Message from the Vice-Chancellor

The excellent teaching quality at Federation University Australia has been confirmed once again by the 2015 Good Universities Guide.

For an impressive sixth year in a row, the University has scored the maximum rating of five stars for Teaching Quality.

The University also recorded five stars for Non-Government Earnings, as well as a solid four stars each for students’ Overall Satisfaction and Socio-Economic Equity.

These exemplary results are testament to the dedication and professionalism of our staff and the commitment of our students.

Federation University Australia (formerly University of Ballarat) has consistently rated very highly for many years over a range of very important indicators.

5 Stars for Teaching
6 years in a row

Alumni Awards 2015

The Federation University Australia Alumni Awards will formally recognise alumni for their achievements within their chosen field of study and beyond.

In 2015 three awards will be available:-

• Alumnus of the Year (over 30 years of age)
• Young Alumnus of the Year (under 30 years of age)
• International Alumnus of the Year (for international alumni living and working in a country other than Australia for more than three years since graduation)

To be considered for an alumni award, nominations should be based on one or more of the following categories:-

• Outstanding professional achievement
• Outstanding academic or research achievement
• Outstanding service to Federation University Australia or its predecessor institutions
• Outstanding service to the community

For further information go to www.federation.edu.au/alumni - Alumni Awards.

Nominations close 4pm Friday 30 January 2015.
Win a $150 FedUni Merchandise Pack

Ask your fellow graduates to update their details today, to win a fabulous FedUni merchandise pack valued at $150 – go to federation.edu.au/alumni – Join or Update your details.

The FedUni Alumni member who encourages the most fellow alums join or update their details, will win.

Please ensure your fellow graduates list your name in the space provided when updating their details, as the fellow alum who referred them.

For further information, please read the Terms and Conditions of Entry at federation.edu.au/alumni – Alumni Competition.

The competition closes 9.00am Sunday 28 September 2014.

TAFE alumni members on my Alumni Centre

In a little over a month, FedUni will bring across all of our TAFE alumni members into one system.

This will enable all FedUni alumni members to have access to my Alumni centre, not just our Higher Education alumni members.

Correspondence will be sent to TAFE alumni members in early October.

For further information on my Alumni Centre, please go to federation.edu.au/alumni – my Alumni Centre

Blue Tie Ball

Federation University Australia will host its third annual Blue Tie Ball on Saturday 18 October, to raise funds for beyondblue, the national depression and anxiety initiative.

This highly successful event will include charity auctions, live music and a three-course meal. This event is supported by the Ballarat and University communities.

The ball will be held at the Albert Coates Complex at the University’s Mt Helen campus.

It would be great to see some FedUni Alumni members come along and support this worthy cause.
In one sentence what words of wisdom would you pass on to our current and prospective students?

- Put your heart and soul into everything you do and don’t waste time on things that don’t matter to you. (Merle)
- Study what it is you feel passionate about and give it all your efforts. (Fletcher)
- Don’t give up on anything that you don’t understand because only practice makes you perfect, and you will be interesting once you decide to learn. (Nijan)
- Take courses that will give you usable knowledge and portable skills, and that will expand the range of options available to you in the future. (Alan)
- Vac work is a great way to transition from University to the workplace and opens good opportunities with larger companies. (Nathon)
- Don’t quit – especially in the first eight weeks. Ask questions – don’t be afraid to ask your lecturer / tutor questions. Panic is normal – the ups and downs of studying are normal. (Kim)
- Find something you are interested in and study this as that is a good part of staying sane, don’t be scared to ask questions if you do not understand, try not to panic. (Werner)
- Show enthusiasm and be prepared to do anything – work ethic is very important. (Doug)
- As important as passing your grades are, don’t let them get in the way of the knowledge you gain throughout your learning journey. (Adnan)
- You will never stop learning. (Lee)
- All you need is one word “Attitude”. (Mohit)
- It’s not the degree that matters, it’s what you do with your degree and your life thereafter that matters most. (Shane)
- Look for volunteer opportunities early when studying your degree. FedUni has access to a range of volunteer programs which will allow students to develop their own personal skills and attributes, whilst being able to network with others and give back to their community (Ben)
- Focus on applying the learning into your practical work life, the output of your education will be based on how you apply your key learning areas into your work. (Mark)
- Never stop exploring or learning as education provides you with the keys to many doors both professional and social. (Lyn)
- As an employer of sports professionals, I’m looking for graduates with great character and workplace experience that complements their academic study. (Michael)
- Students need to strike a balance between what they like and what they can efficiently do. (Ajak)
- Do what you enjoy, the rest will follow. (Cindy)
- Always look at being flexible and adaptable. (Kerry)
- Always, always follow your dreams. Do what you’re passionate about and if you’re not sure, what that is – explore! (Sarah-Kate)
Academic Achievers travel to Boston for Conference

Golden Key FedUni Chapter President, Elisabeth Eccles and general members Mary Steel and Jennifer Green had the opportunity to rub shoulders with some of the world’s brightest at the Golden Key International Summit recently.

