IF YOU ARE AN ACADEMIC PHILOSOPHER WHO WOULD LIKE TO BECOME INVOLVED IN PHILOSOPHY FOR CHILDREN…(suggestions from Michelle Sowey, [msowey@internode.on.net](mailto:msowey@internode.on.net) )

Training and observation experience are both highly desirable before jumping into a facilitation role. The training that we at The Philosophy Club run for senior undergraduate Philosophy students in the Big Questions program would be suitable for philosophers with higher qualifications and we'd be happy to tailor a program for academics and/or recent graduates, provided there's sufficient interest.

I don't know of any other organisation in Australasia that runs introductory training suitable for philosophy graduates or academics. (The introductory training programs accredited by FAPSA are pitched at school teachers who have no philosophical background.) However, there are organisations overseas that offer training programs for philosophers who are interested in developing their skills in this area. One such organisation is The Philosophy Foundation in the UK, which trains [Specialist Philosophy Teachers](http://www.philosophy-foundation.org/what-we-do/become-a-specialist-philosophy-teacher). The Foundation has also published a series of excellent [books](http://philosophy-foundation.org/shop/overview) (such as *The If Machine* by Peter Worley, which includes helpful advice on facilitating dialogues among children).

Also, the US-based organisation PLATO (Philosophy Learning and Teaching Organization) has a lot of useful resources on its website which may be relevant to your audience. The section entitled [Getting Started](http://plato-philosophy.org/getting-started/) offers guidance for university-affiliated people who are interested in creating a philosophy outreach program or otherwise beginning to do philosophy with school children.