ACDICT Learning and Teaching Academy (ALTA) Fellowship

Supported by the OLT Education Network for Engineering and ICT

2012 Summary Report

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<80% of employers said teamwork, oral communication, interpersonal skills, problem solving skills are “very important” competencies in their selection (recruitment) processes

The AAGE Employer Survey 2011, p. 87

The profession requires T-shaped knowledge

• broad knowledge; and
• deep expertise

combined WITH skills and ‘mindset ‘ qualities

– openness, sharing, presentation skills.


“Not every group is a team, and not every team is effective”

Glenn Parker
As an ALTA fellow my main objectives are:

- **Helping** to develop industry required technical discipline-specific skills and personal capabilities in ICT and engineering graduates.
- **Working with** discipline leaders, industry and academic associations and community of interests (CoI) in both Engineering and ICT disciplines,
- **Using** the ALTC Learning Network strategies to address national and disciplinary priorities to enhance learning and teaching in higher education.
- **Identifying** current and emergent issues, collaborate with other ALTC fellows and develop solutions.
• Prepared workshop - with UniSA academics P Kelly & D Collett

Developing teamwork that works!

• Successfully conducted it:
  – 10 April – ALTA forum in Adelaide UniSA;
  – 4 Nov – Melbourne Conventicle, RMIT
  – 4-6 Dec – AAEE conference in Melbourne Swinburne
  – 31 Jan - ACSW ACE conference, Adelaide

• Oct-Nov ICT exemplary Practices
  – Prepared and published a Teambuilding Pack for ARNEIA Web page
Observations and Feedback

• Conferences are not best places to run workshops (low attendance – high competition)
• Better to use specially organised events such as Melbourne conventicle (36) or ALTA forum (14)

  – Comments on team formation
  – Comments on Rank & inclusive communication
  – Comments on effective teamwork
What is different in what we do?

- Scaffolded approach to building teamwork. Build on research into communication, rank, scholarly approach model for tutors.
- Work with students, guide them in their study journey rather than just teach them.
- Create safe and fun environment for team foundation and ongoing responsiveness to their comments, queries or difficulties in teambuilding.
- Include understanding of how global competence, rank, students’ diversity impacts teamwork to assist them to move beyond their usual comfort zones and include others.
2013 and beyond

- Workshops in coventicles
- Continue development of a framework in a blended environment
- Implementation across entire undergraduate degree (from 1st year till final year ICT projects)
- Publications
Questions and Discussions
• The Australian Association of Graduate Employers Survey Summary Report, Produced by High Fliers Research, 2011