A meeting of the TAFE Queensland and Griffith University Links Committee was held at 10.00 am on Friday 18 March, 2005 in Room 2.02 (Council Chambers), Bray Centre (N54), Nathan Campus, Griffith University.

Mary Hassard  
A/Secretary  

MINUTES

PRESENT:
Chair – Professor John Dewar  
Dr Lyn Holman  
Mr Craig Sherrin  
Ms Deb Daly  
Ms Jane McPhee (for Mr Greg Harper)  
Mr Fred Beven (for Professor John Stevenson)  
Mr John Blakeley (for Mr Rod Arthur)  
Mr Sam Ragusa  
Ms Janine Schubert  
Mr Steve Ghost  
Mr Ian Lawrence  
Ms Leesa Wheelahan

APOLOGIES:
Professor Ian O’Connor  
Mr Scott Flavell  
Mr Chris Robinson  
Mr Colin McAndrew  
Professor Marilyn McMeniman  
Mr Wayne Bradley

A/Secretary – Mary Hassard

1.0 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES
The minutes of the 1/2004 meeting of the TAFE Queensland and Griffith University Links Committee having been circulated were taken as read and confirmed.

2.0 CHAIRPERSON’S REPORT

2.1 The Chair thanked out-going members for their contribution to the Committee and to the general relationship between TAFE/Griffith University and welcomed incoming Committee members as follows:

Out-going
. Mr Bob McAulay, outgoing Chair, TAFE Queensland  
. Ms Ros Cheales, ex Project Director TAFE Institution Partnerships

Incoming
. Ms Deb Daly, incoming Chair, TAFE Queensland  
. Mr Wayne Bradley, Acting Director, Moreton Institute of TAFE  
. Ms Leesa Wheelahan, Academic Staff Member, Griffith University.

The Chair advised that:
. he was delighted that Leesa Wheelahan, an expert in Australian cross-sectoral issues, had joined Griffith University as a Senior Lecturer in the School of Vocational Technology and Arts Education and was also assisting him with the Coomera Project and VET Sector issues generally;
he proposed a further modification of the University representation on the Committee, in the form of the Pro-Vice Chancellor (Equity and Community Partnerships) who would replace the Group Pro-Vice Chancellor.

2.2 The Chair provided a brief update on matters of interest to the Committee, including:

Recent Announcements from Minister Nelson

- The Minister continues to send signals which indicate he expects more collaboration between the sectors of post-compulsory education and training and, in particular, he expects there to be a higher level of credit transfer. Universities were required to report on their activity in this area as part of the triennial funding discussions with DEST in 2004. VET/higher education collaboration was also given priority in the guidelines to the 2005 Collaboration and Structural Reform Funding to which Gold Coast Institute of TAFE and Griffith University made a submission.

- The Australian National Training Authority is to be closed in July and DEST is considering two options for new arrangements, both of which have the potential to affect relations between the sectors. In the first option, a tertiary education MINCO would be established with responsibility for VET, higher education and employment which would enable one overall source of advice to all levels of government. The second option involves one tertiary education quality assurance agency to cover all sectors. This last proposal would assist with building confidence in each sector about standards and accreditation frameworks and increase potential for maximum credit transfer and articulation arrangements.

- The introduction of Associate Degrees and Vocational Graduate Certificates/Diplomas in the Australian Qualifications Framework, combined with the introduction of FEE-HELP for these programs when undertaken through a Higher Education Provider, transforms the Higher Education landscape and changes the settings of the higher education market. VET and Higher Education will need to develop new ways of working together to ensure that each is able to grow and prosper through meeting the needs of students, industry and the Australian community more broadly. In this new complex policy environment, Griffith University’s links with TAFE will be even more important than in the past.

Update on Development of Coomera Precinct Project

- Griffith University and Gold Coast Institute of TAFE continue to work together to deliver this Government promise. An exciting process had evolved with over 50 people due to participate in a Planning Day where staff would commence the development of new and innovative programs to be offered jointly at the Campus. Unfortunately, this rare opportunity has had to be postponed and the project is now "on hold".

- Chair, TAFE Qld advised the Committee that the reason for the “hold-up” was the unavailability of land in Coomera due to the pressing need for Education Queensland to provide primary school facilities in Coomera by 2008 on the land that was previously earmarked for this Project. The relevant Ministers were now considering the options.
Building Griffith’s Relationship with TAFE

Directors of Institutes have recently been invited to meetings with the Chair to discuss ways in which the University can extend and deepen its relationships with Institutes in the region. In particular, Directors were asked to explore guaranteed and complementary pathways which would result in arrangements suitable for both the University and the Institute. Environmental factors may assist in the identification of pathways.

