

Integrated Articulation and Credit Transfer Project

Completion of Phase 2

2009 has been productive for the Integrated Articulation and Credit Transfer Project. The Project Team is pleased to report that Phase 2 has been completed and work is currently being undertaken in preparation for Phase 3 which will commence early in 2010. Please refer to page 3 for further information.

Literature Review

The Project Team has undertaken a wide-ranging assessment of documents and literature pertinent to articulation and credit transfer. These include research reports, conference papers, policy statements past and present, and both national and international models of articulation and credit transfer.

The documents have been discussed in themes emerging from the literature, such as the rationale for articulation and credit transfer, and enablers of and impediments to credit transfer. The Literature Review will be a 'work in progress' for the life of the project.

The Literature Review can be viewed at:
<http://www.usq.edu.au/iactproject/articles>

Interviews on Articulation and Credit Transfer

During October and November 2009, the Project Team embarked on a research consultation process which included semi-structured interviews with a sample of higher education and training providers in Queensland. This research was to investigate current knowledge and attitudes about articulation and credit transfer,

and in particular, gather information and evidence about the practice of articulation across the higher education and VET sectors.

The interviews sought feedback about three important areas of articulation: Partnerships, Articulation Models and Transition Issues. The Partnership questions included what job roles were responsible for the formation of partnerships, how they are formed and what makes them successful.

Questions about articulation models sought clarification about the models more commonly used, the percentage of credit transfer used in articulation models, and to determine other models that exist to facilitate seamless articulation for students. The third major theme was around student transition and what issues exist, especially for articulating students and what problems if any, this poses for education and training providers.

Representatives from all Queensland universities including Southern Cross University, all Queensland TAFE institutes and a selection of private VET providers were invited to participate in the interview process. Thirty-two interviews were conducted over a 6-week period.

The interviews confirmed some theories, defined attitudes and perspectives, and provided some interesting insights into the practices and processes associated with articulation and credit transfer and the formation of partnerships within the institutions interviewed. Data from the interviews are currently being collated and a full report will be developed that will highlight the findings across the three research areas.

We look forward to sharing these through our newsletter early in 2010.

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Industry Consultations

The IACT Project is seeking industry input as a first priority in the development of articulation pathways between the higher education and VET sectors. Consultation to date with a number of industry representatives has indicated that articulation pathways are viewed by industry as integral to the sustainability of their workforce and providing opportunities for their existing workforce to up-skill through education and training.

A key outcome of the IACT project will be the development of industry-driven articulation pathways that not only target skill shortage areas, but also contribute significantly to the sustainability of the industry's future workforce. The IACT Project will explore the potential role of key industry stakeholders and professional organisations in the development, endorsement and promotion of new articulation pathways.

The IACT Project Team welcomes contact from industry representatives, as well as VET and higher education providers who are interested in providing input to this part of the project research.

Project Website

The Project Team has developed a website which outlines a number of details about the project. Information is available regarding:

- Articles and Publications
- Background and Aims
- Complementary Research

- Communication Updates
- Project Governance
- Project Partners
- TAFE Pathways

The website will be updated on a regular basis and can be viewed at:

www.usq.edu.au/iactproject.

Additionally you can contact the Project Team via email at articulation.project@usq.edu.au if you have any queries regarding the website or the project itself.

Project Contacts

We will ensure that we keep you up to date with progress through regular briefs during the project. For further information, please do not hesitate to contact the Project Managers:

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