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## Welcome

Welcome to the September 2009 issue of the ICTE-UQ Update. The past six months have been an exciting and rewarding period of recognition, support and growth for the Institute.



The new building in which the Institute's premises is located on the UQ St Lucia campus has been recognised for its quality through esteemed architecture and construction industry awards and by the official naming of the building in honour of the University's recently retired Chancellor, Sir Llew Edwards AC. Feedback from students, participants and staff across the Institute's diverse TESOL and Continuing Education/Extension Studies programs continues to be highly positive in terms of the quality of the teaching and learning environment and support facilities. This feedback and recognition are most rewarding and are commendations for the Institute's commitment to quality in teaching and learning.

In addition to formal industry recognition over this period ICTE-UQ has experienced continued strong levels of support from our network of representatives and government, institutional and corporate partners. Despite financially turbulent times globally, participant numbers across the Institute's diverse program streams continue to remain high and in October 2009 ICTE-UQ will deliver its largest regular TESOL program session to 900+ students participating in the Institute's General, Business and Academic English and English for Specific Purposes in TESOL and Tourism & Hospitality, and Bridging English Program courses.

The Institute has continued to diversify its program and training offerings and this edition of the ICTE-UQ Update showcases just a few of the many programs, participants and services delivered by ICTE-UQ over the period. Some of the programs featured include the inaugural Skilled Migration Internship Program Accounting (SMIPA), intensive English language training + UQ Masters programs for students from Iraq, customised English and therapies studies for students from South Korea, intensive English language & TESOL training for future English language teachers from Chile, and students from the US undertaking fundraising as part of a customised Criminal Justice short-term study abroad program.

We also bring you news of the strengthening of ICTE-UQ partnerships in Thailand through joint multi-country program delivery, and in China through the signing of a formal teacher training agreement, as well as news from the Institute's offshore partnerships with the University of Danang in Vietnam and Universidad Católica del Norte in Chile.

I would like to take this opportunity to extend sincere thanks to all our government, institutional and corporate partners and representatives for their continued strong support, collegiality and contribution to the ongoing success of the Institute.

*Christine Bundesen, Director ICTE-UQ*

## Experiential Learning



**Students from Dongju and Sunlin Colleges in South Korea have recently undertaken a unique English language studies and experiential learning program.**

The 18 students completed an intensive three-week English Language & Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapies & Dental Hygiene Studies program at ICTE-UQ in June/July 2009.

The program included a combination of customised General and Specific Purpose English language training and experiential therapies learning through guest lectures, workshops, professional site visits and cultural activities.

The combination of classroom-based and off-site learning provided the participants with the opportunity to develop English language skills specific to their area of individual study and future career development and to experience, observe and engage with physiotherapy, occupational therapy and dental hygiene practices, services and professionals in Australia.

Guest lectures and site visits coordinated by and in collaboration with ICTE-UQ included:

- UQ School of Dentistry
- UQ School of Human Movement Studies Centre for Physical Activity and Sport Education (CPASE)
- UQ School of Health & Rehabilitation Sciences
- Brisbane Dental Hospital (Queensland Health)
- LifeTec Queensland
- Princess Alexandra Hospital
- Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital
- Royal Children's Hospital Children's Oral Health Service

ICTE-UQ has significant experience in the delivery of customised English for Specific Purposes (ESP) training programs and has been providing an annual program for Dongju and Sunlin College students since 2002.



*Dongju and Sunlin Colleges Dental Hygiene students meet with UQ School of Dentistry Staff*



*Sir Llew Edwards AC, UQ Chancellor and Lady Jane Edwards outside the recently named Sir Llew Edwards (SLE) building*



## Honours for ICTE-UQ Premises

**The building premises in which ICTE-UQ is located has been named by the UQ Senate as the Sir Llew Edwards (SLE) building in honour of The University of Queensland's recently retired Chancellor.**

The naming of the building is in recognition of Sir Llew's highly distinguished service as a member of Senate for almost 25 years, including nearly 16 years as Chancellor.

Vice-Chancellor Professor Paul Greenfield said "The Sir Llew Edwards Building makes a statement about at least two of Sir Llew's great passions: international education, and teaching and learning." The premises was officially named during a ceremony held in the Institute's Terrace Room in July 2009.

