

## HELLO FROM MARGO

It has been a great couple of weeks with USQ events ranging from *Taste of Science* to the *Day with Music*. We have travelled from Emerald to Coffs Harbour with Career Expos and attended TSXPO. The opportunity to see thousands of students and hundreds of Guidance Officers and Careers Advisors along the way is invaluable.



Last but not least our three Open Days. This year we included a Battle of the Bands at Wide Bay and Springfield and a free rock concert featuring the popular band Youth Group at the Toowoomba campus. *See picture on the left for proof of the fact that I kept very cool, calm and collected during these hectic times....!*

Students and parents asked many questions from students and parents, and although we tried our best to answer them all, I am sure that more questions will come up in the weeks. As you will probably be their first point of contact, we have included a variety of topics in this newsletter that will assist you with that important task.

Information on:

- ✓ Scholarships
- ✓ New programs on offer at USQ Springfield
- ✓ Student Accommodation
- ✓ Gaming and Creative Technologies

to name a few!

In the last Term of the school year, the School Liaison Team is keen to visit your year 10 and year 11 students and take the opportunity to show them our brand new video "Studying at USQ". This video covers student life across USQ's three campuses.

Also the Head Start information sessions will be held at our three campuses (see Up and Coming Events section), and information will be mailed out to you early October. To get to the Head Start information on the web, please click [here](#).

Hope to see you at one of the upcoming events, or catch you by phone or email.  
Margo Baas

## FEATURES

### Scholarships at a glance

More than 100 scholarships are available to assist school leavers with study expenses at USQ in 2007.

Scholarships are offered to outstanding students who have demonstrated academic excellence, leadership and participation in the wider community as well as students affected by financial hardship.

First-year student Rudi Meyer said winning an Engineering and Surveying Scholarship had been a big help. "I had quite a few textbooks to buy so it was great to get the scholarship," Rudi said. "It was funny the day I got the scholarship I was unusually excited. We were driving home from town and stopped to get the mail and there was the letter. It was fantastic!" Rudi said he would encourage all prospective students to put in an application form. "It's a very good idea, everyone should apply. You never know – you just might get one."

There are a number of USQ-wide prizes such as the Chancellor's Scholarship and Year 12 Student Scholarship as well as faculty-specific scholarships.

Students can apply for more than one scholarship, however, they need to send in one application for each scholarship they apply for. It is ok to make photocopies of your application and supporting documents, as long as you provide a copy for each.

The closing date for USQ Scholarship applications is Friday, October 27 2006.

The Commonwealth Learning Scholarships (CLS) Program is to assist rural and regional, low socio-economic and Indigenous students, who are Australian citizens or holders of permanent humanitarian visas, with costs associated with higher education.

- Commonwealth Accommodation Scholarships (CAS) of \$4,161 per year for up to four years, indexed annually, for accommodation costs.
- Commonwealth Education Costs Scholarships (CECS) of \$2,080 per year for up to four years, indexed annually, for educational costs.

Applications for Commonwealth Learning Scholarships (CECS & CAS) have closed for 2006. They will be readvertised in March 2007.

Note: Except for the School Partners Program Scholarship, students will not be able to keep the scholarship if they defer their studies.

For more information and to download an application form please visit [www.usq.edu.au/scholarships](http://www.usq.edu.au/scholarships).

## Take a tour

### Campus Tours

The University of Southern Queensland (Toowoomba Campus) is now running campus tours twice a month for prospective students.

The tours will allow people to see the campus facilities and have their questions answered at the same time.

Highlights of the tours include:

- Japanese Gardens
- Teaching Facilities
- Residential Colleges
- Refectory
- Clive Berghofer Recreation Centre
- USQ Performing Arts Centre and
- USQ Club

People in need of some career advice may wish to attend a drop in session at Student Services on the day of their tour.

Drop in sessions run from 10-11am and 2-3pm Monday to Friday. Sessions run for about ten minutes and allow the Student Services team to assess student needs and determine if further appointments are needed.

The dates for tours are: September 6 & 21, October 11 & 31, November 2 & 29, December 1 & 14 and January 16 & 25.

All tours run from 4:30pm – 5:30pm and can be booked by [clicking here](#) and following the links.

Group bookings for schools will continue by request. For school group bookings please email [marketing@usq.edu.au](mailto:marketing@usq.edu.au).

## Student Accommodation

### Toowoomba

#### Residential Colleges

For students straight out of High School, the transition from Secondary to Tertiary Education is sometimes a daunting prospect. This transition is made more complicated by the steps of moving out of home, finding somewhere to live, learning how to deal with rent, bond, utilities, self-catering, inspections, maintenance... the list goes on.

This is where Residential Colleges step in. For students straight out of High School Colleges offer a particularly attractive option in accommodation while studying at USQ.

There are three colleges at USQ: McGregor, Steele Rudd and Concannon Colleges. McGregor has 197 rooms, Steele Rudd 131, and Concannon 102.

Rooms are split between ensuite rooms, shared bathrooms, and dormitory style accommodation.

Each of the three Colleges offers three meals a day, internet access through USQ's servers, cleaning services and fresh linen once a week, academic and pastoral support systems, and most importantly a lifestyle that draws new students out of their shell, provides numerous opportunities for social interaction while encouraging and supporting academic achievement. All utilities and services are included in the one rate.

The colleges are an exciting place to live. Every year the Resident Student Club organises several events, ranging from formal dinners to large scale parties. They also handle the Residential Shield, a series of sporting and cultural competitions between the three colleges.



