

ANZSSA and ISANA 8th Duty of Care WA State Conference

Riding the Tiger: The Challenges of Turbulent Times

Friday September 11 2009

The WA branches of the Australia and New Zealand Student Services Association (ANZSSA) and ISANA International Education Association cordially invite you to our 8th Duty of Care conference.

Our theme this year essentially acknowledges the old Chinese curse – “may you live in interesting times”. And our times are certainly interesting at present! The possibilities contained within the Bradley Report recommendations and the federal budget are naturally of great interest to anyone involved in postsecondary education. And the uncertainties arising from the global financial crisis make us all wonder what the potential effects may be on enrolments. Meanwhile, we still have to deliver a professional service to our students.

Our program this year addresses a number of the challenges facing professionals in support service roles. The program is strongly supportive of the professional development standards required in the ESOS 2007 National Code.

	<p>Description: University students drink more heavily than their non-student peers and are mostly unaware that their drinking is risky and exceeds normative levels. We tested the efficacy of pro-active web-based alcohol screening and provision of motivational feedback to reduce hazardous drinking through a randomised controlled trial at an Australian university in 2007. There was a 16% reduction in the number of students drinking at hazardous levels after one month and a 13% reduction at 6 months. Given the similar effect of face-to-face brief interventions; an online approach appears to be an opportunity to reach large numbers of students who are non-treatment seeking.</p>	<p>Description: While face-to-face bullying causes much harm, the use of communications technology such as the internet and mobile phones by young people to cyber bully others will potentially increase the mental health problems, and social and academic related harms for the young people affected.</p> <p>This presentation will provide an opportunity to review current research findings regarding patterns of young people’s cyber bullying experiences, its possible effects, and protective factors that appear to build the resilience of young people. The presentation will also discuss and examine practical strategies for families and schools that appear to be effective at preventing or managing this problem and its effects.</p>	<p>Description: A panel of International students will present their experiences and perceptions of the transition to successful study in Perth. This is an opportunity to hear our clients speak of their motivations to study in Australia, the stresses and adjustments they faced, and what has enabled them to succeed.</p>
12.45 pm	Lunch: in the Atrium		
2.00 pm	<p>Plenary Session: Dr Carmen Lawrence, Professorial Fellow, Institute of Advanced Studies, University of Western Australia Topic: Fear and Politics - the impact of terrorism and the current economic climate on the Education system Venue: Botanical Room</p>		
2.30 pm	<p>Who Wants to be a Millionaire: The Slumdog Session Venue: Botanical Room</p>		
3.30 pm	Thanks and Evaluation: Sean Murray		
3.45 pm	Close and drinks		



The WA branches of ANZSSA and ISANA would like to acknowledge the support of our sponsors.



Venue: Burswood Convention Centre
Great Eastern Highway, Burswood WA 6100

There is some free parking close to the venue, and paid parking available as part of the Burswood complex. A venue map is accessible at <http://business.burswood.com.au/venuemap.php>

Date and Time Friday September 11 8.30 am to 4.00 pm

Plenary Speakers:

Professor Jeanette Hackett, Vice-Chancellor, Curtin University of Technology

As Vice-Chancellor of Curtin since April 2006, Professor Hackett is responsible for leading Western Australia's largest university with over 40,000 students and 3,500 staff. It has the third largest cohort of international students in Australia and is Western Australia's most international university, in terms of its student and staff profiles, and its outlook. Curtin has a long standing commitment to Indigenous education, culture and reconciliation and the largest number of Indigenous students in any Australian university. It is also committed to delivering regional education that serves both the rural and Indigenous populations while meeting the needs of industry.

Jeanette holds a Masters of Law (Distinction) from UWA and a PhD (Chancellor's Commendation) in Strategic Management from Curtin. She is a Member of the Law Society of Western Australia, Fellow of the Australian Institute of Management and Member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

From 2002-2004 Jeanette held the position of Pro Vice-Chancellor International & Enterprise and was appointed Deputy Vice-Chancellor in 2004. Jeanette is a Director of IDP Education Limited, Open Universities Australia Ltd, Future Directions International and the Australian Higher Education Industrial Association. She is also a member of the Penrhos Council. In April 2008, Jeanette was one of the 1000 leading professionals invited to participate in the Prime Minister's 2020 Summit.

