

TANZ Today



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OF TECHNOLOGY OTAGO POLYTECHNIC
MANUKAU INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
UNIVERSAL COLLEGE OF LEARNING
THE OPEN POLYTECHNIC OF NEW ZEALAND

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Welcome to the First Edition 2004

It's hard to believe we're already into March.

We hope you had a good break over Christmas and the New Year – although it will probably seem a dim and distant memory now.

Some of the happenings at the end of 2003 didn't quite make our December newsletter. So, just to keep you up to date with TANZ end of the year activities:

Working from a Distance

Wendy Fountain, a valued member of the National Certificate in First Line Management (online) Project Team, was farewelled in December, as she and her partner have decided to return to Sweden to live.



From left: Rachel Pringle (Intern), Sue Dwan (Content Writer), Wendy Fountain (Instructional Designer), Caroline Darby (TANZ Project Coordinator), Jo Keyes (Academic Coordinator), Keith Tyler-Smith (Project Manager)
Absent: Pamela Simpson (TANZ National Development Director), Chris Matthews (Facilitator)

Wendy's expertise in the area of instructional design was a key factor in the success of the programme. She was presented with a piece of pounamu in the shape of an "e" – representative of the 'e' in e-Learning.

Fortunately her skills will not be lost to the team as she will tele-work for TANZ from Sweden. Now known as our "Northern Envoy", she will continue to work on the development of further Unit Standards online.

e-Learning Collaborative Development Fund

"Delivering applied e-Learning in the Workplace: Polytechnics and ITOs working together"

At the end of 2003, TANZ, in association with the Public Sector Training Organisation, Local Government Training Organisation, the Fire Rescue Services Organisation, Building & Construction ITO and NZITO, made a successful application to the e-Learning Collaborative Development Fund for funding to build capacity and capability within the areas of development of and support for electronic unit standards which are delivered to an applied workplace setting. The project, being led by the Christchurch Polytechnic Institute of Technology, will enable:

- 11 of the Unit Standards already developed to be contextualised to meet the needs of the Public Sector
- Development of a further 10 National Certificate in First Line Management Unit Standards and eight Health & Safety Unit Standards online to meet the needs of Public Sector (in the first instance for Local Government Training Organisation, the Fire Rescue Services Training Organisation and the Public Sector Training Organisation).
- Evaluation of different delivery models using workplace facilitators.
- Research into and establishment of a development plan of a Repository (Learner Bank) for learning objects developed for the online environment.
- Findings from the project to be researched and evaluated.

Graduate Certificate in e-Learning

The first two papers of the Graduate Certificate got underway in February. Educational Design for e-Learning (MIT) has 18 participants and Technical Appreciation of e-Learning Tools (UCOL) has 11 participants. Both the tertiary and secondary sectors are represented, and four of the five TANZ partners have students enrolled on the courses so far.

This TANZ initiative is being led by Manukau Institute of Technology. Oriell Kelly, Project Leader, said that feedback from students so far has been positive – they are finding the online environment (Blackboard) user

friendly and are enjoying the discussions, although one student commented that she found it "easier to write a 3,000 word essay for a lecturer's perusal than to write a 50-word contribution for colleagues to read!"

More courses are under development for launch in July. Further information can be found on MIT's website at www.manukau.ac.nz/elearning

National Certificate in First Line Management (online)

Delivery of the National Certificate in First Line Management (online) continued. Forty Meat Inspection Supervisors were enrolled in 2003. Another 80 are expected to go through this year.

ASURE have observed an increased capability in the area of business writing from those staff who have completed this element of the programme. It has become apparent through conversations with those supervisors who have completed this Unit, that there is a greater level of understanding of management issues.

Twenty enthusiastic supervisors have requested a fast track process as they are keen to complete the qualification as quickly as possible. TANZ has responded by running a special course for these fast-trackers.

FORA

Heads of School of Business Meeting January 2004

The TANZ Heads of School of Business met in January to discuss matters of mutual interest. Keith Tyler-Smith, Project Manager for the National Certificate in First Line Management (online), attended to give an online demonstration of the programme through Blackboard. Other topics discussed at the meeting included joint developments, articulation, and external relationships.

Heads of School of Art & Design Meeting February 2004

The TANZ Heads of School, Art & Design Schools met in February to select the application to be put forward to the London Institute for the 2004 TANZ/London Institute Scholarship.

The meeting also provided a chance for the Heads of School to raise other topics of mutual interest.

TANZ hopes to hear back from the London Institute in early April as to whether the application has been successful.

TANZ CEs meet with ITO CEs

A productive meeting was held in Wellington in February between the TANZ CEs and CEs from the BCITO, PSTO, Competenz, MITO and the Industry Training Federation.

There was wide-ranging discussion on strategies in relation to current and future skill shortages, curriculum alignment opportunities, as well as discussions about the roles of polytechnics and ITOs and how their relationships can be maximised to benefit all.

Staff Profile

Welcome to Keith Tyler-Smith

In his role as e-Learning Manager at CPIT, Keith was responsible for successfully managing the CPIT-led National Certificate in First Line Management (online) project.

Keith has now joined TANZ on a two year secondment to manage the project "Delivering applied e-Learning in the Workplace: Polytechnics and ITOs working together".

Keith has had a varied career including stints as an electrician, working in professional theatre in Canada as a Lighting Designer, Stage Manager and Director. In the late 1970s he emigrated from Canada and began working for South Pacific Television, later to become TV2. As a Director and Producer, his proudest moment was winning an award for Producer of Best Children's TV programme while Producer of What Now, a role he had for five years.

After 17 years in TV production, Keith made the shift into tertiary education, by taking up the role as Programme Leader for TV Production at CPIT's NZ Broadcasting School. Seven years later the opportunity to lead a newly established e-Learning and Web Support team came up, following a successful e-Learning pilot initiative with a cross discipline team, who worked together on a Graduate Certificate course in e-Commerce.

Keith's association with TANZ began in late 2002, when brought into a conversation between ASURE NZ, TANZ, PSTO and CPIT about the possibility of developing an online programme for a National Certificate in First Line Management. A successful application to Skill NZ for development money ensured that this programme got the best possible start. This programme went live in June 2003 and this led to another successful application for fund to the TEC e-Capability Development Fund, to develop further unit standards in the First Line Management domain and to deliver this programme to core public sector workers.

It was at this point that Keith responded to the invitation to join the TANZ team, with enthusiasm. Although we're not quite sure whether it's the challenge of the project, the potential for significant contribution that TANZ offers, the charm of Pamela and Caroline, or the offer of a free coffee once a week.

Welcome Keith!

For Further Information

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