

LEADERSHIP

STUDENT LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

**LEADING IN
THE NEW
REALITY**

2022 Program

**SSAF
FUNDED**

*Student
LIFE*

 **VICTORIA UNIVERSITY**

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Victoria University (VU) acknowledges the Ancestors, Elders and families of the Boonwurrung, Woiwurrung (Wurundjeri) and Wathaurung (Wadawurrung) on our Melbourne Campuses, and the Gadigal and Guring-gai people of the Eora Nation on our Sydney campus. These groups are the custodians of University land and have been for many centuries.

We acknowledge that the land on which our campuses stand is the place of age-old ceremonies of celebration, initiation and renewal. The Kulin and Eora people's living culture had, and has, a unique role in the life of these regions. VU supports the aim of Reconciliation Australia to build better relationships between the wider Australian community and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples for the benefit of all Australians.

It is important that staff, students and visitors understand and respect the significance of recognising the traditional owners of University land.



WELCOME

Since 2010 the VU Student Leadership Conference has inspired and empowered students on their individual leadership journeys. By connecting you with thought leaders and experts we aim to explore and prepare for the world that you will experience beyond your time at VU.

At VU we aim to equip you with the skills to transition into an ever-changing environment. Our Student Life and Leadership programs will inspire you to take on leadership roles within VU and beyond, and cultivate a growth mindset, to seek out opportunities, take risks and to learn and adapt.

Our 2022 Student Leadership Conference will assist you to identify and seek out these opportunities. Our theme for this year's conference is Leading in the New Reality. Today's leaders are curious, courageous, empathetic, adaptable, resilient and able to foster fairness and respect, value and belonging. This year's conference will explore leadership practices that garner self-awareness, help you develop and maintain resilience, and empower you to embrace and adapt with change to take the lead in a diverse range of situations.

At this year's conference, you will have the opportunity to listen, reflect and learn by doing, as well as create networks, make friends and branch outside your comfort zone. Most importantly, you will have every opportunity to ask questions and learn from our presenters and participants, who bring a rich and diverse range of experience.

I congratulate you on your commitment to your personal and professional development. Please make the most of your conference experience, and stay connected with the wonderful community of student leaders you are now a part of

I look forward to meeting you!



Naomi Dempsey

Chief Student Officer



ORDER OF PROCEEDINGS

TIME	PROGRAM COMPONENT	PRESENTER
8:45AM	Registration	
9:30AM	Welcome & Acknowledgement of Country	<p>Leon Kerr Director, Student Services</p> <p>Kirsty Lau Leadership Assistant, Student Life & Leadership</p>
9:45AM	Opening Keynote	Karen Jackson Executive Director, Moondani Balluk
10:15AM	Morning Tea	
10:45AM	Morning Workshop Session	
	Creative problem-solving	Mark Moore Institute for Communication, Management & Leadership
	How to be a great mentor and mentee	Josh Farr Founder, Campus Consultancy
	'Metaverse Mental Health': Designing a healthy digital future	Emily Unity Mental Health Professional & Software Engineer
12:15PM	Plenary Presentation	Dr Tania Miletic Assistant Director, Initiative for Peacebuilding at the University of Melbourne & Founder, Peace-Meal Peacebuilding Initiative
12:50PM	Lunch	
	LinkedIn photo booth	
1:30PM	Afternoon Workshop Sessions	
	The importance of adaptive leadership in 2022	Jahin Tanvir Head of Growth, Campus Consultancy

TIME	PROGRAM COMPONENT	PRESENTER
	How to get what you want	Kate Benesovsky President, Victoria University Student Union (VUSU)
	What to do when change really hurts	Shiva Foroutan, Jess Ritchie, Shayla Nguyen & Amber Karras LEAD Program facilitators, Student Life & Leadership
3:00PM	Break	
3:20PM	Closing Keynote	Vanessa Doake Chief People Officer, Art Processors
4:20PM	Closing Remarks Thank You	Leon Kerr Director, Student Services Kirsty Lau Leadership Assistant, Student Life & Leadership
4:25PM	Networking Party LinkedIn photo booth Soul & Storm, VU Music Agency	
5:30PM	Event Concludes	



