

AAEE Biennial Conference 2023

Listen, Learn, Transform

25-27 September 2023, University of Wollongong



Abstract Submission Form and Speaker Profile

Complete your details by typing in the **green** sections of the digital form below. If there are multiple presenters, please include their details where applicable (name, organisation, personal bio)

Save your completed form in PDF format and submit via the [submission form on the website](#).

Title	Mr	First Name	Jules	Family Name	Laurent
Position/Role	Principal				
Organisation you will represent	Atrium Ideas Pty Ltd				
Personal Bio Max. 100 words	<p>Jules is an independent environmental educator, currently leading Waste Education for three councils, with a reach of 50,000 households. He believes in whole-of-community education, working with school students and community members from the ages of four to 80.</p> <p>His passion for fostering deep behavioural change, in alignment with ecological and regenerative principles enhances his experience in organisational change and strategy, gained working in nine countries. He has held roles as a teacher, climate adaptation researcher, advisor, facilitator and not-for-profit CEO and is now midway through a Doctorate in Education, exploring community and organisational leadership through non-hierarchical and partnership systems.</p>				
Title of Presentation	Reaching to the unconverted – how insights from Waste management become a creative educational tool, for deeper understanding of complex environmental issues and respecting nature.				
Format of Presentation (please select)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oral Presentation (20 minutes) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Workshop - 60 minutes (eg interactive indoor session) <input type="checkbox"/> Workshop - 120 minutes (eg outdoor activity) Indicate your preferred presentation types (you may select more than one) NB: We may not be able to offer your preferred option				
Which theme would you prefer to present under? (please select)	<input type="checkbox"/> Theme 1: Listen <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Theme 2: Learn <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Theme 3: Transform				
Introduction	This presentation is an overview of the ways that exploration of the Waste sector and Waste management opens rich possibilities for transformational learning. It brings an understanding of the method and examples of profound shifts in our relationship with nature, appreciation of complex systems and the importance of collective action and				

	individual responsibility, that emerge through education around creating and disposing of waste.
Presentation Abstract: max. 300 words	<p>Many pressing environmental problems and issues are difficult to relate to as they can be located far away, abstracted and beyond everyday experience. This distance has provided a challenge when creating meaningful behaviour change in terms of practical environmental action and developing respect for nature. Conversely, although not glamorous or sensational, Waste and Waste disposal, are immediately relatable, genuinely universal and fundamental to our lives. We all transact and exchange with nature, with each exhale.</p> <p>This presentation explores what happens when general information and education around waste, rubbish and recycling is re-framed through the lens of transformational learning. Transformational learning focuses on shifting the framework of the learner so that they not only absorb new information but perceive the information in an expanded way.</p> <p>From this premise, education around Waste disposal can open up many conversations and ignite a general curiosity, towards those elements of environmental education that are traditionally often challenging to engage the public, often being seen as too radical. Some examples are:</p> <p>**Understanding systems thinking principles and a systems thinking perspective on environmental problems, for example, that a change or intervention in one area cannot be viewed as successful without considering the repercussions or feedback loops elsewhere.</p> <p>**Conceptualising our individual relationship with nature as profoundly personal and immediate and also part of a life-long and life-giving relationship of inter-connectedness, that opens the door to existential and spiritual contemplation.</p> <p>**The meaningful impact of both collective effort and individual accountability in making choices on how we share the planet with other life and leave it for future generations.</p> <p>When utilised in this way Waste and the Waste sector become a powerful vector in environmental education that is holistic in its responses and able to be creative with the complexities in this field.</p>
Key Message: A short summary of presentation	The Waste sector provides comprehensive and fruitful pathways for transformational learning about the environment and behavioural change for living in harmony with nature.

All abstracts must be received by 5pm **Friday 26 May 2023 (AEST)**.
We expect to notify speakers by mid June

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Note: confirmed presenters will be required to register for the conference and pay the relevant registration fees.