaningful" life	Mrs. Maggie Fielding and Ms. Vanessa Alexander, Positive Partnerships Whole school professional learning to support students on the autism spectrum	Dr. Jill Ashburner, Autism Queensland and Cooperative Research Centre for Living with Autism (Autism CRC) The development and evaluation of a goal setting tool with visual cues for young people on the autism spectrum	Mr. Scott Miller, Autism Association of WA Diagnostic Considerations for Older Adults Suspected of Having ASD	Ms. Peggy Herbert What effect does the change in therapy strategies, education environment and social expectations have on young peoples emotional and mental health during the transition from early childhood to primary school?	Mr. Tony Langdon The Beneficial Effect of Sport and Exercise on Autistic Living, a Personal Experience	
3.10pm -3.20pm								Dr. Ellen K. Materechera, North West University My family's experiences with an autistic son: A journey across three countries	Ms. Caroline Mills, Autism Spectrum Australia (Aspect) "She's bouncing off the walls, if we could get that under control, she does know stuff." - Teacher experiences of delivering a classroom based sensory intervention for students on the autism spectrum	
3.20pm -3.30pm	Question & Answer Time	Question & Answer Time	Question & Answer Time	Question & Answer Time	Question & Answer Time	Question & Answer Time	Question & Answer Time	Question & Answer Time	Question & Answer Time	Question & Answer Time
3.30pm - 4.00pm   Afternoon Tea - Exhibition in Gallery										

