

Evaluation - Orientation for Sessional Staff

JULY 2009

responses = 84

Part A: Workshop organisation and deliver	Needs					Average
	Unsatisfactory 1	Improvement 2	Satisfactory 3	Very Good 4	Excellent 5	
Workshop Format	0 0%	1 1%	18 21%	49 58%	16 19%	4.0
Relevance of Activities involving participants	0 0%	4 5%	20 24%	42 50%	18 21%	3.9
Usefulness of hand outs	0 0%	2 2%	8 10%	44 52%	27 32%	4.0
Knowledge of presenter in relation to the subject	0 0%	1 1%	3 4%	33 39%	47 56%	4.5
The skills of the presenter/s in relation to the subject	0 0%	1 1%	12 14%	41 49%	30 36%	4.2
Duration of the workshop	Just the right length			77	92%	
	Too short			3	4%	
	Too long			4	5%	

Comments

A useful experience.

Very valuable.

Need the break, but lots of resources.

Towards the end it began to drag in terms of content but overall it was very helpful.

Very informative and very helpful.

Handout pages should have page reference digits for quick reference - difficult to navigate.

Very Professional, and adhered to the commencement times!

Maybe personal HR situations etc. should be referred rather than long discussions taking up time.

Sally Kift - waffle and buzzwords. Learning and teaching plan? What for?

Very informative workshop.

Distinctive sessions should be designated to teaching and evaluation.

Very useful information was covered.

All good.

Talking with other participants.

I really enjoyed this induction, it was very useful and didn't scoot past the nitty-gritties.

It's so much more useful to 'teach' this stuff, rather than reading it in documents or online.

Excellent content. I would have liked it to be longer to cover the content in more detail. Also, the measurement & evaluation section would have been useful two weeks ago before the unit outline was due.

Very informative. Presenters were knowledgeable, pleasant and approachable.

The point form slides were particularly useful for staying/refocusing on issues being discussed.

Very useful and highlighted points which I might need during the semester. It also gave me a chance to clear a few things.

Excellent content and well delivered and over a good period of time. I fell well prepared and supported now.

Lots of very relevant points for someone new.

First experience of video conference - worked much better than imagined.

Good to have breaks to discuss amongst ourselves occasionally.

Terrific presentation with relevant issues addressed and discussed.

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Part B - Workshop content	1	2	3	4	5	Average
My expectations were met	0	3	16	46	19	4.0
	0%	4%	19%	55%	23%	
I felt involved in the workshop and activities	0	4	12	34	15	3.9
	0%	5%	14%	40%	18%	
The relevance of the subject matter to me and my work was made clear	1	3	7	51	22	4.1
	1%	4%	8%	61%	26%	
I can put the subject matter to good use	0	3	9	47	25	4.1
	0%	4%	11%	56%	30%	
I have the confidence to apply the subject matter	0	2	9	35	19	4.1
	0%	2%	11%	42%	23%	

Overall rating	1	0	9	48	25	4.1
	1%	0%	11%	57%	30%	

Comments

Improved since my last attendance.

Overall most useful. Many thanks indeed.

All handouts were most useful and appreciated.

Well done, friendly atmosphere. Felt part of the team which is unusual for a sessional.

Relevant content.

Excellent to have this information, Thankyou. (even though it would have been more valuable last year).

Congratulations for this initiative.

Consideration could be given to how people can be mentored and developed in practical skills of lecturing.

What feedback do we get to assist us with evaluations.

Being new at the university all of the information was extremely relevant.

Very appropriate content.

I thought more teaching skills would be practiced.

Discussion on fears and problems with classroom situations.

This is the first session I have attended - next semester (how can we make it valuable for sessionals in future - so not just repeated practical material for sake of new staff).

I would like to learn more about Blackboard and line of management - although 3 semesters I am still unclear to whom I am directly responsible. Fortunately I am generally able to self manage.

some very professional presentations.

Good orientation and introduction to beginning at ACU.

The process was remode, disorganised, inhospitable, and did not consider the range of sessional programs on offer.

No attention given to the personal needs of staff e.g.. Orientation to the campus, services, logistics e.g.. Parking.

Will discover more about blackboard.

I had expected some more detail around teaching styles and strategies and learning activities.

