

DETAILS AND BOOKING

Times: Registration is 9.00am for a 9.30am start and finish at 2.30pm. Students must bring their own morning tea and lunch (a water bottle is also recommended).

Morning tea and lunch is provided for accompanying teachers.

Tuition Fees:

Students **\$AUD35.00 / \$NZ40.00 early bird if paid by 30th March** or \$AUD40.00 / \$NZ45.00 if paid after Friday 30th March.

Teachers **One free staff place is available for every 12 students.** Extra staff, and staff places if less than 12 accompanying students, at student rate - i.e. \$35 / \$40.

Bookings:

All bookings and payments can be made online at www.academyconferences.com

These conferences are very popular, with numbers increasing each year, so we recommend **early booking**.

Amendments and cancellations will be accepted until 3 weeks prior to the conference as numbers need to be confirmed for catering purposes.

For more information or if you have problems booking, please contact Jeffrey Hodges by phone (07) 5445 7994 or by email jeffrey@academyconferences.com



Bookings online at academyconferences.com

SPEAKERS



JULIE ARLISS

Julie Arliss lectures at King's College and works in close association with Oxford and Exeter Universities. She organises and lectures at the best attended student study days in the UK for 15-19 year olds.

Internationally she works with students in Australia, NZ and Singapore and is the joint author of a number of books and academic articles including *The Thinker's Guide to Evil*. She is regularly invited to be the keynote speaker at events and recently gave the Hobhouse Lecture. She is Principal Examiner in Cambridge combining a strong commitment to young people with academic rigour.



JEFFREY HODGES

Jeffrey Hodges M.Sc.(Hons), B.Ed. is a performance consultant with wide ranging experience helping young people realise their potential through success life management and superior thinking skills.

He has a special interest in elite sports achievement and has successfully coached young athletes to medal winning performances at Olympic, World and National levels.

THE ACADEMY CONFERENCES EXPERIENCE

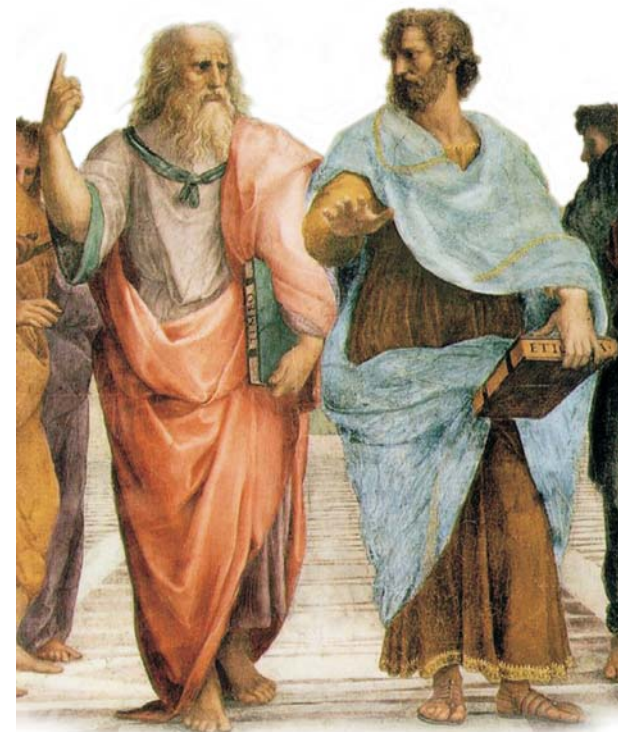
"The energy Julie brings to her presentations is truly invigorating - the buzz from the boys was great afterwards. I really enjoy their enthusiasm as participating in something which challenges them to rethink their ordered view of the world." Sarah Kirk, Christchurch Boys High School, NZ

"Thank you so much for the terrific experience that you and Julie provided for our boys at the last conference. The word has spread and now I have students wanting to get in on it - they are already trying to give me their money for your next conference!" Julieanne Eggleton, Sydney Boys High, NSW

"Congratulations on your tour de force! I thought your presentation was absolutely outstanding. So did the boys. You have stimulated a great deal of THINKING at Brighton Grammar School, and we will certainly be present at any future presentations." Peter Smith, Brighton Grammar, Vic.

