

# FACULTY RESEARCH NEWS

## Faculty of Education

### **FRC Meetings 2008**

26 February  
15 April  
10 June  
29 July  
12 August  
23 September  
21 October  
11 November

### **HREC due dates 2008**

6 February  
5 March  
9 April  
7 May  
4 June  
9 July  
13 August  
10 September  
8 October  
15 November  
3 December

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## **Graduating Students**

The Faculty congratulates the following students who will be graduating at the December Graduation Ceremony.

Ken Cliff  
Fiona Mueller  
Eul-Ja Park  
Hui-Fen Sang  
Bronwyn Stuckey

## **Research Student BBQ**

The Research students from the Faculty of Education got together for a BBQ lunch on Wednesday, November 21. Students took the opportunity to relax and enjoy the good company and food. Our Dean, Paul Chandler, spoke of the benefits of such get-togethers and related the learning he experienced as a research student through mixing and talking with students from different research areas.

The cultural diversity of our students was celebrated with three activities. Christina Ligadu taught us a traditional dance used to celebrate major events in her home country, Sabah, Malaysian Borneo. The elegance of Christina's barefoot performance was (almost) matched by Phillip Dawson whose large boot-clad feet distracted only slightly.

Hidemori Yasuyami demonstrated his calligraphy skills before letting us loose to try writing Wollongong in Kanji. Hidemori showed us the traditional equipment used in Japan for calligraphy and explained how long it takes to reach master status and the daily practice needed to maintain that level. We didn't

quite reach master level and were not sure that anyone understanding Kanji would have recognized our University's location.

The Australian cultural event was a game of two-up organized by 'boxer' Gail Hood. Different spinners tried their luck in the ring using the kip to toss the pennies high in the air hoping for the elusive three 'heads' in a row. Of course the game was to promote cultural understanding only.

The research students expressed their appreciation of the support offered throughout the year by Lori Lockyer, Honglin Chen and Marina Evans. With such a diverse group of students their job is not easy but we couldn't do it without their assistance and encouragement.

The organizing committee would like to thank everyone who attended and helped make the day fun. Have a great Summer break and see you next year, unless of course you have managed to submit. Gail, Jessica, Phillip and Christina.

## Honours Students

Seven honours students from the Faculty of Education have successfully completed and submitted honours projects in 2007. Primary students include: Andrew Foxwell (supervised by Irina Verenikina), Nicole Hennes (supervised by Garry Hoban and Brian Ferry), Samantha McMahon (supervised by Valerie Harwood), Rebecca Millar (supervised by Julie Kiggins) and Kay

Prcevich (supervised by Lisa Kervin and Brian Ferry). PE students include: Jessica Ryan (supervised by Tony Okely) and Rosemarie Welch (supervised by Jan Wright). Results from the cohort were strong, with many examiners commenting upon the high quality of research reported in these theses.

## Scholarship Success

Congratulations to the following candidates who were successful in their applications for Scholarships in 2008.

### Australian Postgraduate Award

Troy Keen, Lisa Kosta, Rachel Sharp, Richard Sprod, Rosemary Welch

### University Postgraduate Award

Joanne Buckskin, Lisa Carrington, Michelle Eady

## Successful Research Funding

Rachel Jones, Tony Okely and Lori Lockyer received an Australian Health Management Grant of \$77,000 for their project titled "Preventing unhealthy weight gain among young children through an online educational program: The Time2bHealthy feasibility trial".

Professor Brian Ferry was awarded \$75,000 for an Australian School Innovation in Science, technology and Mathematics (ASISTM) Project entitled Eco Citizens Creating Sustainable Schools.

## Recent Publications

Booth ML, Okely AD, Denney-Wilson E, Hardy LL, Dobbins T, Wen L, Rissel C. Characteristics of travel to and from school among adolescents in NSW, Australia. *Journal of Pediatrics and Child Health* 2007; 43: 755-761.

Agostinho, S., Harper, B., Oliver, R., Hedberg, J., & Wills, S. (in press). A Visual Learning Design Representation to facilitate dissemination and reuse of innovative pedagogical strategies in University Teaching. In L. Botturi, & T. Stubbs (Eds.), *Handbook of Visual Languages for Instructional Design: Theories and Practices*. Information Science Reference - to be available in December 2007.

In October Lori Lockyer, Sue Bennett, Shirley Agostinho and Barry Harper finished editing an upcoming publication titled: *Handbook of Research on Learning Designs and Learning Objects: Applications, Issues and Technologies*. There are 43 chapters in this volume with 4 chapters written by the editors. It's due for publication in May 2008.

## Awards

Rob Peterson (RILE PhD student) awarded the Best Academic Paper at the ePortfolio 2007 Conference, Maastricht, the Netherlands, 17-19 October 2007.

Sue Bennett, Linda Corrin and Karl Maton Awarded first prize for Poster Presentation at COCO section of ResearchFest at the University of Sydney.

## Recent Conference Papers

A number of staff and students attended and presented at the recent the Australian Association for Research in Education, Fremantle, WA (25-29 November). The presidential address was delivered Jan Wright and keynote address by Jan Herrington.

Ian Olney and Tony Herrington presented at IADIS International Conference - (IADIS – International Association for Development of the Information Society) e-Learning 2007, Lisbon, Portugal, their paper: Establishing and Supporting A Laptop Community in Higher Education

Ian Olney and Gerry Lefoe presented at mLearn Melbourne 2007 - Making the Connections - 6th international conference on mobile Learning, their paper : New technologies, new pedagogies: Using scenarios for staff development with mobile technologies

Sue Bennett presented on the ARC Linkage project: Improving university teaching: Creating strategies and tools to support the design process at ASCILITE 07 held in Singapore (Dec 2-5) titled: "Learning Designs: Bridging the gap between theory and practice" by Bennett, Agostinho, Lockyer, Kosta, Jones, Koper, & Harper.

## Research Proposals in 2008

Both Research Colloquiums are scheduled for the end of week 3 of each session:

Autumn: 14th and 15th March  
Spring: 8th and 9th August

To respond to issues raised by our students, only in exceptional circumstances will proposals be scheduled within the three weeks leading up to or following a colloquium.

Additionally, in an effort of facilitating your planning and peer support, Honglin has initiated pre-scheduled dates and times for proposal presentations that fall outside of

March and August colloquium time. These 'mini colloquium' dates have been identified for 1.30-3.30pm Mondays:

11 February  
16 June  
27 October  
1 December

Those students presenting proposals in 2008 are asked to work with their supervisor to identify a colloquium or mini colloquium date that is appropriate to their study timeline and contact Marina to make arrangements.

## Conferences in 2008

14 – 15 February 2008 Seventh Education Leadership Conference  
22 – 23 February 2008 Narrative Inquiry Conference  
29 Feb – 2 March 2008 Cognitive Load Theory Conference

## Wishes for the holiday season and new year

Faculty staff and students have attained significant research success in 2007. Those outstanding efforts are certainly appreciated and celebrated.

We also end the year with sadness in losing our dear colleague Raelene Anderson. We

will take Raelene's optimism and warm spirit into the new year and support each other through our challenges and achievements to come in 2008.