Dear UOW Partner,

Firstly I would like to thank you for your contributions and efforts for 2004. UOW again proved a popular choice for international students studying abroad and this is due in no small part to the efforts of our representatives. UOW now boasts 3904 International students currently studying onshore with more than 2500 students commencing this year.

1. UniAdvice Renovation

UniAdvice is in the process of renovating its current office space. Work began on Monday 11 October and is due for completion 5 weeks from this date.

During this time we will attempt to maintain our high standard of customer service, however there will be periods of disruption where fax, phone and computer systems will be unavailable. If you find you are having trouble communicating with our admissions or service centre staff please contact the relevant staff member via email and they will endeavour to answer your enquiry as soon as possible.

The aim of the refurbishment will be to create a better working environment for an expanding international office at UOW and will hopefully result in a greater level of service to our students and representatives.

Your patience during this time would be greatly appreciated. Please feel free to contact me by email should you have any concerns.

2. UOW: An affordable study destination

The University is very aware of the impact that the rising value of the Australian dollar has on the affordability of an Australian education. While UOW has applied a modest annual increase in fees, an education at UOW still represents a considerable saving in comparison to the cost of study at larger metropolitan universities. This is illustrated in a recent comparative survey in the costs of study at Sydney metropolitan universities.

Comparative cost of living analysis

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Cost of Tuition and Living Expenses at UOW/ year</th>
<th>Cost of Tuition and Living Expenses at Sydney Metropolitan (average)/year</th>
<th>Percentage saving in the cost of study at UOW</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Undergraduate Business</td>
<td>$28,012.00</td>
<td>$39,482.00</td>
<td>29.1%*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Undergraduate Nanotechnology</td>
<td>$32,612.00</td>
<td>$40,097.00</td>
<td>18.7%*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Tuition fees are based on International fulltime fees for 2005
- Living expenses are based on university accommodation and includes meals, health insurance and related expenses
- Costs are an approximation only

* SAVINGS are greater when considering that UOW holds its tuition fees constant for the duration of the course.

3. New Overseas Student Health Cover (OHSC) price list.

The University of Wollongong has updated its price list for Overseas Student Health Cover (OHSC) as detailed below. This will shortly be updated on the international website: http://www.uow.edu.au/prospective/international/fees/oshc.html
Length of Visa | Monthly | Quarterly | Half yearly | 9 Months | Yearly
--- | --- | --- | --- | --- | ---
Single | $24.90 | $74.75 | $149.50 | $224.25 | $299.00
Family | $49.80 | $149.50 | $299.00 | $448.50 | $598.00

Visa regulations state that students must pay a minimum of 12 months OHSC unless the course duration is for a lesser period. For the remainder of the visa, health cover must be paid by the student on an annual basis.

The amount of OSHC payable will normally be included in the acceptance advice form of the students’ offer letter. Upon receipt of payment for OSHC, the Australian Health Management Group will issue the student a membership card which will be mailed to the student by the Universities Academic Registrars Division shortly after their arrival. It will be the students’ responsibility to inform the Academic Registrars Division of their Australian residential address as soon as possible after arrival to Australia.

4. Course Update.

UOW has recently had a number of course changes approved. Some notable changes include the introduction of:

- A 3 year Bachelor of Medical and Radiation Physics (BMRP)
- Graduate Diploma in Medical Radiation Physics
- Bachelor of Nanotechnology Advanced Program

Details of these and other course changes will be sent to those representatives who have country admissions responsibilities.

5. Fee Payment

Students will often receive a package or progressive offer for study. This allows students to undertake preparation and English language courses at the Wollongong University College before taking up their tertiary study. **In these instances it is important that a separate payment is made for the College course and then University course** as the institutions are separate financial entities. A bank draft or credit card payment is the most efficient and preferred method of payment in these instances.

6. Largest Wireless network in Australia

UOW has put ‘convenience back into the classroom’ by rolling out a wireless computer network for almost 20,000 students and staff in what could be ‘the biggest rollout in an educational environment in Australia’ according to the Australian financial review.

Already 676 Cisco access points have been strategically placed around the main UOW campus. The network has been brought in to enhance teaching and learning, and will be rolled out at the halls of residence and other education centres.

Kind Regards

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