Using technology to study and support student transition into higher education

Prof Annette Cashmore
established the Centre of Excellence for Teaching and Learning in Genetics (GENIE) at the University of Leicester in 2006.

An important area of GENIE’s work is to improve the student experience, particularly focusing on the first year.

Annette was awarded a National Teaching Fellowship by the UK Higher Education Academy in 2008.

Dr Chris Cane
is Director of Taught Postgraduate Programmes in the College of Medicine, Biological Sciences and Psychology at the University of Leicester.

On top of many years experience in molecular virology, his research interests now include educational transitions for undergraduate and postgraduate students with particular focus on international students.

*Contact ASD Workshops on ext. 3113 or check the ASD Staff Development Calendar: http://www.uow.edu.au/asd/workshops/index.html

No need to register.

the first year experience forum

FYE is a University Strategic Project in 2010. In parallel with a review of UOW policies and frameworks, the FYE working party has organised a series of forums for the university community to raise awareness of latest FYE research and trends.

the presentations

Prof Annette Cashmore’s presentation describes a longitudinal project, in its third year, involving free-form video diaries by undergraduate students.

Sixty four students, from three cohorts, have been given video cameras to record weekly short videos covering whatever is important to them. The video data has been coded and provides insight, from the student perspective, into many issues including friendships, induction, assessment, modes of study, teamwork etc. As an example, Annette will present some of the findings in relation to academic and social transitions experienced by students throughout their first year.

Dr Chris Cane, a keen advocate of the use of new technology to improve the student experience, will describe the use of podcasts to aid student transitions and to provide ‘asynchronous mentoring’ for students on one-year courses.