



Welcome to the March 2008 edition of LTSU Alert, produced by USQ's Learning and Teaching Support Unit (LTSU). The aim of LTSU Alert is to disseminate news, information and events relating to learning and teaching – both in Australia and internationally.

LTSU welcomes new staff

Kyla Newman is the Personal Assistant to the PVC (Learning and Teaching) and Director, LTSU. Kyla previously worked in the Faculty of Education as well as holding administrative positions outside the University in Australia, UK and Canada.

<http://apps.usq.edu.au/usqwebsite/aspnet/staffsearch/default.aspx?action=newmank>

Dr Sara Hammer is a Learning and Teaching Designer supporting the Faculty of Arts and is the key resource person for graduate qualities. Her research interests include graduate qualities and skills, learning and teaching in higher education and change management in higher education.

<http://apps.usq.edu.au/usqwebsite/aspnet/staffsearch/default.aspx?staffsearchaction=showdetails&staffsearchusername=hammers>

Dr Shirley Reushle has taken up a 0.5 position as Senior Project Officer, Program Revitalisation Project for 18 months. The role involves designing and developing a series of self-paced, online modules (40hrs per module) for USQ staff and others in key areas of learning and teaching (e.g. assessment, learning design, teaching strategies) and can be completed as part of the Graduate Certificate in Tertiary Teaching and Learning. These modules will also be offered through the USQ Open Courseware web site.

<http://apps.usq.edu.au/usqwebsite/aspnet/staffsearch/default.aspx?action=reushle>

Ms Christie White is the Project Manager for the Teaching Excellence Project - one of the key components of the *USQ Learning & Teaching Plan 2007-2012*. This new position has been funded by a Carrick Grant that USQ received at the end of 2007 under the Promoting Excellence Initiative. The role is to coordinate USQ's partnership with the Carrick Institute and their associated programs and projects, providing support to staff who wish to engage in Carrick's learning and teaching initiatives. Together with the teaching excellence that is demonstrated throughout USQ, this position aims to build the University's capacity to raise its learning and teaching profile through supporting staff in their endeavours to receive grants, awards and recognition both internally and nationally.

<http://apps.usq.edu.au/usqwebsite/aspnet/staffsearch/default.aspx?action=whitech>

Ascilite Awards

Ascilite Awards are designed to reward leaders in the exemplary use of electronic technologies in teaching and learning in tertiary education. Nominations for these awards are due by 29 August 2008. More information http://www.ascilite.org.au/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=20&Itemid=36

Carrick Communique

The Carrick Institute's March edition of Carrick Communique is now available for viewing. http://www.carrickinstitute.edu.au/carrick/webdav/site/carricksite/users/siteadmin/public/carrick_communique_mar08.pdf

Highlights include articles on:

- Carrick funded project by the University of Canberra - Digital Learning Communities
- Promotion of the Carrick Fellowship Program
- Snapshot of some 2007 Carrick Citation winners and their tips for successful applications
- Australian Council of Deans of ICT
- Promotion of Carrick's project evaluation resource.

Effective practices in online learning

The SLOAN-C site contains some interesting examples of innovative practices in online learning and teaching environments. A framework of five guiding principles known as the pillars—learning effectiveness, cost effectiveness and institutional commitment, access, and faculty and student satisfaction— helps communicate how quality, scale and breadth develop. http://www.sloan-c-wiki.org/wiki/index.php?title=Effective_Practices

Graduate careers news

What are employers looking for in our graduates?

Interpersonal and communication skills, critical reasoning and analytical skills and passion/industry knowledge are key selection criteria used by employers when recruiting new graduates, according to Graduate Careers Australia's *2007 Graduate Outlook Survey* of graduate recruiters. For more information on key selection criteria for recruiting graduates by employers see [Snapshot of Graduate Outlook 2007](#).

What and where are Australian graduates in 2007?

The initial national results of the 2007 Australian Graduate Survey (AGS) show that employment prospects for new bachelor degree graduates are the strongest since 1990. For more information on work, salaries, study and course satisfaction, see [2007 Graduates at a glance](#).

The Royal Society Report – 'A higher degree of concern'

This report focuses on the future supply and demand of graduates in science, technology and mathematics in UK. It outlines the decline in the number of UK students taking core science and engineering subjects at postgraduate level and expresses concerns about the future

strength of these subjects in the Higher Education system.

<http://royalsociety.org/document.asp?tip=1&id=7403>

Free content from more than 2,000 journals

In a move to encourage open education, MIT OpenCourseWare (OCW) and Elsevier have agreed to make available figures and text selections from any of Elsevier's more than 2,000 journal titles for use on OCW. As a result of this landmark agreement, select Elsevier content can now be included within the open access OCW course materials - to be freely downloaded, used and shared under a Creative Commons license.

