1. The Focus on Teaching Symposium – September 30 to October 2, 2009

The World Café in sixty seven, Anne Melano’s Learning-Teaching-Research nexus event and the sessional staff VC were most highly attended (16 - 19)

Several outstanding workshops/sessions received disappointingly low numbers of attendees

The timing of early entry interviews, other conferences, marking, time out with friends/family or just a break are some of many reasons why our numbers were ‘quality of discussion and networking, not quantity of attendees’.

I empathise with those who chatted with small groups. Who knows what special ideas you sparked? Thank you.

Some Snippets:

- 48 UOW staff directly contributed to the program and 38 additional UOW staff engaged with us in session discussions
- 3 colleagues joined us from ANU, Notre Dame and USQ (and left with many ideas for collaboration)
- Mandi Berry from Monash joined as a workshop co-presenter with Garry Hoban
- the 4APCEI cross-over debate reminded us of the oratory skills of future students;
- 10 citation recipients contributed their stories (recorded) and 8 more citation recipients shared areas of expertise (some recorded, hopefully artefacts to share)
- 7 Faculty Scholars described their projects or led discussion (see image left…)
- 3 Grant leaders (2 ALTC and 1 URC) discussed L&T project outcomes and their implications (recorded)
- our sessional staff engaged via videoconference with a lively, inspiring voice (to share forthcoming ideas)
- we farewelled Maureen Bell, whose memorable poem we unfortunately didn’t record!
- a team of staff have begun a publishing journey over the next twelve months (we await publications)
- Awards and grants information and support documents were developed and shared (now to be public on the website)
- 3 students gave amazing accounts of experiences with outdoor education and the power of reflection

Thank you to Jo Failes (event heart and hub); Adam Orvad (the logo and branding); Wendy Meyers, Chris Brewer, Sandra Humphrey, Lesley Knapp, Gerry Lefoe and Michelle Kent who willingly donned Focus on Teaching shirts to contribute and support all activities; Margaret Wallace who shared expertise and guided linkages with the 4APCEI conference; and Rebecca Albury, EDITS chair and mentor.
2. ALTC Citations

I am seeking volunteers to engage in the citation support process for 2010, as I will be stepping out of this activity and supporting those who are mentoring applicants. Please identify ways you would appreciate support. There is funding, but that can be used in an array of ways to meet various mentor needs. One possibility is targeting experts and Fellows and other national award winners to visit UOW and engage with mentors and applicants. Another is funding trips to other institutions or events. A third may be marking support… I don’t think it’s a one size fits all model for UOW.

3. ALTC Grants

Just to remind us of the changes to dates, two rounds and loss of Expressions of Interest:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Competitive</th>
<th>Leadership</th>
<th>Priority</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2 Nov 2009 (round 1)</td>
<td>18 March 2010 (round 1)</td>
<td>9 April 2010 (round 1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 June 2010 (round 2)</td>
<td>1 July 2010 (round 2)</td>
<td>29 July 2010 (round 2)</td>
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</tbody>
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Cheryl Jecht, who has been our key Grants Support person in the RSO will be leaving her current position. I would like to formally acknowledge her huge contribution to the development of the ALTC grant submission and management process. What Cheryl knows about budgets and protocols and contacts within ALTC is priceless and will be sorely missed. Thank you so much Cheryl for your commitment to the role.

4. Focus on Teaching Website Development

The site is live in its fledgling form, and we thank Holly Tootell for her critical eye and advice. Also, thank you to Paola Ciccarelli who will be altering the Learning and Teaching site as the scope of Learning and Teaching and Focus on Teaching sites become more discrete and complementary to suit external (AUQA) and internal (UOW staff) needs; Michelle Kent and Daniel Judge for their professionalism and expertise in mapping and translating a new architecture of information to meld with what is possible in the new UOW web template and content management system.