**RMIT University Hamilton**

In 2007 we have once again achieved a great deal together, in teaching, research and community engagement. A particular highlight was the Research Seminar in Melbourne which was a partnership with the Southern Grampians Shire. This gave both parties an opportunity to showcase business and research opportunities.

Our Community Advisory Committee provided advice on a range of issues - especially education. In addition, we announced a further four Handbury Fellowships, published a second edition of the Local-Global International Journal (Hamilton region), received further funding for the Potter Project and continued the 10MMM research program.

Our nursing team continued a high level of service to our rural nursing students and introduced postgraduate programs. We introduced a biannual Hamilton Course Guide advertising our activities to the community.

Our Community forums were held throughout the year and provided stimulating conversations on issues such as globalisation, natural textiles, the nuclear threat and the changing face of media. Our staff have made significant contributions to various committees, in particular the LLEN, Southern Grampians Youth Network and Go for Your Life.

Our ITS team upgraded our video conferencing facilities, and Property Services continued to maintain our grounds in excellent order.

I would personally like to thank all staff at RMIT University, in Melbourne and Hamilton and local organisations and community members who have supported our activities in Hamilton throughout 2007.

Please take care over the Christmas and New Year break and enjoy time with your families and friends. RMIT University in Hamilton looks forward to working with you in 2008.

Dr Leone Wheeler
Head, Learning Community Partnerships

**Teaching & Learning**

**Nursing**

2007 has been another successful year for nursing in Hamilton. We wish all past, present and future students a Merry Christmas and look forward to seeing some new and familiar faces in the New Year.

Kerry McMullan – Program Coordinator
Peter Francis – Clinical Nursing Educator

**Short Courses and Teacher Professional Development**

The course guide for 2008 will be published in early February and will feature short courses, teacher professional development, courses on real estate and business, online undergraduate and postgraduate programs and community forums on topical issues.

**Research**

The Regional Development Program at RMIT Hamilton will be hosting a meeting of the Victorian Universities Regional Research Network (VURRN) on Friday 7th December.

VURRN is a collaborative network of academics from RMIT, Latrobe, Ballarat and Deakin Universities with research and interests in regional issues. Further information can be obtained from http://www.vurrn.com or from Dr Paul Collits at RMIT Hamilton. (email: paul.collits@rmit.edu.au).

**Local Global Project**

Currently preparations are underway to hold a two-day Scenarios Mapping Workshop 4 and 5 February 2008. Scenarios mapping is a method for constructing various possibilities and directions for adapting to a future increasingly defined by a changing climate. This workshop will bring together a diverse cross-section of community members, researchers and scenarists to increase dialogue and exchange, and begin developing some long-term plans and strategies for the Hamilton region.

The second International Food and Thought MELA will be held 20 and 21 June 2008 and will draw on local issues relating to climate change, water and local responses to water management, oil and productions costs, food production and access to fresh food, and cultural attitudes to local global processes in relation to food production.

RMIT University  www.rmit.edu.au/hamilton
Southern Grampians Shire  www.sthgrampians.com.au
SW TAFE  www.swtafe.vic.edu.au
Southern Grampians  www.sgae.vic.edu.au
Adult Education  www.rist.com.au
GSG LLEN  www.gsglilen.org.au

If you would like information about the facilities or services offered at RMIT Hamilton, please email Dr Leone Wheeler, Head, Learning Community Partnerships incorporating RMIT Hamilton at leone.wheeler@rmit.edu.au or phone 0407 856 212. or contact Dr Kaye Schofield, Manager, Community Partnerships & Projects at kaye.schofield@rmit.edu.au or phone 5572 0501. Marilyn Lyons, Learning Support Co-ordinator at marilyn.lyons@rmit.edu.au or phone 5572 0502. Bernadette Delahunty Administration and Student Information Officer bernadette.delahunty@rmit.edu.au or phone 5572 0500.

If you have an item for the e-news, or would like to subscribe please send an email to Fiona Upstill, Communications Project Officer fiona.upstill@rmit.edu.au