Taking place in the United States on Boston’s Waterfront from July 31 to August 3, Elisabeth, Mary and Jennifer were amongst 35 delegates from across Asia-Pacific, with over 700 people attending the conference in total.

Proudly representing Australia, Elisabeth had the honour of carrying the Australian national flag in the opening ceremony procession, followed by a delegate from each university from Asia Pacific. Elisabeth received a Golden Key scholarship travel grant to attend the conference.

Adding to the excitement, Jennifer was the overall winner at the poster session with her presentation of “Developing a Market Strategy for Research”. Jennifer’s model uses the power of marketing to raise awareness about ‘gut motility’ disorders.

The overall focus of the summit centred on the three pillars of Golden Key’s mission: academics, leadership and service.

The summit workshops offered tools to help with local chapters and prepare for life after graduation, such as critical thinking, how to sponsor your events, expert tips for employment success, and how to get the most from your Golden Key membership. Workshops were followed by service projects which included knitting blankets for the homeless and beading bio-jewellery to fundraise for mobile breast screening machines in Brazil.

Highlights of the summit included motivational sessions from Jerry Greenfield, co-founder of Ben & Jerry’s ice-cream, and Survivor winner and philanthropist, Ethan Zohn.

Golden Key is an international invite-only academic Honours society with over 400 chapters in universities in Australia, Canada, India, Malaysia, New Zealand, South Africa, The Bahamas and the United States.

The International Summit is held exclusively in the USA, but it was announced the 2015 conference will be for the first time held in Australia!

Save the date for 16-19 July 2015 for another exciting and thrilling event not to be missed by any Australian Golden Key member!

Jerry Greenfield  Presentation of cheque to Jennifer Green  Jennifer Green with her winning poster
Graduate Profile

Name: Shane Armstrong
Degree: Diploma of Teaching (Primary)
Graduation Year: 1983
Current Position: Executive Vice President, President International, Scholarship Corporation New York NY
Employer: Scholarship Corporation

What are some of your career highlights?
I guess the most surprising career highlight was being made Managing Director of Macmillan Education Australia (Macmillan Publishers) when I was 36 years of age. I was totally unprepared, but didn’t know enough to be overwhelmed, which was probably a good thing. Being thrown in at the deep-end was life changing.

After Macmillan I moved to Singapore to run the Times Publishing Group’s, publishing operation. This period was both an amazing business and cultural learning experience.

The most significant career highlight was being appointed President of International for Scholastic, the largest publisher and distributor of children’s books in the world. With revenue responsibility for ($US) 400+ million, it’s a long way from Ballarat College of Advanced Education, where I first studied or indeed Ballarat where I grew up.

Working with people and running operations in India, China, Singapore, Latin America, Africa, UK and of course Australia and New Zealand. Diversity is a wonderful thing.

What are your strongest memories while you were studying at the University?
I suspect some of my strongest memories can’t be written about here! I do recall having some great lecturers, Ian Page and Isobel Lawson I recall with fondness, as well as Mal McKinley in mathematics.

There were also some not so great ones, but then again they probably didn’t think much of me either.

Describe the most enjoyable and challenging aspects of your job
Managing people is always the most challenging part of any business, however it is also the most important to get right. If you get the people part right, success follows.

Jetlag is challenging. I can be in five different countries in one week, so there are times when I am not sure of where I am, or even worse, what I am saying!

The most enjoyable part of my job is bringing books, whether they be digital or print, fiction, non-fiction or educational, to children around the globe. We recently delivered several million books to children in Afghanistan, many of whom had never seen a book before. This was a great feeling.

Do you have any advice about life after study?
Don’t pass up opportunities. You never know where things might lead, but it is always easier in business and perhaps in life to say ‘no’ when ‘yes’ can open a world of possibilities. It is important to believe in yourself, back yourself and take risks. You will never know what might be, if you don’t do.
The FedUni Business Students Society, also known as BUZZ is the Society created by business students.

Our aims as a society is to provide all students within the Federation Business School the opportunity to engage within their degrees in an academic, social and professional manner.

We are currently seeking the assistance of ex-business students to gather profiles of your journey through university and how you got to where you are now. These profiles will be used to help current and prospective students to get an understanding on how graduating students have progressed to where they are now.

If you would be interested, the profiles will take approximately 10 minutes and are all conducted via email. Please email us at buzz@federation.edu.au

Worldwide Branding Advert

Please note the current advertisement on Facebook asking University of Ballarat graduates to register with Worldwide Branding is in no way connected with or officially endorsed by FedUni Alumni and our predecessor institutions.

