



A Network of:
OTAGO POLYTECHNIC
NORTHTEC
UNIVERSAL COLLEGE OF LEARNING
CHRISTCHURCH POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
EASTERN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
NELSON MARLBOROUGH INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

TANZ Newsletter April 2009

Welcome

2008 has seen yet another successful year for TANZ.

A number of achievements from 2008.

- TEC funding received to support development work on Moodle distribution network and the Academic Harmonisation Project;
- Improved networking and collaboration from between and within TANZ institutions;
- 13 programmes now available web based with a number of other individual modules
- Increased relationships with a number of other ITPs
- Increased ownership of collaborative and networked curriculum.



Through 2009 TANZ will continue to build upon the strong foundation to create a network of providers and provision.

The following are summary points from a range of TANZ developments.

New Zealand Diploma in Business (Online)

TANZ member institutions are in the process of collaborating to provide a network of delivery options for learners enrolling in NZDB from semester two. This will offer learners access to a wider range of curricula from the TANZ institutions.

National Certificate in Business (First Line Management) (Online)

This was the first online programme developed under the TANZ banner and is now entering its seventh year and is now being offered through 9 ITPs. The curriculum continues to be actively moderated and updated to reflect current business practice. Feedback from learners continues to be positive.

National Diploma in Business (Online)

While this curriculum continues to be offered there are major changes being planned through NZQA. Once these changes are confirmed the

re-writing of curriculum will conclude to reflect the required modifications. Learners through the current programme are very complimentary about the programme and the learning experience.

Bachelor of Applied Management

This programme and associated resources has provided the basis for a collaborative programme involving all TANZ members. The outcome of this programme will mean that all TANZ member institutions that wish to can access this programme. This will mean that the curriculum will be shared, utilised and then after a period of time staff will collaborate to update curriculum and keep it current. There is also the opportunity for different institutions to offer specific majors while being able to access / offer other majors to learners from other institutions.

Comments from Chris Morland Group Manager

Business and Sport,
Otago Polytechnic



"For Otago Polytechnic the decision to collaborate was a strategic one that meant other parties if they wished, could join together under the umbrella of the programme known as the Bachelor of Applied Management.

Given the recent past and current environment hasn't always been too kind to IT's business schools this initiative seemed timely. The structure of the degree allows some institutional independence around the selection of "majors" offered, with the core papers providing a generic business base relevant to all.

Working together requires a lot of "give and take" and not necessarily at the same time. OP views this initiative as a long term investment in the programme and belief in its staff to build this degree collaboratively as one of the most valuable and recognisable business qualifications in NZ.

While the focus for now is on quality delivery of the programme, future gains will occur in teaching and research collaboration, domestic and international marketing, plus increasing flexible delivery options in the near future."



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Comments from John West, Head of School Business, CPIT

The Bachelor of Applied Management allowed CPIT to put in place an established degree with an excellent structure and underpinning philosophy.



Following a significant external research project examining the nature and need of applied business education in Canterbury, CPIT had a concept around the programme it wished to put in place. The Bachelor of Applied Management met this requirement and more, with a focus around applied education,

established on a broad base level of business knowledge that allowed a student to select a specialised area of study which culminated in an internship type programme.

In conjunction with Graduate Diplomas in each major, the Bachelor of Applied Management has proven to be a cost effective programme with excellent pathways from other qualifications, particularly the New Zealand Diploma in Business. Students are finding the chance to complete a double major without the need to do additional courses, very attractive'.

National Certificate in Business Administration (L4) / National Diploma in Business Administration (L5) (Online)

Learners are able to articulate into these programmes from the National Certificate in Business (First Line Management) and the National Diploma in Business respectively. Learners from industry have supported the format and content. A number of learners are enrolled in this programme via employer workplaces as well as through ITPs.

Comments from Sarah Young, HR Project Advisor, Fulton Hogan Ltd.

Fulton Hogan has conducted an initial pilot of the National Certificate in Business Administration (L4) online with a wide range of administrative focused staff ranging from Accounts Payable and Receivable, to Contract Administrators, Training Coordinators and Department Managers. To date, the feedback from participants has been excellent – both in terms of content covered, and the support given by the tutor.

The widespread and relatively small number of administrative staff within the company has historically made it difficult to schedule training as a group. TANZ's online format has allowed the formation of a learner group from various geographical locations around NZ without the associated travel costs of face to face training, and without significant blocks of time away from the workplace. It has also meant that learners can work at their own pace, depending on their current skill level, with corresponding levels of individualised support from the tutor.

The group has also met once a year for a workshop which has been of immense value for learning, assessment and networking. Fulton Hogan would highly recommend this programme, and is looking forward to working with TANZ to continue this programme with a new group of learners in 2010.

National Certificate in Health and Safety (L3) Online

AsureQuality has been offering this programme to a number of their employees for over the last 2 years supported by an ITO and TANZ. Learners have been positive about their experience.

