ARO Weekly Newsletter #5 – 20 February 2017

Admissions:

- We can still accept applications from International students who are onshore (in Australia) up till 24th Feb.
- Our *generic number for International Admissions is x7455*, please always ring this number for follow-ups or enquiries, and not the individual extension as we have dedicated staff daily to attend to this number
- Orientation for Semester 1 2017, has commenced (since 16th)
- Our team is busy handling requests for release letters, terminated applicants from other institutions, etc.
- Lots of enquiries from our Packaged students from MIT this week, please advise them to contact with MIT directly if they are still studying at MIT and wish to change course, defer or withdraw
- Information on our entry requirements - Academic and English, please use the link here: [http://www.murdoch.edu.au/Future-students/International-students/Entry-requirements/](http://www.murdoch.edu.au/Future-students/International-students/Entry-requirements/) If you’re not sure, please ring #7455.

Careers and Employment:

- The Career Helpdesk will move to Bush Court from Wednesday 22nd February to Thursday 2nd March to assist students with career advice. The Career Helpdesk inside the Student Centre will be unattended during this time.
- There are still some places left for the Career Workshops and our Panel Event Discussion *(The Future of Work)* during **Careers Week**
  - **Monday 27th February** – 12 to 1.30pm Writing a Resume and Cover Letter Workshop – Post Grad Room ECL 1.031
  - **Tuesday 28th February** – 1pm to 2.30pm Successful Interviews Skills Workshop – School of Business and Governance (B 513) Learning Link 2.002
  - **Wednesday 1st March** – 12 to 1.30pm Presenting Professionally to Employers and Networking Workshop - Post Grad Room ECL 2.031
- **Thursday 2nd March** – 5pm to 7pm The Future of Work Panel Discussion *(Career Success after Study)* - School of Business and Governance (B 513) Learning Link 1.004
  
  Panellists including Marc Patterson, (Cisco Systems WA); Gastón Carrión (Accenture, WA); and Simon Avenell (PwC) discuss the impact technology and global economics on
company recruitment strategies. Join the discussion and learn how you can effectively prepare for your future career.

Engagement:

**Future Students Team**
- Our regional recruitment trips have begun! Kicking off with Annie-Pierre in Bunbury from the 20-24th February. Alyssa will then be on the road travelling through the South-West the following week from 27-3rd March.
- The first of our information evenings for 2017, will be the **Science Careers Evening** on Wednesday 8th March. Held in KBLT, this evening is for UG students interested in VLS disciplines as well as Chemistry, Maths and Physics from SEIT. Information about this and another events can be found at [www.experience.murdoch.edu.au](http://www.experience.murdoch.edu.au).
- We are in full swing now for Term 1. The FSOs will be out and about in schools and also hosting schools on campus. Carey Baptist College Year 10s will be on campus with Sheryl and the team on the 22nd, 23rd and 24th Feb. Be sure to give them a wave if you see them!

**International**
- Natasha will be travelling to Indonesia on Sunday and will return to the office on Monday 27th February. Whilst in Indonesia, she will be conducting in the following activities:
  - Interview sessions for short listed Australia Award students in Jakarta and Bali
  - Meeting with Government agencies in Jakarta to showcase Murdoch course offerings and IWS for potential sponsored student cohorts
  - Attend the IDP education fair in Bali in collaboration with our in-country Business Development Manager, Angie Tjai
  - Host a seminar with IDP Surabaya in follow up to the LPDP January Fair. This IDP office pulls 80% of LPDP scholarship applicants.
  - Host an alumni networking event in Surabaya where hot lead LPDP and other prospective students will also be invited

**Outreach**
- Throughout 2016, the newly recruited Murdoch Outreach Team has been developing, with the assistance of our great academics, research community and partner primary and high schools, an array of engaging outreach activities. Michelle has been working alongside Digital First, to create content for teachers and events, as part of the Murdoch website refresh. We will be launching our new and expanded menu of activities in March 2017. In the meantime, the team have hit the ground running, and following, a taste of some of our forthcoming events:
  
  **HASS**
  - Jason has been working with the School of B&G on one of their showcase events. On Friday March 24th, 400 Year 12 Economics students from over a dozen schools will be congregating at Murdoch University’s ECL 1 Lecture Theatre to take part in the Murdoch University Economics Conference. This event will feature talks from Murdoch Academics such as Professor David Butler, Professor Malcolm Tull and Dr Anne Garnett. Guest speakers will include Steven Kemp, Chief Economics ATAR Marker and Shane Wright, Economics Editor for *The West Australian* Newspaper. A wide variety of Year 12 related subjects will be covered ranging from The ATAR Examination, The Trump Effect, Game Theory, Globalisation and Australian Economic Policy. Further information on the event can be located at: [http://www.murdoch.edu.au/School-of-Business-and-Governance/Latest-News/Economics-Conference/](http://www.murdoch.edu.au/School-of-Business-and-Governance/Latest-News/Economics-Conference/)
  
