DISABILITY SERVICES NEWSLETTER

September 2010

If you require this newsletter in an alternative format please contact us on (08) 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 will be available from the Counselling and Disability Services, Building 109 and also in Room 325 at the Robertson Library.

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 22\textsuperscript{nd} October 2010.

New students:
If you are making Equity Examination arrangements for the first time you must make an appointment to see a Disability Counsellor \textbf{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 October 22\textsuperscript{nd} in person, by e-mail or fax. There is no need to make an appointment. A Disability Counsellor 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:
\begin{itemize}
\item After the deadline only exceptional circumstances will be considered, and even then it may not be possible to grant the request.
\item Exam arrangements need to be made each semester even if your situation hasn’t changed.
\end{itemize}
• 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 go through with the arranged examinations, please let us know as early as possible so we can cancel your Equity Examinations.

The following unit details are required to arrange your exams:

Example:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Index No</th>
<th>Unit Name and number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1234</td>
<td>Economics 100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**School based examinations (mid-semester, in-class tests, lab tests, deferred, supplementary)**

A reminder also, that we can arrange alternative conditions for examinations or tests that are conducted by individual schools or departments with at least two weeks notice.

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**

**Reminder about accessible bus services**

An Accessible Curtin Courtesy Bus is now available on request. To request this bus service please contact Security on 9266 4444. Also Patrol Officers can escort people to their vehicles or locations on campus.
Timetables can be downloaded from [http://properties.curtin.edu.au/local/docs/roles/am/courtesy_bus_map.pdf](http://properties.curtin.edu.au/local/docs/roles/am/courtesy_bus_map.pdf) or collected from Student Central and Curtin Security.

The University also has a new **free bus** service with routes through Waterford and St James, Bentley. This service is wheelchair accessible, and operates Monday-Friday from 7.00am-10.30pm during semester. Timetables can be collected from Student Central, Curtin Security or downloaded from [http://about.curtin.edu.au/files/Curtin_bus_timetable_2010.pdf](http://about.curtin.edu.au/files/Curtin_bus_timetable_2010.pdf).

**Upgrade in Room 325**

If you are a Room 325 user you may be interested in the upgrades scheduled for this semester. Curtin IT Services (CITS) are upgrading the alternative software on the computers for students with disabilities. CITS are progressively migrating the student lab computers on campus from the old Windows XP setup to the latest Windows 7 “Managed Operating Environment” (MOE.) All of the Abacus Labs were migrated for the start of Semester Two (~500 machines) after extensive student testing and user feedback throughout the break. The MOE will provide a significantly faster and easier to use environment with much improved ease of access. The changes won’t be noticeable generally however the improved performance will be great!

CITS have purchased the latest versions of JAWS, Kurtzweil and Zoomtext which will run on Windows 7. CITS are currently testing and ironing out any bugs, once complete will migrate the computers in 325. Initially converting one PC (the PC with only Zoomtext on it) for you the students to test and provide any feedback and later migrate the other machines during the next week free – once everyone is happy with the performance!

If you have any feedback with the changes please let either Sally or Jackie know. If there are any significant problems we will revert back to the original setup.
**The Learning Centre**

The Learning Centre offers academic support programs designed to enhance the performance of both undergraduate and postgraduate students in their course of study.

Classes offered include:

- Grammar Master Program
- PowerPlus Essay writing
- PowerPlus writing program
- New on-line programs

Situated on the ground level of the Library (105-150), The Learning Centre offers a variety of programs aimed to improve student’s writing and study skills. Please have a look at the website for further information about classes: [learningsupport.curtin.edu.au](http://learningsupport.curtin.edu.au)

Additional support is also available for students who are registered with Disability Services who have specific needs.

**MORE NEWS...**

**Scholarships:**

**Dr Louisa Alessandri Memorial Fund Scholarship**

**Applications must be received by close of business on Thursday, 30 September 2010.**

The Scholarship is intended to assist a student with a disability to achieve his or her career aspirations. Funds may be used for a variety of purposes, including course fees, equipment, support, interpreters, transport, etc.

