



THE UNIVERSITY OF
NEWCASTLE
AUSTRALIA

WIL

2014 ANNUAL AWARDS

Work Integrated Learning
Student and Staff Awards



PROGRAM

Welcome and launch of the *Hands On: A Photo Essay*

Professor Andrew Parfitt
Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic)

Keynote address

Judie Kay
President
Australian Collaborative Education Network (ACEN)

Address and Presentation of Student Awards

Professor Caroline McMillen,
Vice-Chancellor and President

Hall of Fame Inductee – Hunter Imaging Group

Nominated and presented by Mr John Tessier
Lecturer, Medical Radiation Science
Faculty of Health and Medicine

Presentation of Staff Awards

Professor Andrew Parfitt
Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic)

Vote of Thanks

Dr Kylie Twyford
Careers and Student Development (WIL) Coordinator
Academic Division

VICE-CHANCELLOR AND PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

In a rapidly changing and highly competitive global environment, it is increasingly becoming clear that access to a world-class university education is the key to a stronger Australian workforce, economy and society.

At the University of Newcastle (UON), ensuring that graduates are work-ready, well-prepared and sufficiently agile to adapt to meet the challenges and opportunities presented by the future job market is at the heart of our education and research mission. One mechanism to drive these graduate attributes and outcomes is Work Integrated Learning (WIL), which is embedded within our world-class degree programs.

Employers – both in Australia and in the international sphere – are seeking university graduates who possess a range of professional and transferable skills that underpin not only productive engagement with their chosen careers but also the capacity to drive transformative change and innovation. In the competitive environment of the future, UON will serve its graduates and alumni best by ensuring that it has a reputation for innovative education and research that translates into outstanding graduate outcomes.

This year we are placing particular emphasis on integrating industry with education, and on connecting students more closely to entrepreneurship and innovation – an important strategic direction for the future of the University. In particular, we expect to see more students and graduates seeking to engage in social innovation and entrepreneurship, developing new products, programs or policies that meet societal needs using viable business models.

This year the University's Work Integrated Placement Grant program has inspired 100 additional students to participate in WIL activities via funding by from the Higher Education Participation and Partnership Program (HEPPP). These grants were established in 2013 to address barriers to participation in WIL among students who are financially and educationally disadvantaged. For these students, capacity to engage in WIL is often limited by access to substitute income sources while undertaking placements, particularly where the student is required to travel far. Our University has secured more than \$310,000 in Higher Education Participation Program (HEPP) grants over the last 18 months, and represents just one initiative we use to support our students into WIL activities.

Engaging with our national and international institutional partners is also important to ensuring that the University continues to deliver quality outcomes for all our graduates. As a result, international WIL opportunities have been increasingly on our agenda this year, with high-profile global collaborations putting Newcastle on the world stage.

Creating international WIL opportunities for our students and forging new relationships across the globe is of particular focus in 2014. Last year, 169 Newcastle students completed their WIL placements overseas. Currently, we are in negotiations to partner with several international institutions for even more WIL opportunities. Through such engagement with our partners the University will continue to produce exceptional graduates and support the development of strong and prosperous communities well into the future.

Professor Caroline McMillen
Vice-Chancellor and President

DEPUTY VICE-CHANCELLOR'S (ACADEMIC) MESSAGE

Developing career-ready graduates who are engaged with their chosen occupation through meaningful, hands-on workplace experience is a key focus at the University of Newcastle. An opportunity to undertake a Work Integrated Learning (WIL) activity is part of more than 90 per cent of our undergraduate programs across all of our schools ranging from medicine, health, teaching and engineering, to emerging areas such as the creative industries, business, science and information technology. For our students, WIL accounts for between 25 hours and 1,000 hours in our various programs.

WIL is a vehicle that facilitates integration between industry and education as well as engagement with the business sector and government. It also supports enhanced relationships between education and a number of community organisations and charities.

The WIL Student and Staff Awards recognise the outstanding work of our colleagues. They acknowledge University staff, who develop and oversee student activities, providing opportunities for students to participate in relevant, innovative and practical projects. The Awards also recognise the contribution of students, and the exceptional benefits that WIL offers our students and their WIL hosts.

This year, I am proud to launch our very own WIL publication that showcases WIL at the University and highlights the achievements of our students and alumni. Tonight we also come together to celebrate the launch of the student exhibition *Hands On: A Photo Essay* by Bachelor of Fine Arts student Mathew Glover. The exhibition was shot over five months and celebrates not only Mathew's creative talents, but the wonderful WIL activities undertaken at the University.

Please join with me in congratulating all our awardees for 2014.

Professor Andrew Parfitt
Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic)

AWARDS

FACULTY OF BUSINESS AND LAW

WIL Student of the Year: Holly Ashcroft, Bachelor of Business/Bachelor of Commerce

Holly was placed at The Business Centre (Newcastle Region) to research effective social media platforms for small business. She approached her task with academic rigour, sensitivity, empathy and resourcefulness. Her social media plan has been implemented by The Business Centre and has already resulted in increased interactivity and engagement levels across the centre's social media platforms. As a result of Holly's innovative work, a new role has been created at The Business Centre.