  **STEM**
  - Fiona has established a series of public lectures, with a different theme for each school term, including: Undercover, Healthy Futures, Age of Discovery and Human contact. The first
lecture on Monday 27th February, by Dr Garth Maker has already been relocated to a larger lecture theatre to accommodate for the demand and may need to be moved again with over 100 people registered. These lectures are being advertised through Murdoch social media, Murdoch News and Melville News as they are open to the whole community as a means of raising public awareness of the variety of courses and the leading-edge research being carried out at Murdoch. There will be lectures from all schools, the Undercover series is full however we are looking for lecturers for the remaining series. The majority of lectures will be filmed to be posted on YouTube and Video similar to Ted talks, to reach a wider audience.

- On Tuesday 21st Feb and Friday 24th Feb, Julia will be hosting 2 separate groups of students from Santa Maria College participating in specialist workshops as developed by Murdoch academic and technical staff. 21 Year 9 Marine Science students will be ‘Observing Living Plankton’ with Dr Jennie Chaplin and student ambassador Nick Oakley. 13 Year 12 ATAR Biology students will be attending a laboratory session to look at applications of biotechnology in agricultural. The Year 12s will partake in ‘Protein profiling of grain seeds by mass spectroscopy’, as lead by Adjunct Associate Professor Chris Florides.

Enrolments & Fees:

Enrolments
- Business as usual, with enquiries running high but under control. No particular patterns have appeared.
- Where referral is not needed, turnaround times are around one day; otherwise we and the student are in the hands of the referred to person.
- We are expecting some statistics related work to come through as reporting for the last quarter of 2016 is due in the next month.

Fees
- Reminders about due dates for first semester have started, and are being paced to avoid overloading The Student Centre and E&F.
- For new students who ask, we don’t send out invoices as they are available on demand in MyInfo. We do send out reminders about due dates in the period leading up to major teaching periods – semester 1 and 2, trimesters, SSAF periods 1 and 2, and summer and winter.
- We have also started the process around missing Commonwealth Assistance Forms and TFNs.
- In particular, students who has recorded an intention to pay up front rather than defer, and has not provided a tax file number, is being reminded that if they don’t pay on time we are required to cancel their enrolment, and lodging a tax file number is good insurance.
- OnTrack, K-Track and FlexiTrack students who have filled out the online commonwealth assistance form may see fees appearing when they expect to see none. They are not to be concerned – we to go behind the scenes to change their CAF details at which point the fees disappear.

Academic progression
- With a number of results for last year coming through before the start of first semester, there will be another round of academic progression to manage. We generally have at least three rounds over summer, and at least two rounds mid-year.

Equity and Social Inclusion:
- **International Women's Day** Wednesday 8 March 2017 – Be Bold for Change
  Gender equity and gender diversity impact on Australia’s scientific performance and productivity, and data shows that women continue to be underrepresented across STEM fields in Australia. Structural and other barriers continue to impede access to and success in
At Murdoch we have a cohort of ‘bold’ and talented women undertaking research in these fields. Four of these women will share their research journey on International Women's Day in a panel discussion which will be facilitated by Professor Parisa Bahri, School of Engineering and Information Technology. There will be time for questions, discussion and sharing, moderated by Professor Bahri. The event will be followed by light refreshments.

Date/time: Wed 8 March 10 – 11.30am
Venue: Veterinary Clinical Sciences Building 260.1.064
RSVP: a.carmody@murdoch.edu.au
Please advise of any access or dietary requirements. All welcome!

- When advising students to contact our office please ask some gentle questions about disability/medical conditions to ensure we can assist them, and indicate that medical documents will be required. Please also reinforce the importance of attending appointments, if possible, once they are scheduled.

- The first ALLY discussion group commences on Thurs 2 March 12.30 – 1.30pm in ECL 1.026. All welcome. Bring along your lunch!

- Disability Drop In Sessions: 15 min aptmts only are available with the Disability Advisor during these sessions: Monday 27 Feb 1 – 3pm and Wednesday 8 March 9 – 11am.

Graduations and Results:

Graduations

- Friday 17 February 2017 was deadline for Singapore graduands to confirm attendance without incurring a late fee. Any graduand confirming attendance after the deadline will incur a late fee and only have the option to purchase regalia.

