



## WAVE March Newsletter 2019

Welcome to WAVE networking, events and advocacy 2019. We would love you to join with us in promoting and supporting women and girls in VET and adult education, especially as this is an election year.

### Happy International Women's Day 2019

International Women's Day 2019 campaign theme: #BalanceforBetter



The first International Women's Day occurred in 1911, supported by over one million people. Today, IWD belongs to all groups collectively everywhere. IWD is not country, group or organization specific.

Gloria Steinem, world-renowned feminist, journalist and activist [once explained](#) "The story of women's struggle for equality belongs to no single feminist nor to any one organisation but to the collective efforts of all who care about human rights."

Why is International Women's Day still celebrated? Simply, because the original aim – to achieve full gender equality for women around the world – has still not been realised. A gender pay gap persists across the globe and women are still not present in equal numbers in business or politics. Figures show that globally, women's education, health and violence towards women is still worse than that of men.

[According to the World Economic Forum](#), the gender gap won't close until 2186. [On IWD](#), women across the world come together to force the world to recognise these inequalities – while also celebrating the achievements of women who have overcome these barriers.

Post your **#IWD2019** message on social media with your "hands out" balance pose for a strong call-to-action for others to also help forge a **#BalanceforBetter**.

## New WAVE Postcard

WAVE has updated its campaigning postcard, with some new messages. We will be sending postcards to candidates for the Federal elections, and have sent letters to spokespersons for women in NSW for these state elections. I have attached a copy for you as well as below and if you would like hard copies let me know along with an address to send them to.



Women in Adult & Vocational Education

Australian governments have international obligations & national economic imperatives to ensure women's equal access to & participation in education, training & decent work.

@WAVE4VET   
@womeninadultandvocationaleducation 

[www.wave.org.au](http://www.wave.org.au)

### Australia's women and girls expect:

- Access to a strong, national public vocational education & training system;
- Career advice, counselling & targeted support to undertake accredited training for viable, well-paid and decent jobs;
- Technical & trade training in all areas of skill shortages, emergent occupations & industries;
- Training provision that is high quality, affordable, inclusive & relevant for the diversity of all Australian women.

Australian women demand genuine commitment to full implementation of gender equity policies in education, training & employment.



## State activities

### Focus: Victoria

Working alongside industry, community education and tertiary providers Women's Health Victoria is leading a 2-year project funded by the Victorian Government to develop an accredited *Course in Gender Equity*. The new units of competency can potentially be embedded into any vocational qualification and enhance the knowledge of gendered issues across all industries. The project will also research pedagogical approaches using a feminist framework and develop tools to enhance teacher capacity to deliver and assess gender equity competencies, and to ensure that their own teaching practices are gender inclusive.

This innovative approach, which is using digital technologies to expand the reach, is also crossing barriers in the education sectors, engaging community education, vocational education (private and public) and higher education. This new course aims to make a difference by changing workplace cultures and transforming the gender divide in Australian workplaces. It should also support Australia's commitment to achieving SGDs 5 and 6, gender equality and decent work.

## Focus: Queensland

### The Future of Work in Queensland to 2030

Jobs Queensland is investigating what the future of work could look like in 2030 for Queenslanders and our economy. This includes considering the implications for skills and employment policy of technological change, social and demographic trends, and institutional frameworks.

An extensive literature review has been completed which highlighted that there are areas of consensus and contention as well as gaps in the information available. Currently Jobs Queensland is undertaking stakeholder consultations to hear what those most directly impacted see as the challenges and potential solutions related to the employment and skills implications of the future of work in Queensland.

An interim report will be submitted in June 2019. For those interested in this work, here are the links:- <https://jobsqueensland.qld.gov.au/projects/future-of-work/>

- Discussion Paper: <https://jobsqueensland.qld.gov.au/projects/future-of-work/#discussion-paper>
- Project stages: <https://jobsqueensland.qld.gov.au/projects/future-of-work/#project-stages>
- Literature Review: <https://jobsqueensland.qld.gov.au/projects/future-of-work/#literature-review>
- Have your say: <https://jobsqueensland.qld.gov.au/projects/future-of-work/#have-your-say>

## Joint statement on Sexual Harassment reforms

WAVE works with a variety of women's groups around issues of most concern to women and girls. We were a signatory to this recent campaign on sexual harassment reforms at work.

<https://www.legalaid.vic.gov.au/about-us/strategic-advocacy-and-law-reform/change-culture-change-system-end-sexual-harassment-work>

## Gender Lens on the Budget

The Federal Budget comes down on 2 April. Given the short time then to the Federal elections, expect to see the annual Gender Lens on the Budget soon after that.

Keep up with WAVE campaigns through <http://wave.org.au/wave/>, Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn.

Linda Simon

WAVE National Convenor