

'Challenging assumptions: program participation influences on literacy and numeracy development'

Professor Stephen Reder

Professor of Applied Linguistics at Portland State University

hosted by VALBEC in conjunction with ACAL, ACER and Victoria University

Wednesday 15 October, 5.00 – 6.30 pm
Victoria University, City Flinders Street, Melbourne

In this forum, Stephen Reder will speak about research outcomes from the Longitudinal Study of Adult Learning (LSAL), which systematically compared the learning trajectories and life outcomes of 1000 adults over a ten year period. He will focus on the outcomes from this research that demonstrate how adult literacy and numeracy program participation influences changes in skills and practices used in social and employment contexts. He will reflect on the importance of shifting the focus of program accountability from measures of short-term proficiency gain to longer-term changes in literacy and numeracy. There will be an opportunity to engage in conversation around challenging of assumptions of some of the key findings with implications for policy development, LLN educators and program delivery.

Stephen Reder is Professor of Applied Linguistics at Portland State University. He has been involved throughout his career in teaching, research and service activities in education, workplace and community settings. His research focuses on adults' lifelong and life-wide literacy, digital literacy and second language development processes.

He has been the Principal Investigator of several recently completed research projects: the National Labsite for Adult ESOL, the Longitudinal Study of Adult Learning (LSAL), and Tutor- Facilitated Digital Literacy Acquisition in Vulnerable Adult Populations. He is currently conducting research and preparing a publication series on the long-term impacts of adult education programs on economic, educational and lifelong learning outcomes.

Stephen is a keynote speaker at the ACAL 2014 Conference 'Literacy: a learning spiral for life', Oct 2-4, 2014 at Surfers Paradise.

Location and transport

Room 5 Level 12
300 Flinders Street, Melbourne
(Victoria University City Campus)

Cost

Payment by credit card and Paymate

VALBEC members \$20

VU staff \$20 (must have VU email address)

Non-member \$30

Registration and pay

Registration by Friday, October 10, 2014 is essential

Register

VALBEC is delighted to be co-sponsoring Stephen's visit to Melbourne following his keynote at the ACAL conference on the Gold Coast and visits to other states.

Victoria University has generously provided the venue for this event and we are grateful for their involvement.

