



ISSUE 004



NAFEA

National Association of Field
Experience Administrators inc



NAFEA NEWS



A message from the President



It's difficult to believe that another year has passed, with another conference done and dusted! I'd like to thank all of the conference delegates, presenters and sponsors for their involvement and support of the 2018 NAFEA Conference. It was great to see so many people networking and discussing their burning issues and challenges and sharing strategies, resources and their expertise. The feedback has been overwhelmingly positive. There was certainly a lot of thought-provoking topics around wellness and resilience, which were particularly highlighted in the NAFEA Wellness and Well-being project presented by Associate Professor Dean Cooley and Anita Wheeldon and our Keynote Speaker Sam Eddy, an Executive Coach with expertise in issues such as burn-out and resilience. I'd also like to thank the Executive Management Committee for all of their efforts in 2018, and especially for their assistance with the organisation of the conference. The Association continues to grow bigger and better!

Congratulations to Wendy Harris who received the 2018 NAFEA Outstanding Award for her long-standing contribution to work-integrated learning and NAFEA. Wendy has demonstrated a commitment to NAFEA through her involvement in hosting the 2012 conference, promotion and support of NAFEA and her role on the NAFEA Strategic Programs Sub-committee. Wendy was elected as Professional Development Manager at the AGM and will continue her contribution to the Association in this role over the next two years. As the Association continues to provide additional services to its members, new positions on the Executive Management Committee were created this year. I am pleased that there were so many members who accepted their nominations to the new roles. The new Executive Management Committee will include:

- President: Ricky Tunny
- Vice-President: Rob Cherry
- Secretary: Ina Kotze
- Treasurer: Imogen White, Yvonne Thursby (Assistant Treasurer)
- Web Administrator: Laura Zubair
- Conference Convenor: Renae Cherry
- Sponsorship and Marketing Manager / Social Media Administrator: Katie Theobald, Trunette Parker
- Scholarships Manager: Danielle Waid
- Professional Development Manager: Wendy Harris
- Research and Project Manager: Ondine Bradbury

Congratulations also to the Professional Development Program Awardees: David Reid (Swinburne University of Technology), Ondine Bradbury (Monash University), and Simran Gill (Victoria University). Further professional development opportunities will be developed for members over the next 12 months. I'd also encourage members to promote (and apply for) the Project Grant Program, which is currently accepting applications. Check out our website for more information. It was great to hear about the projects that have been previously funded by NAFEA at the conference, including Ondine Bradbury's and Dr. Ange Fitzgerald's project on developing a resource for pre-service teachers and the project by Dr. Tina Kosteci et al. on student contributions to industry through WIL. On behalf of the Executive Management Committee, we hope that you enjoy the festive season with your family and friends, and best wishes for a happy and healthy New Year!

State Chapters

The State Chapters meet over dinner and drinks at the 2018 conference. The State Chapter Dinner was the perfect end to the evening after the conference Welcome Drinks. It gave an opportunity for members to continue to network and to get to know members from other states.

NAFEA is calling for nominations for the State Chairs of the NSW/ACT Chapter and the WA Chapter. Anyone interested in getting involved in NAFEA and developing networking opportunities for your regional area, contact president@nafea.org.au.

2019 chapter meetings will be organised early in the New Year.

Membership

Unlimited Institutional Membership offer access to the NAFEA website; discounted conference registrations; funding for professional development opportunities; bursaries for students to undertake WIL in rural and remote areas and/or indigenous settings; funding opportunities to undertake research or projects that focus on WIL administrative issues.

Full Institutional Membership (limited members) offer access to the NAFEA; discounted conference registrations; funding for professional development opportunities; limited funding to undertake research or projects that focus on WIL administrative issues.

Individual Membership offer access to the NAFEA website that allows members to interact and exchange ideas etc. with other members; discounted conference registrations; funding for professional development opportunities.

Membership Enquiry? Contact treasurer@nafea.org.au or visit <http://nafea.org.au/membership/>

Spotlight on...



WENDY HARRIS

Placements Officer - Paramedicine, Griffith University

Tell us how you first got involved in with Work Integrated Learning (WIL)? Outside of the tertiary sector I previously had experience in integrating people with disabilities into the workplace by enabling access to support and training. I loved this role, so I naturally drifted towards a part-time administrative role within physiotherapy clinical education in 2006. With time the position increased placement responsibilities and expanded to encompass the planning and management of the entire Work Integrated Learning student experience.

What was your first impression of NAFEA? There were some presentations that were not relevant and heavily academic focused however, I was so excited that I had the opportunity to network with other likeminded administrators.

Working solo with no mentor or colleagues I had no idea how many people there were in other universities undertaking similar roles. I felt supported feeling that there were other administrators that you could raise issues or concerns with as a sounding board, troubleshoot or provide advice to each other.

What do you find most challenging about WIL? Finding and filling quality placement gaps to meet increasing student demand and ensuring students are fit, ready and happy to undertake placement.

How do you deal with the pressure that most WIL Officers experience on the job? Make lists and more lists then revise daily or weekly. Plan your deadlines even use sub deadlines if it is a big one. Ensure you have and commit to, a dedicated 'uninterrupted' work time, during your day or week. Placement Officers often have multiple tasks happening at once, a simple phone call or academic stopping by can have you dropping one thing and starting another. I use dual monitors, multiple browsers and tabs or I write myself a note to remind myself to get back to it.

What do you wish other people knew about Professional Experience Placements / Work Integrated Learning? Measuring output or workloads from these tasks is not simple as there are too many variables. How valuable the student WIL experience is as a stepping stone into the workforce but at the same time how difficult it is for students to undertake placements particularly financially. These difficulties are not addressed that well by universities.

What is the most interesting thing you have encountered since working in Professional Experience Placements / Work Integrated Learning? I have seen a lot of unusual things in my time but one that sticks out is a 4th Year Physiotherapy student after their first hospital placement deciding physiotherapy wasn't for them as they didn't like 'touching' people. It only took 3.5 years???

What might (someone) be surprised to know about you?

I love live music, concerts and shows and excited to be going to The Kooks, George Ezra and Arctic Monkeys next year.

The Executive Committee would like to wish all Members a joyous Festive Season and a prosperous New Year.



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