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A space for ACE…

Fancy conducting a class online in a virtual classroom? Need to meet but can't leave the office?

Why not try our online virtual Classroom, Elluminate, free of charge for ACE providers.

Call Kathy Jagan on 97869466 for more information, or email on kathy.jagan@dpcd.vic.gov.au

Get ready for AccessACE09!
Launch at the showcase – see overleaf

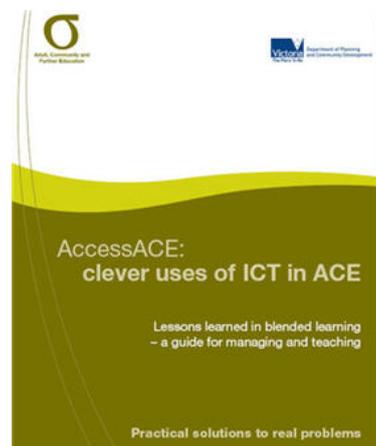**Do you want to renew or invigorate your classroom practice?**
Wondering how you can use technology to expand or attract new business?

AccessACE09 is an extension of the 2007 AccessACE project in which ten ACE practitioners across Victoria participated in a blended learning research project. The research question was:
 What does clever use of ICT in ACE mean and look like?
All ten organisations trialled a particular technology with a particular group of learners, in order to determine what clever use of ICT looked like in their community. Their experiences are documented in the publication entitled:
AccessACE: clever uses of ICT in ACE. Lessons learned in blended learning- a guide for managing and teaching.

The AccessACE09 project will build on the research as described in the report, through a *Circles of Professional Practice* model.

What does this mean for me?
This project will give some 20 managers and teachers the opportunity to become a member of a Circle and investigate and build on particular aspects of the research under one of two themes:

- Classroom Practice or
- Organisational Strategy

The Circles will be managed and conducted by two organisations who participated in the 2007 project. **The Circles are supported by a total budget of $40,000 to assist the activities of participating members.**

How will it work?
The Circles will be launched at the e-leaning showcase day on the 20th March. Showcase participants will have an opportunity in the afternoon to hear about the new project, listen to facilitators and decide if and how they want to be involved. The Circles will be managed by PRACE (teaching practice) and Coonara (organisational strategy). Participants will be contacted by the managing organisations for a face-to face meeting to decide how the circle will operate and how the funding can support that.
It is anticipated that circle participants will access the knowledge and expertise generated by the participants of the 07 AccessACE project.

A great opportunity to put research into practice!

AccessACE09 is managed by the Southern Metropolitan Regional Council of ACFE
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ACFE E-learning showcase – come, see and e-learn!

The **e-learning Showcase - Celebrating Good Practice in e-learning in ACE** will provide an important opportunity to hear, see and learn more about e-learning practices that can be applied in the Adult Community Education (ACE) sector. The showcase will be presented as a part of the Adult, Community and Further Education (ACFE) Board's project AccessACE which identifies and supports the implementation of sustainable e-learning models for delivery in ACE.

The e-learning showcase will provide practical solutions to issues facing ACE teachers and ACE managers. The showcase will highlight current and future e-learning technologies and methodologies you can implement in your ACE organisation. Keynote speakers **Delia Bradshaw and Michael Coghlan,** are experienced e-learning practitioners who will in turn reflect on the collective ACE e-learning journey to date, and explore some of the tools currently being used to create community.
The day will be informative, enlightening and enjoyable. There will be an opportunity to meet with the project managers of the AccessACE09

Circles of Professional Practice project, and find out more about how you can get involved.

Details: Friday 20th March.
Time: 9.00 to 4.00pm
Venue: William Angliss Conference Centre, La Trobe Street, Melbourne.
Cost: $82.50

For more information on this showcase, its presenters and the venue, please visit the showcase wiki at:
http://eshowcase.acfe.vic.edu.au
You will also be able to down load the program and registration form from the website. To register, please complete the registration form and send to the Southern Metropolitan Regional Council of ACFE P.O.Box 62 Seaford 3198.
If you have any questions please contact Ms Kathy Jagan on 97869466 or
email kathy.jagan@dpcd.vic.gov.au

Connected up…why do we need a social networking site for ACE?

Heard of Facebook?
There will be few people around who have not heard of *Facebook* – it often features in the national media with both good and bad reports…
Love it or hate it but social networking sites can be and are a very powerful tool in connecting and reconnecting with people. I myself have been able to reconnect with a younger generation of my nephews and nieces spread across the globe. Facebook, MySpace, Ning, etc, are social networking sites powered by social networking software.

What exactly is social networking software?
Wikipedia describes it as:
encompassing a range of software systems that allow users to interact and share data. This computer-mediated communication has

become very popular with social sites like MySpace and Facebook, media sites like Flickr and YouTube, and commercial sites like Amazon and eBay. Many of these applications share the ability to upload data and media.
See: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Social_software

What is Ning?
The word *Ning* means *peace* in Chinese, and wikipedia tells us that Ning *appeals to people who want to create their own social networks around specific interests with their own visual design, choice of features. The unique feature of Ning is that anyone can create their own social*

network fo*r a particular topic or need, catering to specific membership bases.*
See: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ning

So, why should I join http://acenetwork.ning.com?

With the help of the 2008 ementor network we have set up an ACE network on Ning, around a very specific interest group, i.e. for teachers and managers who are interested in exploring technology in their business, as well as teaching and learning practices. It is a place to advertise, meet online, connect, share, exchange ideas and learn from each other.
Why not share the link above with at least three other colleagues and help us build a strong and supportive online e-learning community in ACE in Victoria!