

# PLACEMENTS OFFICE NEWSLETTER TERM 1 2016

## Welcome

As the new Dean, School of Education 2016, it is my pleasure to welcome you all.

For the past few weeks I have been meeting staff and students in the School, and I can honestly say without hesitation that I am most impressed with their quality.

Many of our staff are undertaking innovative and progressive research with our partnership schools whose engagement and commitment to education is commendable.

My sincere thanks to the many mentors who have helped to provide feedback regarding our programs, much of which we will use to update and improve our planning for future practice.

Our students are preparing themselves for an exciting year of learning. We have already heard from many enthusiastic pre-service teachers who are rather keen to know which schools will be mentoring them in 2016.

I am sure that this will be another year of successful partnership with all of our schools and I look forward to meeting as many of you as possible during the forthcoming year.

**Professor Lynne Cohen**  
 Dean, School of Education



## Twilight Seminar series

This year's series has started with the highly successful presentation by Dr Jenny Lane, "Australian Curriculum: Technologies and coding in schools". Over 500 staff from our partnership schools attended sessions on Joondalup and Mount Lawley campuses and we are planning one for the South West soon.

These professional learning opportunities provide a valuable conduit for the reciprocal relationship we enjoy with schools. It is a pleasure to be able to provide current, research-based learning for the committed staff who mentor our pre-service teachers.



# Australian Journal of Teacher Education

The Australian Journal of Teacher Education (AJTE) is a peer reviewed academic journal established by the School of Education at ECU. The Journal has a long history of publishing teacher educator related research and commentary, with staff in the School contributing as members of the Editorial Board, as authors and/or as reviewers.

We are proud of the fact that AJTE is ranked internationally in the second quartile of all education journals. Articles are submitted from researchers around the world and the content is read by an international audience.

The Journal went online August 2010 and has an impressive 1.4M+ downloads. More than 30,000 articles are being downloaded each month

supporting educators in their research, informing their professional discussions, and contributing to practice.

Join this community of readers by visiting the [Research Online](#) website. Through the AJTE, the School of Education is a national leader and significant international player in teacher education publishing.

## ECU lecturer on holidays

During her Long Service Leave, Dr Anne Thwaite volunteered to teach at an English camp in Shanxi in Western China. The camp was for middle school students and focussed on spoken English. The students' abilities ranged from a boy who claimed not to speak any English at all to a girl who could discuss her future career as an ophthalmologist.

All students enjoyed the camp and increased their confidence in using spoken English, which was the aim.





## ECU MATES

This highly successful volunteer program is off to another flying start in 2016. Around 200 ECU School of Education students participated in the training and are now ready to mentor Year 9 students in Perth schools. We now have a waiting list of students wanting to participate in this program. Drs Deb Callcott and Judy Esmond continue to lead this initiative. For further information, please contact [d.callcott@ecu.edu.au](mailto:d.callcott@ecu.edu.au).

## ECU academics win International Award for Excellence

Associate Professor Deslea Konza and Dr Susan Main were recently selected as the winners of the International Award for Excellence for Volume 22 of The Learner Collection. Their article, "The Power of Pedagogy: When All Else Fails", was selected for the award from among the ten highest-ranked papers emerging from the peer review process. Our congratulations to them both for this outstanding achievement.



## WA Teacher of the Year Awards

Edith Cowan University is a proud sponsor of these awards and is always pleased to have representation amongst the winners.

We congratulate ECU alumnus Kirsty Campbell on being announced WA Beginning teacher of the Year.