

NAFEA CONFERENCE

CAIRNS 2005

(16 – 18 November)

'ELASTIC ELEPHANTS'



Convenor: Jenny Jensen, School of Education, James Cook University, Cairns Campus

Participating Institutions

Australian Catholic University
 Central Queensland University
 Charles Darwin University
 Charles Sturt University
 Deakin University
 Flinders University
 Griffith University
 James Cook University
 LaTrobe University
 Murdoch University
 Queensland University of Technology
 Tabor Adelaide

University of Ballarat
 University of Canberra
 University of Melbourne, The
 University of New England, The
 University of Newcastle, The
 University of Queensland, The
 University of South Australia
 University of Southern Queensland
 University of Sydney, The
 University of the Sunshine Coast
 University of Wollongong
 Victoria University

List of Participants

Last Name	First Name	Position	Institution
Bernaldo	Rae	Prof Practice Coordinator	University of Melbourne
Brader	Elizabeth	Prof Experience Coordinator	University of South Australia
Brown	Cheryl	Coordinator Prof Experience	University of Sydney
Butler	Lou	Administration Officer	University of Ballarat
Clancy	Marguerite	Placements Officer	Qld University of Technology
Clark	Judy	Field Studies Admin Officer	Qld University of Technology: KG
D'Antiochia	Marina	Placement Officer	University of South Australia
Davies	Frank	Head of Education	Tabor Adelaide
Ditchburn	Geraldine	Lecturer	Murdoch University
Dollin	Maree	Prof Experience Office	University of Newcastle, The
Durston	Melanie	Prof Workplace Learning Coord.	University of Sunshine Coast
Edwards	Rod	Director: Prof Practice Unit	Griffith University
Elliott	Michelle	Placement Coordinator	Charles Darwin University
Emry	Paula	School Experience Officer	Deakin University: Warrnambool
Farago	Anna	Prof Practice Coordinator	University of Melbourne
Fox	Debra	Placement Officer	University of Newcastle
Gibbons	Aileen	Administrative Officer	Qld University of Technol: Carsel.
Gillard	Sylvia	Placement Officer	Griffith University
Greaves	Susan	Clinical Admin Officer	Australian Catholic University
Hall	Suzie	Admin Assistant: Prof Exp Unit	James Cook University: Cairns
Halsey	John	Exec. Officer: Rural Ed Forum	Flinders University
Harris	John	Teaching Experience Coord.	Flinders University
Haycock	Ruth	Administrative Assistant	Qld University of Technology: KG
Haydon	Sue	Senior Admin Assistant	University of New England
Hector	Robyn	Manager: Prof Experience	University of Sydney
Hickey	Ruth	Director: Prof Experience	James Cook University: Cairns
Hill	Bethany	Admin & Placement Coordinator	James Cook University: T'ville
Jensen	Jenny	Conference Convenor	James Cook University: Cairns
Jolley	Prue	School Experience Officer	Deakin University
Kozak	Terri	Placements Officer	Qld University of Technology
Lane	Veronica	Administrative Assistant	Charles Sturt University
Lilliebridge	Sarah	Prof Experience Officer	University of Southern Qld
Llewellyn	Linda	Lecturer: Prof Experience	James Cook University: T'ville
Lowe	Sally	Administrative Officer	University of Southern Qld
Ludlow	Marilyn	Practicum Placements Officer	University of Queensland: Ipswich
Lumby	Robyn	Prof Officer: Education	University of Wollongong
Madden	Letitia	Teacher Education Administrator	University of Queensland: St Lucia
McFarlane	Melissa	Fieldwork Officer: Occ. Therapy	Charles Sturt University
McKinstry	Franca	Admin & Placement Coordinator	James Cook University: T'ville
McLellan	Barbara	Prof Dev. Centre Administrator	Griffith University
Mogensen	June	Admin/Practicum Officer	Central Queensland University
Monsen	Sue	Practicum Coordinator	University of Queensland
Monteduro	Katherine	Administrator	University of Ballarat

Napoli	Julie	Prof Experience Officer	James Cook University: Cairns
Nilsson	Deborah	Field Education Coordinator	James Cook University: Cairns
Nothdurft	Marilyn	Administrator	University of Canberra
Oates	Carolyn	Placements Officer	LaTrobe University
Olsen	Justine	Profession Experience Lecturer	James Cook University: T'ville
Poole	Juliette	Secretary: Field Exp. Office	Qld University of Technology: KG
Quayle	Patricia	Prof Experience Coordinator	James Cook University: Cairns
Reid	Catherine	Prof Practice Coordinator	University of Melbourne
Richards	Shirley	Placements Officer	Qld University of Technology: KG
Richardson	Leigh	Partnerships Administrator	Victoria University
Roache	Terry	Prof Practice Coordinator	University of Melbourne
Rodier	Cathy	Placements Officer	Qld University of Technology: KG
Rothacker	Janice	Clinical Administrator: Nursing	LaTrobe University: Bendigo
Sauer	Jenny	Prof Experience Officer	University of New England
Schloithe	Carey	Placement Officer	University of South Aust: Magill
Sheehan	Lyn	Placements Officer	Qld University of Technology: KG
Shellshear	Lyn	Placements Officer	Qld University of Technology: KG
Sheridan	Melissa	Student Club Administrator	University of Sunshine Coast
Smith	John	Snr Lecturer/Prac Coordinator	Tabor Adelaide
Turner	Jane	Administrative Assistant	University of Southern Qld
Vernuccio	Natalie	Partnerships Coordinator	Victoria University
Weatherlake	Robyn	Community Fieldwork Coord.	University of Sunshine Coast
Whitby	Dawn	Prof Officer: Education	University of Wollongong
Wisniewski	Barbara	Clinical Placements Officer	Griffith University

