What's On Calendar

April
10 Community Forum – Dr Stephen Bird

May
2 Catering for individual differences and multiplicative thinking – Professional Development for Educators
8 Community Forum – Tony Sorensen
13 Conversations with Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Secondary School Students – Professional Development for Educators and Health Workers
21,22 Grammar and Punctuation – Short Course
28 Course in Property (Agents’ Representatives) – Short Course

Community Forum
Professor Stephen Bird – Discipline Head of Exercise Sciences in the School of Medicine, RMIT University.

Professor Bird will discuss:
- Physical activity and older people, including the barriers and facilitators to activity for older people.
- The ageing athlete.
- Exercise and health, particularly its impact upon reducing the risk of chronic diseases, such as diabetes and cardiovascular disease.
- Research interest in the benefits of exercise in reducing the risk of some forms of cancer.

Professor Bird’s prior and current teaching includes: Exercise Physiology, Exercise for Special Populations, including those with chronic diseases, Research Methods, Fitness Training Methods, and Health Enhancing Physical Activity.

Thursday, 10 April 2008, 5.30 – 7.00pm. Light meal provided.
RMIT University, 200 Ballarat Road, Hamilton
RSVP essential for catering purposes by Tuesday 8 April.
Fiona Upstill Ph: 5572 0503
email fiona.upstill@rmit.edu.au

Nursing and Midwifery

We are now four weeks in to the Semester. Year 1 students are settling in well and embracing the mixed mode of learning that Hamilton offers. Year 2 students are on vacation in lieu of their early semester start, and Year 3 students are gearing up for their second to last clinical placement before graduation.

Plans for the Graduation Ball are already underway with the date set for November 14 to celebrate the graduation of third year students.

Plans are underway for an inaugural Graduation Expo to be held at RMIT University Hamilton. Our current clinical providers will be offered the opportunity to showcase their graduate programs to our students. Due to much smaller class sizes, a lot more one on one time with lecturers and readily available access to the clinical learning environment for more practice, our students are highly sought-after with clinical skills beyond the average graduate.

Post Graduate course offerings are increasing at RMIT University Hamilton with the inclusion of the single subject; Advanced Clinical Nursing Practice: Stroke Management, and the Graduate Certificate in Management for Health Care Professionals along with the Graduate Certificate in Gerontology and Graduate Diploma in Mental Health. RMIT has recently welcomed Associate Professor Phillip Maude as course coordinator of the Graduate Diploma in Mental Health. Associate Professor Maude has a particular interest in rural mental health and as such will make a valuable contribution to the Graduate Diploma program.

Short Courses and Professional Development

Course in Property (Agents’ Representatives) and Certificate IV in Property (Real Estate Agency Practice)
Course in Property (Agents’ Representatives) will commence on Monday 28 April 5.30-8.30pm and continue Monday and Wednesday evenings for 10 weeks, concluding on Monday June 30. Cost will be $670. Enrolment packages will be mailed shortly to those who have already expressed an interest. Further enquiries are welcome.

Certificate IV in Property (Real Estate Agency Practice) will commence in Semester II.

For more information, please contact Marilyn Lyons, Learning Centre Coordinator on 5572 0502 or marilyn.lyons@rmit.edu.au

Grammar and Punctuation

This practical training course will help you to consolidate and further develop your understanding of grammar and punctuation, so you can write, or edit for, clear, concise and accurate prose.

At the end of this intensive course, you should be able to:
* understand the parts of speech and parts of a sentence
* recognise the role of idiom, register, style and usage when making decisions about grammar
* identify grammatical problems in writing and fix them
* understand how the standard punctuation marks are used

Challenging the Stereotypes is a project delivering the messages of the “Go for your Life” initiative. It is funded by the Department of Human Services and the Department of Planning and Community Development. The project is a partnership between Western District Health Service, Southern Grampians & Glenelg Primary Care Partnership (SGGCP) and Southern Grampians Shire.
*Punctuate lists, dialogue, quotations and shortened forms according to contemporary Australian style
*Make confident hyphenation decisions and identify the grammar and typography of en and em dashes
*Write in concise plain English
*Feel more confident about your use of grammar and punctuation
*Seek out useful references to help you in the future.

Presenter: Penny Johnson is a writer, an editor and an educator. She has worked as a managing editor at Meanjin and Cultural Studies Review and lectures in RMIT’s Professional Writing and Editing course.

