TAFE Illawarra is focused on the future as we prepare to face new challenges. The vocational education and training world is changing and we will adapt our business to succeed in the new environment.

This year, the NSW Government announced new directions for TAFE NSW with the release of the Statement of Owner Expectations. The statement clarifies the role of TAFE and its future direction. TAFE NSW will continue to be the key driver of the Government’s strategy to strengthen the skill base of the economy and support economic growth for communities across the state.

The new direction was informed by the Let’s Talk about TAFE consultation, which found that 94 per cent of those surveyed said TAFE NSW provides a valuable contribution to training people for business and industry.

As the major provider of vocational education and training in the Illawarra – South East region, TAFE Illawarra’s focus is to continue to build the skills, qualifications and employability of people within our region.

In 2013, we trained the NSW Apprentice of the Year who was also Runner-Up at the Australian Training Awards, and the ACT Apprentice of the Year. Our students won the BakeSkills Australia National Teams competition at the 2013 Fine Food Fair and the Sydney Royal Easter Show Landscaping Challenge. We also partnered with the University of Wollongong to take out first place in the Solar Decathlon in China.

TAFE Illawarra plays an important role in providing a head start for young people. In 2013, we offered more than 50 pre-apprenticeship training classes to provide young people with the relevant skills and knowledge required to secure an apprenticeship or traineeship. In addition, we offered 49 TVET courses to give young people the option to study a TAFE vocational course while they completed their HSC at school.

TAFE Illawarra will continue to train students at all levels from basic skills to highly technical training, to help students gain the skills they need to get and keep a job. We will also continue to grow our partnerships with schools and universities to promote student mobility and progression to higher level and broader skill outcomes.

We are committed to the development of a skilled workforce, increased productivity and workforce participation and meeting business demands for high-level skills. We will continue our training partnerships with BlueScope, Hunter Valley Training Company Illawarra, BHP Billiton, Peabody Energy and Xstrata to deliver customised training to new apprentices and cadets.

We will innovate and prosper in this new environment and continue to play a key role in delivering training that meets the needs of our regional communities.

We know the needs of industry are dynamic and our focus over the next 12 months will be to ensure training is targeted to areas of greatest employment opportunities and industry skills needs. In doing so, we will be able to build a bright future for the Institute and the region.

Dianne Murray
Institute Director
Solar Decathlon win

‘Illawarra Flame’ took out first place at the 2013 Solar Decathlon in Datong, China. The net-zero energy house, designed by students from TAFE Illawarra and University of Wollongong, beat 19 other entries from around the world. The ‘Illawarra Flame’ was the only entry to have a joint partnership between a vocational education and training institution and a university. The house was also the only entry to have a retrofit theme.

Solar Decathlon, the largest sustainable building design competition in the world, is hosted by the US Department of Energy, the Chinese National Energy Administration and Peking University. The challenge was to design, build and operate an advanced and appealing solar-powered house that was not only energy efficient but also cost effective to build.

The solar-powered houses were judged over 10 days on criteria such as engineering, architecture, energy balance, house temperature, communications and market appeal. It was the first time an Australian team had made it to the finals let alone winning overall. Team UoW finished with a final score of 957.6 of a possible 1,000 points and holds the record for the highest score ever awarded in any Solar Decathlon competition.

The project will now be used as a demonstration and awareness raising building which focuses on affordable sustainable construction and will facilitate further collaborative projects between TAFE Illawarra and University of Wollongong.

The win was the result of extensive planning, innovation and dedication of staff and students and hard work. The commitment of staff members Richard Twist, Iain McNiven, Phil Watt and Robert Stephens on site in Datong contributed to this success.

Regional WorldSkills winners

Regional WorldSkills is a unique competition that brings together young people from across our region to compete in their chosen trade or specialist area. Over 200 students competed this year in 23 categories at Wollongong, Wollongong West and Shellharbour Campuses. Gold medalists are now eligible to compete at the National WorldSkills Competition in Perth in 2014. National winners may then be part of the Skillaroo team representing Australia at the International WorldSkills in Sao Paulo, Brazil in 2015.