The proposed new arrangements are not intended to replace the existing MOU which was designed to streamline credit transfer arrangements for all TAFE students. High profile pathways which meet local demand will assist in raising the awareness of students to credit transfer arrangements. Feedback from Institutes indicates that when a TAFE program has a direct link to a University degree there is a high level of interest from students when this pathway is flagged.

The University is continuing to discuss with Institutes how to develop these new arrangements.

3.0 TAFE REPORT

3.1 Gold Coast Institute of TAFE

Ms Deb Daly welcomed the continued positive interactions between Griffith University and TAFE Qld and supported the new Griffith initiative to work with individual Institutes to achieve dual offerings to meet local demand. Whilst TAFE also had experienced a drop in student demand for 2005 QTAC places, strong numbers were maintained for Advanced Diploma and Diploma programs where there was a direct link with a University degree program and where there was a high degree of collaborative work between the TAFE and the University.

GCIT had provided Griffith a list of priority areas at the recent meeting and was particularly keen to finalise arrangements for dual offers for international students entering TAFE programs where an articulation arrangement existed. Discussions had taken place with the Griffith University Health Group regarding opportunities for joint ventures in the training of dental assistants.

3.2 Southbank Institute of TAFE

Mr Craig Sherrin tabled a document describing current Griffith/TAFE interactions and program planning. Mr Sherrin spoke to the document, highlighting a number of positive links which have emerged recently between the University and TAFE staff in the areas of Applied Science (Biotechnology), Laboratory Technology (Biological and Environmental Testing) and (Pathology Testing), Visual Arts, Sport Management and Children’s Services. It was noted that the joint program TAFE Diploma/Advanced Diploma of Hospitality Management/Bachelor of Hospitality Management was very popular, experiencing high demand at QTAC.

Discussions have taken place with regard to a Griffith credentialed Associate Degree in Photography to be delivered by Southbank. It is expected that there will be other such niche opportunities for the delivery of Associate Degrees and the level of competition will increase from Private Providers as they deliver programs at levels traditionally associated with Higher Education.
3.3 **Logan Institute of TAFE**

Ms Jane McPhee advised the Committee that discussion between the institutions was underway in the areas of Children's Services and the Griffith University Logan Tertiary Access Program continued to provide a stream of well prepared students into Griffith University degree programs.

3.4 **Open Learning Report**

Mr John Blakeley reported on the high demand for Open Learning Institute programs delivered in China. Many students who finalise their Open Learning TAFE studies in Brisbane have chosen Griffith to complete a degree. The new Diploma of Business Studies developed with Griffith and QUT and especially for international students was now being delivered via the Open Learning Institute.

Open Learning students were regularly accessing laboratories at Griffith for their practical classes and opportunities existed for the offering in Singapore and other countries of programs in the areas of water treatment, waste water and sewage. These students would then be seeking tertiary access to further study in these fields.

3.5 **Centre for Innovation and Development, Product Services**

Ms Janine Schubert explained the role of the Centre as being different from the Institutes in that the Centre works with all Institutes to achieve TAFE’s corporate product and service goals. The Centre continues to work with Griffith in accordance with the MOU and is currently mapping qualifications from the Community Services and Training and Assessment Training Packages towards Griffith University degree programs.

3.6 **Yeronga Institute of TAFE**

The Institute is keen to work with Griffith to develop pathways of mutual interest. The Director Education Services is currently working with Griffith staff to identify areas.

4.0 **GRIFFITH UNIVERSITY REPORT**

4.1 **Dr Lyn Holman**

The Academic Registrar advised that the University was concerned with the 6-7% drop in demand from applicants for degree programs in the 2005 QTAC Admission Round. The University had admitted 10-15% of students that would not have been admitted in previous years. As a result the University was now reviewing its admission processes and products in order to improve and maintain student demand. The University was certainly keen to pursue with TAFE Institutes how to best attract TAFE students to continue their studies at Griffith University.

4.2 **Fred Beven – School of Vocational, Technology and Arts Education**

Griffith continues to receive strong support from TAFE Institutes for practical placements for its Bachelor of Adult and Vocational Education degree students.

