



Faculty of Education

Research News

OCTOBER, 2004 – ISSUE 6

SUCCESSFUL GRANT FUNDING

Congratulations to **Garry Hoban**, **Tony Herrington** and **Lisa Kervin** for their successful application to the DET to conduct the research study *"Evaluative Inquiry into the Sustainability of Professional Learning through School-based Action Learning"*. The grant is worth \$45,000 and is in collaboration with a University of Sydney team headed by Associate Professor Robyn Ewing.

Congratulations on the 2005 Successful URC Small Grants go to **Irina Verenikina** for her research *"Perceptions of the role of scaffolding in nurturing self-directed Learners"* and **Honglin Chen** and **Ken Cruickshank** for their project *"A comparison of different entrance pathways: IELTS and Internal EAP tests"*. **Sue Bennett** and **Lori Lockyer**, together with Jason Lukasiak form the Faculty of Informatics were also successful in obtaining funding for their project – *"Reusable learning objects in learning management systems"*.

Ken Cruickshank has been successful in an ARC Linkage Grant, *Challenging Pedagogies: ESL students and intellectual challenge*, with academics at UTS, Sydney Uni and DET.

HONOURS PRESENTATIONS

The 2004 Honours Students will be giving their presentations from 10:00am in Room 67.301 on Monday 1 November 2004. Everyone is welcome to attend. RSVP to Karen McRae, Professional Officer (Research), Faculty of Education .

**MONDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2004 SEMINAR ROOM 67.301, 3rd FLOOR - MCKINNON BUILDING
AND DEAN'S MEETING ROOM 67.343 (for morning and afternoon tea)**

Time	Student's Name and Title of Presentation
9:30 am	Morning Tea on Arrival and Set up
10:00 – 10:15	Amy Asplet – “What happens when first year pre-service education students engage in group learning ?
10:20 – 10:35	Sarah Puglisi – “An investigation of the role of an on-line simulation in supporting the development of the pedagogy of pre-service teachers”
10:40 – 10:55	Rebecca Graham – “The effect of a phonological awareness program which stresses visual cues, on students identified as having early literacy difficulties”
11:00 – 11:15	Miriam Moir – “The effects and influence of background Classical music on primary school children's attitudes towards and involvement in mathematics in the classroom”.
11:20 – 11:35	Leanna Formosa – “What are the realities of teaching children with moderate intellectual disabilities in a segregated setting: Is the Quality Teaching model congruent”
11:40 – 11:55	Nicole Sanders – “A responsive evaluation of two innovative programs implemented in a New South Wales Primary School”
12:00 – 1:00pm	Lunch - Free time for students
1:00 – 1:15	Amy Tome – “An investigation into the personal and professional experiences of pre-service teachers on a Fiji practicum”
1:20 – 1:35	Caron McCloughan – “An exploration of the perceptions of, experiences with, and attitudes towards mentoring as a mode of profession development among staff members at one primary school setting in New South Wales, Australia.
1:40 – 1:55	Julie Skinner – ““An analysis of the mentoring culture as it currently exists within the Faculty of Education, (University of Wollongong), as perceived through the eyes of the academic staff”.
2:00 – 2:15	Leif Smith – “The relationships between fundamental movement skills, physical activity and adiposity in pre-school aged children”
2:20 – 2:35	Chloe Gallagher – “From Dr Seuss to Pokemon. A case study of three ten-year old boys' alternate literacy interests”
OR 2:40 – 2:55 pm	
3:00	Afternoon Tea and Windup

2003 DEST PUBLICATION OUTCOMES

We have been working on some DEST calculations for the 2003 Publications from the Faculty to determine some publication outcomes. Overall, using a total number of full-time staff as 45 academics, there is an average of 1.17 DEST points per person. Using 33 as the total number of staff who actually submitted DEST publications, the average is 1.58 DEST points per person. Well done to everyone who submitted publications for the collection. We will be reviewing these figures to see how we progress from year to year.

The collection for 2004 publications will begin in March/April 2005 but you can give Karen McRae, Professional Officer (Research) copies of any of your publications when you receive them. Remember that verification of peer review, ISBN/ISSN number, editions, etc. are vital and need to be supplied. We had several conference papers rejected or downgraded by the Publications Officer because of lack of verification material. If you need any further information about this, please come and see me.