Julie Arliss

GIFTED AND TALENTED STUDENT CONFERENCE 2012



A unique provision for academically gifted senior students
academyconferences.com

GIFTED AND TALENTED

STUDENT CONFERENCE 2012

Academy conferences are well established in the UK, and our aim is to deliver both the latest scholarship and responsible philosophy to schools throughout Australia and NZ.

Gifted students have a special educational need which requires breadth and vision.

These study days make a highly valued creative contribution towards Gifted and Talented programs in schools, providing a welcome opportunity for teachers keen to create their own extension work, and schools increasingly ask students who attend to present their work to fellow students on return to school. Many schools value the content and ideology offered in these unique days as a breathing space for new ideas and inspiration.

Students benefit from a university style of learning in which their knowledge is broadened and their critical abilities up-graded with new thinking tools. Each school is provided with follow up material and reading lists, much of which has been compiled by gifted students, for further study.

Spaces at each event are strictly limited and will be allocated on a first come first served basis. The schedule for the 2012 conferences is as follows:

MAY

Christchurch, NZ	Mon 7	Christchurch Boys High
Wellington, NZ	Tue 8	Newlands College
Auckland, NZ	Wed 9	St Cuthbert's College
Brisbane, Qld	Fri 11	St Laurence's College
Sydney, NSW	Mon 14	Ascham School
Canberra, ACT	Tue 15	Marist Catholic College
Melbourne, Vic	Wed 16	Camberwell Boys Grammar
Adelaide, SA	Thu 17	The Wilderness School
Perth, WA	Fri 18	Presbyterian Ladies College

JULY

Gold Coast, Qld	Wed 18	The Southport School, TSS
Toowoomba, Qld	Thu 19	Toowoomba Grammar School
Logan City, Qld	Wed 25	John Paul College
Sunshine Coast, Qld	Fri 27	Mountain Creek SHS

AUGUST

Cairns, Qld	Wed 8	St Mary's Catholic College
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DOES A SNAIL HAVE CONSCIOUSNESS?

Philosophers since the time of Descartes and Locke have struggled to comprehend the nature of consciousness. This session will focus on the key concerns in the philosophy and will include whether consciousness can be explained mechanistically; whether non-human consciousness exists; whether computers or robots could be conscious; how the presence of consciousness can be assessed in severely ill or anesthetized people and altered states of consciousness.

"Anything that we are aware of at a given moment forms part of our consciousness, making conscious experience at once the most familiar and most mysterious aspect of our lives." Max Velmans and Susan Schneider

RESILIENCE AND SELF ESTEEM

Most young people are under pressure and how well they cope with this varies enormously. Resilience is an individual's tendency to cope with stress and adversity and is learnt as part of a definite process. Resilience is not a character trait and is not built in as a part of a person's nature. It is a mental skill which can be taught. It is how well resilience processes have been learned which determines levels of self esteem and mental toughness in times of difficulty. This session will teach some essential mental skills to promote well-being and self-protection against risk factors, and practical tools for building personal resilience and enhancing self esteem.

THE PHILOSOPHY OF SEX

This session will explore how our understanding of human sexual nature has changed in the last hundred years and the relevance of this to modern day sexual ethics and society. Some religious groups take a very conservative ethical position whilst magazines (such as Cosmopolitan or '17') and most soap operas have a very liberal view on sexual behaviour. Which forms of sexual behaviour are appropriate and which forms have the potential to do damage to the individual? Can there be any guidelines or is it all relative to the individual and their culture? These and other issues will be outlined and evaluated.

DOES TIME REALLY BEND?

The claim that the speed of light is constant led directly to Einstein's theory of special relativity in which our perceptions of both space and time were turned upside down. This session will explore claims that time can bend, speed up or slow down and ask whether ultimately time really exists. If it does, does it flow? Can it be reversed? The science fiction dream of time travel will be dealt with and also the relationship between time and motion.

"Time is Einstein's unfinished revolution." Paul Davies



THE AFTERNOON DEBATE

This house believes that the portrayal of sexual practices undermines human relationships and is of no value to society.

Most teenagers have seen this material, usually on the internet, whilst doing homework. The continuing debate about the regulation of sexual representations and practices will be addressed and the philosophical and academic issues beneath the surface identified. Students will be helped to identify the key questions before being given an opportunity to contribute to the debate and to vote. Is the availability of this material simply a matter of freedom of speech and a symbol of sexual liberation, or are there deeper issues at stake?

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