The AVETRA Conference was being held in Brisbane in April and Professor John Stevenson of the School will be delivering a Keynote Address.
4.3 Leesa Wheelahan – School of Vocational, Technology and Arts Education

Leesa also commended the AVETRA Conference to the Committee and encouraged all TAFE Practitioners to attend.

Leesa commented on the different usage, during the meeting, of cross sector nomenclature which resulted in some ambiguity. She volunteered to produce and circulate a paper to “develop a shared language to describe current and emerging collaborative practices and arrangements between our institutions”.

The Chair welcomed this initiative and thanked Leesa not only for this contribution but for her ongoing role in the development of Griffith University’s partnership with TAFE Qld Institutes and links with VET generally.

4.4 Implementation of Memorandum of Understanding on Credit Transfer

The University’s Credit Transfer and Articulations Manager, tabled a document, reporting the following Griffith University student statistics:

- Credit transfer awarded on the basis of TAFE studies 2000-2005.
- Credit awarded by TAFE Institute and Griffith degree program for Semester 1, 2005.
- Field of TAFE Qualification for Semester 1, 2005.
- Admittance on basis of TAFE studies 2000-2005.
- Retention and Performance of 2003 and 2004 students after 2 and 4 semesters of University study.

The Committee noted that TAFE students were not only continuing to choose Griffith as their destination to continue higher education studies but were able to access a broad range of degrees across the academic groups and receive credit transfer in recognition of their TAFE studies. The retention rate and performance of TAFE students at Griffith University was considered satisfactory and indicative of articulation arrangements that are working. As a result, the University is committed to increasing the numbers of TAFE students enrolling in Griffith degree programs and ensuring maximum credit transfer arrangements.

To assist TAFE students to establish the amount of credit transfer entitlement towards a Griffith University program, an email hotline (tafe-credit@griffith.edu.au) is now available at www.griffith.edu.au/credit.

The University will continue to monitor TAFE students and pathways.

The Chair thanked Ms Hassard for her work with TAFE credit and articulations.

5.0 OTHER BUSINESS

There were no other items of business.

6.0 NEXT MEETING

Chair TAFE Qld requested an additional meeting of the Committee in October and Director, Southbank TAFE offered to host the meeting at TAFE Southbank.

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<td>Tuesday, 18 October</td>
<td>Skyline Restaurant, Southbank Institute of TAFE.</td>
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Confirmed: ……………………………………….

(Chair)

Date:

DISTRIBUTION LIST

Chairperson of the Committee
Deputy Vice Chancellor (Teaching and Learning) and Deputy President
Professor John Dewar

Vice Chancellor and President
Professor Ian O'Connor

Director-General, Department of Employment and Training
Mr Scott Flavell

Chair, TAFE Queensland
Ms Deb Daly (Director, Gold Coast Institute of TAFE)

Pro-Vice Chancellor (Administration), Griffith University
Mr Colin McAndrew

Academic Registrar, Griffith University
Dr Lyn Holman

Director, Office of Facilities Management, Griffith University
Mr Sam Ragusa

One group Pro-Vice Chancellor nominated by the Vice Chancellor
Professor Sharon Bell

Up to two members of the academic staff of the University nominated by
the Deputy Vice Chancellor (Teaching and Learning) and Deputy President
Mr Fred Beven, School of Vocational Technology & Arts Education
Ms Leesa Wheelahan (School of Vocational Technology & Arts Education)

TAFE representatives nominated by the Director-General,
Department of Employment and Training and the Chair, TAFE Queensland
Mr Chris Robinson – Deputy Director-General, Department of Employment
and Training
Mr Craig Sherrin – Director, Southbank Institute of TAFE
Ms Janine Schubert – Director, Product Services, Centre for Innovation
and Development, TAFE Queensland
Mr Greg Harper – Director, Logan Institute of TAFE
Mr Steve Ghost – Director, Yeronga Institute of TAFE
Mr John Blakeley – A/Director, Open Learning Institute of TAFE
Mr Greg McMillan – A/Director, Moreton Institute of TAFE

A/Secretary
Ms Mary Hassard, Manager Credit Transfer and Articulations, Griffith University

Information Copies:
Ms Gillian Collom, Executive Officer, Office of the Vice Chancellor
Mr Ian Lawrence, Yeronga Institute of TAFE.

Other copies:
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