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## Welcome from the President

Welcome to Term 2, and it's a busy one! Lot's to update you on, so this is a full newsletter!





## News from the VCAA

### 2016 Top Designs

The [Top Designs](#) exhibition showcases outstanding student works produced for the Victorian Certificate of Education in a range of studies including Product Design and Technology and Systems Engineering. The exhibition runs daily until Sunday 10 July 2016.



Top Designs forums to support VCE students of both these studies are also held throughout this time—the forums consist of an introductory talk from a representative of the VCAA, addressing the School-Assessed Task using examples from Top Designs exhibited works, folios and design plans. This is followed by a presentation by an industry professional, who represents best practice within their particular field of design. Details of dates of forums are listed on the [Museum Victoria](#) website

### Victorian Curriculum Webinars

The VCAA will be running a series of webinars related to the Victorian Curriculum in Term 2. These webinars will include sessions specifically on Design and Technologies. Further details will be available in the VCAA Bulletin.



### The Royal Melbourne Show 2016

The Art Craft and Cookery Pavilion is once again home to their Yarn Farm - a fun and fuzzy installation of fibreglass, farmyard animals that combine the themes of craft and country in yarn-bombed splendour.

Schools are invited to 'adopt' an animal in the lead-up to show and give them a crafty coat that they can parade during the Royal Melbourne Show 2016.

Click [HERE](#) for more information.

*Leanne Compton, Curriculum Manager, Design and Technologies*

# DATTA Vic 2016 Membership



Thanks to all of you who have renewed your DATTA Vic membership for 2016 - it's great to have you back on board! We're really excited to be working with you over the coming year.



By now, you should all have received the latest copy of *Technotes*, our members' digital journal. Also, you'll have a personal log-in set up for the members' area of our website, where you'll find a range of invaluable teaching resources.

If you have renewed your membership or joined recently and you haven't received these, don't hesitate to contact Davone at [admin@datta.vic.edu.au](mailto:admin@datta.vic.edu.au), and we'll get this sorted for you!

And if you're not a member for 2016 yet, remember - joining DATTA Vic comes with a range of benefits, including;

- Regular free resource packs
- Reduced fees for professional learning events and conferences
- Discounted prices on resources for sale
- Constant access to expert help and advice
- The latest OH&S updates
- A growing range of regional workshops
- Excellent networking opportunities
- Support to implement the new Australian Curriculum
- and much, much more!



A special welcome goes to our newest members from Tasmania, who've joined DATTA Vic until their own teachers' association, DATTA Tas gets up and running again.

It's great to have you, and we're looking forward to meeting a few of you at the [STEAMPunk](#) conference!

If you have any questions about the benefits of DATTA Vic membership, contact Laura at [pl@datta.vic.edu.au](mailto:pl@datta.vic.edu.au). You'll find our membership forms [HERE](#).

## The **STEAMPunk** Conference



Registrations are now open for our **STEAMPunk** Conference on the 13th & 14th of May at Harvester technical College. We'll be exploring best practice in teaching **S**cience, **T**echnology, **E**ngineering, **A**rt & **M**aths for Primary & Secondary teachers, as well as providing you with all you need to know about the new Australian curriculum.

Click [HERE](#) to download the conference program, and [HERE](#) to register. But get your booking in soon, as places are going fast!

We have fantastic keynotes from [Ben Forta](#), Adobe's Senior Director for Education Initiatives, and [Zeina Chalich](#), award-winning STEAM educator and self-confessed disruptor!



There are over 50 exciting workshops to choose from including;

- STEM for Primary & Middle School
- Tormek Tool Sharpening
- Introduction to C++ Programming with Arduino
- Shibori Dying
- 3D Printing Tips for Beginners
- All You Need to Know About the New Design & Technologies Curriculum
- Wearable Technologies & E-Textiles
- LED Touch Sensitive Lamp
- Using Lasers in the Classroom
- Digital Design & Manufacture
- Humanitarian Engineering - How to Attract & Keep Girls in STEM
- Autodesk Fusion 360 - Make a Steampunk Lamp
- Cuffs, Collars & Corsets
- Build Your Own Space Experiment
- Creating STEAM Engagement in a Makerspace
- Networking & Ideas Sharing



The *STEAMPunk* Conference will host our first exhibition tournament of VEX Robotics. Teams from throughout Victoria will compete in a range of exciting challenges, and the winners will take home cordless drill sets, thanks to [Tools for Schools](#).



And our [So You Think You Can Design](#) finalists will be competing live again for the crown in the nail-biting live finals of our student design competition! Thanks to our generous sponsors [Picoit](#) and [Swinburne University](#), the 2 winners will each receive an iPad mini, and ALL finalists will join a week-long *Discover Design* course at Swinburne.

Plus with over 20 industry exhibitors, special conference prices on DATTA Vic resources and the chance to network with colleagues from throughout Australia, this is an event not to miss!

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## Professional Learning in Term 2



As well as the *STEAMPunk* Conference (the highlight of our year!), DATTA Vic is also running professional learning workshops for teachers throughout term 2;

- [STEM Brainstorming Day](#) 15th April (FULL)
- [The New Technologies Curriculum for Primary Teachers](#) 28th April
- [VCE PD&T Units 2 & 4 via Polycom to Regional Centres](#) 23rd May
- [VCE PD&T Units 2 & 4](#) 27th May

Plus we're finalising details of a **VCE Systems Engineering Units 2 & 4** workshop in May - more details coming to your inbox very soon!

We're continuing our *Rural and Regional* program this term with a great hands-on workshop on [Pinball Machines - A Versatile Model for Teaching Design, Creativity & Technology](#) at Camperdown College on the 2nd of May.

And term 3 PL details are coming soon too - including an invaluable [OH&S in the Technology Classroom](#) session in July!



And a huge thanks to everyone who delivered and attended our professional learning events in term one. From *SAT Student Folio* workshops to *VCE Units 1 & 3* for PD&T and Systems Engineering Teachers, or *Picaxe* to *VEX Robotics*, it's been a productive term!

Special thanks go to Steve Rogerson from Flinders Community Christian College for running a *Dovetail Joints with Giffkin Jigs* session (pictured) as part of our **Rural & Regional** Program.

# Robotics News



DATTA Vic is continuing to promote [VEX Robotics](#) in Victoria. We'll be presenting competitions throughout the year to teach valuable design technology and engineering skills, teamwork, perseverance, communication, collaboration, project management, and critical thinking for students. A VEX Robotics brochure is available [HERE](#). and you can contact Laura at [pl@datta.vic.edu.au](mailto:pl@datta.vic.edu.au) for more details on how to get involved.



We're also excited to spread the word about a FREE teacher workshop on ***Getting Started with Robocup Junior*** on Friday 29th April in Glen Iris. Click [HERE](#) to download the program flier, or contact Sue Dixon at [susan.dixon@notredame.vic.edu.au](mailto:susan.dixon@notredame.vic.edu.au) for more information and to register.

And in even more robotics news - DATTA Vic's own Veena Nair led a fantastic team of Year 7-11 girls competing in the [First Robotics Competition](#) in Sydney. The participants had to get their robot over ramps, moats and drawbridges, scale a castle wall and shoot goals in the castle tower!



For a full report on the event, click [HERE](#).

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