## PROGRAMS AND COURSES

### Update on Programs offered at USQ Springfield for 2007

After a very successful year so far, we are expanding the range of programs on offer at our new Springfield Campus.

From 2007, USQ Springfield will be adding a Bachelor of Applied Media (BAM), QTAC code 929651 and a Bachelor of Engineering Technology in Civil Engineering (BET), QTAC code 927902, and a Bachelor of Psychology in Business, QTAC code 926851, to its suite of programs.

BAM Program Coordinator, Daryl Sparkes said it will be a first for Queensland. "The BAM will be the first media course in Queensland focusing only on television and radio broadcasting," Mr Sparkes said.

"We decided to introduce the uniquely hands-on course after industry groups stated that Universities were not producing graduates with current practical skills in the media industries."

"All our subjects are centred on teaching practical vocational skills which students use to produce their own radio and television programs and we are soon to have our own FM radio licence as well as a television output deal with Briz 31."

BET Program Coordinator, Associate Professor Ron Ayres said the BET program was also developed to meet industry needs.

"Civil Engineering has been identified as an area where there is a shortfall," he said.

"It is predicted that in Southeast Queensland over the next 20 years \$66 billion worth of infrastructure will be put in place, all of which requires civil engineering design and civil construction input.

"Government Departments and private companies are all crying out for skilled personnel in this area and the Bachelor of Engineering Technology will go some way in meeting that need."

Associate Dean of Sciences at USQ Springfield, Associate Professor Gerry Tehan said the new Psychology program was designed to provide training in two disciplines within the one degree.

"Multi-skilled employees are essential in today's workplace and it is not surprising to find professionals who hold degrees in two different disciplines.

"Census data indicates that in education, property and business services, government administration, and other business areas large numbers of people with training in either psychology or human resource management are employed.

"The Bachelor of Psychology in Business is designed to fast track learning in these two high demand areas."

Programs which are currently offered at USQ Springfield include a Bachelor of Psychology (Honours), a Bachelor of Education (Primary and Middle Schooling), a Bachelor of Business, Bachelor of Commerce, Bachelor of Business Administration and a double degree in Business and Commerce.

To find out more about intensive mode and programs offered at USQ Springfield visit [www.usq.edu.au/springfield](http://www.usq.edu.au/springfield), email [studyspringfield@usq.edu.au](mailto:studyspringfield@usq.edu.au) or call 1800 269 500.

### Gaming and Creative Technology

#### IT Degrees are all Fun and Games.....



Have you noticed how many young people can't get their eyes off the TV, and won't put down the game controller? Before you dismiss it, take a second look.

In 2004 videogames made more money than the entire combined Hollywood box office – a sure sign that the future of entertainment is coming more and more to lie in the domain of the interactive.

Furthermore, with many games development studios opening up in Australia, it is clear that there are opportunities for well-trained Information Technology specialists to gain employment in this lucrative industry.

USQ's Bachelor of Information Technology (Games and Creative Technologies) is a tailor made course to meet the needs of the competitive industry.

While programming code is at the heart of creating games, and indeed at the heart of most Information Technology, it is becoming more and more necessary to specialise in order to pierce the market and gain employment. That is why this degree was introduced – so that USQ could create graduates with the necessary skills to compete in the Video Games industry.

The Games and Creative Technologies major prepares students for a vocation as a games programmer concentrating on the essential core game programming skills including mathematics, physics and C++ programming using industry standard techniques, software and the opportunity to produce a high standard portfolio of their work to present to future employers.

The opportunity to double major in the Information Technology degree means students also have the option of combining Games and Creative Technologies with study areas such as Applied Computer Science, Computer Software Development, Computer Systems Engineering, Net Technologies, Information Technology Management

## UP AND COMING EVENTS

### September

6 September	Toowoomba	Accelerated Biomedical Science Program Info Session	Heads of Science and GO's
12 and 13 September	Springfield	Bachelor of Applied Media Information Session (3.30PM and 5.30PM both days)	Teachers and students

### October

16 October	Toowoomba	Accelerated Biomedical Science Program Info Session	Interested Year 10 students and parents
18 October	Wide Bay	Head Start Program Info Session	Year 11 students and parents
23 October	Springfield	Head Start Program Info Session	Year 11 students and parents
25 October	Toowoomba	Head Start Program Info Session	Year 11 students and parents

To see the full list of upcoming events at USQ, please [click here](#).

## GO RESOURCES

### Online resources for students and career advisors

- <http://www.myfuture.edu.au> - Career opportunities website with interactive career exploration activities
- <http://www.jobsearch.gov.au> - Contains extensive resources and links to job vacancies, job outlooks, labour market trends, self employment, resume builder and more.
- <http://www.jobguide.thegoodguides.com.au> - Provides job descriptions and information on education and training pathways. Info on deciding career based on abilities and interests. Help on job searching and useful government contact information.
- <http://www.dest.gov.au/schools/careers/YourCareer.PDF> - Developing your career plan – future directions.
- <http://www.goingtouni.gov.au> - Provides links to all Australian universities
- <http://www.year12whatnext.gov.au> - Help on deciding what to do after year 12
- <http://jobjuice.gov.au/default.htm> - Job hunting tips for school leavers
- <http://smh.com.au/articles/2006/04/03/1143916436607.html> - Article on employment rise for IT graduates.

### Receiving GO News

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

If you want to unsubscribe, just send an email to the same address with Unsubscribe GO News in the subject line. Please feel free to forward this newsletter on to anybody you know or to copy & paste any of the content for your school newsletter.