DISABILITY SERVICES NEWSLETTER

September 2013

If you require this newsletter in an alternative format please contact us on +61 8 9266 7850 or e-mail disabilityservices@curtin.edu.au

Receiving this newsletter:

Each semester we send this newsletter to all students who tick the box in eStudent under 'My Disability Details' requesting information about Disability Services. If you do not wish to receive information or newsletters from us in future, please untick this box. You can access your record through 'OASIS' (My Studies and Evaluate; eStudent; My Disability Details).

Hard copies of the newsletter can be made available from the Counselling and Disability Services, Building 109.

• Please complete your 'Disability Details' on eStudent

If you haven’t done so already, please complete ‘My Disability Details’ on your student record as this assists us to improve services for students with disabilities and medical conditions. Confidentiality is assured.

To update your details go to ‘OASIS’ - My Studies and Evaluate; eStudent; My Disability Details.
EQUITY EXAMINATIONS

End of semester examinations

This semester's deadline for arranging end of semester Equity Exams is Friday 25th October 2013.

New students:
If you are making Equity Examination arrangements for the first time you must make an appointment to see a Disability Advisor before the deadline. Please make a phone appointment if you are based at a campus other than Bentley, or unable to attend for health reasons.

Medical documentation will be required in most cases. More information about what’s needed is available here: http://disability.curtin.edu.au/students/eligibility.cfm

Ongoing students:
If you have an ongoing disability/medical condition and require the same arrangements as you did last semester, you can complete a Fast-track form (available from Counselling and Disability Services) and submit it to the Counselling and Disability Services before the deadline in person, by e-mail or fax. There is no need to make an appointment. A Disability Advisor will contact you if any further discussion is required.

If your condition has changed or your arrangements need to be reviewed please make an appointment to see us. Updated medical documentation may be required.

Remember that:
- After the deadline only exceptional circumstances will be considered, and even then it may not be possible to grant the request.
- Exam arrangements need to be made each semester even if your situation hasn’t changed.
- The Examinations office will send you an OASIS message a week or two before the examination fortnight begins, with your Equity Examination timetable.
- If there is a change in your situation and you do not require the examination arrangements, please let us know as early as possible so we can cancel your Equity Examinations.
School based examinations (mid-semester, in-class tests, lab tests, deferred, supplementary)
A reminder also, that you must provide at least **two weeks** notice for alternative conditions for examinations or tests that are conducted by individual schools or departments. You can use your **Curtin Access Plan (CAP)** to let your unit coordinators know what alternative arrangements you require.
If you don’t have a CAP, and you need to make alternative arrangements for school based assessments, please contact a Disability Advisor to discuss your circumstances.

How would you know your exam is school based? If examinations are not listed on the final examination timetable on the Curtin Examinations website then they are likely to be school based.

**Keep an eye on your Oasis notifications for details of group programmes about managing Exam Anxiety!**

**CAMPUS NEWS**

The DAIP Annual Activity Plan 2012-2013 has drawn to an end and the DAIP Annual Activity Plan 2013-2014 has been released. Progress on each of the strategies will be posted during the year and feedback to disabilityservices@curtin.edu.au from our students, staff and the public is welcome at any time.

Please download a copy of the DAIP below. Hard copies and alternate format versions of Curtin’s DAIP are available by contacting Disability Services


**MORE NEWS…**

**Universal Design Competition – win an iPad mini!**
Curtin has a ‘Universal Design Reference Group’ which works towards promoting Universal Design on campus, which benefits all students, including students with disabilities.

This group is currently running a competition where students and staff can submit their ideas of how the campus and its services could be more inclusive for all members of our community. Entries can be in any form but clearly detail the identified problem and their
initiative to address the problem. There are 5 ipad minis to be won and entries can be submitted to universaldesign@curtin.edu.au

If you would like to know more about Universal Design, please see our website: http://disability.curtin.edu.au/staff/unidesign.cfm

ACCESS ON CAMPUS

The Bentley campus Access and Mobility map can be accessed by this link: http://properties.curtin.edu.au/maps/docs/access_map.pdf

or pick up a copy from Counselling and Disability Services Building 109, level 2. The map provides universally accessible routes, and information about parking bays and Campus bus information.

SCHOLARSHIPS
Dr Louisa Alessandri Memorial Fund Scholarship

Applications: are now invited for the Louisa Alessandri Memorial Fund Scholarship which was established to assist a student with a disability to achieve his or her career aspirations. The Scholarship is awarded by a Selection Panel appointed by the Dr Louisa Alessandri Memorial Fund Committee. The value of the Scholarship is AUD $8000. One or more Achievement Awards of $2000 may be granted at the discretion of the Selection Panel. The call for applications will close Monday, 30 September 2013, and the Scholarship will be presented in February 2014.