<http://url.edna.edu.au/syD4>

Learning and Teaching Books, Journals and Other Resources

New Learning and Teaching Books

Research Design: Qualitative, Quantitative, and Mixed Methods Approaches

John W Creswell – refer to <http://www.sagepub.com/booksProdDesc.nav?prodId=Book232401>

Research Design, Third Edition appeals to students taking research design and research methods classes throughout the social and behavioural sciences—from undergraduates to the most advanced doctoral programs

Contemporary Approaches to Research on Learning Environments

Worldviews

edited by Darrell Fisher (Curtin University of Technology, Australia) & Myint Swe Khine (Murdoch University, Australia)

<http://www.worldscibooks.com/socialsci/5946.html>

Balancing Dilemmas in Assessment and Learning in Contemporary Education

Editors - Anton Havnes, Liz McDowell – refer to

<http://www.routledge.co.uk/9780415955843>

Learning and Teaching Journals

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

Australasian Journal of Peer Learning

The Australasian Journal of Peer Learning is a new enterprise produced in collaboration between the PASS National Centre at the University of Wollongong, the Teaching and Learning Unit at The University of Melbourne, and members of the PASS community.

More information <http://www.uow.edu.au/student/services/pass/UOW042497.html>

Research and Practice in Technology Enhanced Learning (RPTeL)

RPTeL is a multidisciplinary refereed journal devoted to disseminating rigorous research on all aspects of the use of technology to enhance learning.

<http://www.worldscinet.com/rptel/>

Journal of Interactive Learning Research Vol. 19, No. 2 (April 2008)

Latest issue is now available at http://www.editlib.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=Reader.TOC&volume=19&issue=2&source_code=JILR

SAGE Education Journals

Free online trial to Education Journals from SAGE. Free trial ends 30 April. [Register now.](#)

The following online journals, may be read in their entirety at these websites:

AACE Journal: <http://www.aace.org/pubs/aacej>

CITE Journal: <http://www.citejournal.org>

Other Learning and Teaching Resources

JISC podcast "Find your way around e-Assessment" is now available online to download. The podcast explores the issue of assessment and introduces some examples of available information. <http://www.jisc.ac.uk/news/stories/2008/02/podcast32assessment.aspx>

Learning and Teaching Conferences**Escalate/ESRC/CRLI supported conference**

The Teaching – Research Interface: Implications for Practice in HE and FE
29 – 30 April
University of Stirling
Scotland
More information - escalate@stir.ac.uk

2008 conference themes include:

- Widening participation (progression and retention) including the role of HE and FE
- Technology enhanced learning
- Contexts of learning
- Research-teaching linkages

2008 DEANZ Conference

My Place, My Space, My Learning - Distance and Virtual Education
17 – 20 August
Te Papa Tongarewa
Museum of New Zealand Wellington

My Place (Distance) Focus on issues associated with the geographic and physical separation of learner(s) and teacher(s) - distribution of resources, student support, and issues of time (zones).

My Space (Virtual) Focus is on the use of online environments, synchronous and asynchronous tools and Web2.0 applications as "spaces" for learning. Also the emergence of Personal Learning Environments (PLEs), along with conventional LMS and VLE applications are a focus.

My Learning (Education) Focusing on issues of pedagogy and learning theory, curriculum, and learning design. This includes formal and informal learning as well as issues of quality and personalising learning.

The submission deadline for papers and workshops is 30 July 2008. Details about each kind of presentation and publication format are available on the Conference's website

<http://www.deanz.org.nz/conf2008/> .

Lifelong Learning Conference 2008
Reflecting on Successes and Framing Futures

Ryldges Capricorn Resort

Yeppoon, Queensland

16 – 19 June 2008

<http://lifelonglearning.cqu.edu.au/2008/>

HERDSA 2008

1 – 4 July 2008

Rotorua, New Zealand

<http://conference.herdsa.org.au/2008/registration.cfm>

AUQF2008

9 – 11 July 2008

Canberra, ACT

<http://www.auqa.edu.au/auqf/2008/contributions/index.htm>

16th Improving Student Learning Symposium
IMPROVING STUDENT LEARNING - THROUGH THE CURRICULUM

1-3 September 2008

University of Durham, Durham, UK

<http://www.brookes.ac.uk/services/ocslid/isl/isl2008/>

Open Access and Research Conference 2008

24 September - 25 September 2008

Stamford Plaza, Brisbane, Australia

www.oar2008.qut.edu.au

WACE Asia Pacific Conference - Work Integrated Learning (WIL): Transforming Futures. Practice...Pedagogy...Partnerships

Hosted by the Australian Collaborative Education Network (ACEN)

29 September – 3 October 2008

Manly, Sydney

<http://www.acen.edu.au/>

About this Newsletter

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Previous Editions

Previous editions of the LTSU Alert are available from the [LTSU website](#).