2002

Vice- Chancellor's Awards 2002

University of Wollongong

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Vice Chancellor's Awards

University of Wollongong
Program

Musical Item - Serenading Strings

Master of Ceremonies - Mr David Rome, Vice Principal (Administration)

Welcome by the Vice Chancellor - Professor Gerard Sutton

Presentation of 25 Years Service Awards - Professor John Patterson, Pro Vice Chancellor (Operations)

Presentation of the Vice Chancellor’s Awards for Outstanding Service for General Staff
Mr David Rome, Vice Principal (Administration)

Presentation of the Vice Chancellor’s Award for Outstanding Contribution to Teaching and Learning
Professor Rob Castle, Pro Vice Chancellor (Academic)

Presentation of Marie Lewis Award - Professor Don Lewis, Faculty of Commerce

Presentation of Special Awards - Mr David Rome, Vice Principal (Administration)

Closure by the Vice Chancellor - Professor Gerard Sutton

Musical Item - Serenading Strings
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Awards are presented each year to members of academic and general staff who have served the University for 25 years. Recipients of the 25 Years Service Awards receive a commemorative plaque and a $100 gift coin.

This year's awards are presented to:

**Mr Peter Anthony, Physics**

Peter has been the mainstay of electrical and electronic support to Physics for twenty-five years. Starting as a Technical Officer Grade One he has risen to being Technical Staff Coordinator for Physics and has seen the Department successfully move from the Faculty of Science to the Faculty of Engineering.

Although, recently, he has been more closely tied to supporting Medical Radiation Physics Peter has played a major role across all of the developments in teaching and research in Physics.

Highlights of his work include:

- The development and operation of a helium gas recovery system, which continues to save many thousands of dollars a year.
- Support for the Science Centre from its inception. This included the complete electrical refit of the original building at Campus East and refurbishment of exhibits and the continuing support after its relocation.
- The redesign and successful relocation of Physics research laboratories from Building 18 to Building 15 in 1999/2000.
- Achieving a smooth transition of technical and support staff into the new Faculty of Engineering structure in 2001.

Peter has also been invaluable in the often understated and difficult role of maintaining a strong link between academic and support staff.

**Miss Lindy Darling, Student Services**

Lindy Darling commenced work at the University in December 1977. She first worked in the Administrative
Data Processing Unit as an Assistant Data Scheduler and Jim Langridge was her boss.

Lindy moved to External Studies in the Faculty of Education in 1986 and worked with Jeff Hazel for several years. She then worked in the Student Learning Assistance Program (SLAP) until this unit was transformed into the Learning Development Centre in 1992 and into the Learning Resource Centre in 1996.

Lindy continues to work as an administrative assistant in Student Services and is now working once again in the Learning Resource Centre. Lindy has quite a life outside of work. She lives on 131 acres at Marshall Mount and is a keen horsewoman. Lindy is also an accomplished artist and has recently built (as an owner builder) an impressive gallery and house on her property. Lindy exhibits her paintings and other art works in this gallery, which is open to the public each Sunday.

Mrs Susan Gardner, Information Technology Services

Susan Gardner joined the University in 1975 as a stenographer in the University Secretary’s Division. She soon learned where all the departments were located, as riding a bicycle around the University to ‘hand deliver’ agenda papers to Senate members was a regular part of the job.

In 1979 she moved to the Planning and Development Division in a more sedentary role (no bicycling required) as Secretary to the Manager.

In 1986, Susan took a secondment to UniAdvice as Office Manager/Bookkeeper. This was in the days when UniAdvice was the consulting arm of the University. A highlight was visiting the Microwave Applications Centre when testing was being carried out on converting sewage to fertilizer.

In 1988 Susan returned to the University Administration as Personal Assistant to the Director of Financial Services. It was during this time that her training skills became apparent and she organised training sessions in word processing for casual staff of the University and then also trained Financial Services staff in Word and Excel.

In 1993 Susan took development leave to try her hand at delivering computer training courses for ITS. Having found a career she really enjoyed, Susan soon progressed to be the Training Co-ordinator for ITS and currently manages computer training for all staff and students of the University.
Mr Trevor Jones, Psychology

Trevor Jones has played a central role as core technical and IT support person in the Department of Psychology for close to 25 years. Trevor’s initial responsibilities included building electronic apparatus for research laboratories. He was also responsible for procuring and maintaining the technical facilities in the department, this function spanning both teaching and research activities.

