

## VTAS PE Network – request for continued funding

The VTAS Promoting Excellence Network has successfully operated for two years. In that time, the network has gathered momentum, building strong relationships with project team members and has achieved a proven record of successful events and workshops.

We wish to secure funds from OLT to continue the network for a further year subsequent to the funding period, which ends in September 2013.

### Proposed events

We currently have several events organised for the next twelve months, including:

Event	Description	Estimated attendance	Date	Host	Estimated cost
	Project Officer – HEW 6 (0.2FTE)				\$18,672.00
3 x Project Team Meetings	The aim of these meeting will be to produce and finalise a calendar of events (dates/ venues/ presenters) for 2013-2014 and propose dates for the 2014-2015 calendar.	10 people	2013-2014	Monash	\$1,500.00
2 x Developmental sessions with OLT secondee project holders	These sessions are aimed at developing Promoting Excellence staff and providing dissemination events for OLT secondees.	2 x 30 people	TBC	TBC	\$4,000.00
PE Teams Workshop	A small workshop for PE staff from Vic-Tas to share ideas and undertake PD.	20 people	Feb 2014	Uni Tas	\$5,600.00
VTAS Showcase for completed VTAS fellows and grant holders	A Showcase aimed at providing information about the experiences of OLT secondee and grant holders.	100 people	TBC	TBC	\$5,700.00
VTAS Network Workshop	Theme to be decided.	100 people	June 2014	TBC	\$5,700.00

### Increased followers and traffic on website

A new VTAS website was launched in April 2013. The site currently has 184 followers, 1430 views in total since the site was launched and record spikes of up to 187 in connection with events and website posts.

Further funding may be required for expert advice and training to develop a more sophisticated social media presence for the network.

### Past events

Solid attendance figures and positive feedback have been recorded for past events. The Network has held the following events during the funding period:

Event	Date	Attendance	Host
VTAS PEN Workshop 1: <i>Supporting Project Teams to</i>	8 Feb 2012	40 participants	Monash

<i>Make a Difference</i>			
VTAS PEN Workshop 2: <i>Networking to Succeed</i>	29 Oct 2012	80 participants	La Trobe
VTAS PEN Workshops 3 & 4: <i>Professional Development; Grant Writing and Design</i>	12 Feb 2013	27 participants These workshops were aimed at developing Promoting Excellence staff and numbers were capped on request from Tilly	Monash (run by Tilly Hinton)
VTAS PEN workshop 5: <i>OLT Grants Workshop</i>	5 June 2013	75 participants	Swinburne

The project team have also held regular meetings throughout the period.

#### **Evaluations from past events**

Workshop 2, Oct 2012: 84% of respondents replied that the workshop had given them the opportunity to connect with other members of the Vic/Tas State-based Promoting Excellence Network. 71% of respondents answered that engaging in collaborative L&T grants as a result of the knowledge gained at the workshop was 'likely'.

Workshops 3 & 4, Feb 2013: All respondents rated the workshops as 'Outstanding' or 'Good', and all respondents said they would recommend the workshops to their colleagues.

Feedback from Workshop 5 is still being collated, so results of the evaluation are not yet available.

#### **Benchmarking exercise**

In May 2013, the VTAS Network was invited by the Queensland Promoting Excellence Network (Q-PEN) to participate in a benchmarking exercise to evaluate what is working well and otherwise with a view to discovering ways to become sustainable and to improve and enhance impact and outcomes for members and their institutions.

This is a pleasing development, as it shows that our network is comparable to the successful Queensland model, and that we are quite firmly established in terms of the relationships between member institutions and the Network's direction, goals and achievements.

#### **Requested funding**

We request \$40,000 to continue the Network.