Feedback provided by Andrew Bell, Business Support Manager (Meat Industry Services) has indicated that *'this training course has delivered practical and applicable knowledge and experience to enable learners to better understand and work in a Health & Safety domain. Many learners are from a site supervision environment and have been able to utilise the knowledge gained from the course in their day to day work'.*

This programme has also available through ITPs.

Nursing curriculum: Postgraduate Health Professions Programme

This flexible delivery project, involving schools of nursing at EIT, OP, CPIT and UCOL has made significant progress in the past year. The flexible/on-line development involves primarily EIT's Master of Nursing, but also multi-disciplinary streams within the Postgraduate Certificate and Postgraduate Diploma in Health Science.



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The application for flexible delivery approval was considered 18 December by a combined NZQA and Nursing Council panel. This had a successful outcome. The panel was impressed with forward-thinking and innovation in this TANZ initiative. Quoting from the report, *“The panel commended the commitment to quality delivery, reflective processes, the unanimity of vision, the passion for the staff for what they are doing and the coherence of their approach”*.

Dr. Susan Jacobs, Dean of the Faculty of Health & Sport Science, EIT commented that *“It is a wonderful experience working with TANZ partners who bring such openness, expertise and vision to the project. The support of the CEOs, e-learning advisors/designers at EIT and TANZ ‘office staff’, and the EIT Librarian has been critical to the project’s success.”*

Five postgraduate courses will be offered this year, with three further courses in each 2010 and 2011.

The nursing group continues to collaborate exceptionally well developing as well as sharing a range of curriculum.

Academic Harmonisation

Regulations around academic processes were set up by institutes working autonomously and this has led to many differences in how institutions operate and at times interpret the intent of regulations, but the current environment is different with a greater focus on collaboration and working together, there has become a strong need for harmonisation or aligning academic regulations - particularly around shared or collaborative activities.

This project has been a focus of TANZ institutions since 2008. Some of the outcomes to be achieved from Academic Harmonisation are:

- Collaborative programme approvals. Ensuring that programme developments has a robustness that will allow ITPs to achieve automatic approval – i.e. if an institution has approved a programme it does not need to go through the academic approval cycle in other ITPs.

- Collaborative academic regulations. To explore the types of academic regulations where, in a networked delivery model, individual students could be confused by different regulations at different institutions (for example regulations pertaining to aegrotats, recognition of prior learning, graduation regulations, etc) and to establish consistency of academic regulations.

Through this project TANZ member institutions will focus upon achieving a model that can be shared with the sector to provide the ability to be able to collaborate more effectively: Aspects of the project have included developing:

- common academic approval processes
- common academic regulations
- establish process for any new developments
- a tool kit to assist in institutional self assessment

Utilisation of Moodle

The TANZ Networked Learning Project was undertaken as a proof of concept to test the Moodle network (MNet) technology’s ability to network flexible learning / eLearning programmes and courses, learners and tutors across multiple institutions and organisations in order to share and maximise resources and expertise, ensure sustainability of marginal, but strategically important programmes and widen regional access to education and training.

Learners from each of the six TANZ regions were enrolled in one of six papers in the New Zealand Diploma in Business through their regional ITP. Each of the TANZ members delivered one of the six papers using the myLearn MNet system which linked any learner to their chosen courses regardless of where the learner was located or where the course was delivered from. The learner accessed their course through their home institution’s Moodle LMS and their home ITPs branding follows him or her so that the learner enjoyed a seamless experience throughout the networked virtual learning environment.



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There were a total of 113 learners enrolled across the six papers. Support for the online learning experience was provided from the learner's home institution as well as the course tutor.

This project achieved the following goals:

- testing the technology framework that enables learners at one institution to access taught courses, resources and learning materials from partner institutions through a "single sign on" login process, while retaining the home institution's logo and other brand identification;
- sharing programme/course content, course information and materials, student management data across the 6 TANZ institutions;
- co-teaching 6 NZ Dip Bus Papers courses/programmes thus leveraging expertise across the whole learning and teaching network and evaluating the issues, benefits and possible downsides of this strategy;
- providing a measure of sustainability for important and specialist programmes / courses made marginal by low local numbers through harvesting learners from partner institution and / or through shared teaching and delivery;
- enabling learner access to a broader range of education and training options, than may be obtained locally.



Nick Ford from CPIT has stated that *'our experiences and findings from this project are informing other e-Learning collaborative projects (both TANZ and non-TANZ) being conducted in 2009.*

e.g. the use of Moodle peer to peer networking in the CPIT Otago midwifery collaboration.

Vasi Doncheva from NorthTec supported this



by highlighting other curriculum is being successfully networked such as *'UCOL and NorthTec are networking with Certificate in eLearning Design and Development.'*

Joyce Seitzinger from EIT also stated a further successful outcome from the Moodle networking which is *'the joint delivery of professional development opportunities, like the Online Facilitation course, using Moodle networking and sharing of design & development tasks.'*

Any questions regarding the initiatives or other aspects related to TANZ please contact:

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For further information please review the TANZ web site at www.tanz.ac.nz