How do we embrace what is good and useful from Positive Education while guarding ourselves against that which is contrary to the Gospel?

Thursday & Friday
30 April - 1 May
The Suaviter
Concordia College
45 Cheltenham Street
Highgate
South Australia
Cost – $190

For more information please contact:
Stuart Traeger
Spiritual Development Leader
stuart.traeger@lsa.lutheran.edu.au
M: 0437 421 558
P: 08 8267 8420 (direct line)
Positive Education is a growing wave in education. At the same time, Positive Education is not without its critics. The development of wellbeing based on scientific research appears to be in conflict with a gospel based approach.

As Lutheran schools the question is, ‘How do we embrace what is good and useful from Positive Education while guarding ourselves against that which is contrary to the gospel?’ This conference aims to address this very question.

As a result of engaging with the conference, participants will:

- gain an understanding of Seligman’s Positive Psychology and the science behind it
- appreciate a Lutheran perspective of Positive Psychology and see practical examples of what this means
- learn from the St Andrews (Gold Coast) story of embedding Positive Psychology into an R-12 Lutheran College
- have opportunity to begin networking with other Lutheran schools who are exploring Positive Psychology
- begin to embed practices and principles of Positive Psychology in their own lives

This conference will be of benefit to Principals, Deputies, Pastors /Chaplains, Wellbeing Leaders, leadership teams, and anyone interested in authentically embedding positive education within their own lives and the life of a Lutheran school.

Stuart Traeger
Spiritual Development Leader
Lutheran Schools Association (SA, NT, WA)

Keynote Presentations by:

Dr Matthew White
St Peter’s College, Adelaide

Rev Dr Mark Worthing
Australian Lutheran College

Rev Joshua Miller
St John’s Lutheran Church/School, Eudunda

Tim Kotzur
St Andrews Lutheran College, Gold Coast

James Nelson
St Andrews Lutheran College, Gold Coast

Stephanie Noon
Live Life Coaching, Adelaide

Maria Roberto
Salutegenics Psychology, Melbourne
Keynote Speakers

Dr Mathew White  
Director of Wellbeing & Positive Education, St Peter’s College, Adelaide.  
Mathew White serves on the Senior Leadership Team of St Peter’s College. Mathew is Senior Fellow in the Melbourne Graduate School of Education - The University of Melbourne and Affiliate in Cambridge University’s Wellbeing Institute. His work focuses on leadership, cultural change, and wellbeing. Matthew has counselled Catholic education, government systems, independent and Lutheran schools on applications of wellbeing. Mathew represented St Peter’s College as lead partner in Dr Seligman’s appointment as Thinker in Residence - Department of the Premier and Cabinet for the Government of South Australia.

Rev Dr Mark Worthing  
Senior Researcher, Australian Lutheran Institute for Theology and Ethics, Adelaide  
Mark Worthing is senior researcher at the Australian Lutheran Institute for Theology and Ethics and has a primary focus on issues relating to Lutheran Education. Mark is an ordained Lutheran Pastor and holds a PhD from the University of Regensburg in the history and philosophy of science and a Dr.Theol from the University of Munich in ecumenical theology. Mark has an interest in the Positive Psychology movement in general and specific interest in the relationship between spiritual wellbeing and psychological well-being.

Rev Joshua Muller  
Parish and School Pastor, St John’s Lutheran Primary School, Eudunda  
Josh Muller is Pastor of the Eudunda Lutheran Parish, which includes St John's Lutheran Primary School. St John's has recently begun a journey of embedding Positive Education philosophy and practices into school life. Joshua has played a key role in leading St John's staff in a Christ-centred understanding of wellbeing and self-worth, and interpreting the language of Positive Psychology from a biblical foundation.

