

FACULTY OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WORK

REPORT ON RECOMMENDATIONS FROM PHASE ONE

Please complete the relevant sections of this form

Recommendation 1	<p>Overall, staff are satisfied with the present restructure. The Review Team suggests that greater emphasis on inter-school coordination will facilitate this further. They commend the Faculty for providing staff with the opportunity to take on senior administrative/ coordinator roles is welcomed, and suggest that other staff be given the opportunity to shadow these positions to enhance their professional development.</p>
Action taken by the Faculty	<p>The recent restructuring of the Faculty with the addition of the School of Social Work and Policy Studies has provided a catalyst for more inter-school interaction. There are new initiatives underway including the redevelopment of the Children's Centre, a new M.Ed in Policy studies.</p> <p>Shadowing senior administrative/coordinator roles has begun.</p> <p>A new generation of people are taking up leadership roles.</p> <p>Graduate Assistants appointed to help program coordinators with administration of programs.</p>
Further action planned but not yet implemented (if appropriate)	<p>Postgraduate and Undergraduate Associate Deans' positions will separate from Head of School positions in 2004 allowing more people to be brought into these roles.</p> <p>Possible mentoring program being considered.</p>
Faculty's evaluation of the success of action taken	<p>Too early for evaluation of these initiatives – more consideration in revision of Faculty's strategic plan early in 2004.</p>

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Recommendation 2	More emphasis should be placed on the content and rationale of the Teaching and Learning Plan at the level of both staff and students. While staff were involved in the Plan's implementation, they will welcome greater involvement in its development.
Action taken by the Faculty	Discussion and workshops around the Teaching and Learning Plan at Faculty Retreat and Teaching and Learning Fora in 2002 has allowed more ownership of the plan and more involvement in its ongoing development. Major overhaul of plan in July 2003 to integrate School of Social and Policy Studies' priorities. Major revision will again be undertaken with new Faculty Strategic Plan in 2004.
Further action planned but not yet implemented (if appropriate)	Continued revision of plan at Faculty Retreat, teaching and learning for a in 2004.
Faculty's evaluation of the success of action taken	Ownership across Faculty is evident.

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Recommendation 3	The Review Team recommends that the Faculty consider providing more support to students before and during their practicum, although it is acknowledged that some supervisors go out of their way to provide excellent support. Students have expressed the need for a pre-practicum workshop and this is recommended.
Action taken by the Faculty	<p>Evaluation of professional experiences undertaken in 2003 from perspective of students and supervisors. Extension of this to schools is planned for 2004.</p> <p>Professional experiences introduced in year one for Bed Primary students after student feedback that this was needed.</p> <p>Professional development of tertiary supervisors undertaken in 2003. Tertiary supervisors also invited to TEC Professional Experiences Roundtable which was hosted by the Faculty in 2003.</p> <p>Faculty participation in NSWDET pilot programs to give more students experiences in western and south-western Sydney as well as in rural areas.</p> <p>Workshops for students at risk run by Professional Experiences Coordinator.</p> <p>Redesign of D&T course to enable more preparation for practicum.</p>
Further action planned but not yet implemented (if appropriate)	<p>More emphasis on pre and post practicum workshops in new professional experiences units in restructured B.Ed primary.</p> <p>Reestablishment of Professional Experience Liaison Committee with representatives from each program in November 2003.</p> <p>Major overhaul of handbooks underway – November 2003.</p> <p>New database under construction to streamline placements. Expertise provided from colleagues at University of Waikato, Hamilton, NZ.</p> <p>More streamlining of policies and procedures for professional experiences to be explored at Teaching and Learning Fora in February 2004.</p>
Faculty's evaluation of the success of action taken	Too early for evaluation.

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Recommendation 4	On-line learning was perceived differently by staff and students. The Review Team recommends that the Faculty should have a policy on on-line teaching and learning which is disseminated appropriately and implemented effectively. It should also update its website.
Action taken by the Faculty	Two chairs in Technology took up appointments in 2003. Computer Assisted Learning Centre (COCO) established and led by Professors Reiman & Goodyear. Website currently being redesigned. Review of Faculty's IT services chaired by Ian Trevena from University IT Services.
Further action planned but not yet implemented (if appropriate)	Strategy for improving distribution, circulation of user support of Faculty's teaching equipment underway.
Faculty's evaluation of the success of action taken	Too early for evaluation of new initiatives.

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Recommendation 5	Although there has been considerable work on defining and integrating the graduate attributes into the curriculum, efforts should be made to ensure a clearer understanding among staff and students of the University's attributes. As well as appearing in the handbooks, and being mentioned during the first lectures, the aims and outcomes of units should be at the forefront of students' attention throughout the semester.
Action taken by the Faculty	More emphasis in handbooks evident in 2003. Reference to attributes and outcomes in orientation for courses and units at the beginning of the semester.
Further action planned but not yet implemented (if appropriate)	Mapping of draft attributes to course and unit outlines.
Faculty's evaluation of the success of action taken	Some improvement but further work needed.

Recommendation 6	The Review Team recommends that the Faculty more clearly integrate the graduate attributes into all units and effectively communicate these to students.
Action taken by the Faculty	Working party developing graduate attributes under University's revised graduate attribute headings.
Further action planned but not yet implemented (if appropriate)	External stakeholders to provide advise on draft attributes.
Faculty's evaluation of the success of action taken	To come.

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<p>Recommendation 7</p>	<p>Although there has been good progress made by the Faculty in the area of research training, and students indicate that the support they get compares favourably with their understanding of what other universities provide, the Team believes that improvements are needed in the area of research supervision. They recommend that supervisors should be encouraged to undertake the Institute of Teaching and Learning's Postgraduate Supervision Development Program.</p>
<p>Action taken by the Faculty</p>	<p>All new staff and those who have recently completed doctorates are undertaking ITL Supervision Development course.</p> <p>Faculty is implementing new University PG guidelines for supervision.</p> <p>Extensive induction program for P/G students.</p> <p>Supervision workshop conducted for all Faculty staff in semester 2 , 2002.</p>
<p>Further action planned but not yet implemented (if appropriate)</p>	<p>Small 'jigsaw' workshops with several groups of staff – those who have recently done ITL course and those who are experienced supervisors planned in 2004.</p> <p>Assoc/Dean Grad Studies and School RHD coordinators to review supervision comments by students in interviews with all RHD students conducted in conjunction with Annual Progress Reports in 2003-4.</p>
<p>Faculty's evaluation of the success of action taken</p>	<p>Too early for evaluation.</p>