UPCOMING FACULTY CONFERENCES

1– 3 December 2004 – 16th INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SCHOOLS CONFERENCE - The Faculty of Education, University of Wollongong, and Apple Computer Australia will hold the Innovative Technology Schools Conference at the University of Wollongong. Further information is available at the website: www.itsc.uow.edu.au

ITSC 2004 speakers and presenters represent a range of educational sectors and are recognised internationally as leaders the use of technology to support learning.

Professor Stephen Heppell is director of Ultralab, Anglia Polytechnic University's learning technology research centre in Chelmsford. Stephen has been described as "the man who is single handedly doing more than any other to enlighten government thinking on the use of computers in schools." by the Times Education Supplement.

Marco Torres is a social studies teacher, media coach, and education technology director at San Fernando High School. He has received numerous honors and awards for his work helping students empower themselves through the mastery of multimedia. He serves as one of Apple's Distinguished Educators and is an advisory board member of The George Lucas Educational Foundation

John Couch is Apple's Vice President of Education and is responsible for driving Apple's sales and marketing strategy in the education market. He has over thirty years experience as a computer scientist, educator and advocate for technology in education.

18-19 February 2005 –Fourth International Leadership Conference “DEVELOPING TOMORROW’S LEADERS” which is co-sponsored by NSW Department of Education and Training, The Catholic Education Office (Wollongong), and the Faculty of Education, University of Wollongong.

27 & 28 June 2005 – TEACHER EDUCATION COUNCIL (TEC) CONFERENCE (dates to be confirmed) – Hosted by the Faculty of Education

SEMINARS & WORKSHOPS

Professor Jan Wright delivered the keynote address for the Politics of Obesity conference in Toronto, Canada, entitled *'Interrogating expert knowledge: risk and the ethics of body weight'*. The Conference generated a great deal of media interest.

Dylan Cliff (PhD student) recently presented at the International Symposium, "Childhood Obesity: From Basic Knowledge to Effective prevention" and 14th European Childhood Obesity Group Workshop. The conference ran from the 23-25th of September, in Zaragoza Spain. His presentation was entitled: "Promoting physical activity among overweight and obese children: A pilot study using a mastery motivational environment"

After that he will visit the Leeds Metropolitan University, with a researcher named Professor Paul Gately and his team, who run activity programs for overweight children and adolescents. He will also visit Glasgow University, where he will spend a week with Dr John Reilly and his team who have done a lot of work looking at physical activity in children in Scotland and Ireland.

The **Child Obesity Research Group** recently hosted its first international research seminar. Prof Paul Gately from the UK spoke about his cutting-edge research with obese children who attend his weight-loss camps in the UK. Around 30 people from across the university and area health services attended.

Faculty research students **Dylan Cliff** (PhD), **Angelee Boyd** (Masters research) and **Dylan Cliff** (Hons) and **Dr Tony Okely** recently presented their work at the Australasian Society for the Study of Obesity's Annual Scientific Meeting in Brisbane. All presentations were very warmly received and made a valued contribution to the conference. The presentation details are:

