Isolation & integration

International student support: Applying the research
The research

- *International Students and the English Language: How can we move forward?* – Dr Erlenawati Sawir

**Key factors student well-being**

1) Connectedness
2) Low cultural stress
3) Depression
4) Academic progress
5) Involvement in risk-taking behaviours
6) Cultural background
7) Communication problems

*(Rosenthal, Russell and Thompson, 2006)*
The programs

- *Mentors Assisting the Transition Experience – MATE*
- *International Cup soccer tournament*
- *Survival Skills workshops*
MATE: Mentors assisting the transition experience

- Objectives & rationale
- Logistics
- MATE program numbers
- Mentor’s Responsibilities/Tasks
- Improvements & Follow up
International Cup soccer tournament

- Objectives & rationale
- Logistics
- International Cup numbers
- Sponsorship
- Follow up survey
Survival skills

• Objectives and rationale
• Logistics
• Content:
  – Finding part-time work
  – Adapting to a new culture
  – Housing questions & answers
  – Effective English Communication
    – Listening
    – Apologies & requests
  – Minimum wage and work rights
  – Asian cooking
  – Study management
  – Health & nutrition
  – How to plan a budget
Further logistics

• Recruitment and Promotion
• Registrations
• Feedback
Discussion

• Has your institution tried any of these programs? If so – what worked and what didn’t? – problem-solving
• Would any of these fit into your institution? What starter information do you need?
• Sharing of information in the group (successes/failures/similar initiatives)
• Improvements / suggestions?
ISIS contacts

- www.rmit.edu.au/isis
- www.rmit.edu.au/isis/mate
- www.rmit.edu.au/isis/survivalskills
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