



*Embedding and extending exemplary academic integrity policy and support frameworks
across the higher education sector*



Newsletter 1, April 2013

Welcome to the first newsletter of the Exemplary Academic Integrity Project (EAIP).

Project Progress

The EAIP officially commenced on 1 December 2012, and Phase 1 of the project is well underway. Ethics approval was granted at UniSA on 3 December 2012 and project partners Griffith University and QIBT on 21 January 2013.

The team efforts have resulted in a successful Roundtable being held in Brisbane on 28 February and 1 March 2013. The Roundtable had 22 participants from 9 universities, two Higher Education private providers and three other institutions. Australian participants along with international experts, engaged in collegial discussions to further the EAIP brief. Participants found sharing practice, group discussions and networking most helpful. Suggestions to the EAIP team include carefully considering the scope of the project.

Five Australian universities identified as having exemplary academic integrity policies shared details of practices that demonstrated the efficacy of their policies in their specific contexts. Each presenter used the 'Five Core Elements of Exemplary Academic Integrity Policy' Framework for sharing best practice.

Transcripts of the video recordings will be analysed to inform project deliverables.

On Day 2 of the Roundtable three discussion groups focused on adapting best practice for specific student groups i.e. Higher Degree by Research (HDR), English as an Additional Language (EAL), and 'educationally less prepared' (ELP), with recognition that there is considerable overlap between the needs of EAL and ELP students. Preliminary analysis of the discussion groups was included in the national speaking tour presentation and will be used by the team to inform the key deliverables of the Project.

Suggestions from the Roundtable for tailored support resources for EAL/ELP students included: develop a generic online academic integrity policy template; write a definition of academic integrity in plain English (e.g. in consultation with IELTS); and collate academic integrity YouTube videos. Suggestions from the Roundtable for support frameworks for HDR students included: develop a draft of HDR academic integrity policy and practice guidelines for Deans & Directors of Graduate Studies (DDoGS); identify and collate good academic integrity resources for HDR

students; and write case studies on issues specific to HDR students and their supervisors.

Karen van Haeringen and Leigh Pointon are leading the development of an online academic integrity policy toolkit, with a particular focus on the needs of private Higher Education providers.

The EAIP team is in the process of analysing the data from the Roundtable and met in Adelaide on 2 April to focus efforts to achieve the Project outcomes and deliverables.

National Speaking Tour

The Project's international experts Tricia Bertram Gallant (University of California, San Diego) and Erica Morris (Higher Education Academy UK) have completed their national speaking tour with seminars at Griffith University (Brisbane) on 4 March, University of Western Australia (Perth) on 5 March, University of South Australia (Adelaide) and Macquarie University (Sydney) on 6 March, and La Trobe University (Melbourne) on 8 March. Videos of the speaking tour are available on the EAIP website.

The speaking tour events attracted a diverse audience with 20-30 participants at each event including staff from universities and private providers. The participants at the speaking tour events gave positive feedback. We used a standard evaluation form at all national speaking tour events. A majority of participants (86-95%) said the event shared the implementation details of exemplary academic integrity policy and a similar proportion (81.8-100%) intend to follow up with colleagues at their own institution.

Conferences

Saadia Mahmud and Tracey Bretag presented the preliminary findings from their review of academic integrity policy for higher degree by

Research (HDR) students in Australia at the Roundtable. Further findings and analysis will be presented at the upcoming *3rd World Conference on Research Integrity* in Montreal, Canada in May 2013.

The project will present the resources developed for identified student groups (EAL and ELP) at the Australian International Education Conference (AIEC) in Canberra, Australia in October 2013.

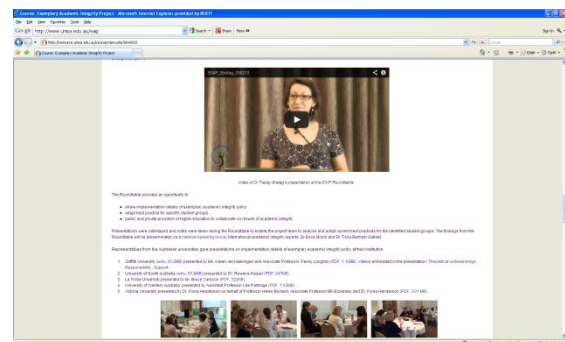
A presentation by the EAIP Project team has been included at the Asia Pacific Conference on Educational Integrity (6APCEI) in Sydney, Australia in October 2013.

Concerted efforts have been made to raise awareness of the EAIP website with a link provided through other sites such as OLT, Asia Pacific Forum on Educational Integrity, Plagiarism Advice (UK), the International Center for Academic Integrity and HERDSA newsletter.

Project Website

The EAIP website

<http://www.unisa.edu.au/EAIP> is live and content is being added as the project proceeds. The presentations from the Roundtable and National Speaking Tour have been uploaded on the EAIP website. Interested parties are encouraged to follow the progress of the project via the twitter account EAIP@bretagta.



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