Tim Kotzur  
Principal, St Andrews Lutheran College, Gold Coast  
Tim has been the Principal of St Andrews Lutheran College, a P-12 Co-educational College of 1150 students located on the southern end of Queensland's Gold Coast since 2010. Prior to this he was Deputy Head of College, at Trinity Lutheran College, also on the Gold Coast. Tim's interest in Positive Psychology stems from the links he sees between proactively building student well-being and resilience, and improved student learning outcomes. St Andrews has been on its Positive Education journey since the beginning of 2011. Tim holds a Masters Degree in Educational Administration and a Masters in Business. As a Lifelong Learner he is currently studying a Graduate Certificate in NonProfits.
James Nelson
Director of Student Development, St Andrews Lutheran College, Gold Coast
James’ passions include creating links between Chapels and Positive Education, working to promote Teachers as Learners and Leaders, encouraging student leadership, and building skills and awareness of a life lived with renewed focus on truth, hope and joy. He is currently involved in Action Research on Explicit Teaching and its impact on High Achieving Students, and the broad and positive outcomes of Practices of Stillness in the classroom.
At Trinity Lutheran College (P-12), James was involved in encouraging student engagement and teacher passion for Christian Studies. At St Peters Lutheran College (P-12) he served as Senior Resident in the Boarding House and Year Level Coordinator where his passion for pastoral care was honed. James holds a Masters Degree in Education and most recently a Graduate Certificate in Educational Leadership. He is involved heavily with his local community and Church, which are a natural outlet for someone with strengths in Spirituality, Relationships, Action and Optimism.

Stephanie Noon
Founder and Director, Live Life Coaching
Stephanie is one of South Australia’s most experienced coaches in the field of Positive Psychology. She holds a Diploma in Positive Psychology and Wellbeing (completing Positive Education as her Elective subject). She also obtained a distinction in Teaching Character and Creating Positive Classrooms from the Relay Graduate School of Education, and an Honor Code Certificate from the Berkeley University EdX program – The Science of Happiness.
Stephanie has years of experience as a Senior Leader in a Lutheran College, so is very familiar with the challenges faced by teaching staff and has a genuine passion and energy for teacher and student wellbeing.

Maria Roberto
Founder and Director, Salutegenics Psychology, Melbourne
Salutegenics Psychology is a strengths-based practice that moves people in personal and professional coaching toward mental fitness and life-health. Maria’s work is heavily influenced by the theory of Positive Psychology.
The core mission of her work is to transition people towards a state of flourishing, embedding respect, resilience and resolve along the way.
### Conference Programme

**Day 1**

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<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>9:15am</td>
<td>Registration</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:30am</td>
<td>Welcome</td>
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| 9:35am | An introduction to Positive Psychology and the science behind it, followed by Q and A  
*Dr Matthew White* |
| 10:30am| Morning Tea                                                         |
| 11:00 am | A Lutheran critique of Positive Psychology  
*Rev Dr Mark Worthing* |
|        | Examples of maintaining the centrality of the gospel in Positive Education  
*Rev Josh Muller* |
| 11:45 am | Opportunities and Challenges of Embedding Positive Psychology in a Lutheran School, Part 1  
*Tim Kotzur & James Nelson* |
| 12:45 pm | Lunch                                                               |
| 1:30 pm | Opportunities and Challenges of Embedding Positive Psychology in a Lutheran School, Part 2  
*Tim Kotzur & James Nelson* |
| 3:00 pm | Afternoon Tea                                                       |
| 3:30 pm | Snapshot of the Lutheran Schools Landscape:  
*An opportunity to begin networking with other schools*  
*Stephanie Noon* |
| 4:30 pm | Close                                                               |

For those interested, arrangements for an evening meal together will be made on the day.
Conference Programme

Day 2

8:30 am  Welcome

8:35am  Understanding Mental Ill-Health,
Exploring the Framework and Theory of Positive Psychology
Affective Neurobiology
Broaden and Build Theory
The Importance of Resilience
Action Research in Real Time
Savouring - A Mindful Reflection
Maria Roberto

12:45pm  Lunch

1:30pm  Understanding Optimism
Unpacking the Dimensions of Optimism
The Quadrants of Communication
3:1 Positivity Ratio
Tools for Wellbeing
Maria Roberto

4:30pm  Close

General Information

Conference Venue - The Suaviter, Concordia College, 45 Cheltenham Street, Highgate, South Australia. Enter via Cheltenham or Winchester Street. Follow the signs to ‘Suaviter’, or ask for directions at reception.

Parking - There is no parking available at the College. Parking is available in the streets nearby.

Dress Code - Smart casual

Dietary requirements - Please include any special dietary requirements in your on-line registration. We ask that you make yourself known to the catering staff if you have special dietary needs.

Cost - $190.00. Once registered, LSA will invoice your school.

Registration - Please register online -  http://www.lsa.lutheran.edu.au/events

Further Enquiries - Please direct any enquiries to:
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