ASSOCIATE DEAN WELCOME

Welcome again to PACE magazine. As you will see from the contents of this edition, the pace of activity at ACPE continues in 2014: on campus, in the online environment and within the community.

The recent graduation ceremony offered staff, family and friends the opportunity to congratulate and celebrate with those students who completed their degrees in 2013. We invited to this event three Alumni who spoke to graduands and current students about the importance and value of maintaining contact with ACPE. The graduation was a great opportunity for both Alumni and current students alike. We look forward to working with our Alumni and sharing their stories through with others. In the meantime I hope you enjoy reading this edition of PACE.

Jaqueline Simmonds
Associate Dean, Students & Services
ACPE

2014 ACPE GRADUATION

The 2014 ACPE graduation ceremony was a great success with special thanks going to all the Academic and College staff involved in the planning and organisation of this fantastic event.

The ceremony took place at the Sydney Sports Centre at Olympic Park on the 9th of May. The event is one of the highlights in the ACPE calendar, with 225 students graduating on the day.

The event was attended by over 20 VIP guests including Hon. Barbara Mazzel Perry [member of Legislative Assembly and Member for Auburn], Warren Jacobson [Managing Director Australasia, Study Group] and Aboriginal elder Charles Madden, also fondly known to many as Uncle Chukka Madden, opened the evening’s proceedings with Welcome to Country.

Dr. Brian Nook, Dean and Head of College at ACPE, addressed the recent graduates, family, college staff and special guests in his welcome speech, congratulating the graduating class of 2014 for their dedication, passion, hard work and accomplishments over the years.

Celebrated former AFL player for Sydney Swans and current Deputy General Manager of AFL NSW/ACT Mr Craig Bolton, captivated the graduates during his address as guest speaker for the evening, sharing his inspiring success story as an AFL player and the importance of ‘values’ and ‘spirit’ involved in a career in sport. Throughout his address, Mr Bolton resonated that the graduation is merely an opening of another chapter in a person’s life and that the recent graduates had a bright future in front of them.

During the interlude, the ACPE Dance Company picked up the tempo with a captivating performance choreographed by ACPE Dance lecturer Carl Scriberras.

Vanessa Noble, ACPE Graduate in Bachelor of Health and Movement (Sport) received the College Medal Honours on the night. Vanessa, who commenced her studies in 2011, was recognised for her academic achievements during her studies and her contribution to the College as a Student Representative as well as her involvement in three University Games.

A further special mention goes to the Academic Excellence Awards winners, Jaeden Hatfield, Adam Lewinski, Vanessa Noble, Aaron Parker, Claire Riley, Kristy Smith, Amy Stoakes and Blake Williams for their achievements during their studies at ACPE.

The formal conferring of Degrees and Awards ended with graduates, Academic and College staff and guests proceeding to enjoy the remainder of the evening with family and friends.
ACPE AND THE CAMBODIAN CHILDRENS FUND

Founded by ACPE in 2004, the Cambodian Children’s Fund (CCF) provides life-changing education, food supplies and medical treatment to vulnerable children from some of Cambodia’s most destitute communities. In the beginning, the CCF revolved around the health and well-being of 87 youngsters, but as of now the program funding covers more than 1,800 students and 10,000 people annually through extended services provided to entire families and communities in crisis.

As part of the ongoing efforts of the program, what was once an empty lot used to dispose trash, was recently converted into a lively playground for kids, made completely from recycled materials. The project is one of the many examples of CCF’s continuing support projects helping some of Cambodia’s poorest communities.

Watch the recent thank you video made by CCF to show their thanks for all the fundraising efforts by the ACPE community since 2011. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W1_jN-dynBw

CALL FOR ALUMNI IN SUPPORT FOR LACHLAN HOLLIS

Lachlan ‘Locky’ Hollis started at ACPE in 2009, studying the Bachelor of Applied Fitness. A keen sportsman at heart, he received the Blue Award for his achievements in water polo in 2011.

Locky graduated with the class of 2012 and has since been on top of his game - amongst his other achievements he also represents Australia in the men’s water polo.

Sadly however, two years ago, whilst playing professionally in Italy, Locky started experiencing left hip and lower back pain, often suffering these symptoms after high intensity games and exercise sessions. After numerous failed investigations and tests, Locky was diagnosed with a rare form of cancer known as Germ Cell Embryonal Carcinoma Testicular Cancer.

Aged only 24, Locky will now undergo chemotherapy to shrink the two tumors identified in his upper and lower body, followed by major surgery to remove one if not both tumors.

Locky, still very positive, said that “if it was not for water polo, I might not have even detected this as early as I did”.

ACPE is currently reaching out to its students and Alumni for donations towards Locky’s cancer treatment, with any additional funds collected going towards the Oncology department at Concord Hospital.

To make a donation, please visit https://teambus.com.au/projects/159/project-info/
STUDENT LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

Through the Student Leadership Program (SLG), ACPE continues its long held tradition of developing effective leadership attributes in our students through practical experience. The ACPE Student Leadership Program focuses on driving positive engagement amongst the student cohort and to equip them with the skills needed to make a successful transition from tertiary study into their chosen career.

The group is formed by students representing each of the extra-curricular programs within ACPE and provides an important framework for relaying information across students and staff members across various degrees. The program also provides access to senior staff members at ACPE with representatives able to have input into the decision making processes and planning around the various student development programs.

