NATIONAL VET DATA LINKAGE ROUNDTABLE

NCVER

Australian Government
Department of Education and Training

PROGRAM

Facilitator: **Andrew Lalor**, Department of Industry, Innovation and Science

Time		Speaker
9.30am	**Arrival tea/coffee**	
10.00am	**Welcome**	**Craig Fowler**, NCVER
10.05am	**Opening address**	**Michele Bruniges**, Department of Education and Training
10.20am	**Introduction to the day**	**Andrew Lalor**, Department of Industry, Innovation and Science
10.25am	**SESSION 1: Data linkage principles**	
10.25am	**Presentation - Privacy and ethics in data linkage** Using data matching as an administrative tool in a way that complies with the Australian Privacy Principles (APPs) and the Privacy Act, and is consistent with good privacy practice.	**Jim Kormas**, Office of the Australian Information Commissioner (OAIC)
10.35am	**Case study 1** *- ATO data matching* The ATO is required to comply with strict laws to protect privacy when collecting data from other agencies and organisations for data matching programs. These laws include the Privacy Act 1988, the secrecy provisions of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1936, the Taxation Administration Act 1953 and other tax laws. The ATO also adheres to the Privacy Commissioner's Guidelines on Data Matching in Australian Government Administration by preparing and publishing a protocol for each of the ATO's data matching programs.	**Julia Neville**, Australian Taxation Office (ATO)
10.45am	**Case study 2** *- Linking data from the Longitudinal Surveys of Australian Youth (LSAY) to administrative data sources* The Australian Government Department of Education and Training is seeking to link LSAY data to a range of administrative datasets to broaden the information available and provide further insights about young people and their transitions. Linking LSAY data to administrative data sources will improve the breadth and quality of information available, without adding burden to respondents.	**Tenniel Guiver**, Australian Institute of Family Studies
10.55am	**Presentation - The Unique Student Identifier (USI) as a key for data linkage** The introduction of the Unique Student Identifier has transformed the national training data collection into a linked bank of individual training histories, putting people at the centre of the collection for the first time with profound benefits for them and for researchers attempting to understand lifetime engagement with training. The Student Identifiers Registrar will explain some of the potential of this new tool for data linkage in the VET sector and beyond.	**Jason Coutts,** Student Identifiers Registrar, USI Office
11.05am	**Comments and discussion** Expert panel session with representation from Session 1 case studies	Facilitator
11.50am	**Morning tea**	

12.05pm	**SESSION 2: National initiatives**	
12.05pm	**Case study 1 -** *Data Integration Partnership for Australia (DIPA) and the Multi-agency Data Integration Project (MADIP)*	**Phillip Gould,** Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS)
	DIPA is a nationally coordinated initiative to improve data management and analytical capability across government. DIPA will maximise the use and value of public sector data through data integration for research and statistical purposes.	
	MADIP is a partnership between the Australian Bureau of Statistics, the Australian Taxation Office, the Department of Education and Training, the Department of Health, the Department of Human Services, and the Department of Social Services. MADIP securely links Medicare, government payments, personal income tax, and Census data for policy analysis, research, and statistical purposes.	
12.15pm	**Case study 2 -** *National Education Evidence Base (NEEB)*	**Phill Weaver,** Department of Education and Training
	The National Education Evidence Base (NEEB) is a technology infrastructure platform which will hold and link data from the four education sectors – early childhood education and care, schools, vocational education and training, and higher education – to enable better evidence-based policy advice.	
12.25pm	**Presentation - CSIRO's Data61 data innovation group**	**Brian Thorne,** Data61
	CSIRO's Data61 is Australia's leading data innovation group that was officially formed in 2016 from the integration of CSIRO's Digital Productivity flagship and the National ICT Australia Ltd (NICTA).	
12.35pm	**Comments and discussion** Expert panel session with representation from Session 2 case studies	Facilitator
1.20pm	**Lunch**	
2.00pm	**SESSION 3: Translation into public policy**	
2.00pm	**Case study 1 -** *Sharing data to deliver a better policy agenda*	**David Turvey**, Department of Industry, Innovation and Science
	The Office of the Chief Economist provides publicly accessible data on resources, energy, innovation and industry. These high-value resources allow the public to build upon our datasets in new and innovative ways.	
	Using the Business Longitudinal Analysis Data Environment (BLADE) to provide a strong evidence base for the department's programs.	
2.10pm	**Presentation - National data linkage projects** A number of innovative projects are underway to bring together national datasets to understand more about pathways and outcomes. The Australian Government Department of Education and Training, with the support of States and Territories, is piloting projects to inform policy and programs.	**Kelly Fisher,** Department of Education and Training
2.25pm	**Comments and discussion** Expert panel session with representation from Session 3 case studies	Facilitator
3.20pm	Summary and closing remarks	**Mette Creaser**, NCVER
3.30pm	**Close**	