More recently, Trevor has taken on added responsibilities across the Faculty of Health and Behavioural Sciences through his management of the upgrading of desktop technology in teaching and research laboratories.

Under Trevor’s supervision, the Faculty is steadily moving towards state of the art overhead data projection facilities in many of its teaching areas. Trevor has an extremely positive attitude towards his work, which is reflected in his daily interactions with colleagues and students. He sets high standards in his work and is committed to achieving the best for the Faculty of Health and Behavioural Sciences.

Mr Ronald Kinnell, Materials Engineering

Ron Kinnell commenced employment at the University as a laboratory craftsman with the department of Metallurgy. He was later promoted to workshop manager.

Demanding times began with the growth of the ISEM and ISPP research groups. In 1999 an amalgamation of the faculty workshops occurred, with Ron becoming the coordinator for his group. At the start of 2000, Ron was selected by the ISEM research team to give them technical support for their vast array of equipment and research projects.

The highlight of his career was an invitation to Tsukuba in Japan to commission a high temperature furnace which Ron designed and built.

Mr Peter Maywald, Faculty of Education

Peter Maywald has made an outstanding contribution to the University in his 25 years of service across both academic and administrative units. Peter started his career in administration as a Personnel clerk and his career highlights include Manager of Employment Relations, Deputy Director of Human Resource Management on secondment at Griffith University and he is now the Manager, Student Services Centre in the Faculty of Education.

Peter conceptualised, designed and established the very successful Faculty Student Service Centre, servicing students and staff with high quality support
and great efficiency. The model of support has been so successful, other faculties are taking it up as an example of best practice.

Dr Arnold Mclean, Mechanical Engineering

Dr Arnold McLean joined the University of Wollongong in 1977, and is currently Senior Lecturer in Mechanical Engineering. He has done extensive consulting in the areas of Bulk Materials Handling and Vehicle Dynamics of Heavy Vehicles. He has compiled more than 250 consultancy reports. Major consultancies involve work on the materials handling design of the Port Kembla Coal and Grain Terminals, No's 5&6 Blast Furnace, Port Kembla Gateway facilities and D-Plant Washery Upgrades at BHP Steel.

Dr Mc Lean currently chairs the BD65 Committee of the Australian Standard on Loads in Bulk Solids Containers.

Mr Martin Morillas, Mechanical Engineering

Martin commenced work with the University as an apprentice fitter machinist in the Mechanical Engineering department. Martin was then employed by the Engineering Department as a Technical Officer in the workshop and at the same time attained further engineering qualifications.

He has worked in many areas of engineering, with undergraduate and postgraduate students. Martin worked on projects such as the rolling mill and research into the rolling of steel. Martin is presently employed as a Senior Technical Officer for the Faculty of Engineering in the workshop and manufacturing areas.

Mrs Lyn Politis, Economics

Lyn Politis commenced work in the Finance Branch in August 1977. She then moved to payroll for a number of years before being promoted to a role as a Systems Officer in Personnel Services. During this time she was also seconded to Information Technology. She was also for a time in charge of payroll before moving in October 1997 to the Occupational Health and Safety Unit.

Most recently, Lyn has moved to the Department of Economics in the Faculty of Commerce. Lyn is a past recipient of the Vice-Chancellor's Award for Outstanding Service, receiving her award in 1996 for her work on the initial Concept System implementation. During her time in the Occupational Health and Safety Unit, Lyn built the procedural framework and a web site, which is recognized as being one of the best occupational health and safety web sites in Australia.
Mrs Sally Stawanski, Information Technology Services

Sally Stawanski commenced work at the University for three days casual work in 1977, and ended up staying for 25 years working on the switchboard for all that time as well as absorbing other duties. She has doubled as receptionist and has worked as an examination supervisor for the last eighteen years, and her current role includes being part of the ITS Call Centre.

During this time she has been involved in keeping track of the movements of staff throughout the University and has also monitored all of the changes that have occurred over that time as departments have come and gone.

