2012 CDU Higher Ed Week Program Report

19th – 23rd March

The CDU Higher Ed Week is an initiative of the Office Media, Advancement and Community Engagement SchoolsLink. First trialled in 2008 with 30 Taminmin Senior College students, and again offered in 2010, it became clear that students have a variety of pressures, fears and misconceptions about HE whilst completing their senior years. Although they have a fairly good knowledge of careers achieved through HE, there is a lot unknown about what life will actually be like as a university student studying at CDU. This leaves the student vulnerable, hesitant and reliant on the guidance of others versus their own experience.

This unique senior student program is flexible and structured to suit young adults. It offers an expansive program that introduces students to a number of Higher Education courses as well as the range of Support Services available to students as they study. The program gives students the freedom they need to enjoy and feel the atmosphere of the environment, attend HE classes relevant to their career interests or aspirations, a broad awareness of the many disciplines, careers, courses and study pathway options CDU has to offer and it enables them to explore and familiarise themselves with the campus and our facilities.

External Stakeholders: Senior Secondary School Students, Career Advisers & Senior Teachers.


Community Engagement SchoolsLink would like to acknowledge that this program would not be possible without the support of Faculties, PVC’s, Heads of Schools, HE Lecturers, Staff and Support Services, who volunteered to assist, and/or open their classrooms to enable senior students a unique and valued experience.

Aim: To provide Senior Secondary School Students, and their Peers an opportunity to participate and find out for themselves, “what it is like” to attend Charles Darwin University, meet and interact with real Professors and HE Students, whilst being able to experience the difference between a lecture, tutorial, practicum, seminar or workshop, learn about our Support Services, whilst exploring our fantastic Campus and Facilities.

Structure: Senior Students could participate in any offering, any day with or without school supervision

Schools were asked to notify SchoolsLink of their students’ participation format. Groups were met, with individual asked to register on arrival at the Uni Info Shop. Students were provided with Student Evaluation Form, that included a student request for more information section.

Participating Schools & Format

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Participants</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday 19th</td>
<td>Casuarina Senior College Students &amp; Staff</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Darwin High School Students</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Taminmin Senior College Students</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 20th</td>
<td>Kormilda College Students</td>
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<td></td>
<td>St Johns College Students &amp; Staff</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Taminmin Senior College Students</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 21st</td>
<td>None recorded</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 22nd</td>
<td>Taminmin Senior College Students</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Darwin High School Students</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Kormilda College Students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 23rd</td>
<td>NT Open Education Student</td>
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O’Loughlin Catholic College, Essington, Marrara Christian College & Palmerston Senior College had students participate in individual sessions across the week. Total number of Students: 99

Good News Story: Uni Week Inspires High School Students – CDU Enews


Issue 3 - 2 April 2012

Uni week inspires NT high school students

By Leanne Coleman

Senior high school students have had their chance to experience the life of a university student during Charles Darwin University's Higher Education Week program at Casuarina campus.

Year 11 and 12 high school students visited the campus to explore the wide range of course choices at CDU.

CDU secondary schools liaison officer Trisha Mellow said the event gave senior secondary students an opportunity to participate in real university lectures, practicums and tutorials, meet lecturers and students, and tour the campus.

"Each year the program gives students a chance to experience university first hand by attending classes in an area specific to their career aspirations," Ms Mellow said.

"The program is flexible allowing senior students to participate in any of the 60 class offerings," she said. The students learnt about the potential careers paths in fields such as engineering, creative arts and design, nursing, education, business, IT, pharmacy, chemistry, psychology, social work, humanities, law and exercise sports, environmental, medical and health science.

Taminmin senior school students Jessica Brittain and Daina Dickinson said they had really enjoyed the art classes they had attended with lecturer in Studio Practice Dr Cornelius Delaney, particularly the screen printing.

Jess, who is currently in year 11, said she had been excited to learn new art techniques during her time at CDU.

"I didn't even know CDU had such a cool art school," Jess said. "And the lecturers were so interesting and friendly."

Ms Mellow said students from six senior schools visited the campus during the week.

School Requests: One Senior School has requested a CDU Marketing School Segments visit to provide a presentation to their Senior Cohort, One Senior School has requested a presentation from the School of Business for their Senior Business Classes, One Senior Art Class participated in a 3 hour Visual Arts session, and will be participating in some of CDU evening classes, One Senior School has requested their Senior Geography Classes visit and participate in Earth Systems Science class. CDU School of Creative Arts have received some very positive feedback and are currently looking at hosting a VizArt Day each term where all of the interested senior students would be invited to participate in a series of sessions.
Student Evaluation Results Summary

71% of all participating senior students have attended Expo’s and University Information Days, with 100% believing they have a good awareness of the different careers achieved through higher education. Only 29% of students were aware that if they did not achieve an ATAR, they could participate in the CDU Tertiary Enabling Program (TEP) as an alternate entry pathway towards a diploma and/or most degrees.

43% of senior students believed they had a fairly good idea of what University would be like. 57% of students stated, university was as they expected and they were a little concerned, wondering if university was right for them.

After participating 100% of senior students believed this program is a valuable learning opportunity for students considering university, and by attending the program they have a better understanding of what studying at university would be like, are now more comfortable with coming onto the campus and have more confidence in their ability to be a university student, and are considering university after completing school.

Questions from the Student Evaluation Form

Have you attended Career Expos and University Information Days?

