

# The first meeting

## What is the purpose?

The first meeting is critically important. It is a chance for interested alumni to get to know each other and build rapport. It is also a chance to identify skills, interests and resources that various members have. By the end of the meeting you should have a clear idea of what the chapter will be about, an interim committee who will guide the chapter through the approval process and a completed *USQ New Chapter Application Form*.

# Some planning tips

- Communicate with each other for suggestions on the most convenient time for a meeting, such as lunchtime or evening, weekday or weekend, etc and select the option that suits most people.
- Set an agenda in advance and distribute it prior to the meeting, especially if you require input from those attending.
- Let people know if there is a cost involved, such as if the meeting is held in a restaurant or cafe.
- Tell the Alumni & Advancement Office of the meeting time at least 10 working days in advance so alumni on the USQ database can also be invited.
- Have a sign-in sheet at the door so attendees can leave their name and contact details.
- Allow at least 10-15 minutes of social time at the start of the meeting so members can get to know each other.

### **Discussions and decisions**

The following items may be discussed or decided at the first meeting:

- chapter name
- types of activities
- appointment of a temporary committee
- date and location of the next meeting
- some ideas about funding chapter activities, such as whether or not to charge membership fees
- USQ New Chapter Application Form.

#### Talk to us

If you require any further information or any assistance, contact the Alumni & Advancement Office via email <a href="mailto:alumni@usq.edu.au">alumni@usq.edu.au</a>