Eligibility Criteria: Eligible students will
• have a physical or sensory disability and provide a statement describing how the disability impacts on his/her ability to undertake study
• be able to demonstrate a strong commitment to an area of study that can lead to a possible career path in the future
• provide evidence of current enrolment in study with a recognised institution
• provide evidence of successful completion of at least one semester of relevant tertiary or postsecondary study
• have demonstrated leadership qualities and community involvement
• be under 40 years of age at close of applications on 30 September 2013
• be an Australian citizen and reside in WA.
Enquiries and Application forms available from Linda Watson as above, or online: 

Completed applications can be posted or emailed to:
Linda Watson
Telethon Institute for Child Health Research
PO Box 855, WEST PERTH WA 6872
Email: linda@ichr.uwa.edu.au

The Vision Australia Further Education Bursary

Applications are now invited for students with a vision impairment seeking to study (or already studying) an accredited course at or above Certificate 4 level, including undergraduate and postgraduate degrees, in 2014. This is an opportunity to receive adaptive technology to assist with your studies. Applications will close on 31 October 2013.

For more information and the application process please visit the Vision Australia website: www.visionaustralia.org/bursary

Enquiries to:
Max Bini, Tertiary Education Consultant
Vision Australia
Telephone (direct): 03 8378 1223
Toll free: 1300 84 74 66
Fax: 1300 847 329
Email: bursary@visionaustralia.org

Scholarship Alert

You can sign up for a scholarships alert at Curtin.

If you want to find out what’s on offer, you can go to scholarships.curtin.edu.au/subscribe/ and fill out the short online subscription form. It only takes a few minutes!

Once you submit your subscription you will receive an email containing information about all scholarships that match the criteria you provided.
Stepping into… Paid internship opportunities

Stepping into is a paid internship program specifically designed for students with disability, who want to gain paid, hands-on work experience in an industry that is relevant to their degree and chosen field of study. Applications close Monday September 30 for 2013/2014 summer positions. For information on included disciplines, participating organisations and application process please review the following website:


Useful Information:

MS Word 2010
There are 15 Features in MS Word 2010 that may help students with learning disabilities and support students to become independent learners.

This document has been produced by TAFESA and the National Disability Coordination Officer Program (NDCO) You can find the document on the ADCET website below, includes tips on removing hyperlinks, font colour and size recommendations, line spacing searching for information and setting up auto correct and auto text.


R U OK Day
R U OK Day September 12th is our national day of action dedicated to reminding people to regularly check in with family and friends.

Mental Health Week 6th to 13th October 2013
Connect, Celebrate, Grow theme

Celebrate: the positive events in your life, as well as the strengths and values that have helped you through more challenging times.
Connect: with others by paying attention to your close relationships, or by reaching out and making new friends.
Grow: by expanding your horizons and trying something new that creates meaning and purpose for you.
The aim of Mental Health Week is to promote social and emotional wellbeing to the community, encouraging people to maximise their health potential, enhancing the coping capacity of communities, families, individuals and increasing mental health recovery.

The WA Association for Mental Health (WAAMH), in partnership with the Mental Health Commission, will coordinate events to recognise the Mental Health Week as well as World Mental Health Day on 10 October.

Some of the key events that will be held during the week will include:

- Mental Health Week Art Project & Exhibition at the Perth Town Hall between 9 am & 5 pm October 4
- Opening Celebrations is a free screening of Sunny boys 10 am - 12.30pm October 6, RSVP to lcato@waamh.org.au
- Annual King Park Bush walkathon October 6, 10 am – 1 pm
- The Richmond Fellowship is holding a forum on correct use of medication at the UWA Auditorium October 8, 9.30 am -4pm
- Public lecture at Curtin presented by Fiona Kalaf, Chief executive officer of Lifeline at the Tim Winton Lecture Theatre October 8, 6 pm - 7.30– pm.
- Pop up stage featuring comedians, panel discussions, entertainment and presentations targeting mental health and well-being for students, October 9, Atkinson Forum 11 am - 2 pm
- Free painting event for Nyoongar people with a mental illness October 9
- Act Belong Commit Awards to showcase WA people and organisations that epitomise the ‘Act Belong Commit’ way of life October 9

- Turn Blue Day in Murray Street Mall from 10 am on October 10
- The Putback Men’s Basketball Tournament in Willetton on October 12

For detailed calendar of events and for more information on how to run your own event, visit the WA Association for Mental Health website or call +61 8 9420 7277.

World Mental Health Day is held on 10 October each year and is coordinated by the World Federation for Mental Health.
ReachOut.com: Australia’s leading online youth mental health service, has gone mobile to provide critical services to a new generation of young people. The service has been optimised for smart-phones and tablets so young people can access information and support where they need it, when they need it, in a space that suits them.

http://au.reachout.com/

Dyslexia: Global AutoCorrect is a computer program for people with dyslexia. Global AutoCorrect enables your ideas to flow by automatically correcting your spelling as you type in any program. It also acts as a learning tool, identifying your most common mistakes so that you can work on them in your own time.

There is a free trial version available for you to sample.

http://www.lexable.com/GlobalAutoCorrect

Feedback:

We would love to hear your feedback, both positive and negative, about your experiences at Curtin as a student with a disability/medical condition. Please drop us an e-mail or phone us – see our contact details below.

Contact Us:

And finally, don’t hesitate to contact a Disability Advisor (Jackie Weinman, Sally Vaughan or Julie Donnelly) if you have any queries about services or supports on campus.

Location: Building 109, Level 2 (Bentley campus)
Telephone: +61 8 9266 7850
Freecall: 1800 651 878
Fax: +61 8 9266 3052
Email: disabilityservices@curtin.edu.au
Website: disability.curtin.edu.au