In more ICTE-UQ premises news, a number of premier architectural and building industry awards have confirmed the SLE building as a teaching and learning environment of the highest standard.

Richard Kirk Architect and ML Design have been recognised for their SLE building achievements, winning the state of Queensland's top public building award, the Australian Institute of Architects 2009 FDG Stanley Award for Public Architecture. The awards jury panel described the SLE building premises as "meticulously detailed and crafted, and providing a valued corner piece at this northern entry to the University campus." The SLE building premises are now in contention for the National Architecture Awards to be announced in October 2009.


This award is in addition to the growing list of accolades already received by Richard Kirk Architect and ML Design for the SLE building. The firms received a Regional Commendation for Public Architecture at the 2009 Brisbane Regional Architecture Awards and received 2 awards from the Australian Illuminating Engineering Design Society (IES) in 2008 for innovative and environmentally friendly interior and exterior lighting.

The Watpac Construction team behind the multi-million dollar SLE building project have also been honoured for their achievements and have recently been named as the recipient of a number of prestigious building awards. Awards include the Australian Institute of Building (AIB) Queensland Professional Excellence in Building Award and National Professional Excellence in Building Award and the Master Builder Association Brisbane Housing and Construction Award (Health and Education Facilities Over \$15 million).

The SLE building continues to attract national attention and has been showcased in the July/August issue of "Architecture Australia".

The ICTE-UQ premises also continues to receive high praise from the Institute's 6500+ students and program participants, who have been able to experience its teaching and learning facilities first-hand through studies in the diverse TESOL and Continuing Education/Extension Studies programs delivered by ICTE-UQ since July 2008.

## Growing A Nation

 **ICTE-UQ is currently hosting 40 Iraqi government staff undertaking Australian government AusAID-sponsored ICTE-UQ/English language and Masters Programs.**

The Australia Iraq Agriculture Scholarship (AIAS) Program was announced by Australian Prime Minister, the Hon Kevin Rudd MP, during a visit to Baghdad, Iraq, in December 2007.

The program provides scholarships in Australia to support the Iraqi agriculture sector. It aims to improve food security and facilitate Iraq's transition to an open, market-based economy through helping to restore agricultural services and boosting Iraqi agricultural production.

Australia, in cooperation with the Iraqi Ministry of Agriculture, identified primary areas of need in the agricultural sector and a broad range of postgraduate courses to develop a pool of qualified experts in the sector to help achieve these aims. Four Australian universities, including UQ, have been selected to host a total of 127 students studying under the AIAS scheme.

'Studying in Australia will give me and my colleagues opportunities to experience applications of new technologies and practices and translate these directly to what we need in Iraq. It will allow us to strengthen our agricultural industry as well as redevelop land damaged through chemicals and war,' said program participant Mohammed Waleed Khudair from the Ministry of Science and Technology.



*AIAS UQ Scholarship Recipients with Greg Weichard (Director, Iraq & Middle East Section AusAID), Stephanie Lee (Program Officer AusAID) and Stephen Heap (TESOL Director of Studies ICTE-UQ)*

Program participant Faisal Ghazi Juma from the Ministry of Agriculture State Board for Agricultural Research agrees, 'We know what we have in Iraq and what we need. I am studying English with a purpose – to achieve my IELTS so I can start my Masters at UQ.'

Commenting on the significance of the large number of scholarships granted, program participant Mohammed Jabar Abduradh said, 'Of the 800 staff who currently work in my Directorate of Agriculture in Maysan in Southern Iraq only one has a Masters. By the end of this program, 6 staff in this department, including me, will have Masters level qualifications. This is just one province. These scholarships have been given across many regions. They will bring new blood, new technologies and new methods to all of Iraq.'

The program involves a significant


commitment by the participants, many of whom will be away from their families for the duration of the program and some of whom will bring their families to be with them in Australia at their own expense.

The program participants are playing an important role not only in developing skills to aid in the rebuilding of Iraq but also in fostering good relations between Iraq and Australia.

