Don't forget the chilli sauce! A weekend orientation getaway experience

Jodie Caruana

University of New South Wales, NSW, 2052, www.international.unsw.edu.au j.caruana@unsw.edu.au

The University of New South Wales initiated a weekend 'Orientation Getaway' for international students in 2005. The program was coordinated by International Student Services (ISS) and facilitated with the help of ISS Peer Mentors. The program aimed to enhance both the group and individual needs of students during their critical transition phase. At the group level the 'Orientation Getaway' developed a sense of belonging and built support networks within the international community whilst enhancing their confidence, knowledge of Australian culture, and career and study awareness at the individual level. The ISANA session will outline the design, implementation and evaluation aspects of this program so far.