

# GO News

## Hello from Nicole



Welcome back from Easter holidays, I hope you had a relaxing break. I spent some time catching up with family and friends which was lovely.

It has been a busy few months with university showcases in Toowoomba, Stanthorpe, Warwick, North-West NSW, the Gold Coast and the Sunshine Coast. It was great opportunity to meet many of your students.

We are busy preparing for Guidance Officers' Day across our three campuses. If you haven't sent you RSVP in yet, please take a moment to fill it in and fax it back to Melanie Cavanough. If you haven't received an invitation but would like to attend please contact Melanie on (07) 4631 2653. The dates for 2009 are:

Fraser Coast – 7 May 2009

Springfield – 14 May 2009

Toowoomba – 15 May 2009

We are pleased to welcome a new School Liaison team member at our Fraser Coast campus. Tas Webber will be contacting your school in the near future to arrange a school visit. Tas is from Victoria and has been in Hervey Bay for the last three years, while completing his Bachelor of Business.

If you haven't booked in a school visit yet please give me a call or drop me an email and we book you in our schedule straight away!

I hope to catch up with many of you at one of our Guidance Officer days.

## Features

### Graduates praise HeadStart program



Looking back at her time as a high school senior, Leacia Sharp like most Year 12 students remembers the uncertainty that came with finishing high school.

Now, after graduating from the University of Southern Queensland (USQ) with a Bachelor of Nursing last weekend, she can reflect on her time at University and how the decision to enrol in USQ's HeadStart program

HeadStart Student Heather Janke with HeadStart Coordinator Nicole Klein helped her overcome that uncertainty.

USQ's HeadStart program provides Year 11 and 12 students who have the capability, maturity and motivation an opportunity to study a USQ course prior to finishing high school.

"It was beneficial to me as it helped to confirm that going to uni to study nursing was the right path for me after finishing school," Leacia said.

"It also helped prepare me for university and decreased my workload in my first semester of full time study."

Leacia is one of three former HeadStart students who graduated from the University last Saturday, with the trio sharing the prestigious honour of being the first group of HeadStart students to graduate with USQ degrees.

The second of these students was Heather Janke, who graduated with a Bachelor of Visual Arts and was full of praise for the HeadStart program, which she said had helped ease her into university life.

"I found the program quite manageable with school work and it ultimately helped me transition into university and confirmed my decision to study at USQ," Heather said.

Christine Casey meanwhile graduated with a Bachelor of Music said that the HeadStart program had given her the confidence to go on and study at University.

"It gave me a good feeling about starting university, a more positive outlook that I would be able to manage ok."

"I felt a bit more relaxed about starting because I knew what to expect and completing the program also assured me that I could manage the academic side of things."

USQ HeadStart Coordinator Nicole Klein said that she was proud of each of the graduates and that they were proof that the initiative has been a success.

"The HeadStart program gives high achieving high school students a great opportunity to study a university course while they are still at school," USQ HeadStart Coordinator Nicole Klein said.

"As the students who are graduating have shown, it really helps students decide if university is for them, it also helps them to decide what they want to study.

"It is wonderful to see our first group of Head Starts graduate with their USQ degrees."

## Programs and Courses

### Sciences

### *Scientists in Schools program*

The Scientists in Schools Program, a CSIRO initiative, allows a scientist to work with a teacher in a flexible, professional partnership. There are more than 750 ongoing teacher-scientist partnerships across Australia, working together to support science teaching and learning in schools. In this partnership the scientist provides access to new ideas and adds fresh perspectives in science, whilst the teacher helps to see their work from a new angle and provides an insight into how the public perceives their work.

The partnership is tailored to suit class interests and provide access for school students to visit the scientists' workplace where scientists describe their career or the scientist can work with the teacher & students to develop a project or unit of work related to their research or area of expertise. The program can also support your school by providing tips about teaching and learning materials for use with students. Visit

<http://www.scientistsinschools.edu.au/index.htm> to find out more.