MASTER OF CEREMONIES

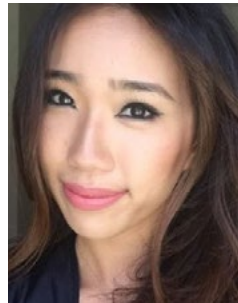
Leon Kerr Director, Student Services

Leon is the Director of Student Services, a portfolio that includes Student Wellbeing, Student Life and Leadership, Student Advisory Services, International Student Advising and Student Communications. Leon works collaboratively with stakeholders across VU and beyond to continually evolve and innovate, ensuring that VU continues to provide the best and most relevant student experience unique to each individual, supporting students to thrive and succeed.



Kirsty Lau Leadership Assistant, Student Life & Leadership

Kirsty is the Leadership Assistant in the 2022 Student Life & Leadership team. Kirsty is a student studying a Postgraduate in International Community Development. She has professional experience in the clinical research field and actively participates in the community to support at risk multicultural youths. At VU, Kirsty volunteers with Victoria University Student Union (VUSU) and is completing her LEAD Program along with her studies.



KEYNOTES

Karen Jackson Executive Director, Moondani Balluk

As a Yorta Yorta woman, Karen Jackson (KJ), is strongly committed to Aboriginal issues, particularly in Victoria. The majority of KJ's working life has been at Victoria University and previously in government agencies, within Aboriginal specific or Equity branches. This has involved working directly with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander individuals, families, and community organisations and at Victoria University developing cross-sectoral policy and educational programs that are culturally appropriate and inclusive of Aboriginal values. KJ is a firm believer in self-determination and justice for Aboriginal people.



Opening Keynote

- ◆ **Whose new reality is it? Blak Lives Matter & local Aboriginal Community**



Dr Tania Miletic

**Assistant Director,
Initiative for Peacebuilding at the
University of Melbourne & Founder,
Peace-Meal Peacebuilding**



Tania is an experienced academic and practitioner with a commitment to working collaboratively on real-world challenges from conflict prevention, social cohesion to good governance, with an ambition to influence positive change.

Tania is the Assistant Director of the Initiative for Peacebuilding at the University of Melbourne. For over a decade, Tania has taught as a Sessional Academic with VU and the Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies, based in Cambodia.

Tania has been engaged as a consultant and facilitator to a range of government and non-government organisations and stakeholders in the areas of peacebuilding, political affairs and community engagement.

Tania is also the founder of Peace-Meal Peacebuilding – an initiative that profiles and supports the important work of peacebuilders globally by connecting people through sharing stories and recipes from times of peace and conflict. A book is coming soon. Visit the website and blog for more information.

peace-meal.org



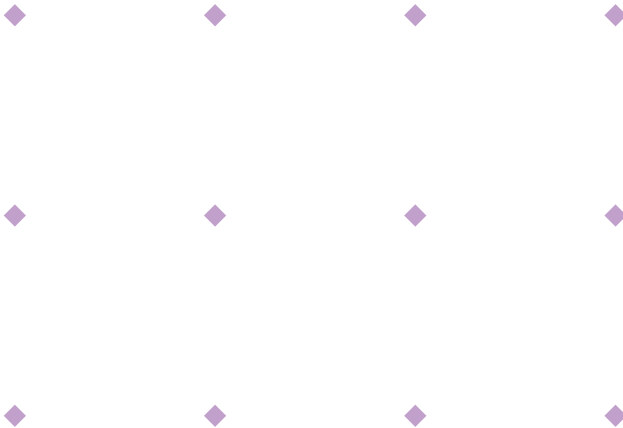
Plenary Presentation

◆ Peace leadership – sharing wisdom, growing power, making change

Tania is a regionally recognised peace leader who will provide fresh insights into the way we approach conflict theoretically and stay grounded in rapidly shifting realities of practice. Tania will draw on her experiences in teaching, research and peacebuilding program support in Australia, Asia and the Pacific.