Sally is an indispensable member of the University switchboard and the ITS Call Centre and her extensive knowledge of the University and her diligence, patience and ability to ascertain caller's real needs have made it easier for her to deal with the myriad of diverse calls which come in to the University. These have included the person who rang with a problem with slippery water and a caller who wanted to know how to separate coffee from sugar.

Mrs Linda Stobie, Information Technology Services

Linda Stobie joined the Wollongong Institute of Advanced Education in 1977 as a switchboard operator and receptionist. She has worked on the University switchboard under a number of departments and the ITS Call Centre since amalgamation. Her active involvement within the University has included examinations supervisor for thirteen years, and she also helps with the University Children's Christmas Party by fundraising and involvement in the organization of the day itself.

During the time Linda has been here, she has built up a wide knowledge of the University community and has provided valuable suggestions for improvements to the area.

Linda is an integral part of the University switchboard and ITS Call Centre team and has dealt with numerous calls which do not fit within mainstream switchboard questions, including how to stop the blinds fading during daylight saving, and a caller wanting advice on what was in the containers on the ships waiting off the Wollongong coast.
Associate Professor Wee King Soh, Mechanical Engineering

Wee King Soh joined the University of Wollongong as a Lecturer in 1977. He has been teaching Fluid Mechanics, Engineering Mathematics and Computational Fluid Dynamics in the Faculty of Engineering for the last 25 years. He was awarded his first ARC large grant in 1981 for the research on the mechanism of vortex shedding. He has continued to attract external funding for his research for the last 20 years. He has over 70 publications, in the areas of vortex dynamics, computational fluid mechanics and underwater explosions. Currently he holds the position of Associate Professor and is a member of the University Internationalisation Committee.

Mrs Elizabeth White, Library

Elizabeth joined the University Library in 1977 and soon took the opportunity to pursue her studies as a part-time student in the Faculty of Arts, graduating with a BA in 1987. After completing her postgraduate studies in librarianship, Elizabeth was well placed to gain a professional position in the Law Library, established in 1990 to cater for the new Law Faculty.

Elizabeth's dedication to her work and excellent customer service ethic quickly gained her the respect of students and academics alike. It was not surprising then that Elizabeth was the natural successor to the Law Librarian in 1994.

More recently, Elizabeth has made a significant impact by developing an online learning program for legal research, which is integrated into the law curriculum. Due to her commitment over the past 25 years, Elizabeth is highly regarded by her peers and the Faculty of Law.
Outstanding Service Citations

The Vice Chancellor's Awards for Outstanding Service for General Staff

The Outstanding Service Awards are presented each year to members of general staff who have achieved an exceptional success, given outstanding service and/or shown recognised initiative in their work. Each recipient receives a certificate and a cheque for $2000.

This year's recipients are:

Mr Mark Aikman, Buildings and Grounds (Maintenance)

Mark Aikman is a multi-skilled Trades Assistant within the Buildings and Grounds Division. Mark receives his award for a number of outstanding achievements including:

- The creation of a computer based register of all fire doors on main campus and the development of an inspection checklist, which is used as part of regular statutory inspections. This has provided the University with an accurate assessment of fire door quantities and condition, which is vital in maintaining the fire door protection system.

- In Lecture Theatre Building 14, Mark's initiative and persistence in problem solving was highlighted by his efforts in maintaining the theatre seats to an acceptable standard. Mark coordinated with other trades to ensure that the theatre seats were operational and safe. This has extended the functional life of the seating and has allowed the deferral of over $50,000 worth of expenditure until the major refurbishment of the Lecture Theatre.
• His high level of input into the development of roof access systems installed across campus to ensure that all safety and operational concerns were addressed.

Mark's role includes assisting electricians, plumbers, drainers, fitters, locksmith, carpenters, painter/sign writers and air conditioning tradespersons within the Buildings and Grounds Division. The role of Trades Assistant became multi-skilled as a part of the formulation of the current Enterprise Bargaining Agreement. Mark was the first Trades Assistant to complete all licensing requirements associated with multi-skilling.

Mark is a highly motivated and important member of the Buildings and Grounds team. His initiative has resulted in achieving real maintenance savings for the University and has improved the safety of our campus.

Ms Ann Montague, Academic Registrar's Division (Bega Education Access Centre)

Ann receives her award for outstanding and exceptional achievement for her work in establishing the Bega Education Access Centre.