* Speakers and presentations are subject to change without notice

BIOGRAPHIES

Michele Bruniges

Department of Education and Training

Michele is the Secretary of the Australian Department of Education and Training, responsible for the Australian Government's interests in quality early learning, schooling, higher education, international education and research, skills and training.

Prior to this, she led the NSW Department of Education and Communities, one of Australia's largest state government departments with over 84 000 staff and direct responsibility for over 2200 schools.

Previously, Michele led the ACT Department of Education and held senior roles in the Australian Government's Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations. Her qualifications include a PhD in Educational Measurement and a Masters in Education. She is a Graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors, a Churchill Fellow and a Fellow of the Australian College of Educators and the Australian Council for Educational Leaders.

Jason Coutts

Student Identifiers Registrar, USI Office

Jason is the Student Identifiers Registrar and has overseen the passage of the *Student Identifiers Act 2014*, the development and deployment of the USI Registry System, and establishment of the USI Office.

He has extensive experience developing, delivering and managing programmes and projects in the public-sector context and more particularly, in relation to the education sector.

Prior to this, he has held senior executive positions in VET, International Education and Higher Education at the Department of Education and Training and describes himself as an education policy tragic.

Mette Creaser

National Centre for Vocational Education and Training (NCVER)

Mette is National Manager, Statistics and Analytics a NCVER.

Mette is responsible for the national statistical program covering the collection and analysis of student activity, apprentices and trainees, student outcomes, and employer views of the VET system. Prior to this role, she spent seven years as Manager, National Surveys, where she was responsible for leading and managing a suite of national surveys.

Mette has previously performed a variety of roles at the Australian Bureau of Statistics, including Director of Environment Statistics. Other positions include Postdoctoral Researcher and Senior Researcher at the South Australian Research and Development Institute.

Mette has a PhD from Cambridge University and a Professional Certificate in Management.

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Craig Fowler
National Centre for Vocational Education and Training (NCVER)

Craig is the Managing Director of NCVER. He served some three years as a Director on the board of NCVER before assuming the Managing Director role in October 2014.

Previously Craig was the Deputy Chief Executive, Department of State Development, South Australian Government. The role supported workforce planning and skills development across multiple industry sectors in support of State economic development. This included higher education, vocational education and training as well as science, research and technology. Prior to this, he was a Principal in Tax with Ernst and Young, working in areas of innovation and R&D incentives. He conducted numerous consultancies at national, state and enterprise levels.

His PhD was in human molecular genetics following his career in forensic science (MSc, Strathclyde, Scotland). He has an MBA in technology management from Deakin University and BSc Honours in Chemistry and Biochemistry.

Kelly Fisher
Department of Education and Training

Kelly is the Branch Manager, VET Market Information in the Commonwealth Department of Education and Training. She is responsible for national policy on consumer information, data and research. Previous roles include leading strategy projects in the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, head of the Cabinet Implementation Unit and as a management consultant at Nous Group. Kelly is a data enthusiast from way back, with university studies covering statistics, econometrics, accounting, and some advanced calculus and pure maths for good measure.

Phillip Gould
Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS)

Phillip is the Program Manager of the Data Integration Partnerships Branch at the ABS. His responsibilities include managing the ABS data integration program, designing microdata data access solutions and progressing PM&C's Public Sector Data Management agenda.