Tania will encourage student leaders and facilitators to get creative, embrace the changes and challenge themselves to be leading in conflict transformation and peacebuilding.

With her plenary before lunch, Tania will also share her thoughts about the promotion of everyday forms of peace through sharing stories and meals to help build connection and community. Students will leave with some suggested questions to reflect on and share over lunch.



Vanessa Doake

Chief People Officer, Art Processors

Vanessa is the Chief People Officer at Art Processors, a global experiential design and technology company, where she designs and executes the people and workforce strategy.

She drove the organisation's certification as a Family Inclusive Workplace™, recognising the company's commitment to flexing with the caring responsibilities of its diverse workforce. Always seeking to improve representation at Art Processors and within the wider tech community, she also partners with CareerTrackers to provide paid internship opportunities for Indigenous students.

Before joining Art Processors, Vanessa co-founded Code Like a Girl, a groundbreaking social enterprise that challenges the significant imbalance of gender representation in Australia's tech industry. As Chief Operating Officer, Vanessa introduced and optimised programs to attract and retain girls from all walks of life in STEM education and technology careers. Among her proudest achievements was a first-of-its-kind internship program she designed that didn't require the applicant to be studying or hold a tertiary qualification and encouraged culturally diverse women and non-binary identifiers into the industry.

Throughout her professional career, Vanessa has held several senior and executive positions in People and Culture, working with organisations across the tech, legal, health, education not-for-profit, and government sectors. She strives for more inclusive, human ways of approaching business, imploring organisations from inside and out to do better when it comes to their most valuable asset — their people.

[linkedin.com/in/vanessadoake](https://www.linkedin.com/in/vanessadoake)



Closing Keynote

◆ Reinventing the workplace for a post-pandemic landscape

The pandemic has tested the mantle of modern leaders in every sector globally. In challenging conditions, companies are rethinking their ways of working, which traditionally relied heavily on face-to-face interactions, to accommodate a multigenerational, diverse, and generally fatigued workforce. But what exactly does this new world of work look like in a global, hybrid setting?

In this session, hear how Art Processors, an experiential design and technology company, has turned its back on conventional and traditional workplace practices, re-designing what being a people-first organisation truly looks like: the policies, practices and benefits that support a hybrid and flexible workforce to succeed in the post-COVID world.

Attendees will be provided with first-hand insight on the evolving responsibilities and expectations of organisational leading in the new reality:

- ◆ Successful people-first policies that support life's most challenging moments and foster human connections.
- ◆ Work practices that promote — and, importantly, prioritise — flexibility and work-life balance.
- ◆ Creating a supportive human-centric employee experience for a globally dispersed workforce.



WORKSHOPS

Mark Moore Institute for Communication, Management & Leadership

Mark has over 30 years of experience in training, consulting and presenting. He has designed and delivered a wide range of technical and conceptual courses and presentations over this period. He has an Economics and International Politics degree from University of South Australia (UniSA) and the University of the Witwatersrand and has delivered over 2000 programs to over 200 organisations across several countries. His approach to training is to blend theory with lessons drawn from actual work experience. To achieve this end, presentations are delivered in accordance with Modern Adult Learning Principles.

Mark works hard to establish an open and trusting environment where participants are comfortable to share and explore these real-life experiences. His approach is to avoid over theorising with an emphasis on practicality. Mark believes that participants should be able to immediately apply some of the tools and techniques they have learned.