Do you believe you have a good awareness of the different types of Careers you can achieve through Higher Education?

Before participating in the program, did you believe that you had a fairly good idea of what University would be like?

Was the University experience, as you had expected?

Do you believe by attending this program, you now have a better understanding of what studying at University would be like?

Before participating in the program were you a little concerned, and wondering if university was right for you?

Do you believe by participating in this program you now more comfortable to visit the campus and have more confidence in your ability, to be a University student if you choose to be?

Would you say that this program is a valuable learning opportunity for senior students considering University?

Did you know that if you did not successfully achieve Year 12 or the Australian Tertiary Admissions Rank (ATAR), once you have turned 18 years old, you could do the Tertiary Enabling Program (TEP) at CDU for free, giving you an opportunity to commence Diploma and/or most Higher Education Degrees?

Are you considering attending university after completing your secondary schooling?

Student requests for more information:

Medicine, Early Childhood Education, Small Business Management, Animal Science & Veterinary

Other School Requests

Faculty of Creative Arts & Humanities

- Dr Cornelius Delaney - On the 23rd March, 15 Senior Art Students participated in a Drawing Class, and had the opportunity to meet and speak with a past CDU HE Art Graduate, currently working part-time at the university whilst perusing her passion for screen printing, and from an Artist who is a current studying HE at CDU. Students also participate in a Tour of our Art facilities.
- Sarah Pirrie & Fiona Morrison - During the month of May, Senior Art Student, have the opportunity to participate in up to 5 of our regular CDU Night Life Drawing Classes.
- Dr Cornelius Delaney, Tim and Peter Houtmeyers CDU Visual Art Day – On the 10th & 17th of May, up to 64 Senior Art Student have the opportunity to participate in one of two Visual Art Days. Students will receive a
presentation of the many Creative Art courses offered by CDU, and participate in an Introduction Drawing, Screen printing and Sculpture Classes. In screen printing, students will have the opportunity to bring their own drawing and T-Shirt to screen print.

School of Environmental & Life Sciences – Dr Karen Joyce

- On the 4th of May Senior Geography Students from Taminmin College received an overview of a career as a Spatial Scientist, received course information, participated in computer exercise and received an introduction to understanding and using a GPS. Student, in teams then participated in the ‘CDU Great Amazing Race’ where they were required to use the GPS to lead them to pre-determined identifiable locations around the university, with the winning team receiving a prize.

Requested Tours & Presentations

- School request to bring their entire Year 10 Cohort to the University to participate in HE & VET Tours and Presentations
- In May the CDU School Segments invited to a Senior School to provide an overview of CDU and their HE & VET Courses
- In August CDU School Segments & Secondary School Liaison invited to provide an overview of CDU and their HE, VET and VETiS courses to entire Senior School Cohort
- School of Business has been requested to do a school visit to present to their Senior Business Students

A sample of Student Comments

Jess, who is currently in year 11 said, she enjoyed art because it allowed her to express herself and she had been excited to learn the new techniques during her time here at CDU, I didn’t even know CDU had such a cool art school and the Lecturers were so interesting and friendly.

Participating CDU Staff Comments

Yesterday’s group seemed very keen and it would be nice to think that sessions like this might entice them to come and study with us. We have the Facilities and the Staff we just need to make the appropriate adjustments to the curriculum. We have already started to brainstorm ways to maximise the learning benefits for our varied cohort in semester 2 and are looking at hosting a regular VizArt Day for interested Senior Students. Dr Cornelius Delaney, Lecturer in Studio Practice & Postgraduate Co-ordinator (Visual Arts), SCHOOL OF CREATIVE ARTS & HUMANITIES

Valued Participating CDU Higher Education & Support Staff (in order of program): Mr Gregory Smith, Mrs Jyoti Vemuri, Mrs Ruth Bellany, Mr Robi Islam, Ms Natalie Milic, Mr Shaun De Zylva, Ms Marianne Dyason, Prof Martin Jarvis, Mr Darryl Saunders, Mr John Prior, Mr Sami Azam, Dr Isabelle Lys, Ms Sarah Pirrie, Mr Rob Wolff, Dr Rama Jayaraj, Mr Jon-Paul Cacioli, Dr Paul Black, Dr Lorraine Connell, Ms Lee Skertchly, Ms Angela Sheedy, Ms Fiona Morrison, Mrs Maria Huddleston, Mr Danial Kelly, Ms Roopali Misra, Ms Susan Bandias, Mr Liam Johnson, Dr Vinuthaa Murthy, Mr David Heath, Mr Chris Lugg, Mr Simon Cooper, Mr Stephen Cousins, Dr Cornelius Delaney, Mr Jeswynn Yogaratnam, ASPRO Mr Ian Heazlewood, Mr Tim Growcott, Ms Mirjam Jonkman, Miss Larissa Pickalla, Ms Tanjil Whitnell, Mr Krishnan Kannoorpatti, Dr Karen Joyce, Mr Farooq Haq, Mr Daniel Suggit, Mr Peter Houtmeyers, Mr Samuel Hoffmann, Ms Robyn Williams, Faculty Pro Vice-Chancellors, Head of Schools, Miss Nicole Manapol, Miss Tanya Weatherstone, Mr Nick Baker-Goldsmith, Mr Michael Howard, Mrs Deborah Blaser & Uni Info Shop Staff.