

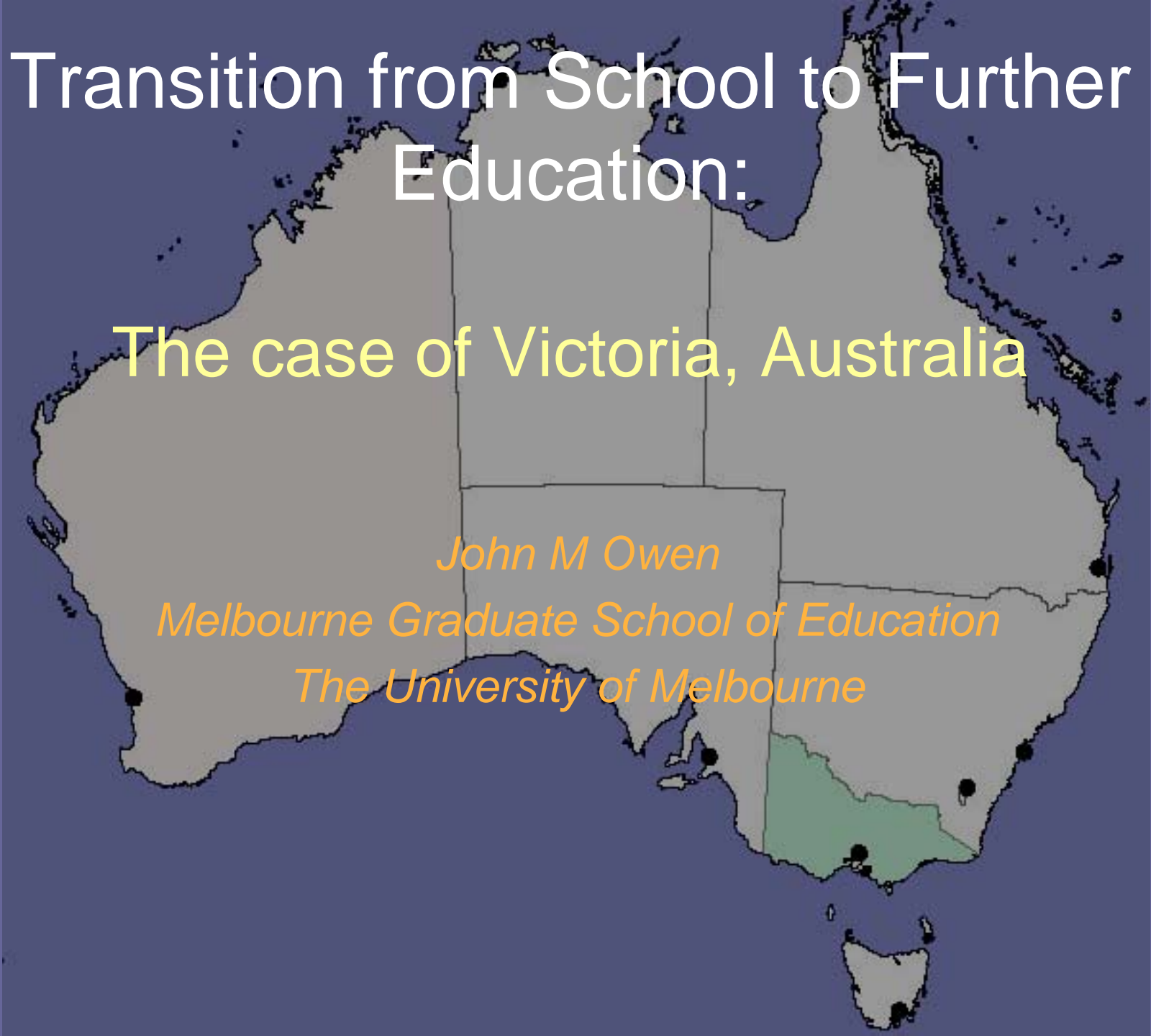
Transition from School to Further Education:

