



Learning and Teaching Performance Fund 2007 project report form

Project Title

Student to Professional (Overton.Stewart)

\$ Amount Awarded

\$7,800.00

Brief Outline of the Project

This project explores the pedagogical models of teaching and learning articulated by Macquarie University's Primary Teacher Education Program undergraduates and graduates. How, or in what ways, this pedagogical model develops and evolves as the graduates begin their teaching career is of interest to this project. The strength of the original articulation of their professional pedagogical model of teaching and learning and its evolution reflects understandings gained from their university education. This research project aims to:

- gain an insight into final year pre-service teachers' conceptual understanding of teaching and learning theory and practice (pedagogy).
- track the development of this conceptual understanding of teaching and learning theory and practice (pedagogy) into the first year of teaching.
- devise procedures for using IT to: store student-generated content; for tracking and communicating between the University and its graduates; for graduate re-access to the content constructed as an undergraduate student.
- strengthen a sense of a 'community of learners' by providing final year undergraduate students with the opportunity to co-construct their own models of teaching and learning.

Project Outcomes

The project's anticipated outcomes are:

1. Publication of findings about pre-service teachers' conceptions of learning and teaching thus contributing to research into graduate teachers' pedagogical understandings.
2. Establishment of a methodology for future research into undergraduate

- students' understandings about and articulation of teaching and learning theory and practice.
3. Contribution to a culture of research-lead practice in a teacher education program whereby research has the capacity to inform and align curriculum content and pedagogies.
 4. Contribution to a culture of communication between Macquarie University and its alumni of graduate teachers.

Where will the project outcomes be documented (report to faculty or University Learning and Teaching Committee? journal publication? conference paper? Other?)

Publications will be dependent on specifics of findings, however the *Asia Pacific Journal of Teacher Education* is our first choice of journal (beyond that we are seeking other similar high ranking journals that publish in our area of research).

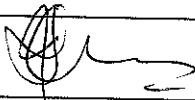
We will be completing an official report for the Faculty, which will be presented at a School of Education colloquium.

Should the findings be completed in time, a presentation at the annual AARE conference in Brisbane is anticipated. If not, then we will be seeking a similar conference at which to present the findings as soon as possible.

What is the next step? Or, how may the outcomes of this project be replicated and good practice spread across the University?

Once again the specific research outcomes will determine significance, however we are anticipating some implications of the findings for the teaching/learning. It is anticipated that the implications will be able to be incorporated to strengthen the pedagogy and teaching and learning content in the four TEP units from which the participants have been drawn, and make recommendation about support for beginning teachers.

Project Representatives

Name	Dr Jenny Overton
Signature	
Date	August 11 th 2008