Welcome to the summer edition of PACE. Can you believe we are in 2014 already!

As you will see throughout this edition, ACPE has been a hub of activity over the past few months. From an administrative perspective, the College has recently joined the Graduates of League Program in partnership with the NRL as part of our commitment to supporting our elite athletes; we held our first ever Open Day which was a resounding success; and we are extremely excited to announce that we will be offering our Sports Business and Sports Coaching degrees online in this year.

From our student perspective, our ACPE Pirates returned home from the Australian University Games on the Gold Coast with 4 medals; current student Paul Hamad has recently returned from a trip to Papua New Guinea where he assisted the Canterbury-Bankstown Bulldogs in their Community Activation tour; and our ACPE Dance Company has recently returned from an exciting educational trip to the USA.

On a sad note, we would like to extend our condolences to the family of alumni Robyn Cook on her recent passing. Robyn was an important part of the ACPE family.

We hope you enjoyed the festive season and introduced 2014 in style. We love hearing from our alumni, so feel free to send any stories for the newsletter to alumni@acpe.edu.au.

Brian Nook
Head of College

ACPE STAFF MEMBER AWARDED

ACPE staff member and alumni, Sue Yeon |Sook| was recently selected as the National Multicultural Community Ambassador of the Year.

1999 alumni and current member of ACPE staff, Sue Yeon |Sook| was recently selected as the National Multicultural Community Ambassador of the Year for her extensive work with both AFL NSW/ACT and the Korean community in Sydney.

“I am very proud of what I have achieved this year, and am more motivated to promote and engage AFL within the Korean community.” says Sook.

Sook’s passion and love of the game has led her to achieve a host of significant accomplishments throughout the course of the year, particularly with regards to getting children more involved in the sport.

She has been instrumental in helping AFL NSW/ACT organise a school football program for Korean youngsters in the Sydney/Illawarra region, and has actively promoted the social benefits of playing football to school kids by encouraging them to attend a number of school holiday camps.

As part of her desire to spread the appeal of AFL across cultural barriers, Yeon has encouraged members of her Korean community to attend matches during the season, distributing over 350 tickets to GWS GIANTS games!

She also played a vital role in getting fellow Koreans involved in the AFL’s Multicultural Round, inviting key members of the community to attend the Chairman’s Function and giving them a taste of the thrill of experiencing a live AFL game.

AFL Head of Diversity, Jason Mifsud, congratulated Yeon on her outstanding achievement. “Sue has proven she is a positive and an inspiring multicultural role model, particularly within the Korean community.

The AFL Multicultural Community ambassador program aims to further engage with the multicultural communities through the establishment of a network of community ambassadors who help develop and promote Australian Football in their communities.

ACPE are extremely proud of Sook’s achievements and wish to congratulate her on a very deserving award. As part of her recognition, Sook was flown to the AFL Grand Final at the MCG!
ACPE JOINS LEAGUE PROGRAM

ACPE is excited to announce that we have recently joined Rugby League’s innovative Graduates of League Program. Elite players such as Tim Mannah (Sharks), Matt Ballin (Sea Eagles), Daniel Mortimer (Roosters) and Alan Nuilesla (Sharks) are among 12 NRL and Holden Cup players who are currently attending ACPE.

In September, ACPE celebrated the launch of the program by hosting an official event on campus. In attendance were some of the NRL Holden Cup players, Welfare & Education Managers and Club Career Coaches from 7 Sydney NRL clubs.

NRL Senior Welfare and Education Manager, Mr Paul Heptonstall, commented that the program aims to increase retention and completion rates of elite athletes who are studying as they prepare for careers post-football.

“ACPE has always been an education institution that has catered for elite athletes, making their studies as flexible as possible for them to achieve both their goals.”

The program involves engaging with the players through a network of ACPE Student and Academic Support Services, to help ensure players reach their academic goals while still playing and training full-time. Students at ACPE who are identified as scholars have been assigned to NRL players to deliver one-on-one tuition for at least one hour per week, which is funded by the NRL, the player’s NRL Club and the RLPA.

The launch event provided an opportunity for ACPE to promote the work of the students who have taken on the role of the Peer Study Assistant and to recognise the commitment of the players in the program. It also provided a forum for staff to meet with the NRL players and their support staff within their NRL clubs.

