

Harnessing your Skills for Community Engagement: Identifying, Matching and Transferring

Abstract

In the last five years, the International Student Support (ISS) unit at the University of Canterbury (New Zealand) has proactively engaged with the wider community including health providers, accommodation providers as well as local council and essential services. As a result of these engagements, closer community networks have been established and both domestic and international students' educative experiences have benefitted. Through these experiences, ISS has identified essential skills that nurture community engagement.

Workshop Facilitators: Stephen Harte and Xi (Sissi) Zhong

Workshop Purpose: The aim of this workshop is to enable experienced international educators, support and advisory staff to explore specific and practical skills that promote engagement into the wider community.

Workshop Description: This workshop is in three stages: (1) Identifying the skills of the participants and the needs of the wider community (2) Matching these skills with community needs (3) Harnessing and transferring skills for the purposes of nurturing engagement opportunities with the wider community. The workshop will be very practical and interactive with ample opportunity for discussion and feedback.