LBCF Joint Program
Bachelor of Information Technology

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Overview of joint UniSA/TAFESA Degree offering

- History
- Educational Features
- Pathway version
- Structure Detail
- Issues
- Questions
History

- Based on years of articulation work
- Detailed analysis of relationship between TAFESA and UniSA IT delivery content and assessment approach leading to a detailed competencies/course bi-directional articulation agreement.
- 50% of the 3 year UniSA degree through TAFE credit from the Diploma in IT – Software Development
History (cont)

• Developed through
  – Commitment to task by both parties
  – Trust and respect
  – Flexibility by UniSA and TAFESA
  – Understanding and acceptance of differences in assessment approach
  – Similar overarching educational philosophies (eg. Integrity of assessment, importance of graduate qualities/employability skills)
Educational Features

• Three years full-time study as per standard degree at UniSA

• Students are issued a degree by UniSA

• Students can exit with vocational qualifications (Training Package qualifications) from TAFESA.

• Students can switch to AQF level 5 vocational qualification from TAFESA without any time penalties
Educational Features (cont)

• Different to a standard articulation arrangement where a complete TAFE qualification allows credit in a University program— a linear approach with credit application instigated by the student.

• UniSA courses and TAFE competencies are done in parallel with credit instigated and organised by the Institution.

• Combines the vocational delivery & assessment approach of TAFE with the delivery and assessment approach of university.
Educational Features (cont)

- Students are given the opportunity to experience the two styles of delivery and assessment so
  - The cultural shock between school and university is minimised.
  - Alternatives are created to minimise time lost if they have trouble coping
Variety of ways to meet minimum entrance requirements (MER)

Two of which are

- SACE and appropriate score (ATAR)
- Completed a Certificate IV or higher

What options exists for those not meeting the MER?
Degree Pathway (cont)

- Alternative pathway emerged.
- Students demonstrate capability by successfully completing a Certificate IV then moving onto joint program with no loss of time.
- Slightly increased TAFE load spread across final 4 semester
- A linear approach would not give as much credit or allow completion within the 3 yr time frame
Example - Semester 2

**TAFE** – Beginning Java

**TAFE** - SQL

**TAFE** – Intermediate C#

**TAFE** – Systems Analysis 2

**TAFE** – Team Software Development

**TAFE** – Managing Simple projects

**UniSA** - Network Fundamentals

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**Diploma of Information Technology (Software Development)**

**Bachelor of Information Technology**

**3rd Year, 2nd Sem**

**3rd Year, 1st Sem**

**2nd Year, 2nd Sem**

**2nd Year, 1st Sem**

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**Certificate IV in Information Technology (Programming)**

**TAFE** – Team Software Development

**TAFE** – Managing Simple projects

**UniSA LBCF**

Enrol through SATAC (434621)

**TAFESA Degree Pathway**

Enrol through SATAC (701322)
Advantages to Institutions

• Improved and ongoing interaction between Uni and TAFE.
  – Joint marketing efforts
  – Joint quality assurance efforts.
  – Forced communication of changes to content on either side (UniSA - revised programs, TAFESA – new TP)
  – Ongoing student feedback on content and delivery differences, similarities, positives and negatives
Issues

- The goal: to provide a set of administrative procedures for students to follow that will make dealing with two educational sectors seamless – difficult as students are enrolled on both the UniSA and TAFE SA student management systems and considered both a TAFE and Uni student.

- Steep learning curve for admin staff due to terminology differences, different student management systems and process differences

- Timetabling – ensuring sensible timetable for students at each stage across Institutions is a huge challenge.
Issues (cont)

- Program changes – these are amplified as they are affected by developments in both sectors and Institutions.
- Over a period of 5 years
  - TAFE SA – 3 Training Package changes, 4 management changes
  - UniSA – 2 program re-writes, retirement of original Program Director
    - All occurring at different times in the 5 year period
- Feedback from students is that changes and the transition complications are the greatest frustrations.
Bachelor of Information Technology

Questions?