Dr Bernadette McCabe from the Department of Biological and Physical Sciences registered as a participant in September 2007 and was matched with Concordia College working with the Sciences Head of Department. Since this time she has made a number of visits to the school providing assistance to Yr 11 & 12 biology students on various topics. She has run a session in the school labs on 'Microbes in the environment' and presented a talk on 'Recombinant DNA technology in the synthesis of human insulin'. More recently she organised the Yr 12 biology class to visit the Departments biology teaching labs and ran an activity on 'Testing bacteria in foods' to complement the work the students were studying in class. The partnership continues outside the classroom and USQ labs with students and teacher alike emailing to ask technical questions and advice on projects. The experience from both partners has been a very positive one.

If you would like to become involved in this worthwhile program you can register online: Go to <http://www.scientistsinschools.edu.au/scientists/registration.htm>

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### *Inform your students about Nursing at USQ*

Nursing as a career will take you places. The Nursing and Midwifery Department at USQ are committed to recruiting, training and educating people to become registered nurses and midwives. We live in an ever changing world, yet the need for nurses will always remain high. A career in nursing allows graduates to make a significant and valuable contribution to the future of the Australian health care system. At USQ we harness our students' enthusiasm and through a supported program build contemporary nurses for the future.

Our students have the opportunity for clinical placements in hospitals locally, regionally and rurally giving breadth to their knowledge and skills. Our simulated ward environment offers students with real life clinical nursing situations, in a controlled learning environment.

If you have any students interested in pursuing a career in Nursing there are a few ways that they can have a chance to learn more about this industry:

- Attend the Nursing Student Experience Day on 4 June 2009 at the University's Toowoomba Campus or
- Complete a related course in Nursing via the HeadStart program. The program provides high achieving Year 11 and 12 students who have the capability, maturity and motivation

an opportunity to study a USQ nursing course prior to finishing high school. Interested students/ parents/ Guidance Officers are encourage to attend one of the information evenings to ask questions and talk to staff members from each Faculty. The evenings for the Semester 2 intake will be held at the USQ Toowoomba campus on Wednesday 20 May 2009 at 5:30pm in rooms T119 and T120. For further information please feel free to contact the Head Start Coordinator Nicole Klein on [klein@usq.edu.au](mailto:klein@usq.edu.au) or phone 1800 640 678.

## Business

### *School of Information Systems Year 10 ICT Day*

High Schools in the Toowoomba regional area are invited to nominate Year 10 students to participate in the School of Information Systems Year 10 ICT Day. Invitation letters for this event will be mailed out within the coming weeks. For further information please contact the Coordinator, Glen van der Vyver on (07) 4631 1292 or email [vandervy@usq.edu.au](mailto:vandervy@usq.edu.au) or Kris Casey, via phone (07) 4631 1243 or email [vaseyk@usq.edu.au](mailto:vaseyk@usq.edu.au).

## What's happening at our Campuses?

### Toowoomba

#### *Youth Leadership Programme inspires school leaders*



**The school leaders who attended the YLP**

For many school leaders the final year of their schooling lives can be a testing time as they try to balance their leadership responsibilities with their study.

In an effort to alleviate much of the stress that comes with school leadership, the University of Southern Queensland (USQ) last week held a Youth Leadership Programme, designed to give these students direction and inspire them in their last year of high school.

Run for the fifth time at the University, the conference allowed school leaders from across Toowoomba and South West Queensland to come together to participate in a series of leadership seminars and forums.

Coordinator of the program, Education Lecturer Susan Morgan said that the day had once again been highly successful.

'The day went really well and I think it was the best program that we have had here since we have been running these,' she said.

'All of the students that participated responded positively to the different seminars and forums that we held and I think they all got something out of today.'

Mrs Morgan added that the students responded particularly well to keynote speaker Dr John Dickson who she said really struck a chord with the delegates.

'Our expert speaker was great and his talk on humility and leadership received a really good response from the students.

'His presentation style was very powerful and the points that he was making regarding humility and leadership gave the students a different perspective on leadership.