'Our connection and relationship with Australia will continue to grow through the sharing of knowledge, technology and trade after we leave here and take what we have learnt home,' said Mr Khudair.

The AIAS Program is part of over \$60 million of Australian government aid for Iraq in four targeted areas: supporting agriculture, supporting public sector governance, improving basic service delivery and supporting vulnerable populations.

## Pathway to Employment

 **In September 2009 ICTE-UQ will deliver its inaugural Skilled Migration Internship Program Accounting (SMIPA).**

The SMIPA is an Australian government initiative through the federal Department of Immigration & Citizenship (DIAC). The 44-week program is designed to assist international student graduates in the field of accounting to kick start their career in Australia by providing a value-add pathway from university to employment within Australia.

SMIPA program content has been developed to enhance the professional skills and work-readiness of participants

and includes targeted workshop training and a full-time professional internship placement. The SMIPA also provides an opportunity for participants to become eligible to be awarded points under DIAC's Skilled Migration Visa points test.

The SMIPA showcases ICTE-UQ Extension Studies Domestic (ESD) division expertise in the development of customised professional development training and its highly skilled professional business trainers. ICTE-UQ SMIPA workshops will provide participants with effective business and professional communication skills, career planning, resume writing and job interview

techniques and a greater understanding of Australian work practices.

The professional internship component of the SMIPA will be coordinated by ICTE-UQ partner Australian Internships, a leader in career development programs for international candidates.

As part of the program ICTE-UQ SMIPA participants will receive access to ICTE-UQ/ Mediasphere Online IELTS test preparation and will take an ICTE-UQ funded IELTS test to gain up-to-date assessment of their English language proficiency skills.

For more information on SMIPA visit [www.icte.uq.edu.au/professionalyear](http://www.icte.uq.edu.au/professionalyear)

## Investing in Professional Development



**ICTE-UQ has formed a partnership with Samil PricewaterhouseCoopers (Samil PwC), South Korea, to develop the English language and professional communication skills of its staff.**

PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) is one of the world's largest professional services firms with offices in over 150 countries offering diversified assurance, taxation and advisory services. The organisation has a well regarded reputation for investment in its staff and for being an international employer of choice.

PwC South Korean member firm, Samil PwC, employs over 3000 staff in country and in 15 affiliate offices worldwide and has set a goal to be a pioneer in the generation of business growth through human resources development.

ICTE-UQ has been engaged in the delivery of intensive English language training for Samil PwC staff since March 2009. Three, four-week Global Business Communication (GBC) programs have been delivered to date for a total of 66 of the corporations' management, senior management and senior associate staff.

GBC program participants are integrated into the Institute's mixed nationality classes and undertake a selection of General English (GE) and English for International Business Communication (EIBC) courses.

The opportunity to develop their professional English language skills and experience learning in a mixed nationality, small class environment has been well received by the participants and further GBC programs are scheduled to be delivered in the near future.

Samil PwC participant feedback has included:

- *I studied and discussed various business subjects at EIBC II. It was great experience, especially presentation skills and role play activities.*
- *My EIBC II class was very useful and great. I've learned a lot of business words and writing skills. My teacher was enthusiastic and I was very fortunate to meet her.*
- *It is a very valuable program to meet many students from various countries, to experience Aussie culture from homestay, to study English skills, various business topics and manners from a class.*



*CIP program participants (clockwise from left) Fabiola Arevalo Balboa, Patricio Arnaldi Trujillo, Yanina Ramirez Campos and Eduardo Flores Problete*

## Future TESOL Skills



**A Customised Immersion Program (CIP) has helped undergraduate Education students and future English language teachers from ICTE-UQ and UQ partner universities in Chile to develop their English language and English teaching skills.**

Three students from Universidad Austral de Chile (UACH) and one student from Universidad Católica de la Santísima Concepción participated in the CIP held from March-June 2009.

The CIP included ten-weeks' integration into the mixed nationality English for Specific Purposes: TESOL (ESP:TESOL) course, delivered by ICTE-UQ each regular 5-week teaching session, followed by a two-week customised English & Methodology for TESOL Purposes (EMTP) program.

