MUSEQ-R 2007
Report on Implementation of Recommendations
December 2008 HDRC

The Divisional and other reports are summarised below and include recommendations that have been implemented or where there is evidence of advanced planning for implementation.

**Recommendation 1:** Maintain the overall improvement in the MUSEQ-R response rate and increase to 50% by 2009. Improve each divisional response rate to 40-50% of their enrolment for 2008. [Divisional Directors HDR/Associate Deans HDR].

**Recommendation 2:** Raise later year HDR student response rates by an additional 10% of enrolment in 2008. [Divisional Directors HDR/Associate Deans HDR].

**Implementation:**
- MUSEQ-R survey administration dates have been adapted to overlap with the HDR Annual Report, and to accommodate Divisional end-of-year HDR meetings (RN/MIU)
- Expanded web information on MQ actions resulting from student feedback: [http://www.research.mq.edu.au/students/current_students/hdr_surveys](http://www.research.mq.edu.au/students/current_students/hdr_surveys) (RN)
- Increased communication with HDR students to raise awareness of the importance of HDR feedback at all levels, including divisional emails, promotion through divisional seminars and conferences (ASAM, ACES, ELS, HUM, ICS, Law, L&P, SCMP) and through HDRO website (HDRO)
- Distribution of posters promoting the MUSEQ-R survey (RN, ACES, ELS, HUM, ICS, Law, L&P, SCMP, MUPRA)
- Incorporation of information on HDR student feedback and MQ action resulting from student feedback at divisional seminars and programs targeting later year students. (ACES, ICS, SCMP)

**Recommendation 3:** Establish an HDRC Working Party to review professional doctorate programs and recommend improvements to raise satisfaction levels by November HDRC. [Dean HDR (Chair), MI Director HDR, Dean ACES/Delegate, Dean L&P/Delegate, Dean MGSM/Delegate, Associate Dean HDR EFS]

**Implementation:**
- The report and recommendations from the Working Party were accepted at the November 2008 HDRC.

**Recommendation 4:** All Divisions to review the support provided to later year HDR students to improve satisfaction ratings on all MUSEQ-R PREQ scales and MQ specific items by 5 points in 2008 and in 2009. [Divisional Directors HDR/Associate Deans HDR]

**Implementation:**
- Discussion of results of HDR student surveys/MUSEQ-R in relation to student support in divisional/departmental committees and HDR student forums (ACES, ICS, L&P, SCMP)
- Increased opportunities for later stage HDR students (e.g. forums, seminars, coffee meetings and casual teaching) to interact with peers and academic staff (ACES, Humanities, ICS, L&P, MGSM, SCMP)
- Trialling of completions workshops as additional support for later year HDR students (Humanities, SCMP)
- Review of divisional support provided to later year students (ELS, SCMP), and proactive use of HDR student representatives on divisional/departmental HDR committees to identify areas of student need (e.g. improving access to equipment and services, ICS).
- Targetted support provided resulting from student feedback in specific areas: proof reading of thesis and journal articles (ACES – MUSEC); provision of quiet office space for writing up (ELS – CMBS, L&P), re-design of research training units based on student feedback (ICS).
**Recommendation 5:** Divisions to examine ways of improving student satisfaction with *Intellectual Climate* by an additional 10% rating on the MUSEQ-R PREQ *Intellectual Climate* scale in 2009, noting particularly the strong variations in satisfaction among different categories of HDR students. [*Divisional Directors HDR/Associate Deans HDR*]

**Implementation:**
- Expansion in the provision of HDR student forums (ACES, MGSM), staff-student seminars (ELS), lunchtime seminar series (L&P)
- Expansion of seminar series including external HDR students (L&P – Linguistics)
- Introduction of new research training workshops (ELS – Geoscience, MGSM)
- Introduction of HDR candidate-supervisor colloquium (Humanities)
- Improved website on seminars with relevant links (Humanities)
- Re-design of HDR conference using HDR student organising committee and peer review (ICS – Computing).

**Recommendation 6:** Divisions to review the financial, equipment and technical support provided in order to increase HDR student satisfaction to 70% on all infrastructure and budget items by 2008. [*Divisional Directors HDR/Associate Deans HDR*]

**Implementation:**
- Development of a new Faculty HDR financial support model to be introduced in 2009. (ICS)
- Introduction of increased flexibility in the existing system for financial support (L&P)
- Early identification of equipment and service needs through strengthened HDR student input in committees (ICS)
- Creation of research hub and the provision of increased space for HDR students (MGSM)
- 2008 computer and equipment upgrade and provision of increased data storage (ACES - Education, Law) and refurbishment of HDR space (ACES – Education).
- Provision of Divisional funding for individual HDR student academic writing support (Law)

**Recommendation 7:** Improve overall satisfaction with MQ support services by 5 points in 2008 and by another 5 points in 2009. [*DVC Administration*]

**Implementation:**
- Restructure of MQ support services where required and expansion of U@MQ

**Recommendation 8:** The Librarian to investigate reasons behind lower satisfaction levels among the different HDR student categories and also in Humanities and SCMP. Strategies for improvement to be reported to July HDRC for a 10% increase in ratings in 2009. [*Divisional Directors HDR Humanities and SCMP*]

**Implementation:**
- Library consultation and review of HDR student feedback with report on strategies and timeframe to manage expectations, improve communications and service delivery, and, collaborate with other University units. See: [http://www.lib.mq.edu.au/about/survey.html](http://www.lib.mq.edu.au/about/survey.html)
- Divisional review of student library needs (Humanities, SCMP)
- Streamlining of book ordering process (SCMP)
- More active incorporation of Library Liaison Officer in the DCP (ICS).