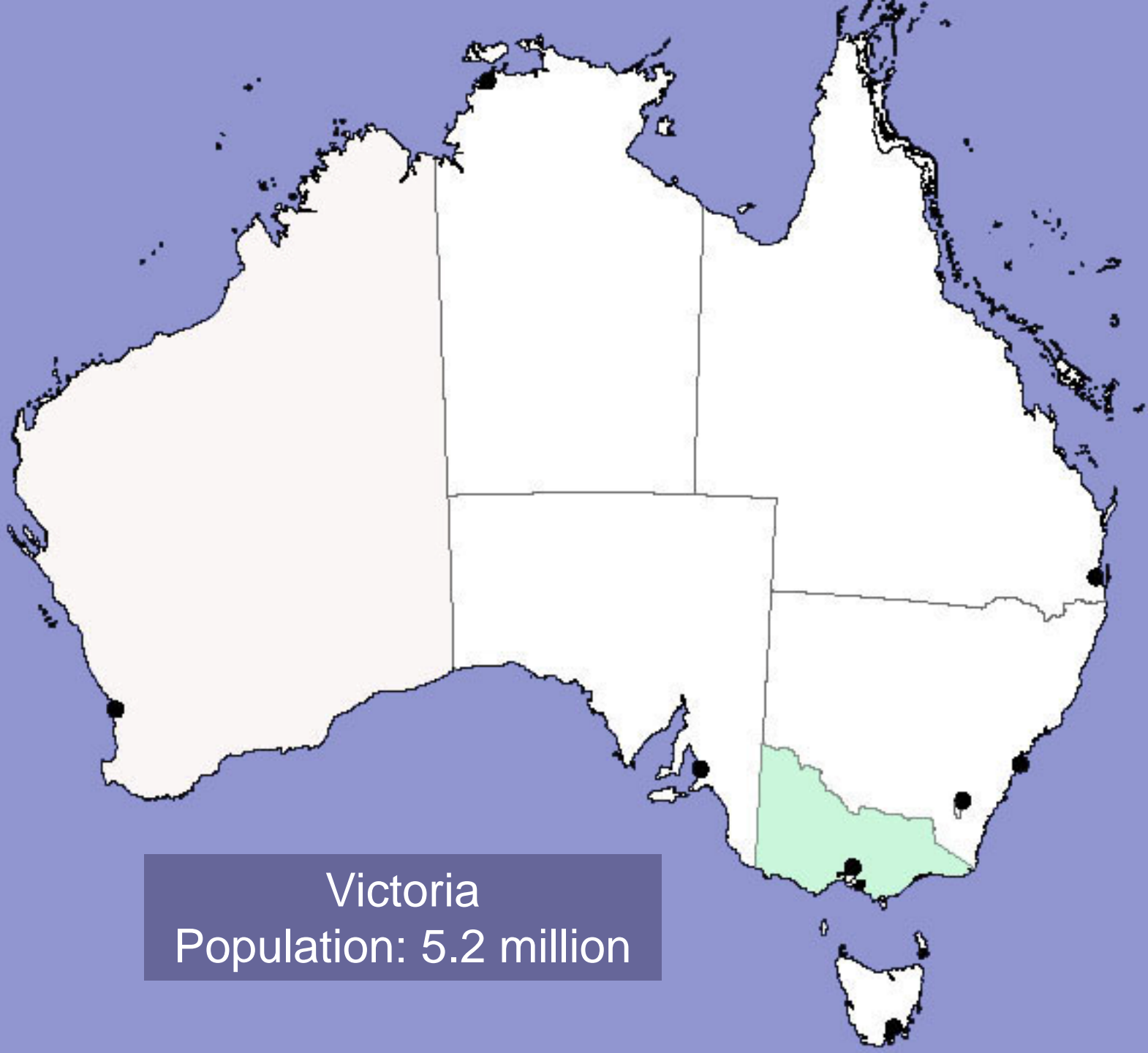
The case of Victoria, Australia

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Victoria
Population: 5.2 million

A map of Australia is shown in the background, with the text overlaid on it. The map is light gray with black outlines for the states and territories. The text is in orange and white. The title is in orange, and the goals are in white. The source is in white at the bottom.

National Educational Goals for Young Australians

Promotion of Equity and Excellence

All young Australians become:

Successful learners

Confident and creative individuals

Active and informed citizens

Source: Melbourne Declaration of Educational Goals for Young Australians, 2006



State of Victoria

The Place to be

- 560 secondary schools (320 government, 240 private)
- Nine universities (all public)
- 2006 school retention rate (years 7-12): 80.1%, Australia: 74.3%

Source: National Report on Schooling 2005

Destination of Year 12 students Victoria [2006]

- *University (47%)*
- *Further vocational education (27%)*
- *Employment (22%)*
- *Looking for work (4%)*

Transition from school to further study

- Two Senior School Certificates
 - *Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE), and*
 - *Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning (VCAL)*
- Independent qualifications authority
- State-wide common assessment processes.

VCE (Years 11-12)

Academic Pathway to Universities

- *Students take 24 units of study*
- *Some specialisation e.g. four units of Physics*
- *External examinations in Year 12*
- *Statistical moderation ranks all students*
[Enter Score]

VCE Example

Year 11 -2009

(2 units per subject)

- *English*
- *Maths methods*
- *History*
- *International politics*
- *Chemistry*
- *Photography*



Kira

VCAL (Years 11-12)

Vocational Pathway

- Designed to increase Year 12 school retention (from 2002)
- Four curriculum strands:
 - *Literacy and numeracy*
 - *Work related skills*
 - *Industry specific skills*
 - *Personal development skills*
- Cooperation between school and industry
- Certificate awarded by independent authority

VCE to University

Universities offer courses



Students list course preferences



Students sit for Year 12 exams



Universities make offers



Students accept an offer

[34,400 students 2006]

Comments on: VCE to University Transition

- *Recognises important subject learnings*
- *Measures authentic outcomes*
- *Leads to accurate student ranking [?]*
- *Selection based on merit [?]*
- *Coordinated selection process*

Implications for Universities

- *High demand for high status courses*
- *Status of University less important*
- *Some students enter second/third preferences*
- *Trend toward student deferrals (6% in 2004 to 11% in 2008)*
- *Non-VCE student selection for some students (e.g. Internationals)*

VCAL to Further Education

Individual selection into vocational education and training	52%
Entry into apprenticeships	9%
Employment	28%
Looking for work	6%

[10,200 students, 2006]

Comments on: VCAL to Further Education Transition

- *Retains potential 'drop-out' students at school*
- *Increases chances of employment*
- *Valued by students*
- *Implementation requires high school/industry commitment*
- *VCAL take-up on the increase*

Future Trends

- *Retention an issue for schools from Year 7*
- *Move towards students combining school and work*
- *Careers teachers play an important role*
- *Further education more attractive for school leavers*
- *Universities offer tertiary and further education programs*