Studying with fellow ESP:TESOL students from China, Hong Kong, Japan, Korea, Oman, Peru, Taiwan and Thailand, the CIP students were able to develop their English language and cross-cultural communication skills as well as knowledge and understanding of current English language teaching methods. The ESP:TESOL course also included Cambridge ESOL Teaching Knowledge Test (TKT) preparation and testing, providing the participants with an internationally recognised assessment of their knowledge of teaching English.

The capstone two-week customised EMTP program included a strong focus on the practical application of teaching skills through guest lectures, workshops and a half-day school visit and individual practise teaching sessions.

CIP participant Yanina Ramirez Campos said that "This 12-week program will help me a lot in my future teaching career. I have been shown key things to improve the way that I teach, how to plan a good lesson, how to present a class according to students' needs and how to present a dynamic and participative class. I think the best opportunity has been the chance to use English everyday and to practice the teaching skills we have learnt. I am more confident with my teaching style and techniques. I am aware of what I am capable of and will do a much better job as a teacher. Not many teachers in Chile use the techniques that we have learnt here and what I have learnt will make my classes very different."

The CIP program was developed and jointly funded through the Institute's partnership with the Chilean Ministry of Education and its English Opens Doors initiative. ICTE-UQ has a strong history of collaboration with the Ministry in support of this initiative, which invests in capacity development program activities for current and future Chilean English language teachers to assist the country to reach its goal of becoming a bilingual Spanish/English speaking country by 2010.

## Teacher Training Agreement



**ICTE-UQ has signed a partnership agreement with the Tianjin Beichen Education Bureau, People's Republic of China, to enhance teacher training linkages with the region.**

The Agreement of Cooperation solidifies the Institute's partnership with the Bureau, which has been growing in strength since 2006 through the delivery of regular training programs by ICTE-UQ for primary and secondary English language teachers from Tianjin province.

The agreement recognises a commitment by ICTE-UQ and the Bureau to the ongoing delivery of training programs in Brisbane for the region's teachers. It also signals a new phase of collaboration between ICTE-UQ and the Bureau through the cooperative investigation of future training programs to be delivered in Tianjin province by ICTE-UQ and the investigation of the feasibility of ICTE-UQ involvement in the establishment of a centre of teaching excellence in the region's north.

The agreement also expands the training partnership to include professional development activities for English language teachers from Beijing Normal University, East China Normal University, Northeast Normal University and Tianjin Normal University.

The agreement was signed in Brisbane by Ms Christine Bundesen, Director ICTE-UQ, and by Mr Shi Liang Li, Director Tianjin Beichen Education Bureau at a formal signing ceremony



*Ms Mary Cole (TESOL Director of Studies ICTE-UQ) and Mr Shi Liang Li (Director Tianjin Beichen Education Bureau)*

held in March 2009 at the Tianjin Huachen School, China.

The ceremony was attended by Ms Wen Hui Chen, Deputy Mayor of Tianjin Beichen Government, executive Bureau members, Ms Mary Cole, TESOL Director of Studies ICTE-UQ, and Ms Renee Winton, Regional Manager Market Development ICTE-UQ.

During the signing ceremony ICTE-UQ presented the Bureau with an English & Methodology for TESOL Purposes (EMTP) program tuition scholarship for a Bureau-selected participant. The scholarship was offered in recognition of the Bureau's support for ICTE-UQ and their long-term commitment to quality English language education in the region through the human resources development of its English language teachers.

## Joining Forces



**The IDP Bangkok English Language Centre, Thailand, and ICTE-UQ have jointly delivered a customised training program to develop the English language communication and professional skills of ten academic and administrative staff from Thai universities.**

The two-week Advanced Practical English Training program delivered in May 2009 was coordinated through the Australian Studies Centre (ASC), Thailand, and consisted of one-week in-country English language training delivered in Bangkok, Thailand, by the IDP Bangkok English Language Centre followed by an additional one-week intensive English language training and immersion experience delivered in Brisbane, Australia, by ICTE-UQ.

ICTE-UQ program content maximised opportunities for participants to use English inside and outside the classroom through interaction with Australian students, guest presentations from native English speakers and living with local ICTE-UQ homestay families. Program content also included a strong focus on the development of participants' English language skills for use in a professional context and an introduction to postgraduate education in Australia.

