What's On Calendar

September
3            Research Day

October
16           Community Forum

Open Evening – Bachelor of Nursing Program

RMIT University Hamilton held an Open Evening for prospective students that showcased the Bachelor of Nursing program in late August.

Staff were excited to have approximately 60 prospective students and their friends attended the evening to find out more about life as a student at RMIT University Hamilton and details of the Bachelor of Nursing program.

The prospective students, a mix of school leavers and mature age, were shown a DVD about RMIT that showed how well established and large RMIT is. It also showed how RMIT is now a global university with programs and campuses in other countries.

They were also told of the benefits of studying at the rural Centre, with small class sizes, ability to live at home and easy access to computers and staff being the most popular.

Prospective students were then able to ask questions of current students about clinical, coping with family life, financial costs involved and more. They also had a tour of the state-of-the-art facilities and a demonstration of current equipment.

The Open Evening cemented the idea of applying for a position in the Bachelor of Nursing program at RMIT University Hamilton for many of the prospective students that attended.

Award for local researcher

Dr Paul Collits, Research Fellow with the Regional Development Program at RMIT University Hamilton has been recently awarded an $8,000 grant from the RMIT Emerging Researcher Grant Scheme.

Dr Collits was awarded the grant for a research project entitled The Heartland Project.

This project aims to establish a collaborative research network of Australian and American rural/regional development researchers who will investigate the key drivers of rural community survival and decline in "Heartland" regions in the two countries.

The grant will allow Dr Collits to travel and undertake a three week study tour to the United States of America in November.

It will also allow Dr Collits to employ a Research Assistant to investigate demographic changes in the Southern Grampians Shire, in particular, what motivates people to move people into Shire and what motivates people to leave the Shire.

Dr Collits’ study tour will see him visiting Nebraska, Missouri and Kansas where similar studies on population movement have been undertaken.

He will also look at building a collaborative research project to look at the similarities and differences of population movement in Australian and North American rural communities.

The Heartland Project will finish in mid 2009, after which, Dr Collits will present his findings.

RMIT Hamilton Research Day

RMIT University is holding its research day at the Hamilton Centre on Wednesday 3 September 2008. This is an important annual event in the life of the University and an opportunity to both showcase current research activities and to explore opportunities for future research with local stakeholders.

Senior University staff will be present for the day, along with local industry, government and community representatives.

The day will commence with an overview of local research currently underway at RMIT University in Hamilton, and will follow with themed workshops on research planning in the afternoon.

The morning sessions will include presentations on the 10MMM Young People, Technology and Social Relationships project, the Lake Condah Learning Centre development, the OtherWise Youth Leadership for Sustainable Communities project and the Building on the Potter Farmland legacy project.

The afternoon sessions will provide local stakeholders with an opportunity to help RMIT researchers to develop projects of direct relevance to the region. The key areas of focus will be natural resource management, economic development, health, ageing and social development and youth and education.

The research day is an important initiative and an opportunity to build on the close relationships already developed between the University and the community.

The University is keen to share the findings of research already undertaken and to engage the local community in potentially exciting future projects.

The RMIT Hamilton Research Day will be held on September 3 2008. For more information, contact Shelagh Krummel on 5572 0532.
Community Forum

Date for your diary:
Please note that the next Community Forum with guest speakers Gordon Forth and Trevor Budge will be held:

Thursday, 16 October 2008, 5.30pm to 7.00pm
RMIT University, 200 Ballarat Road, Hamilton

For more information or to RSVP, contact
tel: 5572 0500 or email rmithamilton@rmit.edu.au

Australian Learning and Teaching Council (ALTC) 2008 Citations

RMIT University has emerged as Victoria’s top university in the Australian Learning and Teaching Councils Citations for Outstanding Contributions to Student Learning Awards, receiving a total of nine citations.

Citations are granted to people who have made a significant contribution to the quality of student learning in higher education in a specific area of responsibility over a sustained period, whether they are academic staff, general staff, sessional staff or institutional associates.

The RMIT winners associated with Hamilton were:

Lee Anton-Hem from the School of Medical Sciences for developing and applying approaches to teaching that inspire excellence, passion, enthusiasm, cater for individuality, and which provide positive modelling for undergraduate physical education teachers.

Dr Danilla Grando from the School of Applied Sciences for innovative coursework development that fosters engagement, excitement and enables students to build self-confidence, industry readiness and team-work skills.

Computers for sale

RMIT University Hamilton have a number of old Compaq computers that have been made available to sell. These computers come complete with hard-drive, screen, mouse and keyboard.

With 20 computers to sell priced at $100 each, they are expected to go quickly and will be sold on a ‘first-in’ basis.

For further information on the specifications of the computers, or to arrange to purchase one, please contact James Kruger, IT Technical Officer on 5572 0506.

Anderson Training Services on site

The small bungalows being built at the rear of the RMIT property by a group of apprentices who are training with Anderson Training Services Building Skills Centre, are quickly taking shape.

This company are renting RMIT space to train local apprentices in building, plastering and painting.

Once completed, they intend to sell one of the bungalows and donate the other to a local charity.