Kellie Maxwell, Student Services Manager and Elite Athlete Contact says “The opportunity to be involved in the program was presented to ACPE back in June of 2013 and we have not looked back since. Meeting with the NRL staff behind this program, Paul Heptonstall and Dr Sam Jebelie who are so passionate about the program really inspired us to take this on and make it happen. When people are passionate about something they make you want to jump right on board, so that’s exactly what we did. We have been very fortunate at ACPE to have full support from the Academic and support services teams for the Elite Athlete program.

Having caught up with many of the players, it is evident that their confidence in their studies has grown. Many have commented on how fantastic their peers are and how they have noticed an improvement in their abilities. There is certainly an increased level of engagement with the players and the College and it is nice to see them meeting other students outside of their tutorial groups, which can be difficult at times considering their commitments. We are looking forward to watching the results of the players and their confidence grow.”

Other players who are currently attending ACPE include: Panthers - Brady Cheshire, Kieren Moss and Michael Ross
Rabbitohs - Jaiden Hawkes
Roosters - Braeden Batiste
Sea Eagles - James Cunningham, Clinton Gutherson and Dean McGlinchey

ACPE DANCE COMPANY

The ACPE Dance Company had a very busy and successful year in 2013. Under the artistic directorship of Jess Taylor, the company performed Jess’s new work, ‘Toy Friend’, at the ACPE Graduation ceremony and then presented it in the open jazz section of the DanceLife Unite Eisteddfod. They also performed ‘Seven Devils’ by guest Choreographer Jake Connell in the contemporary section. Both works were again performed in the City of Sydney Eisteddfod and the company received a highly commended for their performance of Jake’s work.

The company’s most recent performance was at the Australian Dance Festival. In the words of one company member, Alara Cassells-Forward, “those three words reflect an inspiring weekend of growth as a Dancer and Choreographer. As a member of the ACPE Dance Company, I had the privilege of taking part in this event for the second consecutive year. My personal highlights include workshops with Andye J, Phly Crew, Debbie Ellis, Request Crew and Yvette Lee. As a Dancer, I love the atmosphere; supportive and encouraging even if you feel out of your comfort zone. As a pre-service secondary Teacher, it is fantastic to see so many students attempting new styles and having fun. It is also an explosion of creativity which assists in my future works as a Choreographer. As a future PDHPE and dance teacher, I will definitely be encouraging my students to participate in this great event.”

An even greater highlight is the Dance Company’s trip to the USA where they participated in workshops and performances. There was no rest for the company. Upon arrival back in Sydney they were off to perform at the dance programs’ end of year performances.
ALUMNI NEWSLETTER / SUMMER 2014

ALUMNI WATCH

Ben Jack, ACPE Graduate 2012 - Bachelor of Sports Coaching & Administration

**Why did you choose to pursue a career in sport?**
I chose to pursue a career in sport because my whole life has been about Rugby League – from playing to coaching – and also to help develop young talent and to help increase participation in Rugby League.

**Why did you choose ACPE?**
I chose ACPE because of the degree. I’ve always loved coaching so getting recognised in it was a major factor. Having ACPE at Sydney Olympic Park was also a contributing factor.

**What did you like best about studying at ACPE?**
Studying sports related topics and mixing them with business, being able to study law and economics but relate them back to sports and my job.

**How did ACPE contribute to where you are in your career today?**
It allowed me to make many contacts in the sports industry that I now have daily contact with. It gave me the confidence through the professional experience program to get experience in the industry.

**How long after leaving ACPE did you land your first sports-related job?**
It took six weeks from my last class, so I feel pretty fortunate.

**Tell us about your career so far and what has it entailed?**
From ACPE I went straight into my current role as Game Development Officer for the National Rugby League, which entails growing the game through recruitment, retention, participation and fan engagement.

**What has been your greatest professional achievement?**
Conducting the biggest community carnival event in Australia with 61 schools being visited for the NRL’s Tackle Bullying campaign in one day.

Ben Jack - Graduate 2012
Hear more from Ben at acpe.edu.au/my-story

ACPE OPEN DAY

ACPE held its inaugural Open Day on Saturday 9th November 2013. The day was a huge success with an estimated 300 people through the campus doors on the day. This number encompassed 120 prospective students, who brought along their parents, friends and other key influencers. Throughout the day, the campus was abuzz with back to back activities. Visitors on the day were clearly excited to take part in as much as possible, with some even arriving an hour before we officially opened registrations!

The day kicked off with campus tours to show off the campus grounds as well as giving prospective students and their parents a preview of the day’s activities. Visitors on the day were clearly excited to take part in as much as possible, with some even arriving an hour before we officially opened registrations!

