



## Speakers

### Mr Ivan Frckovic



Queensland Mental  
Health Commissioner

Experienced Mental Health Specialist with a demonstrated history of working in the government administration industry. Skilled in Nonprofit Organizations, Coaching, Crisis Intervention, Government, and Clinical Supervision. Strong community and social services professional with a Bachelor of Social Work; Master of Social Welfare Administration and Planning focused in Post Grad: Human Services Management; Social Policy Development; and Social Research and Evaluation from The University of Queensland.

### Dr Vinathe Sharma- Brymer



MSW, Med, MA (Psych),  
PhD  
University of the  
Sunshine Coast

Vinathe is a lecturer of social work in the School of Law and Society. Vinathe holds specialist knowledge and practice in nature-human relationships emphasising healthy natural environment's influence on human health and wellbeing. Her practice area is Eco-Social Work also known as Environmental Social Work and Green Social Work. As an accredited social worker (AASW) and a Forest School practitioner (UK), Vinathe's translational research has a spread across climate change and action, healthy humans and healthy environments, eco-justice, and green social prescribing

### **Dr Derek Chong**



Snr Psychiatry Registrar  
Pending Fellow RANZCP

Dr Derek Chong is Queensland's first Indigenous psychiatrist. He is the Senior Psychiatry Registrar at the Institute for Urban Indigenous Health and Queensland Health. He has worked at the coalface in health, starting as a residential care worker, then a psychiatric nurse, then studying and practicing medicine before becoming a psychiatrist. His mother's people are from Mt Tamborine: the Wongaburra clan of Mullanjarli tribe of the Yuggerah Nation, and his father's people are from the Tate Region and Kowanyama.

### **Dr Eric Brymer**



PhD, Psychologist  
Southern Cross  
University

Eric is interested in the psychology of performance, wellbeing and learning in adventure and nature-based contexts. His research is particularly focused on the impact of adventure and the human-nature relationship on health and wellbeing and the design of effective interventions. Eric works closely with the community to facilitate high impact outcomes. Eric is an experienced research supervisor. Prospective students can contact him to discuss potential projects and supervision. Eric is an AHPRA registered psychologist, endorsed sport and exercise psychologist and board approved supervisor. He is also a chartered psychologist with the British Psychological Society.

### **Ms Siobhan Evans**



Siobhan is a young person speaking today about the impact Adventure Therapy with Youth Flourish Outdoors has had on her life living with mental health issues. Her mental health journey towards wellness has been like climbing a mountain, and has been greatly impacted by YFO. She enjoys the sweet things in life: baking, dark chocolate and great companions. She also enjoys creative endeavours such as: writing and the performing arts

## **Professor Tracy Kolbe-Alexander**



BA (Phys Ed), BSc Med (Hons), M Pub Hlth, PhD  
University of Southern Queensland

Tracey is Associate Head of School (Research), and the program Discipline Lead for Public Health in the School of Health and Medical Sciences at the University of Southern Queensland. They are an honorary Associate Professor at the University of Cape Town (South Africa). Prior to immigrating to Australia (December 2013) she was a Senior Lecturer and Program Lead: Biokinetics (Clinical Exercise Physiology) at the University of Cape Town, South Africa.

## **Dr Will Dobud**



MSW, PhD  
Charles Sturt University

Will Dobud has worked predominately with adolescents in the private and public sector. Coming to Australia from the United States in 2009, Will built True North Expeditions, a non-profit program in Adelaide, SA, providing adventure therapy experiences and social work services for adolescents from all over the country. In 2015, Will was awarded the Australian Postgraduate Award for research promise.

Will's ongoing research and publications focuses on participant experiences of care in a variety of settings and exploring what works to deliver more effective social work services. Will is particularly interested in Feedback-Informed Treatment, the Outdoor Therapies, and Solution-Focused Brief Therapy.

## **Dr Graham Pringle**



Dip Soc Sci (Psychology),  
Dip Ed (Secondary), MA (Outdoor Ed), PhD  
Griffith University

Graham, has over 20 years experience in Residential and Foster Care, Outdoor Education, Adventure-Based Youth Work, and Adult Training. He is a Director of the International Society for the Study of Trauma and Dissociation, Youth Flourish Outdoors, The School of Outdoor Therapeutic Practice and The EMU Files. He is Friend of Outdoor Therapy Centre for Research and Practice. His research has been on the healing potential of adventure for young people impacted by systemic adversity. Graham has taught over 1000 professionals in complex trauma-informed practice. Based in Australia, Graham and his wife enjoy camping, bushwalking and canoeing.