Teaching & Learning at UQ

Professor Deborah Terry
DVC (Academic)
Current context

• national & international focus on QA around teaching
  – focus on T&L performance indicators, teaching scholarship, & student learning outcomes – are standards internationally competitive?

• new performance funding arrangements for teaching & learning to be introduced
  – in response to institutional targets that will be set for attainment, participation, engagement and quality
  – will replace the Learning & Teaching Performance Fund
In response to the Bradley Review, ambitious new attainment targets have been set

- The proportion of people aged between 25 to 34 years holding bachelors degree or higher will be 40% by 2025 – it is currently 32%;

- By 2020, 20% of overall higher education enrolments will be students from low SES backgrounds.

Source: Transforming Australia’s higher education system, Commonwealth Government, 2009
Also recognition that Australia lags behind its competitors in terms of student satisfaction & other student outcomes, inc. engagement.

Source: Transforming Australia’s higher education system, Commonwealth Government, 2009
Australian Learning & Teaching Council

- national focus for the enhancement of learning & teaching in Australian higher education providers
- funds fellowships & supports several grant schemes
- administers national teaching excellence awards & citations

- **supported by:**
  - UQ Awards & Citations for Teaching Excellence
  - UQ Teaching & Learning Grants/Fellowships
    - New Staff Start-up Grants – Scholarship of T&L
    - Early Career Scholarship of T&L Grants
    - UQ Strategic Teaching and Learning Grants (not every year – current round closes March 31 2010)
    - UQ Teaching Fellowships
Role of DVC (Academic)

• To strengthen the University’s commitment to providing higher quality university teaching & learning and enhancing the student experience.

• T&L focus is to:
  – enhance quality of teaching & learning practice
  – foster & support teaching scholarship & innovation in T&L
  – build a culture of excellence in T&L

• student focus is to:
  – enhance all aspects of the UQ student experience, and promote and support the ‘UQ Advantage’
  – oversee UQ’s student recruitment strategies

• work closely with associate deans (academic) & chairs of school T&L committees; institutes & the Graduate School
UQ’s mission: Learning, Discovery & Engagement

in Learning, the focus is on the UQ Advantage

UQ Advantage

- World class research
- High quality staff and students
- International linkages and opportunities
- Industry and professional engagement

Underpinned by

- Professionalism and excellence in teaching
- Highest quality teaching and learning environment
Enriching the student experience

- Focus is on how best to prepare graduates for leadership roles in a rapidly changing & increasingly global work environment
  - target is for one in four undergraduate students undertake an international experience
  - opportunity for students to undertake a concurrent Universitas 21 Global Issues diploma
    - provides global knowledge and skills
    - facilitates both virtual & physical exchange
  - concurrent diplomas in music and languages can also be undertaken
Summer research scholarships

Students awarded scholarships to undertake a research program over the summer

• $300 per/wk stipend
• work with well established UQ researchers in research institutes & faculties
• offer a unique opportunity for students to obtain experience in research work; can be used for credit towards degree
Office of Undergraduate Education

Co-ordinates the whole-of-university programs designed to deliver a distinctive UQ student experience (the ‘UQ Advantage’)

• student mobility
• summer research program
• industry placements
• student leadership opportunities
Learning Innovation Building

Will house three university-wide entities designed to promote and support innovation in teaching & learning at UQ

- Teaching & Educational Development Institute (TEDI)
- Centre for Educational Innovation & Technology (CEIT)
- Centre for Innovation in Professional Learning (CIPL)

The new Learning Innovation Building
Scheduled for completion in 2010 on the current TEDI site, the new Learning Innovation Building will bring together the:
- Teaching and Educational Development Institute (TEDI),
- Centre for Educational Innovation and Technology (CEIT) and
- Centre for Innovation in Professional Learning (CIPL)

at a single, central campus location.
• **Teaching & Educational Development Institute (TEDI; Director – Prof Merrilyn Goos)**
  - provides support for high quality teaching and learning practice and scholarship

• **Centre for Educational Innovation & Technology (CEIT; Director – Prof Phil Long)**
  - supports innovative use of educational technology and new-generation teaching spaces

• **Centre for Innovation in Professional Learning (CIPL; Director – Prof Bob Hendy)**
  - facilitates an increased focus on continuing professional development as a core activity & pathway to award programs
• **Developing your career**
  - *key tools & processes:* mentoring, workload management, annual appraisal & confirmation/promotion
  - understand the criteria that you will be evaluated on & ensure that the ways in which you manage your time, undertake staff development & plan your career align with these criteria

• **Developing your teaching**
  - explore opportunities for teaching & learning grants, ALTC grants, teaching excellence awards → engage in evidence-based practice
  - consider enrolment in Grad Cert in Higher Ed
  - build up evidence of teaching quality & teaching innovations
  - make use of new teaching spaces & technologies
Advanced concept teaching space, ACTS, Sir Llew Edwards Building, UQ

Collaborative Teaching and Learning Centre, Sir James Foots Bldg, UQ
Axon Learning Lab, UQ – opening 2010
“Instead of teaching by telling I am teaching by questioning” ... “evidence is mounting that readjusting the focus of education from information transfer to helping students assimilate material is paying off. My only regret is that I love to lecture”
“At the ELC you can pull up a chair and gather in. You have a sense of identity by going in, you feel like an engineer.”
(Steer, 2008)
Ideas Centre
School of Journalism & Communication, UQ – opened 2009

Photographs courtesy of Centre for Educational Innovation & Technology, CEIT, UQ