Workshop

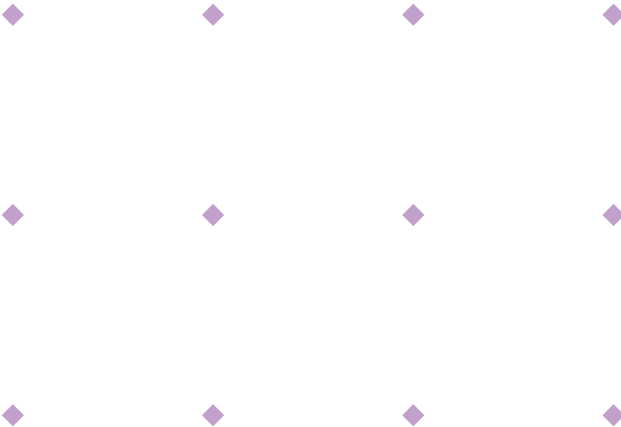
◆ Creative problem-solving

Most people spend a significant part of their day finding solutions to problems. A customer is not happy with their product, a project has been delayed, a patient has an illness that needs to be identified, a vehicle is not running smoothly or perhaps an architect has to fit a construction onto a small block.

Since we spend so much of our time problem-solving and making decisions, it makes sense to regularly review and fine tune the techniques we use.

In this session we will:

- ◆ identify typical mistakes to avoid when solving problems
- ◆ detail a simple problem-solving process
- ◆ examine creative thinking techniques that help generate novel solutions
- ◆ explore the role of intuition
- ◆ review decision-making techniques to help identify the best solution.



Josh Farr

Founder, Campus Consultancy

Josh is passionate about young people stepping into their leadership potential. After gaining a First-Class Honours Degree from University of New South Wales (UNSW) and working as a civil engineer, Josh realised he was in a job he didn't love. He left and spent the next two years travelling and working across 39 countries before returning to Australia to work in education & non-profits. Josh worked as the Victorian Recruitment Manager for Teach For Australia and as a Partnerships Executive for TEDxMelbourne where he discovered the power of social entrepreneurship as a vehicle for positive social change and innovation.

In 2017, Josh founded his first company, Campus Consultancy and has grown it to be a market leader. His team has since taken more than 34,000 student leaders from 39 universities through his workshops on leadership, entrepreneurship and emotional intelligence. He has delivered two TEDx talks, is a World Cup Judge for ENACTUS, and his team leads strategic state-wide initiatives for six Australian state and territory governments.

campusconsultancy.org

[linkedin.com/in/joshdfarr](https://www.linkedin.com/in/joshdfarr)



Workshop

◆ How to be a great mentor/mentee

This workshop aims to increase the confidence of mentors/mentees by identifying:

- ◆ their involvement in the mentoring program (what's in it for them?)
- ◆ potential barriers that may get in their way (what's holding them back?)
- ◆ skills, mindsets and knowledge they can develop in the program (how they will grow?).

Outcomes:

- ◆ Identify the purpose of mentoring.
- ◆ Explore barriers and ideate solutions.
- ◆ Apply the G.R.O.W. model of mentoring.
- ◆ Prepare for outreach and relationship building stages of mentoring.
- ◆ Continue to build rapport in the long term.

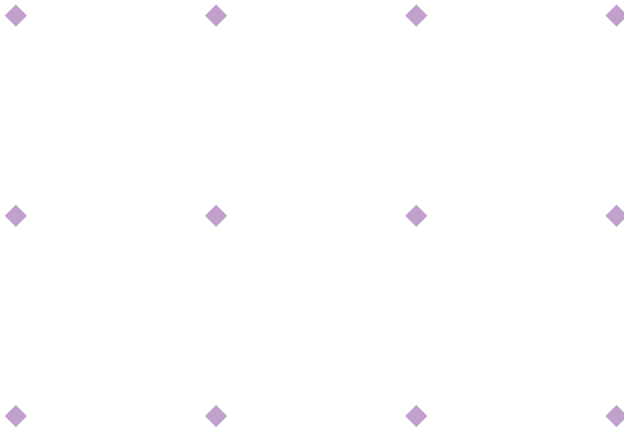


Jahin Tanvir

Head of Growth, Campus Consultancy

Jahin is an award-winning keynote and TEDx speaker, author, board director and a multicultural youth advocate. He is currently the Head of Growth at Campus Consultancy, proudly working with 38 universities and five State Governments in Australia and the Pacific Region, providing entrepreneurship, leadership and emotional intelligence training. At the age of 21, Jahin is a Diversity & Inclusion Leader, having been involved in several youth-led and multicultural organisations to champion youth empowerment, healthcare and education for all young people.

