

Professional Experience Newsletter



THE UNIVERSITY OF
NOTRE DAME
A U S T R A L I A

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2014

From the Dean:

We are so grateful to schools which partner with the University of Notre Dame in the education of the next generation of teachers. At Notre Dame, we have our courses designed with more Professional Experience than most universities. As such, where others have the theoretical aspects as the central pivot on which the Professional Experience builds, at Notre Dame we

teaching over the term and to see the enormous development that takes place for students during that time. It is to experience the ebb and flow, the interruptions, the co-curricular activities, the interactions with parents and caregivers, and to witness the writing of reports. After the first term in a school, Teacher Education Students

have the Professional Experience as central and the theoretical units satellite around that. Teacher Education Students complete three full terms in three different school settings during their four-year degree. They complete a year of theory prior to the first Professional Experience in a school. For us, teaching is not about a day a week, or three weeks. It is sustained time in the classroom to understand the narrative of learning and

complete a further full year of theory before their second Professional Experience in a school. Because of the sustained time in the classroom, however, they are able to feed into those theory units. Additionally, we use the feedback from supervising teachers, from Heads of Professional Practice, and Tertiary Supervisors, to see where the strengths were of that cohort of Teacher Education Students and what the gaps



Important Dates

Term One 2015

23-27 March

Professional Experience 1

-Birth to Twelve Years

-Primary

-Primary [RE]

-Secondary

Term 2 2015

20 April-19 June

Professional Experience 2

-Birth to Twelve Years

-Primary

-Primary [RE]

-Secondary

Term 3 2015

13 July-18 September

Professional Experience 3 & 4

-Birth to Twelve Years

-Primary

-Primary [RE]

-Secondary

were, so we can ensure we address those gaps before their next Professional Experience. Whilst they are on placement, the University has four levels of support for our Teacher Education Students

so those who are competent have the time to really excel; those who experience difficulty have the time to improve and become successful over the ten weeks – or to see for themselves that

this might not be the career for them. As long as due process is followed, we support schools if their determination should be that a student should not pass.

HOPPS Training Day

On Saturday 16th August 2014 21 teachers completed HOPP Training here at our Sydney Campus on Broadway. The day was attended by both Primary and Secondary teachers wishing to take on the role of Head of Professional Practice in their schools for 2015. The day started with a welcome and introduction by the Dean of Education, Margie Maher. She explained the importance of Professional Experience in the training of our Teacher Education Students and how their training hinges on Professional Experience with the theory built around this.

Our Primary Coordinator, Julie Maakrun, presented an informative session on mentoring from a student's perspective. The teachers in attendance also learnt about the new BOSTES Professional Experience Framework. The new format for our Professional Experience Booklets for 2015 was also presented as well as hearing from three of our current

HOPPS and their role. The day provided lots of opportunities for teachers to discuss the role of Professional Experience in their schools and what we can do to make it even better. If someone on your teaching staff is interested in taking on the role of HOPP for 2015, please contact the Professional Experience Office and we can arrange some "one on one" training at your school.

It is hoped that early in 2015 we will be able to offer some workshops for supervising teachers, HOPPS and Tertiary Supervisors in relation to the new Australian Standards for Graduate Teachers and the "At Risk" process for those Teacher Education Students experiencing difficulties while on Professional Experience.



The Dean of Education, Professor Margie Maher, presenting at the HOPPS Training Day.



Ms Julie Maakrun, Primary Education Coordinator, presenting at the HOPPS Training Day.



David Short, Senior Secondary Schools Liaison Officer, presenting at the HOPPS Training Day.



Networking during the break.



Hearing from some of our present HOPPS.

Nomination Forms 2015

As well as our Professional Experience Newsletter, you have received your school's Nomination Forms for Professional Experience placements for 2015. The Professional Experience Office asks if these Nomination Forms could be returned by **Monday 20th October**. We will send out letters again early in 2015 and will confirm placements during Term One 2015.

The University of Notre Dame greatly appreciates the continued support of our schools and teachers in preparing our Teacher Education Students for the teaching profession. The Professional Experience Office welcomes your feedback and are available to answer any questions or concerns.

Have a great Term 4!

**Who's Who in the Professional Experience Office
School of Education
Sydney Campus
The University of Notre Dame Australia**

**Anna Tuteri –Manager, Professional Experience Program
[currently on Leave]**

Fax: 02 9211 2193

**Lyn Hilson- Assistant Manager, Professional Experience Program
Tel: 02 8204 4211**

Email: sydney.peo@nd.edu.au

David Short- Senior Secondary Schools Liaison Officer

Tel: 02 8204 4258

Melissa Locke-Birth to Twelve Years Practicum Liaison Officer

Tel: 02 8204 4215

Julie-Anne Seach- Primary Professional Experience Officer

Tel: 02 8204 4204

Kimberley Jeffries- Professional Experience Officer

Tel: 02 8204 4210