4.00pm -5.30pm	Concurrent 1	Concurrent 2	Concurrent 3	Concurrent 4	Concurrent 5	Concurrent 6	Concurrent 7	Lightning Talks 8	Lightning Talks 9	Interactive Demonstration
Room	Darling Harbour Theatre	Parkside One	Parkside Two	Cockle Bay One	Cockle Bay Two	Meeting room C3.6	Meeting room C3.3	Meeting room C3.4	Meeting room C3.5	Level 3 Foyer
Stream	Concurrent Session	Transitions - Education	Inclusion Across the Ages - Higher Education	Strengths & Interests	Inclusion Across the Ages - Education	Inclusion Across the Ages - Advocacy	Family - Health & Wellbeing	Transitions/Health & Wellbeing	Strengths & Interests/Inclusion Across the Ages	Interactive Demonstration
Session Chair	Rod Cameron	Melissa Webster	Fiona Dignan	Iliana Magiati	Wendi Beamish	Lee Casuscelli	Jessica Paynter	Fiona Aldridge	Karen Smith	Susan Bruck
4.00pm -4.10pm	Headline Presentation Ms. Saima W. Hossain and Dr. Nusrat Y. Ahmed Addressing the complexity of ASD through multisectoral partnerships in the era of Sustainable Development Goals	Ms. Victoria Houchin and Ms. Kate Halpin, Autism Spectrum Australia (Aspect) Breaking down workplace barriers	Dr. Lyndsay Quarmby Supporting students with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) in higher education	Ms. Louise Sheehy, Autism West Support Inc. Supporting Strengths using special interests of students with ASD to engage in a youth work setting	Ms. Sarah Wood Inclusion Works: A whole school approach to inclusive education for children with ASD	Ms. Jane Evans and Ms. Rachel McNamee, AMAZE Leading cultural change "from the top down" - bringing autistic people onto the Board of Directors of AMAZE	Dr. Matthew Bennett, University of Wollongong What can parents of newly diagnosed children learn from adults on the autism spectrum about their child's future?	Ms. Raelene Dundon, Okey Dokey Childhood Psychology Moving On Up with ASD - Reflections of a Mother and Psychologist on her son's first year of Secondary School	Ms. Krupa M, Sri Ramachandra University Joint attention and pragmatic acts in children with autism: The influence of environment	Ms. Susannah Thorne, Museum of Contemporary Art Australia Sensory Creative Learning With Art
4.10pm -4.20pm								Dr. Wenn Lawson, Deakin University The autism spectrum: Appropriate support for ageing differently	Ms. Kathryn Fordyce, St Giles Society Perceptions and wellbeing of parents of a child receiving early intervention in a specialist child care service	
4.20pm -4.30pm		Mr. Russell Thomas, Autism Association of WA People with Autism Make Great Employees: How to make it Happen	Mrs. Anastasia Anderson, Macquarie University Perspectives of University Students with Autism Spectrum Disorder in NSW and the ACT	Mrs. Stef Hawker, University of Wollongong Twice-exceptionality	Ms. Terese Morse & Ms. Nikki van Beem, Western Australian Department of Education Evolution of Mainstream Inclusion Support in Western Australian Public Schools	Ms. Danielle Ward, Griffith University Developing Self-advocacy and Self-awareness for Adults on the Autism Spectrum in University Settings	Dr. Amanda Webster, University of Wollongong Creating success for men on the autism spectrum: The role of identity and logic	Ms. Ruth (Roo) Stove, UTS Lost and Found: You Can Be Both	Mr. Rajkumar Brij, Flinders University Visual supports and visual supports plus systematic instruction for teaching students with autism	
4.30pm -4.40pm	Headline Presentation Dr Stephen Shore Senses and Sensibilities: Encountering What Individuals with Autism Experience	Prof. Tony Attwood, Minds & Hearts: A Clinic for Autism Spectrum Conditions Thriving at Work: Intensive Group Training for Adults with ASD Level 1	Dr. Dria Pind-Ying Li, The Education University of Hong Kong High functioning students on the autism spectrum and inclusive classrooms: subtypes and teacher efficacy	Ms. Mary-Ann Murnane, La Trobe University and Monash University A cat, at the piano, on the spectrum: the art of nurturing an autistic child's interest	Dr. Julie McMillan and Assoc. Prof. Kerry Bissaker, Flinders University School connectedness: Are schools in SA addressing the need?	Ms. Emma Gallagher, Autism Spectrum Australia (Aspect) Growing, Exploring and Advocating as an Autistic Adult - a personal journey story	Mr. Ian Ward Mental health and the involvement of dad with children on the autism spectrum	Dr. Ellen K. Naterchera, North West University Using images and symbols to understand autism: perspectives from South African parents and professionals	Mrs. Cindy Corrie, University of Queensland, Griffith University The Sycamore School - Autism-Friendly Learning, A Spectrum of Choice, A Place of Celebration	Ms. Joanne Tisdell, Autism Spectrum Australia (Aspect) and Ms. Kathleen Davey, Social Skills Training Institute Using an evidence-based approach to support individualised planning goals at school
4.40pm -4.50pm								Dr. Stella Li, Children's Hospital at Westmead The Westmead Feelings Program in a NSW Public School: A Pilot Study	Ms. Sharon Whip and Ms. Cathryn Masters, DXC Technology The Dandelion Program - Revolutionizing employment diversity and building careers	
4.50pm -5.00pm								Mr. Malcolm Mayfield, Autism STAR Pty Ltd Understanding Autism: a personal journey	Ms. Sandy Gray, University SA Looking outside your own back yard! Living with Autism in Padang - Indonesia	
5.00pm -5.10pm	Dr Tom Tutton and Mr. Thomas Kuzma Towards an autism friendly Australia: adapting community environments to support the inclusion of people on the spectrum	Mr. Bill Gamack and Mr. Zach Zaborny, EPIC Assist It's time to rethink autism in the workplace	Ms. Fiona McKay, Dapto High School Home Alone: A 'how to' book by a mother for her son	Mrs. Amy Pollitt, Early Start Speech Pathology Thinking Creatively About Social Skills: A Movie Making Program For Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder	Dr. Keely Harper-Hill, Queensland University of Technology Knowledge Translation Strategy: Autism CRC Program 2 - The School Years	Mrs. Stacey Smith, The Sisterhood Society Australia and Ms. Narelle McCaffrey Multiple and Intersecting Forms of Discrimination Against Autistic Women	Mrs. Diane Weightman and Dr. Andrea Garner, Autism Spectrum Australia (Aspect) Using technology to connect with parents for continuous and real time learning	Mrs. Michele Thomas, Autism Association of WA Promoting Quality of Life for Adults in Supported Community Settings - A Trans-Disciplinary Approach to Staff Training	Dr. Kristelle Hudry, La Trobe University Dyadic Interaction between Bilingual Parents and their Young Children with Autism	
5.10pm -5.20pm										
5.20pm -5.30pm	Question & Answer Time	Question & Answer Time	Question & Answer Time	Question & Answer Time	Question & Answer Time	Question & Answer Time	Question & Answer Time	Question & Answer Time	Question & Answer Time	Question & Answer Time
5.30pm - 6.30pm   Welcome Drinks and Poster Session - Gallery, Level Two (Sponsored by ANZ)										
7.00pm   Movie Night "Life, Animated" - Parkside One										

**Friday 8 September - Conference Day Two**

8.00am -5.30pm   Registration Desk Open		
9.00am -10.30am	Room: Darling Harbour Theatre Session Chair: Andrew Whitehouse	
9.05am -9.50am	Keynote Plenary Three Presenter: Dr. Stephen Shore - Success with autism: using our strengths for achieving a fulfilling and productive life - just like everyone else	
9.50am -10.05am	Asia Pacific Autism Awards 2017	
10.05am -10.50am	Keynote Plenary Four Presenter: Dr. Samuel Odom - Are school-based interventions the "best hope" for children and youth with autism spectrum disorder?	
10.50am - 11.15am   Morning Tea - Exhibition in Gallery (Sponsored by NSW Department of Family and Community Services)		
11.15am -12.45pm	Room: Darling Harbour Theatre Session Chair: Lara Cheney	Room: Parkside One Session Chair: Andrew Davis
11.15am -12.00pm	Keynote Symposium Three Presenter: Prof. Jacqueline Roberts - Autism and education: the art and the science	Keynote Symposium Four Presenter: Jeannette Purkis - Mental health and autism: strategies and self-care
12.00pm -12.45pm	Presenter: Dr. Selim Pullu - Our Journey with autism: works and experiences	Presenter: Dr. Jake Gratton - Genetics, paternal age and the gut microbiome: latest research in autism
12.45pm - 1.45pm   Lunch - Exhibition in Gallery		