Guests

Dollin		Partner Maree Dollin
Halsey	Mrs	Partner John Halsey
Ludlow	Allan	Partner Marilyn Ludlow

Presenters

Darvenizia	Marg	Presenter	James Cook University: Cairns
Fredericks	Margareet	Presenter	James Cook University: Cairns
McKaskill	Brigitte	Presenter	James Cook University: Cairns
Muloin	Sue	Presenter	James Cook University: Cairns
Pryce	Jo	Presenter	James Cook University: Cairns
Riley	Malcolm	Presenter	James Cook University: Cairns
Woodward	Julie	Presenter	James Cook University: Cairns

Program

Wednesday 16th November	
2:00pm	Meeting (optional) of Queensland delegates at l'Unicos Restaurant, Trinity Beach
8:00pm	Welcome Function at Pacifos (at Pacific International Hotel, The Esplanade, Cairns)
Thursday 17th November	
9:30am	Arrival and Registration
10:00am	<p>OPENING SESSION: <i>The March of the Royal Elephants</i></p> <p>Chair: Julie Napoli JCU Cairns</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Welcome: Judy Clark (<i>NAFEA National President</i>) Address: Lesley Clark (<i>State MP Barron River</i>) Keynote Addresses: Wendy Wallwork (<i>Final Year Education student JCU Cairns</i>) Prof Janet Greeley (<i>Executive Dean: Faculty of Arts, Education & Social Sciences JCU Cairns</i>) OFFICIAL OPENING: Prof Scott Bowman (<i>Pro-Vice-Chancellor JCU Cairns</i>) <p>Official Guests depart.</p>

11:00am	Morning Tea
11:30AM Chair: Dawn Whitby & Robyn Lumby Wollongong University	FORUM: <i>Straight from the Elephant's Mouth: Perspectives on Field Experience'</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student Perspectives Sonya Kremser (<i>recently graduated Education Student JCU Cairns</i>) • University Perspectives Social Work & Community Welfare: Deborah Nilsson (<i>Field Education Coordinator; currently On Leave</i>) • Site Placement Perspectives School: Ms Vicki Sparkes (<i>Deputy Principal Atherton State School</i>) Community: Ms Dorothy Dunne (<i>Manager Worklink: Cairns</i>) • Linking the key issues: Robyn Lumby & Dawn Whitby (<i>University of Wollongong</i>)
12:30pm	Lunch
1:15pm Chair: Jenny Jensen JCU Cairns	ADDRESSES: An Elephant's Food for Thought <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Address: 'Elephants of all Shapes and Sizes: Equity Issues for Field Experience Administrators': Dr Sue Muloin (<i>Equity Officer JCU Cairns</i>) • Address: 'Elephants as Servants: The service culture': Dr Jo Pryce (<i>Lecturer: School of Business JCU Cairns</i>)
2:30pm	WORKSHOPS: Elephant Food – <i>in Building E1 Science</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workshop 1: '<i>More about Service</i>' (Dr Jo Pryce: Lecturer: School of Business JCU Cairns) • Workshop 2: '<i>Changes to Higher Education Administration</i>' (Julie Woodward: Director Student Affairs JCU Cairns) • Workshop 3: '<i>Equity on the Ground</i>' (Dr Sue Muloin: Student Equity Officer JCU Cairns) • Workshop 4: '<i>Managing Diversity: Mental Health and Stress in the Workplace</i>' (Margaret Frederick: Worklink Consultant)
3:45pm	Afternoon Tea
4:10pm	LOOKING AFTER YOURSELF: How not to get trampled by the elephants! Choice of Activities: <i>Bushwalk, Art, Relaxation at JCU, Shopping at Palm Cove</i>
7:30pm for 8:00pm start	CONFERENCE DINNER – at L'Unicos Restaurant Trinity Beach
Friday 18th November: (It's 'Tropical Friday' every Friday in Far North Queensland, so please remember to wear your tropical shirt.)	
9:00am	NAFEA Annual General Meeting
10:15am Chair: Frank Davies Tabor College SA	ADDRESS: Going Rural: The stampede to rural and remote Australia: Dr John Halsey (Executive Officer REFA (Rural Education Forum Australia)/Senior Lecturer Flinders University SA)
11:15am	Morning Tea
11:45am	WORKSHOPS: More Elephant Food – <i>in Building E1 Science</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workshop 1: '<i>Centrelink, Finances and Work: The impacts on Students</i>' (Brigitte McKaskill: Academic/Welfare Service Coordinator JCU Cairns) • Workshop 2: '<i>Talkfest on IT Systems (sharing your ideas on the technology behind placements)</i>' (Led by Trish Quayle JCU Cairns) • Workshop 3: '<i>Rural & Remote Placements: The PCAP Project</i>' (Dr Ruth Hickey: Director of Professional Experience JCU Cairns) • Workshop 4: '<i>The Art of Persuasion: How to sell Elephant food to Elephants!</i>' (Malcolm Riley: TNQ Real Estate/Sales & Marketing)
12:30pm	Lunch