The Information Stalls were buzzing with discussions all day, they gave visitors the chance to speak one-on-one with our support staff (including Student Services, Career Development, Academic Development, Library, ACPE Academy and Student Enrolment) and academic staff. Other activities included personal career plan programs, interactive sports and a dance class held by Chanel Leaudais!

In addition to a high performing team of staff, we were lucky to have a number of ACPE students volunteer their time on the day and they successfully assisted with guiding guests around the College and showed prospective students what ACPE culture is all about!
IN BRIEF

ACPE SPONSOR THE CANTERBURY-BANKSTOWN BULLDOGS IN PNG

For the second consecutive year (in 2013), ACPE sponsored the Canterbury-Bankstown Bulldogs as they travelled to Papua New Guinea on a Community Activation Tour.

Players and staff from the Canterbury-Bankstown Bulldogs along with ACPE student Paul Hamad (Bachelor of Applied Fitness) received a hero’s welcome when they touched down in the footy-mad nation of Papua New Guinea.

Paul and the Bulldogs crew visited 14 schools in Kavieng, where they held football clinics for the enthusiastic students and ran sessions on the importance of good education. In addition, the tour involved building a classroom at Nehemiah Christian School.

League Club Chairman George Peponis said the venue was pleased to support the Bulldogs in the Community program and help children in the Kavieng community.

Paul Hamad was selected from a number of high achieving ACPE students who applied for this once in a lifetime opportunity. It was a tough decision; however Paul’s passion for rugby league, including volunteer work at a grassroots level made him the perfect candidate for this trip.

ACPE ALUMNIST RECOGNISED FOR COMMUNITY SPIRIT

At the 2013 Student Awards night, the College introduced a new ACPE award that recognises community spirit. The award has been named in honour of 1967 ACPE Alumnist, Sandra Collier. Sandra has played an important role as both a student and staff member of ACPE, and we are unlikely to find anyone who can showcase more ACPE spirit!

The recipient of the award is determined through a series of Staff vs. Student sporting matches. The aim of the competition is to encourage interaction outside of the classroom, foster comradeship and promote sportsmanship. Students were the winners of 2013, beating the Staff 4 - 1. Sandra was present at the recent Awards Night, held at Doltone House Pyrmont, to present this years award to Hagan Butler, who accepted on behalf of the students.

ACPE INTRODUCES ONLINE DEGREES FOR 2014

ACPE’s Bachelor of Sports Business and the Bachelor of Sports Coaching & Administration will be available for online study this year.

This is an exciting new development for the College, allowing the business to reach students interstate and provide flexible study options for those already in the workforce.

SPECIFIC PE DEGREE BACK AT ACPE

ACPE has been accredited to reintroduce a PE teaching specific qualification this year, with the Bachelor of Education (Physical Health Education) available on campus from Semester 1.

VALE ACPE ALUMNI - ROBYN COOK (NEE ABBOTT) OAM

It is with deep regret that we announce the passing of one of our valued alumni, Robyn Cook (nee Abbott).

Robyn began her training at ACPE in 1958, together with 13 other students. In 1960 she graduated and the following year returned to her old school MLC Burwood as part of the sports staff, where she enjoyed many years of teaching. In 1975, Robyn’s family moved to Melbourne, and it was from this time that she became involved with teaching people with intellectual disability, firstly in a voluntary capacity and then as employed staff at Kew Cottages. In 1976 Robyn was invited to join the inaugural Australian Special Olympics Committee formed at Kew Cottages and subsequently served on Regional, State and National Committees in various roles.

During this time, Robyn received numerous awards for her service in sport, including the Australian Sports Medal in 2000, for 25 years’ service as coach and administration in gymnastics/tennis, and a Medal of the Order of Australia in 2001, for service to people with disabilities, particularly through the Special Olympics Movement.

In 2010, ACPE formally recognised Robyn’s achievements and she was inducted as the first member of the ACPE Hall of Fame and in 2011 inducted into Special Olympics Australia Hall of Fame. Robyn has remained well connected with the College since graduating and she will be sadly missed.

Condolences can be sent to Robyn’s husband, David at: davrobco@bigpond.com

Left: Bulldogs & ACPE visit PNG
Centre: Sandra Collier presents award to ACPE student Hagan Butler
Right: Robyn Cook (nee Abbott) with her Order of Australia Medal