This course is essential for people who write and edit documents of importance in the workplace. Delivery is over two full days.

Date: 21 and 22 May 2008 Cost: $390 Location: RMIT University Hamilton, 200 Ballarat Rd Further information: Marilyn Lyons, 5572 0502 or email marilyn.lyons@rmit.edu.au

Professional Development for Educators

Catering for individual differences and multiplicative thinking Professor Di Siemon will be holding a full-day workshop for Grade 5, 6, 7 and 8 maths teachers on running a multi-ability classroom.

Presenter: Di Siemon is a Professor of Mathematics Education in the School of Education at RMIT University (Bundoora) where she is involved with the preparation of pre-service teachers and the supervision of higher degree students. Di is also involved with the professional development of practicing teachers, particularly in relation to the development of the ‘big ideas’ in number, the teaching and learning of mathematics in the middle years, and the use of rich assessment tasks to inform teaching. Currently, she is the Research Director of the Building Community Capacity to Support Sustainable Numeracy Education in Remote Locations Project (2006-2008) and the Scaffolding Numeracy in the Middle Years Project (2003-2006).

Date: 2 May Time: 9.30 - 3.30pm Location: RMIT University Hamilton, 200 Ballarat Rd Further information: Marilyn Lyons, 5572 0502 or email marilyn.lyons@rmit.edu.au

Conversations with Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Secondary School Students

This training workshop designed for teachers, youth workers, nurses and community workers aims to raise awareness around sexual and gender diversity issues that might impact on young people in secondary school and youth sector settings. Tension and anxieties often surface where questions around young people and sexualities intersect.

“Conversations” deploys the simple technique of reading aloud (based on poststructural theory) to ease tension and strategically promote attitudinal change.

This workshop has been delivered to over 2500 people over five years in various settings. Extensive learning materials and links will be supplied.

Presenter: Dr Michael Crowhurst is a lecturer in Teacher Education at RMIT School of Education. He is the author of ‘Conversations with Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Secondary School Students: A Sexual Diversity Training Kit for School Communities’.

Date: 13 May Time: 4.30 – 6.30pm Location: RMIT University Hamilton, 200 Ballarat Rd Further information: Marilyn Lyons, 5572 0502 or email marilyn.lyons@rmit.edu.au

Rural Grants

Rural Grants are available to RMIT students who are from a farming background. Grants will be made for a range of essential needs including text books and study materials, computers and other necessary academic equipment, living expenses and transport costs. Grants are available up to $5,000 and are for one year.

Eligible Students must be:
- Australian Citizens
- In a full time undergraduate or TAFE program at RMIT
- From a farming background
- Able to demonstrate significant financial disadvantage


For more information about these grants go to http://www.rmit.edu.au/browse;ID=v5ve4bpr7rd3g
For further information about scholarships at RMIT, see http://www.rmit.edu.au/students/scholarships/2008undergraduate

Advanced Notice – date for diary!

The Second International Food & Thought MELA

Food, Community & the Future, Hamilton, Victoria

The Second International Food & Thought MELA will be held at RMIT University Hamilton and HIRL (Hamilton Institute of Rural Learning) on Friday 20 and Saturday 21 June 2008.

The Registration Form can be downloaded from our website at: http://www.communitysustainability.info/events/FoodandThought2.html

A program brochure and tickets will be available by the end of April. For any further information please contact the Local Global Project Office, RMIT University Hamilton on 5572 0513 or email victoria.finch@rmit.edu.au, cicely.fenton@rmit.edu.au or terrie.nicholson@rmit.edu.au

Helpful Websites

| RMIT University | www.rmit.edu.au/hamilton |
| Southern Grampians Shire | www.sgrampians.com.au |
| SW TAFE | www.swtafe.vic.edu.au |
| Southern Grampians | www.sgaevic.edu.au |
| Adult Education | www.rist.com.au |
| Rural Industry Skills Training | www.sgael.org.au |

For local information please contact the following staff:

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: Vicki Finch at victoria.finch@rmit.edu.au or tel: 5572 0549
General Enquiries and Student Support: Bernadette Delahunty, at bernadette.delahunty@rmit.edu.au or tel: 5572 0500.
Subscription to e-news: Dinah Hallam, dinah.hallam@rmit.edu.au or tel: 5572 0505.