2012 REVIEW OF UWS COMMUNITY AND REGIONAL ENGAGEMENT

ADDITIONAL CASE STUDIES

1. Badanami Centre for Indigenous Education
2. Karitane
3. Penrith Observatory

August 2012
CASE STUDY 1
BADANAMI CENTRE FOR INDIGENOUS EDUCATION

**Name of activity:**
Badanami Centre for Indigenous Education

**Brief description of the activity:**
The Badanami Centre for Indigenous Education provides a range of services for staff, students and community members in accessing higher education. The centre has offices located on each campus across UWS, so Indigenous students can access a range of services and support to guide them through their study and to help make their time at the University of Western Sydney enjoyable and enriching.

Badanami can put students in touch with a range of services available on campus, from study skills courses, careers advice, counseling and medical assistance all the way through to opportunities to study abroad.

The Badanami Centre administers various programs targeting indigenous students including:

- The Badanami Alternative Entry Scheme: aimed at increasing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander participation in undergraduate programs across all areas of study at the university.
- The Indigenous Tutorial Assistance Scheme: enables Indigenous students to receive individual or group tuition with qualified tutors in essay writing, study and research skills.

**The Centre also:**
- provides academic support to all Indigenous students
- conducts an Indigenous Student Orientation Program
- advises on enrolment, programs of study, graduation, leave of absence, withdrawal, scholarships and cadetships
- advocates on behalf of students
- provides teaching expertise
- conducts research and consultancy

**Benefits to UWS, and the community:**
- The Badanami Centre benefits the community by increasing access and retention of Indigenous students into higher education. The Program supports Indigenous students to ensure they succeed in their tertiary studies and can become professionals actively contributing to the wellbeing of their community and the wider society.
- The centre benefits the University by further strengthening its position as a University committed and actively implementing programs to address access and equity issues in higher education.
CASE STUDY 2
KARITANE

Activity partners:
Karitane is an organisation that works to support families who are experiencing some type of parenting challenges and difficulties. As a specialised health service, Karitane requires a highly skilled and qualified workforce which includes Registered Nurses (and in the future registered midwives) with post graduate qualification in child & family health.

Brief description of the project
Karitane has had a long and very successful relationship with the University of Western Sydney to deliver evidence-based, highly relevant course content that facilitates the development of theoretical knowledge and clinical skills to lead practice in this field. Karitane and UWS staff worked collaboratively to design the new Masters curriculum and this was done in consultation with key stakeholders including policy makers to be sure we developed a course that meet the industry requirement for practice. Karitane staff continue to work collaboratively with UWS staff to deliver the course content and to support student learning.

Karitane are also the industry partner in a successful ARC lineage grant: The Perinatal Journey: Process and impact of psychosocial assessment and depression screening led by Professor Virginia Schmied from the SoNM and with co-investigators Associate Professor Lynn Kemp, UNSW and Dr Tanya Covic, School of Social and Psychology, UWS.

Benefits to UWS, and the community:
• This partnership has enabled UWS to deliver high quality education in Child and Family Health nursing for the past 18 years;
• The industry expertise of Karitane has guided the content of the course to ensure graduates are well equipped with theoretical knowledge and practical skill to work in the field.
• The course is offered at Masters level and is the first Masters to be designed especially for Child & Family Health Nurses in NSW.
• The partnership benefits the community by producing graduates with the skills and expertise in areas of identified community need.
CASE STUDY 3
PENRITH OBSERVATORY

Activity partners
Primary and Secondary Schools in Greater Western Sydney, community and government organisations

Brief description of the project
UWS Observatory is located on the Werrington North Campus and runs programs which include undergraduate teaching (image processing and analysis), family astronomy nights, HSC programs for schools, teachers’ workshops and Astronomy for Indigenous students.

A visit to UWS Observatory can include listening to fascinating lectures on various aspects of astronomy and viewing through fully computerised telescopes. Visitors can also come and listen to special lectures given by some of Australia’s eminent and internationally recognised astronomers, physicists and engineers.

Benefits to UWS, and the community:
- The Observatory has attracted a significant number of visitors and school students to its programs. For instance, in the first four months of 2012, it had over 1000 visitors.
- The local community benefits from the programs offered by the Observatory in that they ‘bring knowledge to life’ for people of all ages.
- The University also benefits from the programs in that they boost the profile of the University in the local community, which would lead to increased interest in our programs in science, computing, engineering and mathematics.

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