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Student Liaison Committee (SLC)

The Student Liaison Committee or SLC represents the interests of the wider student body. The committee reflects the concerns of the students; but most importantly the student representatives advise on teaching and learning improvements. The aim of the committee is for QIBT to access the student perspective and, where possible, to act on improvement.

Students are selected to become members of the SLC because of their personal attributes. Students who are chosen show leadership, organisation, negotiation, problem solving and communication skills. These skills are further developed throughout the formal meeting process.



Griffith University

Our partner, Griffith University, has been recognised as one of Australia's most innovative and dynamic public universities, located in the nation's fastest growth region, the Brisbane-Gold Coast corridor.

In fact, Griffith has been ranked in the top 4 per cent of the World's universities according to the Times HE-QS World University Rankings and is Australia's 9th largest higher education institution by student load (in 2007). Source: Griffith International Agent Newsletter.

Minutes for the meetings are available in the portal via: Support SLC. Discussions are often productive and interesting; so please have a read.

Thankyou to all the student representatives for your valued contributions at the meetings this semester.



Exam techniques

End of semester examinations are very quickly approaching. To pass your courses it is very important to prepare adequately.

Firstly think about your most recent experience with an examination. Do you remember how you felt and how you approached the questions? Use your prior knowledge and the advice below to get the best results in your exams.

PREPARATION FOR THE EXAM

1. Well before the exam – make sure that you have properly checked the date, time and location of the exam. This helps keep stress to a minimum and allows you to focus on the important revision and study.
2. Have all the equipment that you need during the exam – sufficient pens, a watch to keep track of the time, etc. In other words, organise yourself beforehand.
3. Arrive in good time. Arriving well before the exam starts helps to keep nerves under control and ensures that you have maximum time in the exam.
4. Get a good night's sleep beforehand.
 - If it is a morning exam, then eat breakfast.
 - If it is an afternoon exam, then eat lunch, but not something that will make you feel sleepy.

DURING THE EXAM

1. Stay calm – try hard to get nerves under control before looking at the exam paper. A few deep breaths before turning the paper over may really help.

2. Read all instructions very carefully. Do not lose marks on things that are completely avoidable – such as answering the wrong number of questions, or not allocating enough time for the questions offering the highest marks. Allocate time to check instructions. It is important not to rush – this is where mistakes are made.
3. Decide first which questions you will answer. Then allocate time for both planning and answering.
4. Spend time planning – this will allow you to give thoughtful, thorough and structured answers, and allow you to recall all the relevant pieces of information. You may want to include your planning as part of your exam submission.
5. Time management. Answer all the questions that you are meant to. And spend more time on answers with higher marks.
6. Answer question in an order which suits you. Start with questions that you are most confident with – you will find it relaxes you and you will have more energy for the rest of the exam.
7. Make sure you have enough time to read through your answers and to add in things that you may have missed. If you are running out of time, add information in note form.
8. Remember, most marks are lost for not answering the question.

Adapted from: Marshall, L. and Rowland, F. 1998, *A Guide to Learning Independently*, 3rd edition, Longman, Melbourne. p.75

Click on the link below for an online tutorial on exam questions:

www.monash.edu.au/lls/llonline/study/exam/5.xml



QIBT tennis competition

The QIBT tennis competition held on Wednesday 27 May was a great success with many students and staff participating. There were eight teams in the round robin competition, with winners in the third round progressing to the finals.

The final was a strongly contested match with some promising skills displayed. However, the best team (Melissa Lee, Bronwyn Williams, Tse-Fang Chou) won in the end. The runner up team (Natalie DJ, Jin-Ho Choi) was gracious in defeat. Prizes were awarded to these teams as well as best dressed (Terry Frey).



Overall, it was a relaxed and fun experience for everyone. It was particularly good to see participation from a wide variety of people with different playing abilities. Thanks goes to Chris Hannigan for the organising the event and the prizes.

Random

Hello everyone! June sees the annual Greenfest taking place at the Brisbane Botanical Gardens (5-7th). The festival promotes green awareness and will showcase local and international music artists, speakers,

companies and even a green motor show. Visit <http://www.greenfest.com.au/> for more information.

The China Project continues until June 28 at the Gallery of Modern Art (GoMA) in South Brisbane. The exhibition displays contemporary Chinese art through three unique exhibits. For details see http://qag.qld.gov.au/exhibitions/current/the_china_project.



For comedy fans, Carl Barron returns to Brisbane for his 'Walking Down the Street' tour June 9 – 14 at QPAC Lyric Theatre, South Brisbane. I have witnessed one of his shows in 2008 and I can say I have never

laughed harder. He is one seriously funny guy and not to be missed. Visit <http://www.carlbarron.com/> for more.

Oz gig of the month goes to Perth hard/alternative rockers Karnivool. Karnivool are one of the best live bands I have seen and are about to release their second album 'Sound Awake' on June 5. In support of the new album Karnivool will be playing two shows at the Tivoli, Valley – Saturday June 20 and Sunday June 21. Visit www.myspace.com/karnivool for more.

For all of you clubbers, the big event is Versus@Family, Valley, June 12. This progressive/hard trance all-Brisbane turntable battle will see Brisbane's very best Baby Gee (Aus No. 4 dj) versus Syke and TyDi (Aus No. 1 dj) versus Angus Gibbins as the main headliners. Visit www.thefamily.com.au for more details. See you next month!

By Aaron Ruutz, Academic Coordinator



Semester break - Brisbane

Are you looking to fill your time over the semester break? There is a lot to see, do and enjoy in and around **Brisbane**.