Enquiries are welcome by contacting Linda Watson at the Telethon Institute for Child Health Research, 100 Roberts Road, Subiaco WA 6008; Telephone: (08) 9489 7766; Email: linda@ichr.uwa.edu.au
Application forms available from Linda Watson as above.
Completed applications should be posted to:
The Chairperson, LAMF Scholarship Committee
Telethon Institute for Child Health Research
PO Box 855, WEST PERTH WA 6872
Or emailed to: linda@ichr.uwa.edu.au

Conferences:
Annual Student Equity in Higher Education Conference
The Melbourne Cricket Ground
11 and 12 October, 2010
For further details and updates:
www.ncsehe2010.com.au

Working in the West 2010
21st - 22nd October 2010
Ascot Racecourse, 70 Grandstand Rd Ascot
Working in the West Conference 2010 aims to provide all delegates a
strategies and practical support toolbox full of ideas to take away and
use in our ever changing environment.
The Conference will motivate, inspire and will offer delegates a wide range
of training and information on marketing and selling, VET, mental health
and other specific disabilities along with other agencies offering
information about their services and how they can to assist you and lots
more!

Pathways 10, 2010 Conference
1–3 December 2010
Southbank Institute of Technology,
Brisbane, Australia
Make the most of the Early Bird registration fees and register now.
Early Bird Registration fees being at $670 for full delegates and $500 for students. Early Bird registration closes on Monday, 11 October 2010 To register and view the program go to www.pathways10.org Funding is available to support the attendance of participants with disabilities, including funds for travel and accommodation.

All enquiries should be directed to: pathways10@icms.com.au by Monday 27 September, 2010

**POSITIVE SCHOOLS WA**

The WA Positive Schools 2011 conference will be held from 12th – 14th May at The Esplanade Hotel in Fremantle. The QLD Positive Schools conference will be held in Brisbane on the 26th -27th of May 2011. POSITIVE SCHOOLS 2011 (WA) offers three full days of invited keynote presentations and workshops.

The first two days focus on school wellbeing whereas the third day boasts a post-conference special event: ‘PARENTS DAY’ which focuses on wellbeing across the community. Eighteen keynote presentations will offer solutions to mental health issues impacting on young Australia. We are delighted to welcome internationally acclaimed author and literacy expert MEM FOX.

We are also delighted to have acclaimed advocate of child wellbeing and author STEVE BIDDULPH on board. We also have firm acceptances from resiliency experts PROFESSOR TONI NOBLE (originator of BOUNCEBACK) and PROFESSOR MICHAEL BERNARD (originator of YOU CAN DO IT).

Our key speaker of 2010, JANE ELLIOTT is also returning to give a special address on Parents Day.

www.positiveschools.com.au
USEFUL RESOURCES

People With disabilities (WA) PWdWA

Surplus Computers and equipment.

PWdWA has surplus Computers, keyboards, Mice and Monitors to give away to anyone who is interested. Items will be distributed on a first in first served basis. Please contact Stuart on 9485 8900 or email info@pwdwa.org to express an interest. Items must be collected from PWdWA. PWdWA has moved back to refurbished offices in Oasis Lotteries House in Nedlands, Suite 1/37 Hampden Rd.

Centrelink

Disability Support Pension Assessments

The assessment processes for Disability Support Pension (DSP) changed 1st July 2010 as part of the DSP Better and Fairer Assessments 2009 – 2010 Budget Measure. Further information is available by:

• visiting www.centrelink.gov.au
• calling the Carer and Disability Services line 13 2717
• asking at a Centrelink Customer Service Centre.

DSP customers can talk, free of charge, to a Financial Information Service Officer about options with savings, investments and related arrangements by calling 13 2300.
Centrelink also has Social Workers available to provide counselling, support and referral services as needed. To speak with a Centrelink Social Worker, DSP customers can call 13 1794.
Information on employment options is also available through JobAccess at www.jobaccess.gov.au or by calling a JobAccess Adviser on 1800 464 800.

Ethnicability weekly radio program

The Ethnic Disability Advocacy Centre (EDAC) presents “EthnicAbility”, a weekly half-hour radio program on disability and ethnicity. EthnicAbility explores issues affecting people with a disability from an ethnic background.
So don’t forget to switch on to **95.3 6EBA FM** every **Monday** at 7:30 pm – 8.00 pm (WA time). Or you can listen live on the internet by going to [www.6eba.com.au](http://www.6eba.com.au) and clicking on 'Listen now'.

And …. if you still miss EthnicAbility, you can hear it on-demand at [www.edac.org.au](http://www.edac.org.au), Click on “Radio Program” and select the show you want to listen to.

Tune in and listen!

**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 Counsellor (Jackie Weinman or Sally Vaughan) if you have any queries about services or supports on campus.

Location: Building 109, Level 2 (Bentley campus)
Telephone: (08) 9266 7850
Freecall: 1800 651 878
TTY: (08) 9266 4112
Fax: (08) 9266 3052
Email: disabilityservices@curtin.edu.au
Website: [www.disability.curtin.edu.au](http://www.disability.curtin.edu.au)