Representatives for the Student Leadership Program are selected based on their ongoing contribution and involvement within the ACPE Extra-Curricular Programs; including the ACPE Ambassador Program; Alpha Group; ACPE Cultural Experience Program; ACPE Dance Company; Mentor Program; Peer Study Assistant Program and Student Life and Social Sport. The selection criteria for these programs range from open applications or academic results.

An ACPE staff member facilitates the program and other requirements including help in developing program objectives, organising individual programs agendas and meetings. All ACPE students are encouraged to apply and seek selection in each of the programs that they are interested in.

ACPE WELCOMES GWS GIANTS

On Tuesday, 1st April, ACPE welcomed Matt Buntine, Dylan Shiel and Adam Treloar from the Greater Western Sydney (GWS) Giants to meet with staff and students involved in the ACPE student leadership program. In total, 30 ACPE staff and students took the opportunity to listen to the guest speakers around the topic of Peer Leadership, which was followed by a Q&A session. The players, who are all members of the ‘Emerging Leadership Group’ at GWS, shared their experiences around peer leadership. The presenters identified confrontation and maintaining existing friendships as two of the significant obstacles to leading peers effectively. The players followed up by also discussing effective means by which to overcome these difficulties.

The visit by GWS provided the opportunity for both staff and students to listen to these elite athletes and gain insight into their effective peer leadership styles applied in professional sport. The players were terrific ambassadors for GWS and were open with their thoughts and shared stories about great leaders within their own club as well as anecdotes around positive and negative peer leadership styles within the AFL.

The visit is part of an ongoing partnership that will give ACPE students the access to professional career development opportunities, as well as the ability to participate in exclusive programs offered by GWS Giants.
IN BRIEF

ACPE OPEN DAY

ACPE Open Days provide an excellent platform for prospective students to find out what the sports and dance industry can offer them. ACPE’s mid-year intake was held on Saturday the 31st of May, with over 120 students and parents joining on a fun and informative day at the ACPE campus.

The Open day kicked off with campus tours, giving the prospective students the opportunity to see the facilities first hand, followed by a parents information session from college lecturers and staff.

The day followed on with an inspiring cast of industry speakers, including Aaron Warburton (Commercial Manager - Sponsorships, Canterbury Bulldogs) and Chanel Leaudais (Professional Choreographer), sharing their insights and experience as recent ACPE Alumni working professionally within the sports and dance industries.

ACPE lecturers followed the speakers with brief introductions into the various degrees and the pathways available to potential students studying at ACPE.

Attendees were also able to later take part in interactive fitness challenges run by the Science Lab staff as well as enjoy the afternoon on the ACPE deck with a casual outdoor BBQ organised by our student volunteers.

THE ACPE ALPHA GROUP

The Alpha Group was established in 2010 to promote a culture of academic excellence and provide greater opportunities for ACPE’s top academic performers. Initiatives like the Alpha groups offer ACPE students the opportunity to engage with industry experts and actively be involved in their future careers.

This year’s group comprises of 11 students from a variety of degrees and intake years. The group will be focusing on a number of key development areas, including professional and academic skills workshops, attending research presentations by ACPE staff members and learning to develop and perfect their networking skills.

In April, the Alpha students conducted a ‘meet and greet’ session with ACPE academic staff, the session offered a forum for students to share their plans for study and career ambitions. The students in turn had the opportunity to hear from the staff members on the various opportunities and potential career paths for their chosen disciplines. Students also gained insight into the various personal journeys, work experiences and lessons learnt along the way by ACPE staff members.

ACPE is always interested in hearing about your time or share your expertise, work experiences or offering current students an insight into enhancing their opportunities within the industry. If you would like to volunteer your time or share your expertise, please contact Michelle Cavaleri at mcavaleri@acpe.edu.au.

CORPORATE INFORMATION SESSIONS

In May, ACPE launched a new Corporate Information Session program with the objective of attracting prospective students currently working within the industry and to further strengthen ACPE’s online student cohort.

The first sessions organised for May were offered to organisations that are part of ACPE’s existing corporate advocacy program. The information sessions were an ideal forum for corporate stakeholders to gain an understanding of the ACPE difference as well as the joint benefits through such a program.

To win one of these fantastic prizes, enter today via one of the following links:

- facebook.com/theacpe
- @theacpe
- ChannelACPE
- socialmedia@acpe.edu.au

For more details check out www.acpe.edu.au/myacpe

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The Dean and Head of College Dr. Brian Nook, covered a number of key areas during each session, including:

- ACPE’s role in educating the next generation of industry professionals
- ACPE work placements opportunities available via the Career Development Office (CDO)
- Opportunities for integration into the ACPE curriculum
- Leveraging student cohorts to fulfil workplace requirements
- Staff support and flexible online education options
- Opportunities available through the ACPE Access Award program.

ACPE will continue these sessions during the year, strengthening its ties within the sports and dance industries.

WIN AN EXCLUSIVE SPORTING EXPERIENCE

Want to win tickets to one of Sydney’s exclusive sporting events of 2014?

All you need to do is capture a short video (less than a minute long) that demonstrates what inspired you to study at ACPE, whether it was in pursuit of a career in sport or dance. You could go on to win tickets to the 2014 NRL Grand Final or meeting the NSW Swifts at their upcoming exclusive Gala Dinner!