

Dr Eva Vass BEd (Eötvös Loránd University, Hungary), MPhil (Cambridge, UK), PhD in Education (the Open University, UK)

Senior Lecturer in Pedagogy and Learning Design with Educational Psychology, School of Education



Eva is a skilled researcher in observational research and classroom ethnography. She has extensive research expertise in collaborative learning, student engagement, new technology integration, and creative teaching and learning. She has a strong interest in dialogic pedagogies, which facilitate collective meaning making and open-mindedness through carefully managed classroom dialogue. She brought this expertise when she joined WSU's Fair Go Research Programme – *Schooling for a Fair Go*. Focusing on low SES schools, this initiative addressed concerns of student engagement through action research. She is the lead researcher of the Collier Funded project, a timely extension of her scholarship in dialogism to online learning environments.

The other core strand in Eva's profile is creativity research: creative learning, creative teaching and teaching for creativity. She has been involved in extensive collaborations with the prestigious Liszt Academy of Music, Hungary, exploring the ways in which musical experiences – such as free movement improvisations to music – facilitate empathy, other-orientation, and collective creativity. Since joining Western Sydney University, Eva received an internal grant to support her research (WSU Women's Research Fellowship, 2015), and was awarded a competitive WSU Academic Professional Development research leave to carry out extensive field-study and engage in international networking in Europe. In recognition of her expertise in creativity research she was invited to participate in the evaluation study of Poetry in Action (with Professor Susanne Gannon and Adjunct Professor Mary Mooney), a industry consultancy in 2022.

Eva is a well-recognised, regular reviewer for the Journal of Thinking Skills and Creativity, and has guest-edited a special issue in this journal on Dialogic Pedagogies in 2018: <https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/thinking-skills-and-creativity/special-issue/10HSHVLR4FT>.

Relevant publications:

- Vass, E. & Moate, J. (in press). Exploring dialogical spaces of personal and professional discovery in teacher education. *Dialogic Pedagogy: An International Online Journal*.
- Vass, E. & Rayner, A. (2022). Resurgence from crisis through awareness of natural inclusion. *Human Arenas*. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s42087-022-00293-8>
- Vass, E. (2019), 'Musical co-creativity and learning in the Kokas pedagogy : polyphony of movement and imagination'. *Thinking Skills and Creativity*, vol 31 , pp 179 - 197.
- Sawyer, W., Munns, G., Zammit, K., Attard, C., Vass, E. and Hatton, C. (2018), '*Engaging Schooling: Developing Exemplary Education for Students in Poverty*'. Routledge 9781138673519