

Two workshop sessions are running at this conference.

Please nominate first and second preferences for each session on the preference sheet and fax or email it back to the SEV office.

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## SESSION A: 10.45 - 11.55

### Workshop 1

#### Australian Foreign Policy: exploring 'national interest'

Clinton Fernandes, Senior Lecturer, Politics Program, University of New South Wales, Australian Defence Force Academy

Clinton will discuss Australia's international relations and strategy with a focus on the 'national interest' particularly in relation to the region.

*International Studies, National Politics*

### Workshop 2

#### Social Democracy and the Rudd Labor Government

Dr Andrew Scott, senior lecturer, Global Studies, Social Science & Planning, RMIT University

In this workshop Andrew will evaluate the success or otherwise of the social democratic policies introduced by the Rudd Labor Government since they came to office in November 2007. What are the prospects for the Rudd government based on international comparisons?

*National Politics*

### Workshop 3

#### Ethnic diversity and the impacts of community

Dr Robert Phillipot, teacher of VCE Sociology

VCE Sociology Unit 3 explores the ways Australians have thought about the idea of community and how we experience various forms of community. The unit explores the changing definitions and experiences of community and the challenges to it posed by political, social, economic and technological changes. This workshop focuses

on the role of ethnic diversity as it affects community in Australia. The views of US political scientist Robert Putman, on the impact of immigration and ethnic diversity on social solidarity and social capital will also be considered.

*Sociology 3&4*

### Workshop 4

#### Burma's struggle for democracy

Mary O'Kane, ANU/ Monash University & the Australia Burma network

Burma's military junta has announced democratic elections to be held in late 2010 that bring in a new constitution that consolidates continued military control of state political institutions. How will these elections impact on the chronic political instability that underpins Burma's on-going civil war, militarisation, political oppression, extreme poverty and widespread human security? Is this a sign of hope or another nail in Burma's coffin of justice?

*International Politics*

### Workshop 5

#### Youth Homelessness

Jane Lazzari, Youth Policy Officer at the Council to Homeless Persons

There has been a great deal of attention on homelessness in recent years, including the historic release of the Rudd Government's White Paper on Homelessness. What's happening in terms of policy initiatives in this area? What's being done to address youth homelessness? How can young people be assisted to reconnect with their communities?

In this workshop, Jane Lazzari will explore Federal and State government policy and practice in relation to youth homelessness. Jane will also discuss how 'The Oasis' documentary and study design can be used as a valuable teaching tool for educating students on homelessness.

*Sociology 1&2*

### Workshop 6

#### China's Rise to Power

Dennis Woodward is a senior lecturer in Politics at Monash University

Dr Woodward's research interests span both the fields of Chinese and Australian Politics. In this workshop he will consider whether China poses a 'threat' to its neighbours, the US and the international order. China's emerging regional and global role in its various manifestations will be considered with particular attention to the Unit 4, Area of Study 1, key knowledge:

- types and forms of power;
- the main policy instruments used to try to achieve the differing objectives of the national interest (diplomacy, trade, aid, military power, propaganda, domestic pressure);
- the success or failure of different groups in pursuit of their goals within a particular situation or relationship.

*International Studies, National Politics*

### Workshop 7

#### Promoting Student Engagement: a strategy for building up VCE International Studies

Niranjan Casinader International Studies teacher & Head of Humanities, Loyola College

Within the often competitive school environment for VCE students, where students often favour what they perceive as the more vocational subjects in their choices, Humanities faculties often face the difficulty and challenge of engaging sufficient numbers of students in the world of international relations to enable classes in VCE International Studies to run.

This workshop will outline how one secondary school has attempted to address the concern of preparing students for VCE International Studies with the introduction of a Year Ten Humanities elective centred on 21st Century Conflict. Along with an outline of the course, the reasons for its genesis, its goals, and an analysis of its success, the workshop will look at examples of the learning activities undertaken and the work produced by the students.

*International Studies, all other teachers*

**SESSION B: 2.15 - 3.25****Workshop 1****Teaching Australian Foreign Policy**

Ron Anderson, International Studies teacher and lecturer at Deakin University

As Australian foreign policy is examined this year by essay, the ability of students and teachers to identify basic generic essay questions will be helpful to all, particularly for new teachers.

*International Studies, National Politics*

**Workshop 2****North Korea**

David Hundt, lecturer in International Relations, School of International and Political Studies, Deakin University

This workshop will provide a review of the division of the Korean peninsula following WWII; the emergence of antagonistic relations between North Korea and the United States; the contemporary implications of this antagonism, especially in the form of the North's attempts to acquire a nuclear capacity and countervailing efforts by the US to prevent such an occurrence; the North Korean regime's belief that a nuclear capacity is crucial to its potential for survival; and the general significance of these events in the study of international politics.

*International Studies, National Politics*

**Workshop 3****Teaching ideas for units 3 & 4 Sociology**

Fiona Gontier, Sociology teacher, Haileybury College

Fiona, an experienced Sociology teacher, will share and discuss a range of teaching ideas and resources relevant to unit 3 & 4 Sociology. Participants are invited

to contribute to the community of learning by bringing along any learning activities and resources they wish to share with colleagues attending this workshop.

*Sociology 3&4*

**Workshop 4****Teaching National Politics?**

John Studholme Education Manager, Parliamentary Education Office, Parliament of Australia

If you're teaching VCE National Politics you'll find this workshop most valuable. John Studholme will provide some suggestions and guidance for accessing useful publications and resources available from the PEO and the Parliamentary library. While this workshop is particularly relevant to VCE National Politics teachers, secondary humanities teachers will also find resources useful for teaching courses on Politics from years 7 to 10.

*National Politics, all other teachers*

**Workshop 5****Afghanistan**

Richard Tanter is Professor of International Relations in the Office of the Pro-Vice Chancellor, RMIT Research and Innovation, and Director of the Nautilus Institute at RMIT

Are we moving towards a resolution of the war in Afghanistan or is it becoming a more dangerous and complicated conflict? In this workshop Richard Tanter will provide comment on the current levels of involvement of western coalition troops in Afghanistan, the implications for the Afghani civilian population of this widening conflict and the potential for a resolution to the ongoing conflict.

Professor Tanter has written lengthy articles about the war and insurgency in Afghanistan and was the project coordinator of "Australia

in Afghanistan", part of a series of briefing books on Australian Forces abroad published by the Nautilus Institute at RMIT.

*International Studies, International Politics*

**Workshop 6****Representatives from Rainbow Family**

In Unit 2 Sociology students are asked to consider the changing nature of families and some of the key contemporary influences on family life.

Representatives from Rainbow Families, a volunteer community organisation that aims to ensure equality for rainbow families (parents, partners and prospective parents who identify as being lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender or intersex, and their children) will discuss:

- the success of the 'Love Makes a Family Campaign'
- the impact of recent changes to the laws on same-sex parenting
- research on outcomes for children raised with same-sex parents
- issues faced by same-sex parents and children

*Sociology 1&2*