



THE CARRICK INSTITUTE
FOR LEARNING AND TEACHING
IN HIGHER EDUCATION LTD



Leadership and Assessment: Strengthening the Nexus Summary Report July 2007

1. Action Research Enablers

1.1 LEAP Forum

This month's forum was held on Wednesday, 25th July and resulted in a lively discussion on the key items of:

- Reflection and debrief after the CEDAM/ Carrick leadership workshop
- Project dissemination to L&T committees (Divisional)
- The role of the ARE in Phase 2.
- Generation of list of topics (for supportive workshops).

1.2 Reflection Sessions

The monthly supported reflection session continued:

Chiropractic – (RB & SV) Wednesday, 25th July, 2007

Computing – (SC) Friday, 13th July, 2007

Law - (PW) not held this month due to PhD commitments, etc.

1.3 The Assessment Profile

Chiro have begun step2 of the assessment profile. Penelope returns from OSP leave in Semester 2 and will be able to commence then.

1.4 Phase 2 roll-out

Forum and team member discussion has agreed that it is necessary to commence Phase 2. Originally the project plan intended that this would occur once Phase 1 was complete. However, with time delays and with the serendipitous opportunities offered by the funding available to departments through the LTPF it appears most timely to commence this roll-out now. Expression of interest will be sent to all Associate Deans, Learning and Teaching. Three funded departments will be invited, with the option that additional departments can join forces with the project and self-fund.

2. Project Dissemination

2.1 ISSOTL

The LAP continued its dissemination of project knowledge and outcomes. Five LAP members presented at the ISSOTL conference on Tuesday, 3rd July. The panel session was titled **Pathways to strengthening the nexus between leadership and assessment**. Sharon and Marina presented on **Action Research supporting the integration of leadership and assessment**; Penelope on **Leading departments on the pathway to effective assessment practice – A case study by a leader**, and Robyn and Subra on **Leading departments on the pathway to effective assessment practice – A case study of a collegial approach**. The presentation was well received with at least 24 participants and the panel members were pleased with the success of their activities to engage participants. Indeed, praise was received at the end of the workshop along the lines of “what an excellent role model of SOTL, the presentation and the activities were vibrant” (!!)

Notes from the workshop conducted as part of this panel presentation were collated and electronically distributed to all workshop participants (thus gaining international dissemination). These notes (strategies for addressing project issues) were also uploaded to the WebCT site.

2.2 Macquarie University Learning and Teaching Committee

A request was made by the chair of the university’s Learning and Teaching committee, Marnie Hughes-Warrington, for information about the project with the intention of dissemination at the 10th July meeting. A one-page project overview was forwarded.

2.3 Year 1 Report and Financial Acquittal

The writing up of the annual project report was undertaken and the financial audit requested in preparation for submission to Carrick (due Tuesday, 31st July, 2007). Account reminders were sent to participating departments. Also in preparation for the report a planning meeting was held with the project’s external evaluator (Friday, 20th July).

2.4 Carrick Project Management event

The project manager has been invited (and excitedly accepted) to give a presentation at the Carrick Project Management event to be held in August.

Project outcomes

AREs are embarking upon Step 2 of the assessment profile. It is also planned to commence the Stage 2 roll-out regardless of whether Stage 1 is “complete”.