Dive into Uni – Preparing students for University Readiness.

Lisa Wirihana
Academic Coordinator for Nursing (Queensland University of Technology [QUT], Caboolture Campus)

Judy Craft
Lecturer, School of Biomedical Sciences (QUT, Caboolture Campus)

Karin Medew
Acting Caboolture Library Manager (QUT, Caboolture Campus)

Ken Lyons
Academic Coordinator for Creative Industries (QUT, Caboolture Campus)

Martin Christensen
Associate Professor in Nursing (QUT, Caboolture Campus)

Maria Oram
Counsellor/ Welfare Officer (QUT, Caboolture Campus)

Abstract

Transition to university can be a highly stressful time of change and adjustment for commencing students. Students entering university with limited prior academic success may be at more risk of failure than their peers (Palmer, Bexley & James, 2011). Under preparedness relates to unrealistic workload expectations, social isolation, and academic curriculum and assessment expectations (James et al, 2010). Bridging courses are a common response to addressing the needs of students with limited prior academic experience (Greenfield, Keup, & Gardner, 2013). In 2014, the Caboolture Campus of Queensland University of Technology (QUT) piloted a cross faculty bridging course designed to engage students in learning to become university ready. The goal of this transition program was to foster a sense of belonging and normalise help-seeking behaviour. Students who attended the series of workshops will be closely followed through their first year of university to ascertain the effectiveness of the pilot course.

References