'It was evident from the type of questions that were been asked in our forum following the Dr Dickson presentation that he had an impact on the students as many of their questions were very in depth.'

Although the bulk of the participants were from Toowoomba there were some schools that had travelled a great distance to take part in the program.

'We had students from the high schools in Toowoomba but also from schools that are hours from here,' Mrs Morgan said.

'There were eight students here from Charleville who travelled seven hours to be here for the day, which is a great reflection on the quality of the program that we run here at USQ.'

With a strong showing in 2009, the Youth Leadership Programme, which is an important part of the University's community engagement focus, looks set remain a permanent fixture for the regions high schools.

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*Student Experience Days 2009*

USQ Toowoomba is running their Faculty Student Experience Days again this year. Student Experience Days are a fantastic opportunity for students to experience a full day at USQ, exploring the faculty and programs that they may hope to study in the near future.

This year the Faculties of Business, Education, Engineering and Surveying and Sciences will be running a Student Experience Day. Each of these days will feature a program that involves attending real university tutorials, discovering in – depth and hands – on information about degree programs and a number of fun activities that will both excite and engage students.

If you would like further information regarding these days please contact Melanie Cavanough on (07) 46 312 653 or [Melanie.Cavanough@usq.edu.au](mailto:Melanie.Cavanough@usq.edu.au).

**Springfield**

*High schools take part in USQ Leadership Day*



Year 12 student leaders from the local area descended on USQ's Springfield campus recently for the 2009, USQ Youth Leadership Day.

More than 50 students from Ipswich and Brisbane schools attended the one-day event aimed at assisting senior students in becoming good leaders.

USQ Springfield Director Doug Fraser said the day helped school leaders inspire their peers and to represent their school with dignity.

'As part of the day, students heard from an inspiring story from successful 26 year old Leadership consultant Evan Donaldson,' Mr Fraser said.

'Evan began his first business at the age of 20, Capital Preservation Specialists, where he raised capital and traded shares and derivatives on the Australian Stock Exchange before closing the business and looking for a new direction and challenge.

'His past experiences served as a strong platform when he launched Ulturnit in December 2007.

'Ulturnit is a Brisbane based consultancy firm providing support to managers, directors and business owners in the areas of leadership, project management, business development and communication.

'He is currently completing an Arts/Law degree part-time with a focus on International Relations and the Laws of Armed Conflict.'

Mr Fraser said Evan was a powerful example of what hard work and initiative could achieve and a fantastic role model for the students.

'Evan spoke to them about his own story and leadership experiences as a student, business owner and traveller and some of the challenges he faced along the way.

'He was a very enthusiastic speaker and someone the students could really identify with, being a member of Generation Y himself.'

Mr Fraser said the students were also led through sessions on defining the qualities of a good leader and were led through sessions on practical leadership principles and effective communication strategies.

'The focus of the day was to develop good leadership skills with a focus on inclusiveness.

'USQ feels privileged to be able to host an event that helps students to realise their potential.'

Students from the following schools participated in Leadership Day; The Springfield College, Centenary State High School, Forest Lake State High School, St Mary's College, Glenala State High School, St Augustine's College, Bundamba State Secondary College and Canterbury College.

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*USQ Year 8-10 Careers Day*

Springfield Campus

The day is designed to aide students in their exploration of potential careers.

The day begins with a session on how to research possible career choices followed by 5 x 25 minute sessions that address the areas of Engineering, Business, Education, Arts and Psychology in a broad industry based context, opening students minds to the types of professions that are available to them and what they actually entail.

For further information please contact Carla Marangelli on 07 3470 4117 or [marangel@usq.edu.au](mailto:marangel@usq.edu.au)

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*USQ Year 11&12 Student Experience Day*

Springfield Campus

The day is designed to give Year 11 & 12 students the opportunity to investigate University study.

The day begins with a session on ‘What is life like at Uni?’ followed by students selecting 3 x 50 minutes sessions which they are interested in form the areas of Education: Psychology, Law, Business Engineering and Arts.