WIL Staff of the Year Award: Roslyn Larkin, Lecturer, Newcastle Business School

Roslyn has transformed the capstone course for the Human Resource Management from a traditional lecture/essay/exam model to a full integrated WIL course, through a collaborative effort with staff from Hunter Water Corporation. She has placed 350 students in roles at Hunter Water Corporation over four years. Her efforts have helped to create a bridge between university and the 'real world'.

Highly Commended:
Anna Stuart, Access and Placement Officer,
Pro Vice-Chancellor Unit

AWARDS

FACULTY OF EDUCATION AND ARTS

WIL Student of the Year (equal winner):

Lisa Smith, Bachelor of Aboriginal Professional Practice

During Lisa's tenure at the Hunter Wetlands Centre she successfully raised the profile of Indigenous issues in the workplace, creating and implementing an Indigenous Employment policy for the centre. She was pro-active in creating a guided walks policy and training manual for the centre that forms the backbone of training for all employed guides. She also collated two self-guided tours and accompanying brochures.

WIL Student of the Year (equal winner):

Mathew Glover, Bachelor of Fine Arts

Mathew spent more than five months photographing WIL groups at Callaghan and the Central Coast campuses in action for use in marketing collateral and a photo exhibition at the 2014 WIL Awards. This WIL project was mutually beneficial for the student and the institution. The images produced by Mathew provide an authentic and creative student perspective of WIL, which the University will be able to benefit from for many years to come.

Highly Commended:

Lauren Summerhayes,
Bachelor of Fine Arts

WIL Staff of the Year Award:

Dr Tamara Blakemore, Dr Amanda Howard and Kerrell Bourne, School of Humanities and Social Science/Social Work

A collaboration between the social work discipline, the Family Action Centre and Morisset High School – fostered by Head of School, Education Professor, John Fischetti – saw the placement of a fourth year social work student in a local high school. The aim was to strengthen ties between secondary and tertiary education, identify industry links and improve relationships within the school community. This was achieved in partnership with the student social worker, academic staff and undergraduate researchers who delivered an innovative, research-informed project capturing opinions on the people, places and practices that matter in the Morisset community. Results of this project were displayed in a community exhibition, highlighting the potential for work-integrated learning opportunities to provide tangible impacts and innovation for the Hunter Region.

Highly Commended:

Dr Sally Hewat, Ms Joanne Walters and
Kristen Munro from the School of
Humanities and Social Work.

FACULTY OF ENGINEERING AND THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

WIL Student of the Year: Sarah Gray, Bachelor of Engineering (Civil)

Fourth year Bachelor of Engineering (Civil) student Sarah Gray has worked at Hunter Water in the Water Resources Team since 2014, where she is managing two vital projects related to the Hunter Region's drinking water. She is currently leading investigations into the Balicklera Tunnel Restoration Works in Raymond Terrace. Here, she has reviewed geotechnical concept designs of the 1962 tunnel, managed stakeholder interactions, risk assessment workshop and writing business cases.

Highly Commended:

Thomas Atkins,
Bachelor of Construction
Management (Building)

WIL Staff of the Year Award: Ramsey Awad, Lecturer, School of Architecture and Built Environment

A consistent champion of WIL activity within the University, Ramsey collaborated with Design+ organisers to involve University students in the inaugural year (2013) of the festival, which aims to showcase local talent and provide networking opportunity for the wealth of design talent often hidden in and around Newcastle. Together, they came up with a design competition for students to create a display pod for the festival. In 2014, Ramsey took this a step further and incorporated it into an assessable project within the third year architecture design course. In addition to the design elements, Ramsey also facilitated a number of students to speak at the festival, showcasing our students and University to the wider design community.

AWARDS

FACULTY OF HEALTH AND MEDICINE

WIL Student of the Year Award: Catherine Hicks, Bachelor of Medicine – Joint Medical Program

Catherine's passion for rural and remote health was evident with her choosing to do placements overseas in Nepal and Oslo, and Broken Hill in remote NSW. She worked around-the-clock alongside the sole obstetrician in Nepal, overcoming language barrier and cultural sensitivity. In 2013, Catherine received the MIGA Elective Grant, which recognises exemplary service to developing countries and facilitates further contribution. Challenged by crippling lack of resources, Catherine liaised with local doctors to organise the purchase of basic medical equipment which is a lasting legacy of her time in Nepal and facilitated significant improvement to in-patient health there. She also worked for the Flying Doctors Service providing emergency care in remote out-stations.

Highly Commended:

Scott Craythorn,
Bachelor of Medicine,
Joint Medical Program

Highly Commended:

Andrew Burbidge,
Bachelor of Medicine,
Joint Medical Program

Highly Commended:

Yun Ming Yong,
Bachelor of Medicine/Bachelor
of Medical Science

WIL Staff of the Year Award: Jacqueline Leys, Lecturer, Physiotherapy Department of Rural Health

Jacqueline is helping to break new ground and develop important connections between clinical and academic practice. She provides teaching to third and fourth year physiotherapy students in the Emergency Department of the Tamworth Rural Referral Hospital. Around 57 per cent of patients she has assessed in the hospital had a student assigned to their case. Jacqueline is committed to teaching in a clinical setting, with a great emphasis on practical skills like x-ray, plastering, and she makes sure students are given hands-on experience. She has also published conference data in relation to WIL and is currently collecting research on the role of a physio in Emergency Department.

