

CLASS

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 1

MARCH 2011

UPCOMING EVENTS

April 14:
Professional
Development full
day Workshop for
Coordinators —
Victoria University,
Melbourne

April 15: Facilitator
Professional
Development half
day Workshop —
Victoria University,
Melbourne

May 31: CLASS
Project Newsletter
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CLASS Project

Coordinators Leading Advancement of Sessional Staff (CLASS) is a project that has been funded by the Australian Learning and Teaching Council (ALTC). The project aims to support and enhance subject coordinators' leadership and management of sessional teaching teams by developing quality processes, practices and resources that can be used across institutions.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOPS — 2011

Four Professional Development Workshops addressing leadership and management of sessional teaching teams have been facilitated by CLASS project team members in Sydney, Adelaide, Perth and Brisbane. 101 participants from 18 institutions across Australia attended these full day workshops that were hosted by the Institute for Interactive Media and Learning, at the University of Technology, Sydney on January 27, The Centre for Learning and Professional Development at The University of Adelaide on February 1, the Centre for the Advancement of Teaching and Learning at University of Western Australia on February 3 and the Office of Teaching Quality at Queensland University of Technology on February 10.

Four Workshops providing support and advice for facilitators to lead the CLASS program in their own institutions have also been delivered in Sydney, Adelaide, Perth and Brisbane by CLASS project team members. 35 facilitators from 18 institutions across Australia participated in these half day workshops that were held at the University of Technology, Sydney on January 28, The University Adelaide on February 2, the University of Western Australia on February 4 and Queensland University of Technology on February 11.

This Newsletter provides a synopsis of the evaluations from participants attending these coordinator and facilitator workshops.

LEAD INSTITUTION:

University of Wollongong



PARTNER

INSTITUTIONS:



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PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT HALF DAY FACILITATOR WORKSHOPS

35 participants from 18 institutions across Australia attended the CLASS professional development half day workshops that were structured to support and advise facilitators about leading the CLASS program in their own institutions. The workshop provided opportunities for the participants to:

- Further explore the iCVF and identify examples from their own context of relevant iCVF roles particularly in relation to leading the CLASS program in their institution.
- Discuss the challenges and lessons learned from the pilot of the CLASS project in 2010 and identify realistic goals and expectations for themselves in leading the CLASS program in their institution.

Workshop participants were invited to complete an evaluation at the end of the day. 31 evaluations were received and an analysis of the gathered data found that:

- 81% believed that the workshop met their expectations.
- 90% believed that the workshop was relevant to their needs in regard to implementing the CLASS program at their institution..
- 91% believed that the workshop was appropriate for clarifying what can be done at their institution to promote the CLASS project.
- 86% believed that the workshop extended their ideas on ways of leading and promoting the CLASS initiative at their institution.
- 93% believed that the workshop provided adequate opportunities for them to discuss issues and questions they had in regard to their institution's involvement in the CLASS project.
- 94% believed that the workshop provided adequate opportunities for them to contribute.
- 100% believed that the contributions of participants were facilitated effectively.
- 100% believed that the timing throughout the workshop was managed effectively.
- 94% believed that the workshop was well organised and administered.



Comments affirming the value and benefits of this workshop included:

Great to have opportunity to learn what others are doing and get advice on how we can implement programs.

This has been tremendously helpful in thinking through our approach and the opportunities available.

A photo gallery from the Adelaide Workshop is available from: https://picasaweb.google.com/110267321003253856418/CLASS20110201_AdelaideWorkshop

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FULL DAY COORDINATOR WORKSHOPS

101 participants from 18 institutions across Australia attended the CLASS professional development full day workshops that were structured to enable participants to:

- Explore the *Integrated Competing Values Framework* (iCVF) and examine its components in relation to their capabilities as a leader of a teaching team.
- Identify specific practices that they could adopt to enhance their leadership of a teaching team.
- View the three CLASS trigger videos that present issues associated with leading a teaching team and discuss the implications and possible responses from a leadership perspective to each issue
- Generate a draft action plan detailing a strategy for developing an aspect of their leadership.



Workshop participants were invited to complete an evaluation at the end of the day. 73 evaluations were received and an analysis of the gathered data found that:

- 85% believed that the workshop met their professional development needs.
- 84% believed that the workshop was appropriate for their leadership context.
- 80% believed that the workshop extended their ideas on ways of leading and managing their teaching team.
- 83% believed that the workshop provided adequate opportunities for them to discuss issues related to managing and leading teaching teams.
- 95% believed that the workshop provided adequate opportunities for them to contribute.
- 89% believed that the contributions of participants were facilitated effectively.
- 89% believed that the timing throughout the workshop was managed effectively.
- 96% believed that the workshop was well organised and administered.



Comments affirming the value and benefits of this workshop included:

The workshop was very effective in highlighting the role of course coordinator as leaders and in recognising the important contribution of sessional staff.

I wasn't entirely sure what to expect but I have a much better idea of what I need and can do to support my staff as well as what I need in order to do this effectively.

I see more clearly now the need to manage my team and the potential benefits of this to me, my tutor and students.

Commend the CLASS project for its leadership to provide support for sessional staff across all institutions. Website will continue to be a great resource.

A photo gallery from the Perth Workshop is available from:

<https://picasaweb.google.com/110267321003253856418/CLASS20110203PerthWorkshop>

CLASS PROJECT RESOURCES UPDATE

Support Materials for the three video triggers that have already been developed in the CLASS project are currently being drafted. These materials will be made available on the CLASS website.

Exemplars addressing key issues in leading and managing sessional teaching teams are being developed. The project team are currently identifying issues that will be addressed across the suite of exemplars. Once the focus of the exemplars has been finalised, CLASS project participants will be approached to assist in the generation of the exemplar content, which will be based on the respective professional context and experience of the person.



A collection of Institutional policy and guidelines examples are being compiled and will be made available from the CLASS website.

CLASS PROJECT 2010 EVALUATION

The involvement of participants from the four initial partner institutions in the pilot of the CLASS Project concluded at the end of Semester 2, 2010. Evaluation feedback was sought in late November and December 2010 from both the coordinators and sessional staff who engaged in the CLASS program. 16 evaluations were received and an analysis of the gathered data found that:

- 82% of the coordinator evaluation survey respondents believed that a one-year program such as the CLASS professional development program was useful.
- 73% of the coordinator evaluation survey respondents believed that their participation in the CLASS program significantly influenced their practice.
- 70% of the coordinator evaluation survey respondents believed that their action project had a significant impact on their leadership and management of their teaching team.
- All of the sessional staff who responded to the evaluation survey indicated that participation in the CLASS program enhanced their communication and teamwork practices/skills and those of their teaching team.

MELBOURNE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOPS



A 1 day subject coordinator's Workshop will be held on Thursday 14 April 2011 at Victoria University; 300 Flinders Street Level 12, Convention Centre, Melbourne from 9:30am—4:00pm.

A half day facilitator's Workshop will be held on Friday 15 April 2011 at Victoria University; 300 Flinders Street Level 12, Convention Centre, Melbourne from 9:30am—12:30pm.

If you or any of your colleagues are interested in attending either of these workshops contact the CLASS project officer Dominique Parrish: dom@parag.com.au.

<http://classleadership.com/>