The videoconferencing, although ran particularly smoothly, was somewhat disorientating.

Good to meet others who are in the same situation. Excellent to get information on processes.

Just placement of the workshop: this would have been better before doing outlines, and assessments.

A good overview of the relevant content.

Clear, well resourced, helpful.

The workshop was very practical and useful to me as a very new sessional staff member.

Particularly in regarding to assessment - this was very useful.

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Most Useful

Student centred learning and GA's + assessment grading and evaluation.

Meeting and talking to other sessional lecturers.

It was great to have a representative from HR give a presentation.

Marking and Grading.

Graduate attributes.

All handouts were most useful and appreciated.

How to deal with exceptionally difficult students.

Small group teaching.

Related information from the lecture, back to the handouts.

Session on assessments but all very useful.

Sharing with the other staff.

Handouts/resources.

Meeting the sessionals.

Graduate attributes and assessments.

Assessment.

Just the general knowledge and getting introduced to all procedures.

Information about payment schedules and evaluation procedures.

Meeting other staff members.

Getting to know the names of other 'Ships in the night' sessionals, useful information on assessments.

Talking about what makes anxious re-teaching.

Strategies for trouble shooting difficult situations.

All topics covered were interesting and useful.

Identifying strategies to help manage classroom challenges.

The expert dealing with problem in first semester of teaching.

Explanation of how to apply graduate attributes.

Practical things - forms policies, contracts etc.

Teaching evaluation tips.

Interacting with other tutors.

Practical teaching examples.

Rules and expectations made clear. E.g. late penalties, extensions, grades etc.

Assessments and evaluations -clarified several issues.

Contracts and Assessments.

Sessional staff contract and how to make enquiries.

Section by Bill Franszen.

Information about contract, gradin etc.

Information about policies and procedures.

Networking with other sessional staff.

Assessment, grades, expectations and targets all interesting.

Meeting other sessional staff. Gaining insight into LTC.

Assessments. Booklet to keep.

Ability to reuse knowledge of academic regulation.

Participation and interaction with others.

Getting back into teaching mindset and also the HR and marketing discussion.

Learning outcomes and assessments, graduate attributes.

The guidelines for marking assessment work.

I particularly liked the discussion around assessment issues. Also enjoyed discussion with fellow sessional workers.

The section on grading, extensions was good, clear and practical.

The information on assessments, human resources information - what we are allowed to be paid for.

Discussion of specifics of ACU Teaching Policies.

Discussion of fears and group discussion on ways for improvement.

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The hand outs with ACU practical information. Dr. Franzsen's presentation was particularly useful.

Procedures and assessment criteria as well as expectations.

The assessment session.

Bill's presentation on assessments.

Assessment and evaluation.

Assessment procedures.

The session on assessment. The map of the campus.

The general policies and procedures information which is so hard to locate at Universities

Discussion of Assessment Policy and Procedures.

Small groups teaching outline.

Assessment, Marking and evaluation.

Least Useful

Policies and procedures.

Organisation Structure.

As a sessional we have no decision making or contribution to evaluation.

Terms and Conditions.

Table 4 - 'Grade descriptions' - Difficult to understand.

Other HR issues.

Pay rates.

HR.

Aspects regarding setting of unit outlines as I do not do these. I teach clinical skills in labs.

First year experience - have been doing this for a very long time.

Face-to-face teaching.

Getting to know you session.

Group activity, getting to know each other - I teach 4th year students so it's N/A.

Pay/Payment.

There were two sections in which we were able to talk to others in the group. Discussing potential teaching problems was for me more helpful than length 'ice breakers'.

The ice breaker exercise.

The session on teachers' "fears"

The group work, more on grievance, students.

More detail needed on payment process - timing and allocation to accounts.

Introduction at first tute as a teacher this all a well known strategy but can see the relevance for others.

Other comments

Multi-campus involvement good!

As sessional staff I think it is important to recognise that some of us have full or part time employment and only giving 1.5 weeks notice was difficult to arrange. Also difficult to register online we don't have any information email a/c, identification numbers as HR haven't arranged contracts.

Been good to connect with the wider ACU and its workings even though taught sessionally for 2 years.

Picked up many useful tips and strategies.

Evaluation.

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