Leadership for Excellence Project

Distributive leadership for learning and teaching: Developing the faculty scholar model

2008 Leadership Scholars Update

The 2008 Faculty Scholars reported on the progress of their respective projects at the end of April. In summary the major project achievements were:

- Establishing links with key networks and personnel and gaining support and engagement of major stakeholders;
- Project promotion and presentations to key stakeholders;
- Completion of literature review;
- Facilitation of focus groups, pilot programs, surveys project related meetings and workshops;
- Gathered relevant project related data;
- Established protocols, processes and frameworks to progress project implementation;
- Completed fundamental project activities;
- Obtained ethics approval for research activities; and
- Cross-institutional communication and collaboration.

The main challenges to date for these scholars have been in regard to:

- the management of time;
- department/school/institutional ‘politics’;
- administration of project activities;
- communication;
- resistance to change and difficulty in getting buy in from staff.

Assessment Roundtable

A National Roundtable on Assessment in higher education sponsored by the Australian Learning and Teaching Council, Flinders University, La Trobe University and the University of Wollongong will be held on Thursday 18 September 2008 at the Novotel, Brighton Le Sands. Details regarding this event will be forthcoming in the next Distributive Leadership Project Bulletin.

Congratulations

Congratulations to Dr Heather Monkhouse a 2007 Distributive Leadership Project Faculty Scholar from the University of Tasmania who has been awarded a 2008 Australian Learning and Teaching Council Associate Fellowship. Heather’s Fellowship has been awarded for her project titled: Using assessment effectively: learning environments that work, for tertiary music performance students and staff.

Leadership Workshop

A 2-day Leadership Workshop will be held at the Stamford Grand Hotel in Adelaide on Monday 16 and Tuesday 17 June. The purpose of this workshop is predominantly for the Scholars to plan and prepare the National Assessment Roundtable. Scholars will also be provided the opportunity to discuss and update the group on their faculty-based projects.

Presentations & Publications

The project leader Dr Geraldine Lefoe delivered a presentation about the Distributive Leadership Project to the University of Wollongong (UOW) University Education Committee (UEC) on March 19, 2008.
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International Collaborations

The Caledonian Academy at Glasgow-Caledonian University (http://www.academy.gcal.ac.uk/professional/sanda.html) has initiated a leadership program within the university. The Caledonian Scholars and Associates Scheme is based on a distributive leadership model to promote development and innovation in learning and teaching across the University. Geraldine Lefoe is part of an international panel currently assessing applicants for the inaugural year.

Continuation of the Project

Congratulations also to our 2008 partners in the leadership project. Heather Smigiel and Linda Pannan have been successful with an Expression of Interest to the Australian Learning and Teaching Council (formerly the Carrick Institute) to extend the current leadership project beyond 2008. The purpose of extending the project is to provide opportunity for this year's scholars to mentor additional universities into the program. Best of luck with the next round.

Good luck and best wishes ...

Good luck and best wishes to two of the University of Wollongong 2008 Scholars, Lotte Latukefu and Holly Tootell who will soon be taking a break from the project. Both Scholars will be going on maternity leaving in Semester 2.

2008 Scholar Holly Tootell.

2008 Scholar Lotte Latukefu.

2008 Project facilitator Heather Smigiel leading a Retreat Activity with project Scholars: (L-R) Liz Johnson (La Trobe), Mark Loves (UOW), Steve Parker (Flinders), & Elizabeth Handsley (Flinders).

2008 Scholar Holly Tootell.

2008 Scholar Lotte Latukefu.