All of our graduates are asked to Join or Update Details via our website – federation.edu.au/alumni

Should you know of any fellow graduates not registered with FedUni Alumni, please provide the link and they will receive a small alumni momento.

ICSL Researcher wins SITE Award for Research

Alumnus and ICSL Research Fellow, Dr Robert Layton, won the Research Award for outstanding research involvement with internal and external clients at the School of Science, Information Technology and Engineering Staff Award Ceremony on Monday 21 July 2014.

While Robert is an early career researcher at the Internet Commerce Security Laboratory, he has an impressive history of working collaboratively with industry and other researchers and recently won the Federation University Australia Young Alumnus of the Year.

We would like to congratulate Robert on his success.

AUSIMM Technical Seminar 24 October 2014

Industry representatives, alumni and current students will participate in the AUSIMM (Australasian Institute of Mining and Metallurgy) Technical Seminar to be hosted by Federation University Australia on 24 October 2014. Key presentations on the day will see several alumni return to FedUni where they completed their degree, and who have gone on to become successful in their chosen careers.

There will be twelve technical presentations aimed to update members about current and new aspects of metallurgical developments in Victoria and elsewhere.

Further information will be available on the AUSIMM website soon – www.ausimm.com.au

Hendy Award

The Hendy Award was established by the University Council to support the professional development of general staff at the University. The award is made biennially in honour of the late Geoff Hendy, a long serving staff member of the University and its predecessor institutions. Geoff Hendy was Registrar at the time of his death in 1991.

In 2014, FedUni hosted Mrs Jeanne Wheeler (Geoff Hendy’s wife). Mrs Wheeler was taken on a tour of the Ballarat campuses and had lunch with a few acquaintances at the Mt Helen campus.

From left: Professor David Battersby, Vice-Chancellor and Mrs Jeanne Wheeler

From left: Fed Uni Staff Kerry Wilson, Helen Ryan, Nancy Lange, Simone Byrne and Mrs Wheeler

From left: Dr Sam Henson, Campus Manager with Mrs Wheeler

Above: Dr Robert Layton
Gippsland Campus Ex-Staff Reunion Lunch

Around 30 former Gippsland campus staff gathered on campus for a reunion and lunch. This was the sixth such gathering since December 2011, when convenors Kevin Cale and Phil Rayment organised the first event.

This was the first reunion since the Gippsland campus formally became part of the new Federation University Australia.

We will now visit the Mt Helen in October. Quite a few former Gippsland staff have past links with the former University of Ballarat and its predecessor institutions.

Phil Rayment
Ex-Staff Gippsland

Ex-Staff Ballarat Mid-Year Get Together

The 2014 mid-year function was held in early June with approximately 20 members and partners attending. The highlight was an interesting and informative talk by George Fong (one of our own, ie ex-staff of Federation University Australia and its predecessors). George’s CV is very impressive and given his vast internet experiences it was appropriate that George talk to us about the NBN (National Broadband Network). The talk was particularly appealing to those of us who had recently been through the NBN installation process or were about to start.

The function also provided a convenient opportunity to update our Constitution and Rules. A Special General Meeting of the Association was held to consider revising the Constitution consequent to the Federation University Australia name change. A revised Constitution and Rules was duly approved and forwarded to all members. Any member (or prospective member) who has not received a copy may email Verna Barry (vernabarry@bigpond.com).

A return visit from the Gippsland ex-staff will be held on Wednesday 8 October. As Gippsland’s John Harris gave us a brief history on our recent visit to Gippsland, so will Jack Barker present our history to the visiting Gippsland ex-staff on this occasion. Jack Barker, of course, needs no introduction to Ballarat ex-staff and in particular to this author as Jack conducted a job interview with him in 1969 prior to commencing work at the School of Mines and Industries, Ballarat.

Geoff Boyd
President, Ex-Staff Ballarat

Ex-Staff Association Gippsland & Ballarat Get-Together

Wednesday 8 October, 2014

FedUni Alumni invites all ex-staff members to visit the Mt Helen campus for a tour of the University’s facilities, and to meet ex-staff.

A bus will depart the Gippsland campus at 8am, returning approximately 6pm

Ballarat members are invited to join the Gippsland ex-staff for a tour of the Mt Helen campus from 12.15pm, followed by lunch in the Caro Convention Centre.

Should you be interested in attending, please RSVP to:-

Pam Sutcliffe
Alumni/Foundation Officer
p.sutcliffe@federation.edu.au
Phone: 5327 9929
by no later than 22 September 2014

Tell us your story!

FedUni Alumni would love to hear what you’ve been doing since you left University.

To provide feedback or submit information for the newsletter contact Pam on
+61 3 5327 9929 or email alumni@federation.edu.au