1:30pm	PRESENTATION: Developing your elasticity! (How to become more elastic without tearing, promoting work/life balance. Diet, nutrition, etc)
Chair: Natalie Vernuccio Victoria University	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Address: 'Eating an Elephant: one bite at a time!' (Margaret Darveniza TETC)
2:45pm	CONFERENCE CLOSE: Elephants go forth!
Chair: Jenny Jensen JCU Cairns	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conference Summation: Sue Monsen (University of Queensland) Prizes and Awards Conference Close: Judy Clark NAFEA President
3:15pm	Afternoon Tea
3:45pm	Buses depart

Program Notes

Wednesday 16 November 2005

Many of the delegates came together on Wednesday evening, 16 November, for a Welcome function at Pacificos in the heart of the tropical city of Cairns. This provided an opportunity for early registration, as well as the chance to catch up with old friends and meet new attendees over drinks and finger food in a relaxed and convivial atmosphere.

Thursday 17 November 2005

The Conference began with the *March of the Royal Elephants*, including State MP for Barron River, Lesley Clark; Conference Convenor, Jenny Jensen; NAFEA President, Judy Clark; Executive Dean: Faculty of Arts, Education & Social Sciences at JCU, Prof Janet Greeley, and the Pro-Vice-Chancellor of JCU, Cairns, Prof Scott Bowman who officially opened the third annual NAFEA Conference.

A general forum, *Straight from the Elephant's mouth*, then looked at field experience from the different perspectives of the student, the university, and the site, covering such issues as:

- Expectations, eg:
 - Student expectations of field experience
 - University expectations of student behaviour and progress
 - Site expectations of student behaviour and capabilities and level of university support
- Frustration, eg:
 - Students' frustration at being asked to select sites then not getting what they ask for
 - Placement officers' frustration at the never-ending struggle to find places; variations to set dates due to special circumstances
 - Site coordinators' frustration at dealing with requests and paperwork on top of normal duties
- Attitudes, eg:
 - Students want to be treated as people rather than numbers
 - Universities need to be supportive of students and sites
 - Supervising teachers need more guidance and support from universities; in general, they have a responsibility to develop future teachers into the sort of colleagues they would be happy to work with.

Speakers and workshops over the two days covered:

- Student equity issues
 - Promoting equity and diversity
 - Equality of outcomes may require different treatment for some
 - Targeting groups generally under-represented in tertiary education (Indigenous, rural & isolated, low socio-economic background, disabilities, NESB background, women in non-traditional studies)
 - Financial hardship – many students in poverty – placements can exacerbate poverty
 - Family responsibilities

- Work commitments
- Travel considerations, etc.
- Service issues – looking at the field experience process as providing a service to clients
- Changes to higher education administration
- Mental health and stress in the workplace – management techniques
- Going Rural – encouraging field experience in rural and remote areas
- IT systems – on-line technology for placements
- Eating an elephant one bite at a time, by using:
 - A - Attitude
 - B - Balance
 - C - Care of Self
 - G - Goal setting/getting
 - S - Stress management
 - T - Time management

Thursday night's Conference dinner at L'Unicos Restaurant, Trinity Beach was an enjoyable evening of lively conversation and busy networking, and was a highlight of the Conference.

Friday 18 November 2005

The Annual General Meeting held at 9:00am on Friday morning elected the following office bearers for 2006:

President:	Judy Clark (QUT)
Treasurer:	Terri Kozak (QUT)
Secretary:	Juliette Poole (QUT)

The meeting discussed

- Issues involved in forming State chapters and looked at the ways different states currently operate. A report was submitted by the Victorian chapter, formed in 2005.
- Difficulties of securing placements and effects on quality of mentoring if teachers were compelled to supervise student teachers to gain re-registration.
- Better promotion of NAFEA as including Nursing, Engineering, etc as well as Education.
- Greater allocation of time to discussing NAFEA issues in future conferences, in place of some workshops and information sessions.

The 2006 Conference is to be held in Flinders University in Adelaide, South Australia in mid-November.

The Conference closed on Friday afternoon with an entertaining PowerPoint summation from UQ's Sue Monsen (included on this website).