As part of this work, Phillip is managing the ABS contribution to the Data Integration Partnerships for Australia (DIPA) initiative, announced in the 2017 budget. Having completed honours degrees in engineering and economics at the University of Melbourne, Phillip worked in the Research and Modelling team at ANZ, before commencing his PhD at Monash University.

Tenniel Guiver
Australian Institute of Family Studies

As the Data Linkage and Integration Manager at the Australian Institute of Family Studies (AIFS), Tenniel works to ensure that methodology, processes and infrastructure support AIFS data linkage operations. As an accredited integrating authority, AIFS can undertake high-risk projects for researchers that draw information from the Australian Government and state and territory governments while maintaining individual privacy and confidentiality, and to provide researchers secure access to linked data.

Tenniel has interests in data linkage methodologies, sample survey methodology, official statistics and statistical consultancy.

Jim Kormas
Office of the Australian Information Commission (OAIC)

From 2013 to present, Jim has worked as an Adviser and now Assistant Director in the Regulation and Strategy Branch, Office of the Australian Information Commissioner (OAIC). Jim conducts assessments which examine the privacy risks across the public and private sector, particularly related to e-Health, telecommunications and data-matching. He also develops and contributes towards privacy guidance on cyber security and data breach response.

Jim has also been a Policy Adviser in the Policy Branch, Office of the Privacy Commissioner (which in 2010 became the OAIC) and in the Department of Defence from 2006 to 2008.

Jim has a Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Laws and Masters of Public Policy (University of Sydney).

Andrew Lalor (Facilitator)
Department of Industry, Innovation and Science

Andrew is the General Manager of the Data Management and Analytics Taskforce within the Economic and Analytical Services Division of the Department of Industry, Innovation and Science.

Andrew is working to deliver a step change in the department's ability to derive value from its data holdings. Andrew oversees the department's Strategic Data and Business Intelligence & Reporting teams which are responsible for the collection, management and dissemination of data and analytics.

Andrew has held a range of senior government positions, most recently leading the department's Analytical Services work, including evaluation, data strategy and innovation research. Andrew has also held roles in relation to skills, aviation security, broadband strategy and innovation policy.

Andrew has a Bachelor of Commerce (Banking and Finance) and Masters in Management (Industry Strategy).

Julia Neville
Australian Taxation Office

Julia is the Assistant Commissioner for the ATO's Revenue Analysis Branch or RAB. The branch is responsible for producing costings on revenue, departmental and taxpayer compliance on policy and legislative change for the Federal Government. In addition, RAB produces revenue forecasts, taxation statistics and undertakes performance measurement of compliance programs.

Now in her 7th year with RAB, she has expanded her portfolio to focus on tax policy research with various academics. Julia has previously worked in litigation, sales tax, policy and legislation areas prior to becoming a departmental liaison officer for three Assistant Treasurers. Julia's experience in the ATO extends across parliamentary services, external scrutiny, media, complaints and public affairs.

Brian Thorne
CSIRO Data61

Brian leads the Confidential Computing team at CSIRO's Data61. Over the last year he has lead the design and development of a privacy preserving record linkage system which has been deployed and used within multiple New South Wales government agencies.

David Turvey
Department of Industry, Innovation and Science

David is acting Chief Economist and head of Economic and Analytical Services Division of the Department of Industry, Innovation and Science.

The division supports the Australian Government, industry and community stakeholders, by providing rigorous, strategic and compelling research, analysis, statistics and policy advice on current and emerging issues affecting industry. The division has a key role in adding to the evidence base on the factors that drive productive and globally competitive firms and industries and ensuring that this evidence is fed into policy advice and evaluation of programmes in the Industry, Innovation and Science portfolio.

David has also held senior positions in the Australian Government Department of Education and Training, the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, the Australian Treasury, the Department of Finance and at the Economics Department of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development.

Phill Weaver
Department of Education and Training

Phill Weaver has been in the public service for almost 15 years and has been involved in delivering major ICT enabled change programs within government for the past seven.

In 2017, Phill moved from the Department of Immigration and Border Protection to the Department of Education and Training to lead the National Education Evidence Base program.