Participant feedback on the ICTE-UQ program component included the following comments:

- *I will recognise the English skill and adapt to my work. This program encourages me to show and use my English in public.*
- *I had to speak English with my homestay family and many peoples in this campus, these improve my English speaking and listening skills and I feel more confident than ever.*
- *This program helped me to know about the university, learning*



*ICTE-UQ English language workshop training*

*system, and some lifestyle of people living here. It was a good experience.*

The training program served to successfully bring together academic and administrative staff from a number of universities and education administration centers across Thailand providing the participants with valuable opportunities to develop and strengthen professional and institutional networks.

ASC and IDP Thailand have a strong history of collaborative activities including the delivery Thailand's annual National English Language Speech Competition, now in its tenth year. ICTE-UQ has provided support for this IDP/ASC initiative through sponsorship of the English language tuition scholarship component of one of three of the competition's major prize packages awarded to the winners each year.

## Sustainable Tourism Through Capacity Building



**ICTE-UQ Extension Studies International (ESI) division, in collaboration with UQ's School**

**of Tourism, has delivered an innovative program to strengthen the capacity of Vietnam's Hanoi University of Culture (HUC) to contribute to the sustainable development of the country's tourism industry through its undergraduate tourism programs.**

The two-week program was delivered in-country on the HUC campus to 35 of the University's Faculty of Tourism Culture staff and members of the local tourism industry in May 2009.

Program content was designed to enhance the capabilities of HUC Bachelor of Cultural Tourism teaching staff to deliver academic content related to developing and sustaining Vietnam's growing tourism industry. By targeting skills development of university staff the program aims to generate long term and ongoing human resources capacity building through improved education and training of HUC tourism students, many of whom will be entrusted with the future management



*HUC program participants with UQ School of Tourism staff, Hanoi, Vietnam*

and growth of Vietnam's tourism industry.

Program content was developed and delivered by UQ School of Tourism staff Dr Noel Scott and Ms Char-lee McLennan. Content focused on tourism marketing and product development including successful destination planning and management through governance, effects of short-term and long-term investment in the tourism industry, sustainable development of tourism products and services and meeting the demands of the global tourism market.

"Tourism as an industry and, in turn, an area of academic interest has become very important for the economies of countries such as Vietnam. Tourism is an area of expertise that Australia has a reputation for being very good at and this has developed a demand for high level training in

Australia to sustain our industry's human resources. There is a natural link between this and Australia taking this knowledge overseas to assist other countries in their own capacity development. This project also seeks to foster international relationships and research cooperation by strengthening the capacity of participants to engage in collaborative research undertakings with the UQ School of Tourism," Dr Scott said.

The program was evaluated highly by the program participants, particularly the relevance of the program content to their work and the ease with which they will be able to directly apply the knowledge and skills gained to their own teaching and research activities.

## Immersed in English



**12 students from The University of Hong Kong (HKU) are the latest group to undertake an annual ICTE-UQ program that has helped to develop the English language and teaching methodology skills of the University's students since 2002.**

The eight-week Immersion Program forms a credit-bearing semester of HKU's Bachelor of Education (Language Education) and Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Education (Language Education) degree programs. It is designed to enhance participants' English language communication skills and to develop their understanding of native-speaker approaches to English language training through a language and cultural immersion experience.

"One of the main advantages to undertaking an immersion program in an English speaking country is authenticity. Learning about teaching and wielding English as a communication tool doesn't stop in the classroom as we have many more chances to put the knowledge to use and to practise our English with native speakers. Studying here has boosted my confidence," says program participant Hanani Cha.

HKU Immersion Program students undertake customised program modules to enhance their own English language communication skills, as well as their awareness of the particular language skills required by English language teachers. Program content also includes an introduction to Australian approaches to English language teaching through theory workshops and a

program of classroom observations and elementary and secondary school visits.

Participants receive guidance in analysing and discussing published English language learning materials typically used in Hong Kong classrooms and adapting these for particular classroom and learning contexts through peer teaching exercises and guided feedback sessions.