Since the commencement of operations in Bega in 2000 Ann has championed the University of Wollongong in the Bega district, working with our partners, the Illawarra Institute of TAFE and Bega High School, to ensure that the Centre provides a strong focus for the meeting of learning needs in the Bega community.

Ann has been very active in promoting learning opportunities available through the Centre, to the extent that enrolments have exceeded initial expectations and in the third year of operations the Centre is experiencing overcrowding problems. The support that Ann provides to teaching staff and the students has been exemplary, and the higher than average success rate of students studying at the Centre is further evidence of the positive impact Ann has had on those studying with the University of Wollongong in Bega.

Aside from Ann having worked successfully with our external partners she has also been very successful in liaising with the internal partners of ARD, ITS, CEDIR and the Faculties.

Ann has a vision for the University of Wollongong and the Bega Education Access Centre, which will see further development of the already strong positive relationship between the Bega community and the University.
Ann is a real asset to the University working in a key role to ensure that the University serves the needs of its region.

Mrs Leonie Prior, Academic Registrar’s Division

Leonie receives her award for an outstanding initiative, which has been implemented and has a demonstrated value. Leonie developed a database that allowed much faster and accurate processing of graduand details in the limited space of time between the release of results and the graduation ceremonies.

Managing graduations so that graduands and guests can enjoy a special occasion is a complex and demanding exercise in the coordination of people and information. The development and implementation of the database addressed the issue of managing information pertaining to the production of testamurs, ceremony briefs and the program booklet. The initiative also allowed for testamurs to be produced in-house further reducing workload and time. Additionally, staff within the Academic Registrar’s Division are able to more effectively respond to graduand enquiries and resolve problems now that they have access to this database.

Leonie identified the need, developed and tested the database and managed the implementation.

Leonie, a long-standing employee with an impressive record of performance, has demonstrated yet again her initiative and exceptional problem solving abilities.

Ms Richelle Sim, Personnel and Financial Services

Richelle Sim is a Management Trainee recruited by the University from school and is still completing her Bachelor of Commerce degree. As a Management Trainee, Richelle has an opportunity to specialise in an area of her choice. Richelle chose to specialise in a project for the development of a Management Information System, a key priority area under the University’s strategic plan.

Richelle has developed a web-based framework with management information on financial, staffing, student and cost information that is being deployed initially to 100 staff in the University. A further 50 staff are already on the waiting list. In addition, she has developed a project plan for the extension of the work to a wide range of other areas including information for University subsidiaries. Using software provided by COGNOS, the world leader in business information tools, Richelle’s work has won praise not only within the University but from outside the University and from experts in this field of work.
Richelle has presented her work to the Vice-Chancellor and to the Deans and Senior Executive and made a profound impression on all of them.

For someone of her age, qualifications and experience, to single handily make such a contribution to one of the University’s key strategic projects is a major achievement. The work she has done has impressed everyone who has seen it and the productivity benefits for users of the system are very significant.

**Mr Doug Simpson, Personnel and Financial Services**

Doug Simpson is a previous winner of this Award, but this year’s award is unusual. In addition to his formal role within the University, Doug has been the person principally responsible the University’s Children’s Christmas Party for a number of years.

Doug is officially the Treasurer and a member of the Christmas Party Committee but he is, in fact, much more. He has coordinated fund raising activities, arranges sponsors and donations, organises the Christmas party itself, arranges the provision of entertainment, coordination of other volunteers and the selection of presents. Many hundreds of children and grandchildren of staff have been made to feel a part of the University community over a number of years largely through Doug’s efforts. This includes the giving of thousands of Christmas presents over that period.

In the University calendar this is the most family oriented event of the year. Many organisations are currently trying to be more family friendly and the Children’s Christmas Party significantly contributes to the University’s support for its staff and their families.

What makes this contribution particularly noteworthy is that this is a voluntary contribution. Doug has no official responsibility for the Children’s Christmas Party. He undertakes it from a personal sense of giving and of commitment. This extends to spending much of his own time working on the party.

**Ms Carol Stiles, Library (Shoalhaven Campus)**

Carol receives her award for an outstanding and exceptional achievement in the development of Library services for the South Coast Education Network, in particular, her management of the *Email a Librarian for Help* service.