1. Cliff D., Okely, A.D., Crowshaw A., Mickle K., Smith L., & Steele J.R. (2004). Relationships between BMI and perceived competence in pre-school children. Book of Abstracts for the Australasian Society for the Study of Obesity (ASSO) 13th Annual Scientific Meeting, Brisbane, Australia p66.
2. Smith L., McKeen K., Okely A.D., & Cliff D. (2004). Relationship between fundamental movement skill ability and Body Mass Index and waist circumference in pre-school aged children. Book of Abstracts for the Australasian Society for the Study of Obesity (ASSO) 13th Annual Scientific Meeting, Brisbane, Australia, p67.
3. Okely A.D., Cliff D., Smith L., Crowshaw A., Mickle K., & Steele J.R. (2004). Relationships between actual competence, perceived physical competence and objectively measured physical activity in pre-school children. Book of Abstracts for the Australasian Society for the Study of Obesity (ASSO) 13th Annual Scientific Meeting, Brisbane, Australia, p67.
4. Cliff D., Wilson A., Okely A.D., & Steele J.R. (2004). Promoting physical activity among overweight and obese children: A pilot study using a mastery motivational environment. Book of Abstracts for the Australasian Society for the Study of Obesity (ASSO) 13th Annual Scientific Meeting, Brisbane, Australia, p61.
5. Cliff D., Wilson A., Okely A.D., & Steele J.R. (2004). Feasibility of SHARK: A physical activity program for overweight and obese children. Book of abstracts for the 24th Biennial Conference of the Australian Council for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance, Wollongong, Australia, p20.
6. Boyd A., Okely A.D., Booth M.L. & Hardy L.L. (2004). Objectively measured physical activity levels of children in New South Wales: Compliance with recommendations for young people and physical activity. Book of abstracts for the 13th Annual Scientific Meeting for the Australasian Society of the Study of Obesity, Brisbane, August, 2004, p67.

In addition, **Dr Tony Okely** has had the following articles published over the past 2 months:

Booth, M.L., Okely, A.D., Chey, T., & Bauman, A. (2004). Patterns of activity energy expenditure among Australian adolescents. *Journal of Physical Activity and Health*, 1, 246-258.

Okely, A.D., & Booth, M.L. (2004). Mastery of fundamental movement skills among children in New South Wales, Australia: Prevalence and sociodemographic distribution. *Journal of Science and Medicine in Sport*, 7, 358-372.

Okely, A.D., Booth, M.L., Chey, T. (2004). Relationships between body composition and fundamental movements skills among children and adolescents. *Research Quarterly for Exercise and Sport*, 75, 238-247.

And **Jodie Southall** (former honours student 2001) had the results from her honours project published earlier in the year (details as follows):

Southall, J.E., Okely, A.D., & Steele, J.R. (2004). Actual and perceived physical competence in overweight and non-overweight children. *Pediatric Exercise Science*, 16, 15-24.

Yuko Ramzan, (PhD student) presented her paper “Japanese Language Instruction in a Multicultural Context: promoting Citizenship and Interculturality from 29 June - 2 July 2004 at the National Convention Centre, Canberra. The conference showcased current work in aspects of Asian Studies, and it addressed a wide variety of themes, including religious change, political authority, migration, languages, terror and violence, architecture, poverty & wealth creation, gender, etc. Just recently her paper was accepted for the refereed proceedings of the ‘15th Biennial Conference of the ASAA Proceedings’.

Maureen Bell (PhD student) attended the HERDSA Conference “Transforming Knowledge into Wisdom: Holistic Approaches to Teaching and Learning” in Miri, Sarawak on 4-7 July 2004 where she presented a paper entitled “Internationalising the higher education curriculum - do academics agree?”

FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

URC New Partnerships Grants Scheme Funding is available from the University Research Committee to support co-operative research projects with Industry Partners

- Grants available for up to \$10,000
- Industry Partner should provide matching funds
- No closing date, apply at any time
- Prompt outcomes
- For further details go to: <http://www.uow.edu.au/research/>

ARC Discovery Grants 2005: A reminder that planning for the ARC Dis covering for 2005 should start now if not already well underway. Please indicate your interest in submitting a Discovery Grant by emailing the Associate Dean (Research). There will be an opportunity for review and workshop in January /February 2005. Further information is available from the following website.

<http://www.uow.edu.au/research/rso/grants/opportunities/external/arc/arc-discovery.html> NB: Notice of Intent to Apply Form is due on 9 January 2005 to the Research Services Office.

Faculty Starter Grants - A maximum funding amount of \$2000 is available from Faculty Research Funds. These grants are designed to help academic staff ‘kick start’ a research project through literature searches, pilot projects, publications of previous higher degree research, respond to possibilities that arise.

The proposal should be 2-3 pages and should include a clear statement of the purpose of the research, significance, research design (if relevant), and contribution to the academic's future research agenda and to the research agenda of one or more of the Faculty Research Strengths. It should be signed off by a Director of a Faculty Research Strength and lodged with the Professional Officer (Research). These grants can be approved by the Associate Dean (Research) at any time.