

**Online forum:**  
**Adult learning education on climate justice**  
**Wednesday, 20 September 2023**

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**Context**

In recent years, the importance of adult learning education focused on climate justice has gained momentum in Australia and the world. In Australia, we have seen the impact of climate disruption with more frequent catastrophic weather events such as floods and fires contributing to the displacement of people from housing and local communities and the subsequent effects on the environment and non-human species. In 2021, the Australian Journal of Adult Learning (AJAL) engaged prominent researchers in this area, Associate Professor Hilary Whitehouse and Professor Bob Stevenson to edit a special edition focusing on climate justice education and how adult learning education is currently responding to the call for action on climate change. As they noted in their editorial ... “In her recent book *Humanity’s Moment*, Australian scientist Joëlle Gergis (2022), a lead author of the 2022 Sixth IPCC Report, documents the overwhelming scientific evidence of a rapidly worsening ecological crisis” (Whitehouse and Stevenson, 2022). The special edition of AJAL highlights research and scholarship from Australia and a South African-led international collaboration responding to the impact of climate change, from issues related to popular education and social movement activism on climate change to affective dimensions of grappling with the social trauma of the climate crisis and the

need for an emergent curriculum on climate justice education for educators and activists. The special edition includes practice-based papers on teaching climate justice in the classroom and working with discomfort and emotions using pedagogies that engage students and teachers in dialogue on climate justice.

## **Purpose**

The seminar aims to bring adult educators together to engage on matters of climate justice education and to hear about current scholarship and practices from the authors of the special edition.

## **Participants**

- Assoc. Professor Tracey Ollis (MC)
- Professor Emerita Shirley Walters (keynote)
- Dr Lorraine Larri (panel)
- Professor Emerita Annette Gough (panel)
- Dr Tania Leimbach (panel)
- Assoc. Professor Hilary Whitehouse (panel facilitator)
- Assoc. Professor Robert B. Stevenson (panel facilitator)

## **Time**

Wednesday 20 September 2023, 4.00 pm to 5.30 pm (AEST)