

## Project Update February 2015: On the Road



Dear friends and colleagues,

**Welcome to the first weeks of semester one, we hope that you had the opportunity to refresh and revitalise in order to prepare for a busy year!**



Things are coming together with the Volunteering to Learn Project and our understanding of University Volunteering currently in action is expanding as we interact with the research and meet more engaged professionals at conferences. It is clear that university student volunteering is an exciting and dynamic space with many dedicated and passionate individuals involved at all levels, from institutional organisation to the students themselves and of course coordinators and host organisations!

As most of you are aware were many changes in 2014 surrounding volunteering in universities and students seem to be getting more and more involved with contributing to their communities in various ways!

# On the Road

The *Volunteering to Learn* project is on the road with **workshops scheduled in all the capital cities during March and April** to share our work to date and put the finishing touches to our Good Practice and Concept Guides. To find out when the workshop for your capital city is scheduled click [here](#).



You are invited to a free workshop, which will present stories gathered to date from a two-year project examining student volunteering in universities across Australia.

*Volunteering to Learn* is an Office for Learning and Teaching funded project involving four WA universities and Macquarie University. A desk audit of volunteering in universities around Australia, literature review, and interviews with key stakeholders have revealed interesting insights about why students volunteer, what they hope to achieve from doing so, what assists the volunteering process and what needs further attention.

The workshop will share some of the stories and participants will be introduced to the *Good Practice Guides* being developed for students, hosts, employers and university management. The workshop is designed for staff designing and delivering student volunteer programs, host organisations and students.

#### Registration

- Seats are limited for this free event – Please email [gabrielle.walker@murdoch.edu.au](mailto:gabrielle.walker@murdoch.edu.au) to confirm your place
- This is an open invitation. Please forward to anyone who might be interested.

**HOBART** Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March (Please register by 12<sup>th</sup> March) University of Tasmania, Hytten Education Building, Room 460  
9.30 to 11.30am Morning tea from 9am. Presenters: Associate Professors Debbie Haski-Leventhal & Kirsten Holmes

**SYDNEY** Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> April (Please register by 31<sup>st</sup> March) Macquarie University, 99 Talavera Rd, North Ryde, MGSM, Room 267  
10am to noon including Morning Tea. Presenters: Associate Professors Debbie Haski-Leventhal & Judy McCallum

**BRISBANE** Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> April (Please register by 31<sup>st</sup> March) Griffith University, Southbank campus, Room S02\_6.37  
9.30 to 12 noon and 1.30 to 4pm including Tea. Presenters: Dr Susan Young & Dr Rowena Scott

**CANBERRA** Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> April (Please register by 31<sup>st</sup> March) Australian Centre on China in the World (CITW), Seminar Room  
9.30 to 12 noon including Morning Tea. Presenters: Dr Megan Paull & Gabrielle Walker

**DARWIN** Friday 10<sup>th</sup> April (Please register by 31<sup>st</sup> March) Charles Darwin University, CDU Function Room Red 1.3  
09.30 to 12 noon including Morning Tea. Presenters: Associate Professor Judy McCallum & Dr Rowena Scott

**MELBOURNE** Friday 10<sup>th</sup> April (Please register by 31<sup>st</sup> March) Victoria University, 300 Flinders Street, Room FS901  
9.30 to 11.30am. Morning tea from 9am Presenters: Associate Professor Kirsten Holmes & Dr Susan Young

**ADELAIDE** Friday 10<sup>th</sup> April (Please register by 31<sup>st</sup> March) Volunteering SA/NT Level 5 / 182 Victoria Square, Adelaide  
9.30 to 12noon including Morning Tea. Presenters: Dr Megan Paull & Associate Professor Maryam Omari

**PERTH** Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> April (Please register by 18<sup>th</sup> April) Volunteering WA Lotteries West House, 2 Delhi Street, West Perth  
9.30 to 12noon including Morning Tea. Presenters: Dr Megan Paull & Associate Professor Maryam Omari

Support for this activity has been provided by the Australian Government Office for Learning and Teaching.  
The views in this activity do not necessarily reflect the views of the Australian Government Office for Learning and Teaching.

## Website

Our website is slowly but surely having resources added, with the latest addition being the report on the pilot for this project which was conducted for the Department of Local Government and Communities. This pilot served as a building block for the early stage of this project and key elements of the *Volunteering to Learn* project were informed by the data gathered.

For further information :

<http://www.murdoch.edu.au/projects/volunteeringtolearn/>

## ***Keep an eye out for...***

The Good Practice Guides and Concept Guides will be uploaded to the website following the road show, and other resources are currently being developed as well. This includes information about literature, details about the desk audit matrix and curly questions which have come up in our research.

## **THANK YOU!**

### ***Thanks to our Reference Group***

The reference group for our project is the Tertiary Engagement Committee at Volunteering Western Australia. This group has been invaluable in providing support, feedback and encouragement over the course of the project. As is the nature of committees, we have seen some changes in membership of this committee, and while we look forward to working with the committee with its new membership, we would also like to thank the members who have left.



*Tertiary Engagement Committee,  
Reference Group*



*ACEN Workshop, Curtin University*

### ***Thanks to the Universities and Volunteer organisations who are hosting the national workshops***

The level of support and assistance we have received from state volunteer centres and universities in other cities is invaluable to the success of the project and we thank-you profusely for your ongoing support.

### ***Thanks to our Critical Friends***

Over the December/January period our group of Critical Friends have provided valuable feedback on the Guides. Trying to cater for a wide range of audiences is always challenging and the advice we received has been crucial to the development of the guides. Many thanks indeed.

### ***Thanks to Linda Butcher***

Changes in the Centre for University Learning and Teaching at Murdoch University have led to our project manager Linda Butcher having to relinquish her role in our project. Linda will be mentoring our new project manager Gabrielle Walker – so she can't get rid of us that easily - but we wanted to acknowledge the work Linda has undertaken to help us to this point.

### ***Thanks to Simone Faulkner***

Our Macquarie Research Assistant Simone Faulkner has now also completed her work with us, and we thank her for her contribution with the literature review and especially her support of Debbie Haski-Leventhal in

conducting interviews in Sydney.

***And...My personal thanks to the team...***

We are now on our final run towards the goal of project completion. Thanks for all your hard work – not long to go now, although after that the work of publishing begins in earnest.

That's all for now, More soon, ***Megan Paull – Project Leader***



Dr Megan Paull	Murdoch University
Dr Rowena Scott	Curtin University
Dr Susan Young	University of W.A.
A/Prof Debbie Haski-Leventhal	Macquarie University
A/Prof Kirsten Holmes	Curtin University
A/Prof Maryam Omari	Edith Cowan University
A/Prof Judy MacCallum	Murdoch University

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