Powerful Proof Partnerships Pack Plenitude!
In this newsletter, you will find testament to the power of partnerships in delivering authentic and meaningful outcomes for our youth, our schools, our parents, our businesses and our communities. Working in partnership produces results much greater than can be achieved by just one partner going at it alone. Let us know what you think!

Sasha Dragovelic, Alliance Manager, AITEC

Partnering in Action
City Youth Online. A resource developed for youth by youth

Central Workers with Youth Action Network - CWYAN’s Website Launch

On August 6th and 7th, AITEC organised a couple of introductory sessions about the partnership and the real world project for 40 Year 10 students at Adelaide High School (AHS).*

After the sessions, groups of students guided by their ICT Teacher, Michail Darley and supported by student teacher Maddie O’Brien, commenced designing and creating a variety of websites, as well as logos for their ‘community client’, CWYAN.

On September 10th, a panel comprised of CWYAN members (the client) met with Michail, Maddie and AITEC staff to select the final website to be announced at the launch.

The panel members recognised that the process of selecting just one website was really tough. The creativity, functionality and design of the websites developed by the students were amazing. AHS students did wonderful work despite facing a short timeframe... just like any real-life project!

On September 12 the website selected as the new CWYAN website was officially launched. It will go live by the end of October and will include functionalities from other finalist websites. In essence, the final CWYAN website will have been contributed to by all the students.

* For more information visit: www.aitec.edu.au/sbcpb/index.php/city-youth-online

Michail Darley, Senior Leader and ICT Teacher at AHS (left) and Reece Hammond, Chairperson at CWYAN (right) presenting the website selected by CWYAN members to replace their current website.

At the launch event, Sasha Dragovelic from AITEC presented the partnership context and figures emphasising the importance of Year 12 completion for future success.

Students who designed short-listed websites were invited to the launch event along with their parents and CWYAN members.

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Addressing the partnering needs of schools, parents & families, business and community

Partnering in Action

Rostrevor College + Katalyst Web Design + Turkindi Network = Turkindi Online Partnership.
Summary of partners’ activities during the past three months.

19 July 2013 - Partners’ meet and greet

(Left to Right) Anthony Beltrame (Rostrevor College), Jason Sidoryn (Katalyst Web Design), Vlad Baclagian (Rostrevor), Frank Ronaldo (Rostrevor), Ivan Copley and Greg McCulloch (Turkindi) at the first partners’ meeting.

31 July 2013 - Introductory Session for Students

• At this session, partners and AITEC staff members presented the partnership and web design project to 18 students.
• As a result of the Turkindi presentation, the students became aware that they will make a valuable contribution to the Aboriginal community, beyond just developing a website for Turkindi.
• Jason’s presentation provided students with relevant information about the Digital Media industry (e.g. what is like to work in the industry, what are the average salaries for entry level positions, what they need to get into the industry, likely places to work, skills required, etc.)

29 August 2013 - Memorandum of Understanding Signing

The partners’ initial vision to develop a model from the Turkindi Online partnership has become a reality. This partnership can be replicated to create alliances between Rostrevor College and their community to enhance educational attainment outcomes for students as well as give back to community.

• An MoU was prepared by AITEC to facilitate the replication of the model by outlining the partners’ expectations, contributions and collaboration agreements. In the above photo, the partners formalised their partnership by signing the MoU.
• The students’ websites are expected to be finalised by the end of October. Turkindi members will then be presented with a pre-selection of websites to choose what will be their new website.

29 August 2013 - MoU Signing

(Left to Right) Geoff Ewens (AITEC’s MD), Ivan Copley (Turkindi member), Sasha Dragovec (AITEC’s Alliance Manager), Jason Sidoryn (Katalyst Web Design’s MD), Simon Dash (Rostrevor College Principal), Vlad Baclagian (Rostrevor ICT Teacher), Greg McCulloch (Turkindi Chairperson) and Laura Garcia (Communications Officer at AITEC).

For more information about this partnership and its context visit: www.aitec.edu.au/sbcpb/index.php/turkindi-online

Some of the partners’ contributions include:
- Mentoring for students, teacher placements, pro bono technical and creative advice in website design and development, and in-kind services to be offered by Katalyst Web Design.
- Information and content for the website, hosting costs and domain registration for the website to be provided by Turkindi Inc.
- Supervising and monitoring student participation and progress as well as embedding the project with the school curriculum to be arranged by Rostrevor College.
Addressing the partnering needs of schools, parents & families, business and community

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Partnering in Action

Prince Alfred College (PAC) + Seymour College + Aboriginal Community + National Congress of American Indians + A variety of Universities = Nation²Nation – a Cultural Exchange Partnership

In this partnership, four Aboriginal students from Prince Alfred College and Seymour College have embarked on an initial project to undertake an Indigenous Leadership tour to the USA which will enable them to:

- learn more about their own Aboriginal culture and gain valuable insights into their heritage;
- learn about Native American cultures and meet and share with Native American young people;
- connect with other cultures to foster understanding;
- enrich their learning through experience for current subjects such as English, History, Geography, the Research Project and Aboriginal Cultural Studies;
- embark on a meaningful career development journey;
- meet with Australian Ambassador for the USA; and
- develop their leadership skills—and possibly even meet President Barak Obama and/or the First Lady, because in the students’ words, “they represent role models for diversity as strong powerful leaders”.

Objective of Nation²Nation—a Cultural Exchange Partnership

Halve the gap in educational attainment for Aboriginal young people by:

- inspiring Aboriginal students to remain at and complete school;
- linking Aboriginal students learning to their identity within and connection to their community (correlating to attainment for Aboriginal young people);
- bringing together business, community, educators and parents to provide support to ATSI students to raise aspirations, educational attainment and facilitate successful transitions;
- linking Aboriginal young people with Elders who can share their knowledge of history & culture.