- Information about the Singapore graduation ceremonies can be accessed via the following link: http://our.murdoch.edu.au/Student-life/Get-organised/About-graduation/Attending-a-Singapore-Ceremony/

- This week we will be printing graduation documents for the Singapore graduations. Once this is done we will print graduation documents for graduands that requested to have their documents posted.

- Once again A big thank you to The Student Centre, The Meet Murdoch Team, Marketing & Communications Team. IT and Security for their unreserved support with the Perth graduation ceremonies. This is the first time we held four (4) graduation ceremonies and their success was largely due to the support we received from all these teams.

Results

- Summer results were released on Friday 17 February 2017. We have begun graduating eligible students and plan to have them all completed by the end of the week.

- We will be doing a follow-up of outstanding results for 2016 teaching periods.

MU Health:

Acupuncture Guided Meditation Workshops (Revised Times)

- Murdoch University Health (Medical) is offering further acupuncture guided meditation workshops for staff wellness, run by one of our doctors Dr Su Lin Wan (See attached flyer)

- The four-week workshop will train you in qigong meditation techniques with the guidance of acupuncture (max 8 participants per course)

- This course also includes a continuation class for past participants wanting to expand their practice

Workshop Dates and Times

Mondays 13th March to April 3rd inclusive
1100-1200: Beginners class
1230-1330: Continuation class
Costs – Part-funded by Medicare with a gap fee of $30 per class, attendance is require for all four classes, deposit for attendance $30x 4 ($120)
For enrolments and bookings please contact Murdoch Uni Health: Medical ext.
2293 or medicalservice@murdoch.edu.au to request an enrolment form

The Student Centre:

Parking
- Please note that there have been issues with permits not being generated (but paid for). We asked the Parking Office to extend the grace period for temporary permits and 2016 expired permits until the end of Week 1.
- Given it’s O Week, then best time to pop in is first thing, or late in the day (we’re open til 5pm for the fortnight).

Student Support:

Orientation, all hands on deck!
- Undergrad sessions this week. Lunch Festival, Welcome to Country, DVC-E’s welcome address, Guild President Welcome address. Three days, all welcome!
Programs to get ahead include, LMS Info session, Math Refresher & Writing Refresher (new!)
Postgrad Orientation Wednesday Night
Welcome Dinner Thursday Night
See the website for all the details: http://our.murdoch.edu.au/Student-life/My-First-Year/Orientation/Undergraduate/
TROs will be mostly out of the office, if you need us we’ll be out on Bush Court talking to students, likely moving trestle tables and definitely hoping for a good turn out
From week one, TROs will have daily drop-in sessions for international students, right through to week four’s study break. You’ll also see us at the UniEdge tent on bush court in week 1.
- LIP (Living in Perth) Day 1 for international students ran on-campus last Thursday. This marked the debut of a new format with 12 simultaneous rotation groups (i.e. seminars students went to in smaller groups). These were well received. 310 international students attended. Thanks to Health and Counselling and CUTL and Athira for delivery of their respective seminars in the rotation groups.
- Excursion to King’s Park and Cottesloe last Friday – large uptake of students for these trips!

Special Programs

Australia Awards
- Ongoing OASIS (DFAT database) administration for Australia Awards scholarship (AAS) students
- Booking completion and fieldwork travel as needed
- 15 new AAS students for semester 1, 2017 – represents a marked increase from S1, 2016
- Initial Academic Program celebration was on 13 February and went well

Elite athletes
- Assisting elite athletes balance sport and study clashes by helping them secure class preferences to fit around training
- Advising Unit Coordinators of sporting absences

Defence Member Students
- Assisting ADF members balance ADF and study clashes by
- Advising Unit Coordinators of ADF related absences

Government Sponsored students
- Miscellaneous student and sponsor queries

Incarcerated students
- Assisting Prison Education Officers to apply on behalf of incarcerated students
TNE:

*Week 7 January Trimester*

- Pre-approval lists identifying affiliate lecturers our partners can deploy to teach in the May trimester, were provided to partners on Friday.
- Dr Peter Waring is on leave this week, returning Monday 27th February.
- Feedback on the TNE Calendar for 2019 has now been received and provided to the Secretary Academic Council for consideration. The calendar will be tabled at the next Academic Council meeting.
- A review of the remaining SMF students is underway, study plans have been prepared for approx. 30 students who are considering if they will complete their degree at Kaplan in Singapore. Some students may decide to complete in Perth.

**************************************************************************