

Peer Assisted Teaching Scheme



**TEACHERS
HELPING
TEACHERS**

<http://opvclt.monash.edu.au/pats>

Welcome to the second newsletter for the Peer Assisted Teaching Scheme (PATS) for 2012. While PATS continues to run across Monash University, we have also received funding from the Council of Australian Directors of Academic Development (CADAD) to trial the scheme across the Australian tertiary education sector. Semester 2, 2012 has seen five Australian universities engage with the scheme with 22 partnerships formed to trial PATS resources and processes.

The aims of this project are:

- A consistent and cross university strategy/policy to assist academics to improve units that need critical attention;
- Improved unit evaluations;
- List of barriers, goals and strategies for unit improvement and for wider distribution of reporting and publications;
- Leadership skills development for mentors.

Each institution has a tailored PATS Instructional Workbook, the Online Workbook, and the PATS Results Spreadsheet. The institutions participating in the project are Edith Cowan University, The University of Newcastle, Griffith University, University of the Sunshine Coast and Monash University.

Each newsletter issue we will introduce the people taking part in the PATS project.

**Chief Investigator:
Associate Professor Angela
Carbone**

Angela is the Associate Director of the Office of the Pro Vice-Chancellor, Learning and Teaching. With a background in Computing, Mathematics and Education, Angela held the position of senior lecturer at Monash University prior to the commencement of the program.

In her career, Angela has been the recipient of numerous prestigious awards, notably the Prime Minister's Award for University Teacher of the Year (1998) and the Australian Award for University Teaching in the category of Computing and Information Services (1998).

**PATS Research Officer:
Dr Bella Ross**

Bella has recently completed a PhD in Linguistics at The University of Melbourne. She worked as a research assistant on several projects in the School of Languages and Linguistics at the University of Melbourne and has taught linguistics, academic skills and English as a second language. Her experience includes conducting interviews - both face-to-face and over the phone, designing and distributing interview questionnaires, and collating and analysing qualitative and quantitative data.

Support for the production of this resource has been provided by the Council of Australian Directors of Academic Development

PATS Project Group

Professor Sue Stoney - Edith Cowan University

Sue is the head of Edith Cowan's Centre for Learning and Development

Ms Katherine Lindsay - The University of Newcastle

Katherine is the Program Manager of the LLB, Newcastle Law School

Dr Liam Phelan - The University of Newcastle GradSchool

Liam is Teaching & Learning Coordinator and Senior Lecturer at the University of Newcastle's GradSchool

Dr Steve Drew - Griffith University

Steve is a Senior lecturer at the Griffith Institute for Higher Education

Ms Janine Master - Griffith University

Janine is a project administrator at the Griffith Institute for Higher Education

Ms Kylie Readman - University of the Sunshine Coast

Kylie is a lecturer in education at UCS's School of Science, Education and Engineering

Ms Caroline Cottman - University of the Sunshine Coast

Caroline is an Academic Development Officer at USC's Centre for Support and Advancement for Learning and Teaching

Project in Progress

The CADAD funded PATS project has been underway since early 2012. The following progress has been made:

The project team has completed the pre-semester and during semester tasks, which have included meeting the partners to develop strategy plans to improve unit satisfaction, as well as conducting peer observation of teaching. In addition, a series of workshops have been organised and attended by the project team members, where mentors have shared teaching methods and strategies. Team members are currently working through the PATS Instructional Workbook.

Dr Bella Ross has been employed as a project officer to work two days each week until the end of the year to ensure the smooth and timely completion of the project.

The next steps of the project include video conferencing Focus Groups with the PATS project team members. These Focus Group sessions will draw together the experiences of mentors and mentees in the trial, provide feedback on the progress and outcomes, as well as aid in the development of future PATS projects.

The project team are currently in the process of producing their paper titled "From taps on the shoulder to PATS on the Back: Experiences engaging academics with the Peer Assisted Teaching Scheme".

What's next...

- Focus group sessions with mentees and mentors
- Production of the paper "From taps on the shoulder to PATS on the back: Experiences engaging academics with the Peer Assisted Teaching Scheme"
- Analysis of focus group data
- Collation of task data and unit evaluation data

CONTACT

If you wish to provide feedback or comment on the PATS program, please feel free to contact:
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