

## EDDitor Newsletter 2, 2012

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### Semester 1 Exams

As we get closer to exam time, there are a number of things you can do to prepare for your exams. The ECU Counselling website has a variety of tip sheets, including Exam Techniques, Managing Stress and Staying Calm During Exams; these can be found under Counselling in the Support section of the student portal at

<http://intranet.ecu.edu.au/student/support/counselling/tip-sheets>

For those of you who have alternative exam conditions, remember that your timetable *may* vary from that on SIMO; Assessments will send an email to your student email address approximately two weeks before exams with the details, including date, time and venue and with a summary of your alternative exam conditions. Make sure you check those details before your exams. If you will not be attending the exams scheduled for your alternative exam conditions, please let Assessments know as soon as possible by sending an email to [assessments@ecu.edu.au](mailto:assessments@ecu.edu.au)

Good luck to everyone sitting exams this semester!

### Winter School and Semester 2 Enrolments

If you are changing or have changed your course of study, please contact the Equity, Diversity and Disability Service so that your records can be updated and to ensure that if you have a Learning and Assessment Plan it is current. Learning and Assessment Plans with incorrect course details are not passed on which can result in accommodations not being made.

Those of you who require your reading materials for next semester in electronic format will need to contact Equity as soon as you have enrolled so alternative formats of textbooks can be arranged (this process can take up to 8 weeks) and your lecturers contacted. In addition, if you require the assistance of a note-taker in class, please let us know as soon as your timetable is finalised so that we can ensure that your note-takers are arranged well before the semester starts.

Winter School enrolments – if you are enrolling in any Winter School units, let us know so that your Learning and Assessment Plan can be forwarded to lecturers/tutors and alternative exam conditions put in place.

### Important Dates

11 May 2012	Last day to withdraw from units without academic penalty for the <u>standard</u> semester
11 – 22 June 2012	Review and examinations for the <u>standard</u> teaching period
27 June 2012	Last day to apply for deferred exams ( <a href="http://intranet.ecu.edu.au/student/forms/home">http://intranet.ecu.edu.au/student/forms/home</a> )
9 – 13 July 2012	Deferred exams
30 July 2012	Lectures commence for the standard teaching period

## **Graduating this semester?**

If you are graduating this semester, congratulations and best wishes for your chosen career. Don't forget that the ECU Career Service is available to all students for assistance with finding the perfect position and can assist with the all-important resumes and cover letters, selection criteria and job applications, mock interviews, study options and general information and advice about your career direction. Find out more about this service at

<http://intranet.ecu.edu.au/student/support/jobs-and-careers>

You may find that Use My Ability at <http://www.usemyability.org/index.php?p=2000> is a useful website with information and strategies for university students with disabilities to enhance graduate employment prospects. There is also a useful and informative Education to Employment Package for Graduates with Disabilities which includes practical strategies and information about your rights and responsibilities at

<http://www.stepsands.com/rdlo/employment/uni/contents.htm>

If you are unsure about where to disclose a disability when applying for a position, keep in mind that this is a very personal decision and is not mandatory unless you will need some adjustments to your role or the workplace. Choosing Your Path is a useful resource which may help you make a decision as to whether to disclose a disability to an employer, and if so, when. This resource can be found at <http://pubsites.uws.edu.au/ndco/disclosure/>

## **Scholarships**

Applications for the Sue Knox Memorial Award, a \$1500 award for ECU students with disabilities, open on 18 June 2012, with the closing date for applications being 16 July 2012. This award is for undergraduate students who are Australian citizens or permanent residents and who meet the eligibility criteria of academic competence, involvement in community or university activities, completion of a minimum of 60 credit points towards a degree and registration with the Equity, Diversity and Disability Service. Further information about this (and other scholarships) is available on the Scholarships home page at <http://www.ecu.edu.au/scholarships/overview> If you have any questions about this scholarship, or other ECU scholarships, you can contact the Scholarships office directly on 6304 3636 or [scholarships@ecu.edu.au](mailto:scholarships@ecu.edu.au)

Students with hearing impairment may be eligible to apply for the Deafness Forum Educational Scholarship, applications for which are open from 19 – 25 August 2012. Further information about this scholarship is at [http://www.deafnessforum.org.au/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=148&Itemid=304](http://www.deafnessforum.org.au/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=148&Itemid=304)

It is also worth checking the My Future website to search for any other scholarships which may be relevant to you. This site is at <http://www.myfuture.edu.au/The%20Facts/Funding/Awards%20and%20Scholarships.aspx>

## **Access to Information and Technology**

Increasingly the major computing and software companies are building in accessibility features to their products. To find out how to get the most from your computer, it is worth investigating what they can do. The Microsoft Accessibility website at <http://www.microsoft.com/enable/> has a wealth of information, tips and tutorials about the accessibility features of Microsoft operating systems, Internet Explorer and Microsoft Office as well as about a number of compatible assistive technology products. Likewise, for those who prefer a Mac (or other Apple products) there is plenty of information available at <http://www.apple.com/education/special-education/>

If you're a fan of social media, Media Access Australia undertook a comprehensive research project to identify accessibility difficulties and a range of tips and strategies which will enable all users to have equal access to the most popular social media tools. This report can be downloaded in Word or PDF format from <http://www.mediaaccess.org.au/online-media/social-media>

## **Breathing for Life**

A team of researchers wants to find out more about the rates of respiratory symptoms in people with CP. They are inviting everyone with CP in WA, aged 0-25 years, to take part in this research study. Participants will be asked to complete a questionnaire. Depending on symptoms, it could take anywhere between 10 and 30 minutes.

The project is being funded through Western Australian Department for Health funding, administered through the Health Networks. The research team includes researchers from The Centre for Cerebral Palsy (The Centre), Princess Margaret Hospital for Children (PMH), and The Telethon Institute for Child Health Research (TICHR).

The questionnaire can be completed online [www.breathingforlife.ichr.uwa.edu.au](http://www.breathingforlife.ichr.uwa.edu.au), on paper, by phone interview or face-to-face interview. The contact for this study is Caris Jalla (Phone: 0403 464 349; Email: [cjalla@ichr.uwa.edu.au](mailto:cjalla@ichr.uwa.edu.au)).