Connecting Community

Calendar of Events

September
17  Next Generation Rural Leaders’ Network Participant and Mentor Dinner
18  Handbury Fellowship Applications Close

Handbury Fellowship Program

Submissions close 18 September 2009

The Handbury Fellowship Program is a community-university partnership scholarship fund that provides financial support to the Western Victoria community region, in partnership with RMIT University staff or students to undertake projects that provide a direct and tangible benefit towards the sustainability of the region and surrounds.

Sustainable development may include any one or a combination of economic, social, cultural, educational or environmental benefits. Projects that develop an ongoing partnership between RMIT University staff and/or student(s) and the region community are particularly encouraged. For the purposes of our definition, ‘community’ is not defined exclusively by geographic region, but also includes communities of interest, occupation, history, language, and others.

Recipients of the Fellowship are required to provide a written report on the project outcomes within one month of the agreed completion date, as well as present their findings at any appropriate public forums or as related to the outcomes of the project.

For more information, please phone 03 5572 0500, or email Cicely Fenton, at cicely.fenton@rmit.edu.au, or Terrie Nicholson at terrie.nicholson@rmit.edu.au.

Application information and forms can be found at:
www.rmit.edu.au/globalism/communityformation/handburyfellowship

L4YP

Landscapes for Young People

The Landscapes for Young People in Glenelg and Southern Grampians Shires (L4YP) will teach participants to work with peers, local government and professionals, to develop local solutions to local problems, and encourages innovative ideas in areas of interest to young people.

Project staff are currently consulting with stakeholders and are seeking expressions of interest from young people, community youth groups and those who work with young people. Community members are invited to contribute knowledge and skills to the project.

To find out more, or register your interest, contact Sarah Stephens, RMIT Research Officer, on 55720 504, or email sarah.stephens@rmit.edu.au.

Young Entrepreneurs Program

Program update

During August, RMIT University Hamilton hosted a workshop for stakeholders from local business, the Southern Grampians Shire and those keen to assist with the Young Entrepreneurs Program.

Numerous ideas were explored, which will be used to inform the next phase of the program, including the development of course content and program structure.

The program is open to local youth and will:
- Encourage local youth to think about starting a business
- Provide information on technical skills necessary to start a business
- Offer networking opportunities with likeminded peers; and
- Champion community support and mentoring for program participants

The program is supported by Southern Grampians Shire Council, the Hamilton Regional Business Association and other organisations interested in regional youth, their future and the local community.

For more information phone Garth Benneyworth on 03 5572 0503, or email garth.benneyworth@rmit.edu.au.

**Next Generation: Rural Leaders’ Network**

**Program to commence**

Participants have been selected and notified, with up and coming rural leaders set to embark on a nine month community of practice program, which will improve the leadership and representative capacity of the region’s rural youth.

Selected participants come from a range of agriculture, natural resource management and agri-business sectors, and will meet for the first time on 17 September, 2009.

If you are interested in offering your expertise to the program, in a mentoring capacity, or other, or for program information, contact Jessica Still, on 03 5572 0533, or email jessica.still@rmit.edu.au.

**Bachelor of Nursing Update**

Bachelor of Nursing students are half way through second semester, with third year students commencing the process of applying to graduate and applying for registration with the Nurses Board of Victoria. They are also working to submit applications for prospective employment with facilities of their choice.

The annual Bachelor of Nursing Information Evening was a great success. Attendees were very positive about the course and prospective student enquiries demonstrate a high degree of interest in the 2010 intake. Professor Eleanor Holroyd welcomed attendees and Mr Ian Mcgrath, the Bachelor of Nursing Program Leader, provided an overview of course requirements.

Within the classroom, simulation activities have become an integral part of learning, with students practising scenarios in the laboratory with real people acting as patients. This form of learning reinforces the 'human face of nursing' when dealing with vulnerable people, as well as the continuous application of evidence based scientific knowledge to their practice.

**Developing Effective School-Community Learning Partnerships for Sustainability (SCLPfS)**

**Local research for national project**

On Friday 11 September Dr. Jose Roberto Guevara, Senior Lecturer, School of Global Studies, Social Science & Planning, Dr. Leone Wheeler and Marilyn Lyons travelled to Port Fairy Consolidated School and Hawkesdale P-12 College to research environmental, economic and social benefits obtained from school-community learning partnerships for sustainability.

The research will result in case stories of what schools are already doing and the production of a capacity building guidebook to assist other schools to develop effective partnerships for sustainability.

**Invigilation Services @ RMIT Hamilton**

RMIT University Hamilton offers a professional invigilation service to people studying TAFE and University courses through other education providers.

To discuss your exam supervision requirements, contact Leanne Cottrill on 03 5572 0500, or email leanne.cottrill@rmit.edu.au.

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**Research in Regional Development:**
Dr Paul Collits, at paul.collits@rmit.edu.au or Tel: 5572 0537.

**Nursing and Midwifery:**
Kerry McMullan at kerry.mcmullan@rmit.edu.au or Tel: 5572 0551.

**Community Engagement:**
Dr Kaye Schofield at kaye.schofield@rmit.edu.au or Tel: 5572 0501.

**Short Course Programs:**
Marilyn Lyons at marilyn.lyons@rmit.edu.au or Tel: 5572 0502.

**Local – Global Program:**
Terrie Nicholson at terrie.nicholson@rmit.edu.au or Tel: 5572 0549.

**General Enquiries and Student Support:**
Leanne Cottrill at leanne.cottrill@rmit.edu.au or Tel: 5572 0500.

**To register for e-NEWS, or for general media enquiries:**
Rachel McDonald at rachel.mcdonald@rmit.edu.au or Tel: 5572 0505.