For further information please contact Carla Marangelli on 07 3470 4117 or [marangel@usq.edu.au](mailto:marangel@usq.edu.au)

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**Open Days 2009**

2009 is bringing about a new approach to our USQ Open Days. The day will now be more focused on creating relationships for our prospective students, through meeting lecturers and current students, creating an itinerary online for which sessions they would like to attend but there will still be plenty of activities for everyone to enjoy.

The dates and times for this year will be:

**Fraser Coast Campus** Sunday 2 August 10am – 2pm

**Toowoomba Campus** Sunday 16 August 10am – 3pm

**Digital Open Day** Monday 17 August

**Springfield Campus** Sunday 23 August 10am – 2pm

## Student Services Updates

### Centre for Australian Indigenous Knowledge's

#### *Let Your Indigenous Students Know of USQ Support*

The Nursing and Midwifery Department is fortunate enough to have on staff Lynn Stuart, an Indigenous Nursing Academic. Lynne will coordinate support measures to service the needs of all year 11 & 12 Indigenous students who may be interested in undertaking nursing as a career choice. These support measures include applying to the Nursing program via QTAC, assistance with Scholarship applications and provision of tutor support. Indigenous students who have an interest in becoming a Nurse or Midwife should contact Lynn via phone on (07) 46 312 972 or email, [stuart@usq.edu.au](mailto:stuart@usq.edu.au).

Lynne is also available to come to schools and speak with a group of Indigenous students interested in Nursing or a one on one basis with Guidance Officers or students to answer any queries. If you would like to do so please contact Melanie Cavanough (School Liaison Team) on (07) 46 312 653 or [Melanie.Cavanough@usq.edu.au](mailto:Melanie.Cavanough@usq.edu.au).

## Dates to Remember

Date	Campus	Event	Group Involved
8 & 9 May		National Careers and Employment Expo - Brisbane	Mature Age, Guidance Officers, Teachers and School Students
7 May – Fraser Coast 14 May – Springfield 15 May – Toowoomba	All Campuses	Guidance Officer Days	Guidance Officers
20 May 5:30pm – Toowoomba (Room T119 & T120) 27 May 6:30pm – Springfield (Room A6LR2) 27 May 6:00pm – Fraser Coast (Room	All Campuses	HeadStart Information Evenings	Guidance Officers, Parents and Students

C211)			
21 May	Springfield	Year 8 – 10 Careers Day	Year 8, 9 & 10
21 May	Toowoomba	Student Experience Day - Science	Year 11 & 12
22 May	Toowoomba	Student Experience Day - Business	Year 11 & 12
28 May	Toowoomba	Student Experience Day - Education	Year 11 & 12
28 May	Toowoomba	Student Experience Day – Engineering and Surveying	Year 11 & 12
28 May	Toowoomba	Student Experience Day – Psychology	Year 11 & 12
1 June	Springfield	Year 11 & 12 Student Experience Day	Year 11 & 12
4 June	Toowoomba	Student Experience Day - Nursing	Year 11 & 12
24 June	All Campuses	Closing Date for HeadStart applications Semester 2	Year 11 & 12
17 July	Toowoomba	Year 10 Information Systems Careers Day	Year 10
2 August – Fraser Coast 16 August – Toowoomba 17 August – Digital 23 August - Springfield	All Campuses	Open Days	Prospective Students

## Receiving GO News

If you know somebody else who is interested in receiving a link to GO News by email, ask them to register their email address with [Melanie.Cavanough@usq.edu.au](mailto:Melanie.Cavanough@usq.edu.au).

If you wish to unsubscribe, just send an email and we will take you off the list. Please feel free to forward this newsletter on to anybody you know or to copy and past any of the content for your school newsletter.

## About This Newsletter

**Edition:** 2 2009

**Audience:** All local and regional Guidance Officers

**Created By:** Melanie Cavanough

## Previous Editions of GO News

Previous editions of GO News are available from the Teachers and Career Advisors section of the Future Students pages on the USQ website.