

UOW College



Involvement in extra-curricular activities facilitated by former students encourages intercultural communication, sustains student engagement and promotes positive academic outcomes

By

Felix Lanceley & Pranit Anand

About UOW College

UOW College



University of Wollongong campus
1 hour south of Sydney



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UOW College courses

UOW College 

English language programs

- English for Tertiary Studies
- English + Uni
- Academic skills
- General English


Academic programs

- Diploma of IT and Business
- Foundation Studies
- STEP to UOW
- UAP




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Our Students

UOW College 


International students:

- Many nationalities
- Inadequate English language
- Low confidence levels
- Unfamiliar with new surrounds



Domestic students:






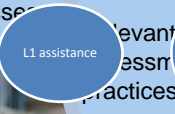
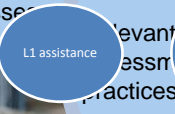





- Lower academic achievement
- Low SES background
- Illness/disability
- Mature age



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Student Engagement at UOW College

Non-tertiary study experiences
Disadvantaged life experiences
Unfamiliar language and cultural experiences

UOW College Graduate Quality
Inclusive teaching
Orientation activities
Sports/Games
Cultural celebrations
Transition programs
Class engagement
Interactive classes
L1 assistance
Relevant class practices
Student Relations Coordinators
Conversation-related activities
Learning resources
University environment
Successful university experience
Cooking classes
Information sessions
Successful future
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Student Relations Coordinators (SRCs)




- Ex-students of the College, now studying at the University of Wollongong.
- Key nationality and/or language groups at the College.
- Organise activities for students.
- Comprehensive knowledge of the workings and support systems available at the College and University.
- Limited counselling and advice to students.




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
Calendar of events



December 2011
All activities are free




Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
			1 12.00 Christmas tree decoration and Christmas performances	2 12.30 Mahjong		
5 12.30 Volleyball	6 12.30 Jenga	7 12.30 Softball	8 12.00 Christmas BBQ	9 12.30 Mahjong		
12 12.30 Volleyball	13 12.30 Jenga	14 12.30 Softball	15 12.30 Soccer	16 12.30 Mahjong		
19 CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS	20 CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS	21 CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS	22 CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS	23 CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS		
26 CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS	27 CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS	28 CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS	29 CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS	30 CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS		


Find us on  @ Student activities at UOW College

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Information sessions



- Information/University communications systems tutorials
- Living in Wollongong
- Safety
- Travel
- Shopping
- Money
- Accommodation



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Sports & Games

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Cooking classes

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Key events





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Facebook



- Daily update of activities
- Promotion of the program
- Community
- Effective way of communicating with students



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Mobile Phone App

UOW College 

<http://www.uowcollege.edu.au/mobile>



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Mobile Phone App

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The screenshots display the following menu items:

- Transport**
 - View Available Parking Spaces
 - Bicycle Parking Locations
 - Trip Planner (beta)
 - CityRail Mobile
 - CityRail Delays
 - FREE Bus Guide
 - Gong Shuttle
 - North Gong Shuttle
- Student Services**
 - Logon to SOLS
 - Logon to UOWmail
 - Logon to eLearning (fast)
 - Password Management
 - Contact UOW student services
 - SOLS Help
 - UOWmail Support
 - UOWmail FAQs
 - Wireless Internet Setup
- Student Information**
 - Quick Reference Guide
 - Key Dates - Domestic
 - Key Dates - International
 - Download Student Calendar
 - Campus Map
 - Peer Assisted Study Sessions
 - UOW Library Services

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Counselling / Mentoring

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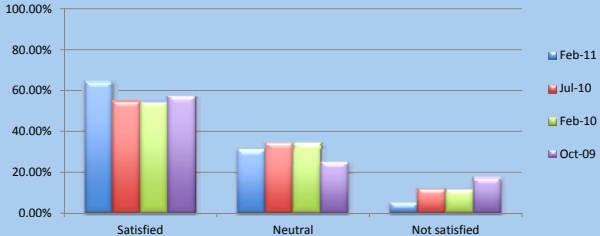
- Intervention: Academically at risk students
- Transition to university from the College
- Acclimatisation: New internationals

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Results

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The College provides enough student activities




Satisfaction Level	Feb-11	Jul-10	Feb-10	Oct-09
Satisfied	~65%	~55%	~55%	~58%
Neutral	~30%	~35%	~35%	~25%
Not satisfied	~5%	~10%	~10%	~17%

- "It's terrific. It has improved engagement. It's fun and enjoyment for students and probably helps them in their class work as well." – Dr Henry Lee, Academic Program Manager.
- "I have seen how participating in the lunchtime activities really improves the international students' confidence when they are required to participate in class discussions etc. They are more comfortable taking a stand and are happy to work with students from different backgrounds".- Teacher comment.

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Conclusion

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- Strategic decision by College management
- Informed by student feedback
- Continuous evaluation of the program
- Sustained student community:
 - SRCs

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Questions

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Thank you
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