

## **WORKSHOP: Developing Student Community**

Examples of initiatives that have been used and are successful and popular:

### ***TACKLE STUDENT POVERTY***

#### ***Monash University***

Approximately 100 people attend each week (Monday).

Recipients of food cooked food and so were active participants on project.

*Commitment by students association:*

Pay a small fee to use the restaurant, get cutlery from community groups and collect donated food from stores.

This is covered by the organization's insurance policy.

### ***SHOELEN SOUP KITCHEN***

#### ***Swinburne University***

Very successful program with active student involvement.

### ***CONTACT***

#### ***University of Melbourne***

Was run by student volunteers for about 30 years so that students could come and meet, chat and have a cup of tea.

### ***INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS & COMMUNITY CONTACT***

#### ***James Cook University***

Approximately 80 people a week.

A group of students would meet weekly and eat and play games from a selected country.

### ***TRANSNATIONAL WEBSITE***

#### ***James Cook University***

Established a website so that, for example, a student from the Seychelles can post messages to help connect them to other students in similar situations.

### ***CONTACT WITH STUDENT COMMUNITY***

How to get students involved in surveys and censuses?

- offer rewards or prize draw?
- student representatives go to classrooms and distribute and collect questionnaires
- listening posts – area where student representatives sit and talk and listen to students and others

#### **Examples:**

**TAFE** developed community by breaking down the division between staff and students.

#### **Student Alert (James Cook University)**

Run 4 times a year, first year classes are approached for 5 minutes during lectures and are provided with information regarding Centrelink, travel concessions etc.

**Showbags (TAFE)**

Students are employed to go out into the community and get discount vouchers to be included in showbags. Students are provided with a badge, letter and contact number for student organization.

**Student reductions (University of Western Australia)**

Once a month a website is accessed which requests different stores, eg. Coles, for gift vouchers for students.

**Television (TAFE)**

A large TV was purchased, and students gather round to watch TV during breaks. The TV is also useful during functions.

**SMS Event Notification (Swinburne)**

Thinking of using SMS notification to members for events etc.

**Orientation (TAFE)**

Students' children are provided with balloons and lollies and families are invited to drop in for coffee etc.