

CONFERENCE 2017

1st - 3rd November | Geelong, Australia



Transformed, systematic, whole of institution: redefining our role as ALL practitioners - An overview of support and development services at James Cook University

Abstract

Over the last five years, the James Cook University (JCU) Learning Centre has transformed its approach to academic language and learning support, redefining our role as ALL practitioners. A whole of institution approach has enabled us to pursue intersecting layers of activity that build staff capacity and develop students who are confident, independent and successful learners. 'Help seekers' achieve more positive academic outcomes and our varied program is designed to engage and meet the needs of JCU's diverse cohorts across all Colleges. This model is coordinated through the JCU Learning Centre and offers a suite of activities from self-access resources via our website, through to the specific development and assessment of discipline specific communication skills and numeracy within courses. This poster details the wide range of services that the JCU Learning Centre offers. Generic online resources provide unrestricted asynchronous language and learning support for students of all year levels. Discipline specific and generic language and learning advice is available through the Peer Assisted Study Sessions (PASS) program and from experienced Peer Advisors throughout the semester. 'Just-in-time' generic workshops are held to prepare students to meet literacy and numeracy requirements in their disciplines. Learning Advisors are integrated into various first year subjects to provide tailored advice in the form of sustainable online resources, face-to-face workshops and individual consultations aligned with the subjects' literacy and numeracy requirements. The curriculum enhancement project encompasses various activities across multiple units of the University, aiming to enhance pedagogical practices such as the explicit integration of English language requirements and the use of authentic assessment. This poster supports Dr Andrea Lynch's paper presentation on the theoretical perspectives underpinning our approach and forms the basis for the workshop, in which JCU Learning Advisors will explore and discuss some of the successes and challenges encountered in our changing role as ALL practitioners.