In early September 2013, the four students met with Jeffrey Bleich the former U.S. Ambassador in Australia.

Monica Magann presenting the artwork that was donated by Auntie Gletys, the grandmother of one of the students to raise funds for their cultural exchange trip.

Monica Magann (PAC), Michele Richter and Michelle Stoutjesdijk (Seymour), Neil Andry (Acting Principal of PAC), Seymour College and PAC students (Chaise, Shae, Tikari and Bridget) and their families, Sasha and Laura (AITEC) at the Presentation of the Partnership.
Addressing the partnering needs of schools, parents & families, business and community

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Out and About

ATSI Pathways Dinners... A door to new opportunities

During 2013, AITEC staff received news of outstanding outcomes for Aboriginal students who participated in the ATSI dinners of 2011 and 2012. Their dreams and careers are becoming a reality and AITEC congratulates all of them for their success. They are now role models for other ATSI young people. Raising aspirations is key to future success!

Ellie Lovegrove’s live performance at the ATSI dinner 2011 contributed to her Yr12 & Certificate III in Music. In 2013 Ellie became a national singing star on ‘The X Factor’ and performed on the live shows.

2011

Brittany Cooke decided at the ATSI dinner to start an SBA in patisserie and signed up with Maxima, one of the ATSI Pathways partners who offered career opportunities during the night.

2012

Ellie Lovegrove

July 2013

AITEC helped connect Brittany with Elbio Pérez for a work placement at his Café. Brittany is in an Advanced Diploma of Hospitality (specialising in Patisserie) and is excited to be supported by Elbio who also attended the 2012 ATSI Pathways dinner.

(right) Brittany and her dad in an induction tour at Elbio’s Café.

Chaise and Shae from Prince Alfred College (PAC) and Tikari and Bridget from Seymour College

September 2012

Whilst attending AITEC’s ATSI Pathways Dinner in 2012, PAC’s Chaise, Shae and their Career Counsellor Monica Magann used the back of the dinner menu to pen ideas to raise the profile of their Aboriginal culture in the school community. This visionary exercise evolved into the Nation2Nation - a Cultural Exchange partnership which now also involves Tikari and Bridget, two Seymour College students who attended the dinner that year.

July 2013

These four Year 11 and 12 students are committed to make a difference at their schools and have embarked on a project to undertake an Indigenous leadership tour to the USA.

(further information about the Nation2Nation partnership on page 3).
Out and About (continued)

Official Opening of SA Group Enterprises New Operations

At an opening event celebrated on 16th August, SA Group Enterprises announced the expansion of its electronics recycling (e-cycling) business, called Aspitech. The Hon Amanda Rishworth MP, formerly the Parliamentary Secretary for Disabilities and Carers officially opened the new facility at Underdale.

Teachers at a school in the Adelaide Eastern region commented that Aspitech presents a good option for young people with a disability to get SBA’s and further employment. In fact, as a result of its expansion the social enterprise Aspitech has vacancies in their supported employment program. If you know someone with a disability that may be interested please contact:

Tina Wyant
email: tina@sage.org.au or call 8463 0887 for more information.

*Please Note: The positions available are specifically designed for individuals where open employment through a DES Provider has not been sustainable or is not currently the best option. The aim of supported employment is to offer people with disability tailored on-the-job support, workplace modification and training.

NCVER Research

Schools with high academic quality make the difference for Yr12 completion of vulnerable students.

The academic quality of a school has a major impact on individuals from a lower socioeconomic status (SES) background completing Year 12, compared to those from a higher SES environment, according to a recent study by the National Centre for Vocational Education Research (NCVER).

“There is a 30 per cent chance of completing secondary school for those from a low SES background, who have low academic achievement and attended a low academic quality school. However, the number rises to 80 per cent for those from a low SES background who attended a high academic quality school”.

Copies of The impact of school academic quality on low socioeconomic status students, authored by Patrick Lim, Sinan Gemici and Tom Karmel, are available from www.lsay.edu.au/publications/2640.html
Education InterActs with Businesses

Adelaide High School (AHS) welcomes businesses to participate in an Industry Consultation Session

The Graduate Qualities Project lead by AHS senior staff and students on behalf of the high schools in the Eastern Adelaide Region is aimed at creating a new reference to be issued to YR12’s upon completing school.

As the Partnership Broker, AITEC identified, invited and facilitated the participation of appropriate business representatives in the consultation session held on August 27th 2013.

At this industry consultation session, very valuable feedback was provided by the business representatives about graduates’ qualities and the strengths sought by employers and/or required to enhance their chance of becoming a success as an entrepreneur.

The participating students in the project and attending this session expressed that they felt very fortunate to have the opportunity to meet the business leaders participating and to be part of such an inspiring consultation.

The businesses involved expressed their interest in finding out how the process progressed and contributing their support into the future.

Ten business representatives from the following industries participated in this session:

- accounting & finance;
- traineeships & apprenticeships;
- hospitality/conventions;
- information technology;
- community services;
- staffing and recruiting;
- media/advertising;
- child care services; and
- professional services.

Business representatives expressed their interest in continuing to support similar future initiatives.

Adelaide High School made a commitment to share the final format of the student reference with the participating business leaders.

(Left image) Margaret Lambert, DECD Industry Skills Manager - East Adelaide Region and Geoff Ewens, AITEC Managing Director.

(Right image—LtoR) Lorraine Securo, Senior Leader; Yr12 student participating in the project and Anita Zocchi, Principal at Adelaide High School.