

Newcastle Declaration

2009 – 2010 Agenda and Founding Principles

Aims and Objectives

The ADLTN is intended as a forum of collaboration in the pursuit of learning and teaching excellence.

The ADLTN intends to provide Associate Deans with professional development of skills, knowledge regarding issues of currency, relationships with colleagues in similar roles, and the means to advocate and influence public policy regarding issues of education, teaching and learning.

We welcome the relationship between the Network, DASSH and the ALTC. The Network intends to work with DASSH and the Deans within the context of the DASSH Strategic Plan to achieve the following aims and objectives:

Professional Development

The Network aspires to provide professional development opportunities to Associate Deans in gaining knowledge, resources or skills in such areas as:

1. Standards and Outcomes
2. Policy and politics, including such issues as the following, and others as they arise:
 - Bradley report
 - Outcomes, benchmarking and standards
 - Government funding and policy.
3. Leadership, staff mediation and motivation skills, change management and succession planning
4. Sharing resources, including the following:
 - Roles, job descriptions and effective management systems
 - Evidence based exchange of practice and research regarding Learning and Teaching
 - Data and information
 - Grant applications
 - Corporate knowledge
 - Previous experience in activities, practice, curriculum renewal and other areas
 - Models of staff development for learning and teaching.

Mobilisation and Advocacy

The Network further aspires to encourage the Associate Deans in:

1. Debate regarding national policy, politics and other current issues
2. Shared activities such as projects and studies, including group applications for funding or grants for such projects
3. Raising the profile of teaching and learning issues within the Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities
4. Increasing the influence of the Associate Deans and Deans of these areas in national policy making and public discussion
5. Collaboration in such areas as:
 - Grant applications;
 - Benchmarking; and
 - Curriculum content and renewal.
6. Dialogue with Deans and other institutional leaders.

Proposed Structure and Activities of the ADLTN

Local and special interest network groups will:

- Meet as needed throughout the year. This may be in person or by electronic networks to discuss local and/or thematic issues;
- Coordinate with and report back to the national network on matters which may be of wider application.

Leadership and governance of the Network will comprise a committee which will:

- Contain at least one representative from each region, including NSW/ACT, NZ, QLD, SA/NT, VIC/TAS and WA;
- Have a recommended total of nine members, with the provision that the committee retains the authority to coopt members as appropriate;
- Have a membership cycle of two years, half of which will be elected by the network each year on rotation;
- Meet at least twice a year in person, by email or teleconference as required;
- Liaise with DASSH and its Executive Officer; and
- Welcome the participation of the ALTC Discipline Scholar.

The ADLTN will meet in conference:

- Annually, in conjunction with the DASSH conference.

Actions Approved:

- Technology subcommittee has been nominated to recommend the best means of electronic communication for network groups, to report back to the Committee by 1 December 2009. The subcommittee comprises:

Bill Wade	Charles Darwin University
Jordan Williams	University of Canberra
- Network Committee for the next twelve months will comprise:

Sean Brawley	University of New South Wales
Joy Wallace	Charles Sturt University
Stephen Legg	Monash University
Sarah Paddle	Deakin University
TBA	New Zealand
TBA	South Australia/Northern Territory
Deborah Gare	University of Notre Dame Australia
Sue Trinidad	Curtin University
Fred D'Agostino	University of Queensland
Jill Lawrence	University of Southern Queensland
- 2010 Associate Deans' Conference subcommittee has been nominated from the Western Australian representatives:

Susan Ash	Edith Cowan University
Sue Trinidad	Curtin University
Andrew Webster	Murdoch University
Deborah Gare	University of Notre Dame Australia
TBA	University of Western Australia