Carol has made a unique contribution to the establishment and delivery of Library services to support flexible and off-campus learning through her coordination of the *Email a Librarian for Help* service. The success of the service is in large part due to
Carol's commitment and efficient management. She has offered a consistently high standard of response to enquiries, requiring well-developed communication skills and has frequently been complimented on her timely and thorough responses.

Carol has enthusiastically embraced the challenges associated with the establishment of Library services for the South Coast Education Network, which has involved the creation of unique partnerships between the University Library and public libraries in Batemans Bay and Bega, and with TAFE NSW Illawarra Institute at the Shoalhaven Campus.

Carol has used her considerable experience and professional expertise to develop services which support new modes of teaching and learning. She has demonstrated high professional standards in the provision of ongoing support with reference enquiries, training programs for public library staff, student orientation sessions, subject-based information literacy programs and collection development. She has also worked to raise the profile of the University in the Shoalhaven community by establishing links with the Shoalhaven City Library and local teacher-librarians and by developing a Library education program for local high school students.

Carol is a dedicated and thoroughly professional member of the University community, whose contributions are highly valued by students and staff alike.
Outstanding Contribution Citations

The Vice Chancellor's Award for Outstanding Contribution to Teaching and Learning (OCTAL)

The OCTAL Award recipients are recommended to the Vice Chancellor by a special committee, which considers nominations from colleagues and students as well as supporting documentation from the nominees. Each recipient receives a certificate and a cheque for $2500.

This year's recipients are:

Dr Cath Ellis and Dr Catriona Elder, Faculty of Arts

Qui docet, discit. (Who teaches, learns) Comenius

Dr Cath Ellis and Dr Catriona Elder are innovative, enthusiastic and student-centred teachers who have collaborated to develop "Twentieth Century Australian Literary Culture", into a truly interdisciplinary subject, which deploys the use of new technologies, and integrates online learning with face to face and print resources, supporting self-directed learning and student reflection.

Both Cath and Catriona have made significant contributions to improving student learning in the Faculty of Arts, through the use of contemporary, well-organised and stimulating course material. Their successful use of WebCT for online discussions and organisation of student group work has enabled students to share and learn collaboratively in a comfortable and secure space.

Catriona is also the convenor of Australian Studies in the Faculty of Arts. She teaches and develops subjects for entry-level Australian Studies students on the UOW main campus and for the campuses on the South Coast and Southern Highlands. She has undertaken work on the development of curriculum integrated materials to assist first year students in the development of tertiary literacy's.

Cath's interest in flexible delivery teaching has been stimulated by her involvement in the development of the Community and Environment BA that is offered at the
South Coast campuses. She has also designed and teaches “Nineteenth-Century Australian Literary Culture” in this degree, which is a second year companion subject to the one she team-teaches with Catriona. In early 2002 she was a teaching fellow in Australian Studies at the University of Wales, Lampeter and on her return took up the 2002 CEDIR teaching fellowship, where she is working on a project that will enable curriculum-integrated research skills instruction to be incorporated into undergraduate subjects.

Cath and Catriona’s collaboration goes beyond the classroom. They are involved in shared research projects on reconciliation. They submitted a joint ARC Discovery application in 2002 and in June will launch a new web based network for scholars around Australia working in the area of reconciliation.

By taking on the role of learners alongside their students, Cath and Catriona show their commitment to their students’ intellectual development and openness. Cath and Catriona’s scholarship, shared teaching philosophy and their obvious pleasure in teaching the course with their collaborative team teaching approaches, creates a positive learning environment that challenges many students to move beyond their existing levels of achievement.
Marie Lewis Citation

The Marie Lewis Award

The Marie Lewis Award is in honour of the late Marie Lewis, and recognises the achievement of a member of the general staff who is completing an undergraduate degree. Selection is based on academic performance and service to the University.

The recipient receives a certificate and a cheque for $500.

This year's recipient is:

Deirdre Macdonald, Engineering/Physics

The Marie Lewis Award has been provided in honour of the late Marie Lewis, a graduate of the University of Wollongong who worked in Student Administration from 1983 to 1997.

The prize is to recognize the achievement of a member of the general staff who is completing an undergraduate degree. To be eligible, the recipient must be a full time member of the general staff who has been enrolled in an undergraduate degree at the University of Wollongong for one or more academic years.

