Quality enhancement of sessional teaching at UOW

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Abstract

Sessional teaching staff are significant contributors to the quality of the teaching and learning environment at the University of Wollongong. 25% of all teaching staff at UOW are employed on a sessional basis, but informal estimates suggest that they are responsible for at least 50% of all teaching.

In 2007, the UOW Sessional Teaching Project convened the UEC/ASDC Sessional Teaching Steering Committee to develop, in consultation with the academic community, a university-wide quality enhancement framework for the employment, management, integration and development of sessional teachers.

Research indicates that sessional teachers are highly committed and professional in their approach; however, sessional teaching can potentially pose a risk to quality teaching and learning where sessional teachers are not appropriately inducted into the university’s policy and procedure and effectively managed and supported in their teaching and ancillary roles.