Teaching Improvement Fund 2003 (Faculty of Science)

Enhancing the employability of Science graduates: increasing the awareness of staff and students to the needs of the employers

http://science.uniserve.edu.au/projects/skills/

Status report No. 2
16 April 2003

The project team meets fortnightly.

The preliminary phase has been completed.

Development phase:

- Articulation of generic attributes and skills to be included in the project – completed
- Discipline-specific skills identified and documented – in progress

To test if the planned development can be achieved and will produce the envisaged outcomes the project team has decided to complete all the steps in the development phase with one of the higher order skills, Interpersonal skills, before embarking on the full set.

Interpersonal skills trial:

- Description of higher order skills and background skills – higher order completed, background in progress
- Relate ‘employer speak’ to higher order skills – on hold until other stages have progressed further
- Definition of levels of competence within the skills – levels of competence for higher order skills will take the form of ‘satisfactory’ or ‘not satisfactory’, background skills will take the form of ‘evidence’ or ‘no evidence’ – recognisable levels of competence for each of the skills are yet to be defined
- Identification of opportunities offered within the degree program where skills may be practised – not yet commenced
- Identification of ways in which the skills can be integrated into curricula – not yet commenced
- Articulation of the scaffolding for students to make the linkages relating to generic attributes – not yet commenced
- Development of language related case scenarios – not yet commenced, these will be used by the students to match ‘employer speak’ to ‘university speak’
- Documentation of typical tasks – in progress
- Articulation of student benchmarking opportunities (self-assessment) – in progress
- Articulation of process for student personal audit – in progress

The project is on schedule.

Anne Fernandez
Project Manager
16 April 2003