Selection is based on academic performance and service to the University and its students.

The winner of the Marie Lewis Award for this year is Deirdre Macdonald. Deirdre has been employed at the University for 21 years as a Technical/Administrative Officer in Physics. She has just completed a Bachelor of Arts degree with majors in Communication and Cultural Studies and Science and Technology and Society.

Her supporter, Associate Dean, Faculty of Engineering, Bill Zealey has written of her, "Deirdre has a demonstrated commitment to the University and its students. She has made a unique contribution to the welfare of students and will continue to be valued for that role".

Congratulations to Deirdre Macdonald on receiving this award.
Special Awards Citations

Special Awards for Outstanding and Exceptional Achievement

Special Awards are presented to a Department or Unit of the University, selected by the Vice Chancellor, in recognition of outstanding and exceptional achievement.

This year’s recipients are:

Key Personnel of the Education Media Lab

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<tr>
<td>Mr Robert Wright</td>
<td>Mr David Skoumbourdis</td>
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<td>Ms Lynn Middleton</td>
<td>Mr Matthew Fifield</td>
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<td>Mr Grant Farr</td>
<td>Mr Owen McKerrow</td>
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<td>Mr Karl Mutimer</td>
<td>Mr Paul Harper</td>
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<td>Mr Karl Rudd</td>
<td>Mr Robert Kennedy</td>
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The emlab team has made a significant contribution to the reputation of the Faculty of Education and to the University in the design and development of multi award-winning educational multimedia software products. From the early days of Investigating Lake Illuka to the most recent Pilotage Courseware the University of Wollongong has come to count on emlab reaping national and international acclaim.

This team has consistently led the way in new design internationally, and has set the benchmark both in Australia and overseas. In 2002, emlab’s 10-year contribution to the industry was recognised with the Australian Interactive Media Association award for the “Best of the Best” in design and development. This award must be appreciated against the background of the competition, which includes all of Australia’s leading developers of interactive products such as ninemsn, ABC New Media and projects for large international organisations like Sony Playstation and 20th Century Fox.

The contribution goes beyond expertise, innovation and publicity. Each staff member is an outstanding individual and together they are an incredible team working above and beyond any expectation.
Sydney Business School Integration Project Team

Miss Christine Anderson  Ms Valerie McMullen
Ms Susan Flint  Ms Ghazala Sadiq
Ms Shirley Hazell  Miss Elizabeth Cuthbert
Mrs Lynell Ratcliffe  Ms Donna Kingelty
Ms Jennifer Reynolds  Mrs Christine Walkam
Ms Kim Roser  Mr Sam Carroll
Ms Ellen Bi  Ms Teressa Hughston
Ms Lynn King  Ms Sandra Lee

This nomination has some unique characteristics. It is made in respect of a large group consisting of staff from four key units of the University: the Graduate School of Business & Professional Development, Sydney Business School, the Commerce Student's team from the Academic Registrar's Division and Team Four of the Service Centre UniAdvice. Whilst it is unusual that no more than six candidates are nominated, the strength of this application was in the exemplary cross-unit outcomes that have resulted.

The Sydney Business School opened for business in new premises at 175 Liverpool Street, Sydney on 15 January 2001. The twelve months that followed saw an unprecedented growth in student numbers enrolled in the School, a 62% increase on the year 2000 level. The location of the School, overlooking Hyde Park, was established without seed funding, unlike the establishment of the South Coast network. This necessitated a diverse group of staff, already employed in full-time roles throughout the University, devoting significant time and energy to integrating the operations of the SBS with related on campus units.

Staff at quite junior levels had to build relationships that go beyond the scope of their usual role and devise innovative ways of overcoming obstacles to ensure that all students of the SBS receive a level of service and support comparable to that available at the home campus. Staff self-organised into a number of problem-solving workgroups and together, they challenged previously held assumptions within their four work units and developed new and improved ways of dealing with issues such as admissions, enrolment and student administration.

This novel project recognises the willingness of a dedicated group of staff to ignore departmental boundaries (real or perceived) in order to meet the needs of the SBS students. More broadly, the University has benefited from the successful establishment of a new academic unit with a key presence in the heart of the Sydney CBD.