Welcome to the first newsletter for the Peer Assisted Teaching Scheme (PATS) for 2012. 2012 marks the start of a new era for the Peer Assisted Teaching Scheme. While PATS continues to run across Monash University, we have also received funding from the Council of Australian Directors of Academic Development to trial the scheme across the Australian tertiary education sector. Semester 2, 2012 will see five Australian universities engage with the scheme. Mentor-mentee partnerships will be established in each university in order to trial PATS resources and processes.

The aims of this project are:
- To develop a framework to support an effective peer assisted teaching scheme in ways appropriate to the higher education environment in Australia;
- A consistent and cross university strategy/policy to assist academics to improve student satisfaction with units;
- List of barriers, goals and strategies for unit improvement and for wider distribution of reporting and publications;
- Building leadership capacity in PATS participants.

PATS resources being trialled across the sector include the PATS Guide, the PATS Instructional Workbook, the Online Workbook, the PATS Results Spreadsheet.

In addition to participation in the PATS program itself, participants will be required to participate in

Each month 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).

CADAD Project Officer: Ms Anicca Main

Anicca has worked as a research assistant on several learning and teaching research grants including the ALTC funded Examination of doctoral degrees in creative arts project and the Research Skill Development project. In addition, Anicca has led a research project for the ACT Rural Fire Service. She has experience conducting interviews - both face-to-face and over the phone, conducting focus groups, designing and distributing online surveys, and collating and analysing qualitative data.

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

The views expressed in this resource do not necessarily reflect the views of the Australian Learning and Teaching Council Ltd. or the Council of Australian Directors of Academic Development
Project in Progress

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

The project team has been assembled from a range of universities across the country. Several phone meetings have taken place and initial planning has allowed the project to get off to a smooth start.

Ms Anicca Main has been employed as a project officer to work half a day each week until the end of the year. PATS instructional workbooks have been tailored for each of the five institutions involved.

An ethics proposal has been submitted to the Monash Human Research Ethics Committee, and revisions made. Ethics approval is pending.

Project team members are currently liaising with ADEs and HoS in their own institutions regarding interest in process. Dates have now been set for initial briefings to be conducted with interstate participants via videoconference.

External Evaluator Appointed

Associate Professor Ian Solomonides has agreed to act as external evaluator for the project to assess the impact it has had on the sector and on the individuals involved.

What’s next...

- Recruitment of Academic Participants
- “Readiness Report”

CONTACT

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

Anicca Main
Anicca.main@monash.edu