ICTE-UQ also delivers an annual semester Immersion Program for HKU Post Graduate Diploma in Education students, as well as annual Semester Immersion Programs for Hong Kong Baptist University Bachelor Arts (English Language & Literature) & Bachelor Education (English Language Teaching) and Postgraduate Diploma in Education students.



*HKU Immersion Program Participants with ICTE-UQ TESOL Assistant Director of Studies Stephen Walker and Language Teachers Lisa Fisher and Garry Austin at their end of program certificate ceremony*

## A Positive Message

**ICTE-UQ regularly receives positive comments and messages from our program partners as well as participants across the Institute's diverse range of TESOL and Continuing Education programs and services and we would like to take this opportunity to share some of these words of thanks with our ICTE-UQ Update readers.**

"I would like to say that I appreciate the hard work that goes on "behind the scenes" (both from tutors and administrators alike) to make this IDLTM (International Diploma in Language Teaching Management) possible. I am certainly a delighted customer." - **Anthony McCormick, IDLTM Graduate, Australia**

"This was the trip of a lifetime. It opened my eyes to many things I otherwise would not have seen in the States. I will never forget anything from this trip, so much of the information I learned will carry over into things that I do now and beyond. I got more out of this trip than I could have ever hoped or imagined I would." - **Peru State College Criminal Justice Program Participant, USA**

"I am currently reading through the students' journals that they kept during the Logistics Program - as always, the journals are priceless reading. It always makes me realize, again, how impactful this program is." - **Dr Robert Frankel, University of North Florida Coggin College of Business, USA**

"Thank you very much for sending your express mail, together with the students certificates and evaluations. Through the detailed comments I can get much information about their attendance, attitudes, motivations, grades and so on.


We would like to thank you and the staff of ICTE-UQ for your excellent arrangements, good care of our students, and warmhearted cooperation. I would like to keep contact with you for the Study Tour Program again in 2010." - **Professor Nobuyuki Matsukura, Suzuka International University, Japan**

"I have been able to try out most of the things I learnt during my Immersion Program at my part time job at the tutorial centre with real success!!! My students have given me really positive feedback and most of them left the classroom with excitement and satisfaction. Even parents said they were surprised to see how their children have changed when they left the tutorial centre compared with 2 months ago. Thanks to ICTE-UQ I can really teach in an interactive and enjoyable way. I'm really so happy that I came." - **Semester Immersion Program Participant, Hong Kong**



*PSC students in action*

## Giving Back

 **Criminal Justice students from Peru State College (PSC), Nebraska, USA, have donated funds to the Brisbane Domestic Violence Resource Centre (BDVRC) as a way of giving back to a unique ICTE-UQ learning experience that has helped to shape the careers of many the College's previous program participants.**

The ten PSC students raised over \$430 for the BDVRC at a fundraising BBQ held on the UQ St Lucia campus while undertaking an intensive three-week customised Criminal Justice program managed by the ICTE-UQ Extension Studies International (ESI) division in June 2009.

PSC Criminal Justice Lecturer and program leader, Professor Kelly Asmussen, who is also Chair of the PSC Psychology/Sociology/Criminal Justice student fundraising association, of which all the 2009 program participants are members, suggested that they continue their community involvement in Australia by incorporating a fundraising event into the program.

"This ICTE-UQ program is really unique. It provides our students with an opportunity to gain insights into Australian drug, alcohol and domestic violence related crime harm minimisation activities. It's a chance for our students to compare US and Australian ways of dealing with these issues through the criminal justice

system as well as community and government initiatives. Importantly it also allows our students to gain exposure to different cultures, different ways of thinking and looking at these sorts of issues," said Professor Asmussen.

"The BDVRC, has been a crucial part of the ICTE-UQ program in the past. Visits to the centre and seeing the work that it does have directly inspired many of our past students to take up roles in our own local domestic violence crisis centre which provides vital services to families affected by violence across five Nebraska counties. A fundraising activity like this BBQ is a great chance for our students to give something back to the BDVRC as well as experience a large university campus lifestyle and meet local students."