In addition to her demanding career, Jeanette is a keen cyclist and a strong believer in the importance of physical fitness and wellbeing. Reinforcing her belief that anything is possible with determination and perseverance – she is also an avid Dockers fan! Jeanette and her husband Lance Hackett have two daughters.

Dr Carmen Lawrence

After training as a research psychologist at the University of Western Australia and lecturing in a number of Australian universities, Dr Lawrence entered politics in 1986, serving at both State and Federal levels for 21 years. She was at various times W.A Minister for Education and Aboriginal Affairs and was the first woman Premier and Treasurer of a State government. She shifted to Federal politics in 1994 when she was elected as the Member for Fremantle and was appointed Minister for Health and Human Services and Minister assisting the Prime Minister on the Status of Women. She has held various portfolios in Opposition, including Indigenous Affairs, Environment, Industry and Innovation and was elected National President of the Labor Party in 2004. She retired from politics in 2007. She is now a Professorial Fellow at the University of Western Australia where she is working to establish a centre to research the forces driving significant social change in key areas of contemporary challenge as well as exploring our reactions to that change.

Our previous conferences have attracted a broad range of staff interested in student support including:

- International office staff
- Residential managers and staff
- Grievance/Conflict resolution officers
- Academic advisers
- Equity staff
- Counsellors
- Student guild advocates
- Chaplains and other faith officers
- Recreation services staff
- Financial advisers
- Health service staff
- Learning support staff
- Careers staff
- Mentor program managers
- And anyone else interested in student services

The Program:

8.30 am	Registration and Coffee		
9.15 am	Welcome: Jim Elliott, Conference Convenor		
9.30 am	Plenary Session: Prof Jeanette Hackett, Vice-Chancellor, Curtin University of Technology Topic: The Bradley Report, the Global Financial Crisis – Now What? Venue: Botanical Room		
10.15 am	Morning Tea		
10.45 am	A Choice of the Three Parallel Sessions Below		
	<p>Topic: Student Housing: Meeting Different Needs</p> <p>Presenters: Panel discussion, facilitated by Andre Lee, Associate Director, Housing Services, Curtin University of Technology</p> <p>Description: Not all students have the same housing needs – and these needs may change over time. This panel discussion will present some case studies which illustrate the different needs of particular groups – including young International students, postgraduate students with partners and/or young children, students with special needs, and Australian students from rural and isolated areas.</p>	<p>Topic: Chinese Students' Dilemma: Riding the Tiger by its tail</p> <p>Presenter: Vada Ng Siok Teng, Business Development Manager, Confucius Institute, UWA.</p> <p>Description: The Chinese people have an expression: "ride a tiger and find it hard to dismount [qi hu nan xia]", meaning holding a tiger by its tail, afraid to let go as it will turn around and attack you.</p> <p>The session will focus generally on Chinese and Australian students' education and culture, and the characteristics of Chinese students. A research outcome with a small focused group of Chinese students will be shared - addressing five general elements: learning style, creativity, criticism, teamwork and social behaviour.</p>	<p>Topic: Fostering interaction between International and domestic students</p> <p>Presenter: Cassandra Colvin, Manager International Student Support, Murdoch University</p> <p>Description: Having an Australian experience is one of the objectives of International students. Australian students also have a great potential to learn from the diverse population of International students. But neither group necessarily gains the most from this opportunity. This session explores the barriers to making good connections between domestic and International students, and presents some possible ways of creating a shared experience.</p>
11.45 am	A Choice of the Three Parallel Sessions Below		
	<p>Topic: Universal web-based alcohol screening and brief intervention for university students</p> <p>Presenter: Mr Jonathan Hallett, Research Fellow, Western Australian Centre for Health Promotion Research, Curtin University of Technology</p>	<p>Topic: Cyber Bullying – what is it? What do we do about it?</p> <p>Presenter: Kate Hadwen, Senior Research Fellow, Child Health Promotion Research Centre Edith Cowan University</p>	<p>Topic: The International Student Experience: A Facilitated panel discussion of new and current International students.</p> <p>Facilitator: Sandra Rives, And Sharon Woodfield, International Student Advisers, Curtin University of Technology</p>