Jahin was recently named the 2022 Young Australian of the Year finalist whilst also receiving the 2021 Young Canberra Citizen of the Year in Individual Community Service. Jahin is a Board Director of the Adolescent Health Association of Australia and the Youth Coalition of the ACT.



Workshop

◆ The importance of adaptive leadership in 2022

The last two years have been difficult for many, and our understanding of leadership has changed because of that.

In this session, we will learn about four leadership archetypes based on the Visionary, Pacesetter, Coach and Relationship Builder, and how these leadership roles can be effectively translated into the world we live in right now. Adaptive leadership is a minute-by-minute choice, and after this workshop, we will be able to make a more informed decision on how we want to lead in our life and how to thrive as a leader in this new leadership climate of 2022.

We will learn to:

- ◆ derive the principles of strong leadership from personal experience
- ◆ describe the four leadership archetypes and how to become an ‘adaptive leader’
- ◆ assess our areas of strength and development across the archetypes
- ◆ apply the four leadership archetypes to situations we may face in our role as a student leader and how that has changed over the years
- ◆ apply adaptive leadership into our personal/academic goals in 2022.



Kate Benesovsky

President, Victoria University Student Union (VUSU)

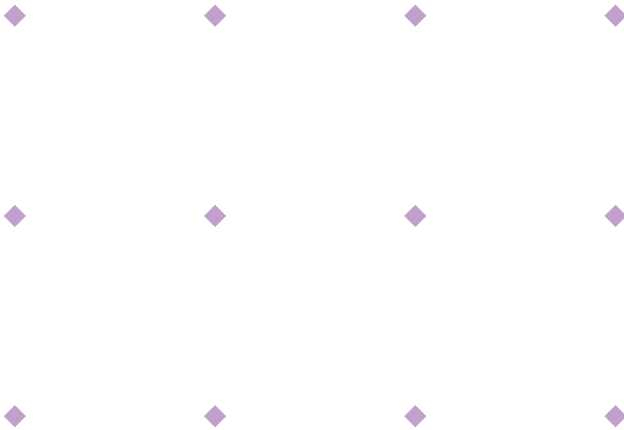
Kate is the current President of the VUSU. VUSU is the peak student representative body at Victoria University. We are an independent body from VU which live & breathe all things students!

Our mission is to make all students lives' at VU easier, safer, smoother, and more fun; whether this be through social activities, college societies and International Student Association (ISA) or welfare and educational activism. All our representatives are current students from many disciplines including, Law, Education, Nursing, Psychology, Engineering and more. We are always looking for passionate students to get involved and join the student advocacy fight!

facebook.com/VUstudentunion

instagram.com/vusugram

vustudentunion.com



Workshop

◆ How to get what you want

Our workshop aims to educate students on 'how to get what they want' through activism, advocacy and negotiation. Students will learn from current VUSU representatives (including VUSU President Kate) on how they negotiate and successfully bargain with decision making bodies to effectively get what they want.

Outcomes:

- ◆ Learn how to build a campaign and use social media as a positive tool.
- ◆ Explore various options of advocacy and activism.
- ◆ Expand their knowledge of negotiation and decision-making bodies.
- ◆ Prepare to deal with roadblocks and lead themselves and teams through failure.
- ◆ Build knowledge of appropriate language, techniques and more with conversing with stakeholders.