The PSC Criminal Justice program included a combination of site visits, meetings with government and community workers and guest lectures in Brisbane and Sydney. It introduces the students to programs and services delivered by the BDVRC, Brisbane Youth Detention Centre, Brisbane Women's Correctional Centre, Dilwynia Correctional Centre (Sydney), King's Cross Police Station, Sydney Medically Supervised Injecting Centre, Father Chris Riley's Youth Off The Streets Key College and Don Bosco House projects (Sydney) and Boystown in Brisbane. It also included lectures from the Australian Transaction Reports and Analysis Centre and UQ TC Bierne School of Law Lecturer, Mr Paul O'Shea.

## News from the UCN-UQ ELTC, Chile



**The Universidad Católica del Norte-University of Queensland English Language Teaching**

**Centre (UCN-UQ ELTC) has welcomed 20 senior mining executives into its General English (GE) and English for International Business Communications (EIBC) programs.**

The senior mining executives are the recipients of employee-sponsored scholarship packages that include a combination of UCN-UQ ELTC English language training and the new UCN Magíster en Gestión Minera (Master of Mining Management) program.

The Master of Mining Management program is the first of its kind for UCN and for Northern Chile and includes modules delivered in English by University of Queensland academics.

In 2009 the UCN-UQ ELTC is providing a total of 160 hours of English language training to the program participants and will deliver a further 80 hours of English language training in March 2010.

In addition to its regular GE, EIBC, IELTS Preparation, English Conversation and Intensive English Summer School programs, the UCN-UQ ELTC has also been delivering a number of customised English language training programs, including an International Communication course to journalists from the El Mercurio newspaper. El Mercurio is a national newspaper chain and is the major newspaper in Antofagasta.

The UCN-UQ ELTC was initially launched in 2008 as a pilot presence in Antofagasta and the surrounding Northern Chile region to research the scope and feasibility of the establishment of a centre for excellence in English language training and testing. The centre is continuing to successfully expand its program delivery capacity and presence in the region.



UCN-UQ ELTC English Language Training



Danang Port Border Guards, UD-UQ ELI

## News from the UD-UQ ELI, Vietnam



**The University of Danang-University of Queensland English Language Institute**

**(UD-UQ ELI) has continued to expand its suite of customised English language training programs and has recently conducted its largest ever IELTS test.**

In July 2009 the UD-UQ ELI delivered an intensive two-week English language training program for ten personnel working on Medical Committee of Netherlands-Vietnam (MCNV) funded health projects in Vietnam and Laos.

Eight participants from the School of Public Health in Savannakhet, Laos, and two MCNV Vietnamese personnel participated in the MCNV-sponsored UD-UQ ELI program.

Since its foundation in 1968 the MCNV has given practical and material medical aid to the people of Vietnam. During the last ten years the focal point of this aid has been shifting towards the training and teaching of workers in local health organisations.

The program provided the participants with a valuable opportunity to develop their overall English language skills as well as to develop specialised English language communication skills that will enable them to enhance their contribution to MCNV projects.

Based on the success of this initial program, further MCNV-sponsored training programs are currently being discussed.

The UD-UQ ELI has also recently delivered customised English language training to 32 Danang Port Border Guards.

The program was sponsored by the Australian Department of Immigration and Citizenship (DIAC) and involved 60 hours of intensive English language workplace communications training.

The Border Guards process passengers and crew of many nationalities through the Danang Port. Major Ho Sy Hau, Chief of Immigration in Danang and Colonel Ho Sy Quy, Head of Regional Security, who gave speeches at the program Closing Ceremony, noted the imperative for English skills that faces the Border Guards' fulfillment of their work roles.

Major Ho Sy Hau, and Colonel Ho Sy Quy also gave thanks at the ceremony to the officers for their dedication to learning English whilst maintaining full-time work.

Feedback from one program participant demonstrated the value of the program in developing his English language skills. "I have been learning English for a long time. This program gave me practice in speaking. I feel more confident speaking English now".

In IELTS Test Administration news, the Institute's test candidate numbers continue to grow. Saturday 22 August 2009 saw 36 candidates undertake the IELTS test at the UD-UQ ELI - the largest single test session administered to date.

The UD-UQ ELI administers the IELTS test twice monthly. To date IELTS test numbers at the UD-UQ ELI for 2009 total 396.