



Inclusion in initial teacher education: Eight years on

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The release of the Australian Curriculum (December 2010) and the Australian Professional Standards for Teachers (February 2011) coincided with the commencement of my role as Lecturer in Inclusive Education (December 2010) and with the first delivery of Inclusive practices in education settings (February 2011) as a core unit for pre-service teachers studying with the University of Tasmania. Over these eight years, I have been privileged to work with thousands of aspiring teachers and connect with a wide range of educators and other professionals passionate about helping all students thrive. Drawing on research and experience, this presentation will explore the successes, challenges, and opportunities for equipping teachers in their important roles as inclusive educators. We will consider how the personal and social capabilities might be addressed in initial teacher education, how teacher educators can help bridge the gap between theory and practice, how key stakeholders can partner together in supporting pre-service and in-service teachers, and what education reform might mean for students with diverse learning needs into the future.