Shiva Foroutan, Jess Ritchie, Shayla Nguyen & Amber Karras

LEAD Program facilitators, Student Life & Leadership

The LEAD program is a free, interactive and engaging leadership training program for current students. LEAD Program facilitators are students who have participated in the program and have stepped up to take on the role of sharing their knowledge with other students. Jess is studying Psychology (Honours) and is the Secretary of the VU Psychology Society. Shiva is undertaking a double degree in Business & Psychological Studies, is the President of the VU Psychology Society and the VU Student Union Cultural Diversity Officer. Shayla is studying Psychology (Honours) and is the VU Student Union Women's Officer. Amber is studying Science (Osteopathy) and is an Events Assistant in the Student Life team.

vu.edu.au/lead-program



Workshop

◆ What to do when change really hurts

Sometimes dealing with change can be much harder than we expect. In this workshop participants will learn about the different stages we experience when faced with a major change and develop strategies to move through them and avoid getting stuck.

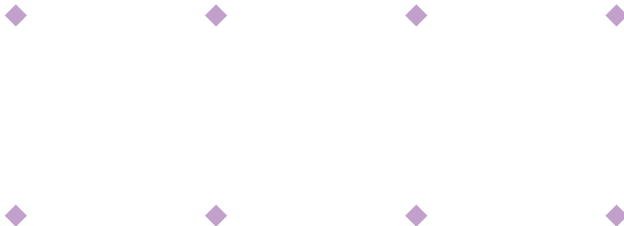


Emily Unity

Mental Health Professional & Software Engineer

Emily is a software engineer, full-stack software developer, and designer. Upon completing studies in Software Engineering and Computer Science, Emily has held technological roles across a variety of industries, including engineering, health and wellbeing, research, finance, and game design. They are passionate about ensuring that digital technologies have diverse multidisciplinary approaches to their design and ongoing improvement. Emily is a multidisciplinary creative. They have held numerous leadership positions in design and communication, specialising in brand identities from conception to implementation. They have worked directly with over 150 diverse clients, from ASX companies to start up environments. They have won awards within performance and expression, and are passionate about helping people find their voice through non-traditional forms of communication. The consistent narrative across these fields is Emily's passion to use both their professional and lived experience to help advocate for a world for all people, regardless of background, identity, or neurodiversity.

emilyunity.com



Workshop

◆ ‘Metaverse Mental Health’: Designing a healthy digital future

Technology is transforming the way we live, work, and play...
but what is it doing to our mental health?

Traditionally, new developments in technology have been feared and assumed to be evil. Some common narratives state that ‘social media poisons our minds’, ‘technology disconnects us from reality’, or ‘video games make us violent’. This workshop offers an alternative narrative and invites participants to shape their digital future. You may be familiar with the concept of the ‘metaverse’. Over the past few years, it’s been making headlines due to its unmatched potential, and now tech giants are building the foundations for the digital future.

It is only a matter of time before we seamlessly integrate into the virtual world and it is imperative that we learn how to prioritise people over profits. Technology is not inherently bad, but we are often not supported to explore new developments in ways that are healthy for us. In this workshop, we will discuss how we can design a healthy digital future and prioritise mental health in the metaverse. We will explore parts of the metaverse, including virtual reality, social media, and video games, including how they can be used to help mental health. Participants will be involved in an interactive experience that will start conversations about mental health, technology, and the future possibilities.

The workshop presenter, Emily, is a mental health professional, software engineer, and ex-professional gamer. They have experienced mental health challenges and recovery, and have worked across the sector to create healthier futures. For Emily, virtual worlds and communities gave them the creative freedom and emotional support that they could not find in real life. They want to use both their professional and lived experience to highlight that mental health recovery is not one-size-fits-all and technology can be used for social good.

THANK YOU FOR JOINING US!

To find out more about the Student Leadership Program, scan the QR code or visit:
vu.edu.au/student-leadership



Proudly brought to you by
Student Life – Victoria University