Try:

- bike riding along the Kangaroo Point cliffs
- visiting a local café or restaurant
- picnicking at Southbank
- visiting Mt Coot-tha and bushwalking
- surfing on the Gold or Sunshine Coast
- kicking a soccer ball in a local park
- taking a guided historical walk around Brisbane

So why not get out into the warm Queensland winter sunshine.

For a list of hundreds of activities, please visit:

www.brisbane-australia.com/things-to-do
www.discoverbrisbane.com/things/index
www.ourbrisbane.com/see-and-do/things-to-do

By Chris Hannigan, Student Welfare Advisor

Interesting facts

The essential oil of jasmine can quickly restore mental alertness.

Your brain generates 25 watts of power while you're awake - enough to illuminate a light bulb.

Lavender can help you sleep.

The smell of peppermint improves concentration

The "@" symbol is over 500 years old.

Before 1920, it was technically legal to send children through the mail.

There are exactly 216 noodles in every can of Campbell's chicken noodle soup. Trust me I have just counted them.

Semester break - The Snowy Mountains

As we are just about to enter winter, there are a number of ski fields which are busy preparing to open here in Australia. Australia is generally not world famous for ski fields due to our warmer climate, but there are some areas in NSW, Victoria and Tasmania that have several ski fields. The major ski resorts are Thredbo and Perisher in NSW and Mount Hotham, Mount Buller and Falls Creek in Victoria, and just two in Tasmania- Ben Lomond and Mt Mawson. There is entertainment and activities that are planned for these resorts throughout the season. No matter where you decide to go, you can be assured that it will be a fun break.



When: June-Sept

How to get there: For Victoria and New South Wales, fly into Melbourne, Sydney or Canberra and then hire a car or kick back in a bus.

Check out the links provided, and if you are thinking of going somewhere different for your holidays, give one of the Australian Ski Fields a go!



Matthieu's experiences



My name is Matthieu and I come from France. After my High school certificate, encouraged by the bad reputation of French universities and the feeling of wanting to discover new world, I decided to leave France. After searching different countries, my final

choice was Australia and QIBT in the city of Brisbane. I had heard that Australians were very welcoming people, and the country was very beautiful. When I arrived in October 2008, my homestay family gave me a very great welcome. All members of the family were nice and I felt at home. My first day at QIBT was wonderful. Nice and competent teachers and great students. This was for me a very good place to study. In the beginning, I feared that it would be difficult to follow the

course in English, but teachers understood this and spoke slowly. Since I arrived here, I never had the feeling of being alone or abandoned. Even, outside QIBT, the administration staff helped people if they were feeling homesick. This made it easy to integrate to the Aussie population. The administration is a very good help in your daily life (to find accommodation or a job). I will finish by saying that Australians are wonderful people, welcoming and very helpful. In this country, I have never felt homesick and it even has given me the feeling of never wanting to go back to France.

From a Frog (Frenchman in Aussie language) student.

QIBT & Griffith cricket tournament

(Organized by the Sri Lankan Students Association)



The Sri Lankan Students Association proudly held the annual QIBT/Griffith six-a-side international cricket tournament at Macgregor Park Mount Gravatt, on 19/04/2009. Three countries participated namely, Sri Lanka, India and Pakistan. The total number of teams that participated was five. Each team had the privilege of playing each other and the final was played between the top two teams in the table. The proud winners of the tournament was the visitor's team headed by Sanjaya Gomes.



The runner up team was the QIBT Sri Lanka team headed by Iyan De Abrew. The man of the tournament went to Dinuska of the visitor's team. There was a reasonable crowd at the tournament. The winning prizes were given away by the members of the Sri Lankan Association. After the game, the president of the club, Iyan De Abrew, proudly expressed his views, "This tournament was a great success. Everyone enjoyed it. This is what students need apart from their busy studying life. Our aim of this tournament was to bring students from all different countries and cultures together." The coordinating secretary of the club Sasika Dias also added his comments, "We like to thank every one who helped us in making this tournament a success, and a special thanks goes to QIBT." The secretary of the club, Janith, went on to say, "this is one of the events of our calendar; there will be more events to look forward from the association." There will be another inter-campus tournament that all cricket-loving students can look forward to. These were golden words from the sports manager Laksitha.

These are the memories that students take with them apart from their studies when they leave the university. This is what the Sri Lankan association wants to see. For more information and pictures please visit. <http://www.qibtlsa.net.au.net>

By Iyan de Abrew

A place like no other for international students

For international students who choose the path for higher education QIBT is the ideal place to accomplish their goal. For students who acquire English as second language, QIBT assists them to improve their language ability as well as with other subjects. As one of the student services the Language Development Program takes high place. As well as the free English course there are various classes and workshops. The majority of the students who attended these programs know the value of these services that QIBT provides for students. As well as education implementation QIBT also endows students with many more attractive services, such as a wide range of student assistance. For example they help to search for accommodation, find part time jobs, provide a stress free education system, as well as to minimise homesickness. Each and every particular job is done by well qualified kind hearted staff. And also it is most important to emphasise that, for most of the lecturing staff at QIBT delivery of lectures is excellent. For the students who hope to choose higher education in Australia, QIBT is the ideal place to start to achieve their goals.

By Nisha Jayatilleke

Editor's Note

Thank you to Mattiew and Nisha for your interesting and informative stories as well as the Sri Lankan Student Association for your ongoing contribution to student life.

I hope that you use some of the exam tips to improve your overall results for semester one.

By Christopher Rayner – Student Advisor