Highly Commended:

Associate Professor Rohan Rasiah,
School of Biomedical Sciences
and Pharmacy

FACULTY OF SCIENCE AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

WIL Student of the Year Award: Declan Clausen, Bachelor of Science (Sustainable Resource Management)

Declan has completed 2,800 hours of authentic work placement at Hunter Water as an Industry Scholar since 2011 and was employed full time since 2013. He has undertaken complex projects across several teams concurrently and in distinct placement blocks. Declan acts as the Special Areas Coordinator for Hunter Water's Water Resources Group where he oversees multi-million dollar developments and is the representative for Hunter Water to all levels of government. He has worked for 23 weeks in the organisation's public affairs team as event manager for high profile community days, implemented a public awareness campaign on water quality and worked towards saving the Hunter Region Botanic Gardens from closure by leading negotiations. His WIL activities outside of Hunter Water also include: Engineers Without Borders (Dialogues of Development tour of the Murray Darling Basin) and an AsiaAbroad scholarship which was completed in Indonesia.

Highly Commended:

Lee Dedman,
Bachelor of Natural History Illustration

Highly Commended:

Leigh Graham, Bachelor of
Natural History Illustration

WIL Staff of the Year Award: Dr Vikrant Kishhore, Lecturer, School of Design, Communication and Information Technology

Vikrant provided communications students with an opportunity of a lifetime. For the past two years he has taken a cohort of media productions students from the Bachelor of Communication program to the Gannatt Festival in France. Here, they record film and photographic material of the festival for promotional use by the organisers. The festival is a major international event supported by the International Council for Folklore Festivals and UNESCO – promoting global diversity. The internship is a result of a government grant pursued by Vikrant.

AWARDS

STUDENT WIL VIDEO COMPETITION

WINNER:

Alicia Denton, Bachelor of Oral Health, Faculty of Health and Medicine

Alicia completed a health outreach program for orphaned children and disadvantaged communities in West Timor. She was among eight Bachelor of Oral Health students who participated in the 10-day trip to offer our skills to these communities.

RUNNER UP:

Sarah Byran,
Bachelor of Social Work (Honours)

Sarah undertook a 14-week placement with the University's Family Action Centre and completed a community engagement project at a Lake Macquarie High School. This was part of a growing partnership between the University and Morisset High School. The honours students used group work, networking initiatives and collaboration there Sarah got to share the stories of the local school students and teachers, putting into practice her theory and knowledge to discover her professional self.

Highly Commended:

Hayley Ovenden,
Bachelor of Civil Engineering

Highly Commended:

Moriah Resurreccion,
Bachelor of Nursing

HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE: HUNTER IMAGING GROUP

Hunter Imaging Group is Newcastle and the Hunter's largest provider of diagnostic medical imaging services. The Group provides a comprehensive array of imaging services such as MRI, Nuclear Medicine, Computed Tomography (CT), Ultrasound, Interventional procedures and general x-ray. Radiation science is constantly changing and having a local company with the latest technology available nearby, allows our undergraduate program to better prepare students for their professional careers. Hunter Imaging Group has been very generous with

the provision of clinical experience. In 2014 alone, 45 students will complete professional placements, each five weeks in duration. Currently, 132 University graduates are employed as radiographers or nuclear medicine technicians. The staff at Hunter Imaging Group is an asset to the program with their expertise in all imaging modalities, their knowledge of the University's programs, and their ability and willingness to contribute and support WIL. We could not maintain our high standard of teaching radiography at the University without Hunter Imaging Group.

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OUR AWARD RECIPIENTS

Work Integrated Learning (WIL) at the University of Newcastle is highly valued by our students in preparing them to be career-ready and in providing them with a competitive advantage in the employment marketplace. We wish our Student WIL Award of the Year winners and Highly Commended student all the best in their future endeavours.

By working in collaboration with industry, and through the dedication of our academic and professional staff the University of Newcastle is able to provide WIL-based programs across a broad range of degree programs and to a large number of undergraduate and post-graduate students. We acknowledge the effort and innovation occurring in WIL across University and congratulate the staff who won Highly Commended and Staff of the Year WIL awards.



This year we have the exciting task of launching WIL's very own publication and student exhibition *Hands On: A Photo Essay*, featuring unique images taken by Bachelor of Fine Art student Mathew Glover. The product of Mathew's directed study shows students engaged in WIL activities, as seen through a peer's lens. The result is WIL shot from a student's perspective, giving a unique take on what it is to undertake WIL. Mathew spent five months capturing the WIL activities of students across our Newcastle and Central Coast campuses. The exhibition is a celebration of this artwork.

30
OCTOBER

HANDS ON
A PHOTO ESSAY

THE UNIVERSITY GALLERY
CALLAGHAN CAMPUS