Gold medal winners

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>CATEGORY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Autobody Repair</td>
<td>Mitchell Lozenkovski</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Automotive Mechanics</td>
<td>Katherine MacPherson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bricklaying</td>
<td>Sam Spong</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business Services</td>
<td>Samantha Brugnera</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carpentry</td>
<td>Thomas Meyers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction Steelwork</td>
<td>Scott Brown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foundry</td>
<td>Shannon Kumur</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cookery</td>
<td>Adriana Manfredi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fitting</td>
<td>Josh Lawson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hairdressing</td>
<td>Jamine Gardner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heavy Vehicle Mechanics</td>
<td>James Collins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joinery</td>
<td>Nick Roman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Painting and Decorating</td>
<td>Matt Bird</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plumbing</td>
<td>Oden Nicholson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restaurant Service</td>
<td>Scarlet Liddell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retail Baking – Bread</td>
<td>John Reminis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retail Baking – Pastry</td>
<td>Mikayla Brightling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retail Butchery</td>
<td>Lachlan Kerr</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Signage (ACT)</td>
<td>Daniel Coward</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Signage (Illawarra)</td>
<td>Taryn Kearney</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turning</td>
<td>Matt Sawers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vehicle Painting</td>
<td>Jay Knick</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Welding</td>
<td>Kallon McVicar</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Regional WorldSkills winners
Celebrity Chefs at Nowra Campus

One of Australia’s best known celebrity chefs, James Viles from two-hatted restaurant Biota Dining in the Southern Highlands, cooked up a storm with TAFE Illawarra students at the annual Celebrity Chef Scholarship Dinner at Nowra Campus in November 2013. Alessandro Pavoni, Giovanni Pili, Darren Simpson and Peter Kuruvita attended along with 120 regional guests and dignitaries for the 10 course degustation menu which featured locally sourced produce, wines and entertainment.

Now in its 11th year, it’s one of TAFE Illawarra’s most successful events.

On the night, commercial cookery students, Rebecca Dendy and Katie Ceissman were each awarded a scholarship to undertake a fully-funded work experience program with the 2012 celebrity chef Peter Gilmore from Quay Restaurant in Sydney. Event Management student Lily Nicholson, was awarded a scholarship to work with a high-profile event management team.

IPROWD graduates step into policing

TAFE Illawarra students Bianca Higgins and Cliff Caines attested from Charles Sturt University (the Police Academy) and are now stationed south-west of Sydney as probationary officers. The ceremony was attended by Police Commissioner Scipione and Police Minister Mike Gallagher.

These students completed the Certificate III in Vocational and Study Pathways at Nowra Campus and also attained the required levels in fitness, typing and swimming in order to enter the Associate Degree in Police Practice.

The skills were provided in the Indigenous Police Recruitment Our Way Delivery (IPROWD) program, a partnership between TAFE NSW, DEEWR and NSW Police.

WELL program

TAFE Illawarra was successful with a (Workplace English Language and Literacy) WELL application to support apprentices at the Wollongong Campus in the areas of Carpentry and Shop Fitting. The students also had the opportunity to articulate to Certificate IV in Building and Construction to help gain a builders licence. The WELL program was integrated with the apprenticeship training program in 2013.

‘Illawarra Flame’ took out first place at the 2013 Solar Decathlon in China, beating 19 other entries from around the world.
Delivering quality outcomes

Employer satisfaction survey results

Within the national VET Quality Framework, Australian Skills Quality Authority (ASQA) requires all RTOs to provide an annual employer summary report against quality indicators. TAFE Illawarra performed exceptionally well with an overall satisfaction rating of 92%. This reflects a 2% improvement from the previous year’s results.

Many positive comments were received in the areas of ‘teacher quality’ and ‘level of knowledge’ as well as ‘the training reflects real life and work situations’ and ‘up to date equipment and resources’. The Institute performed best in the areas of ‘trainer quality’ and ‘overall satisfaction’.

Student satisfaction survey results

Students surveyed on their experiences with TAFE Illawarra in 2013 indicated an ‘overall satisfaction’ rate of 94%. This was a 4% increase on 2012. A number of survey summary areas showed improvement including competency development (up by 8%), overall satisfaction (up by 4%) and effective assessment (up by 3%).

ISO surveillance audits

Surveillance audits for ISO Quality Management Systems 9001:2008 and ISO Environmental Systems 14001 (Yallah Campus) recommended the continuation of certification against both standards. Global Mark auditors recognised the enthusiasm and professionalism of staff and acknowledged our great facilities, infrastructure and good working environment.

These internationally recognised certifications promote our business as delivering quality services, and one that is committed to environmental sustainability.

TAFE Illawarra profile

Enrolments by age

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AGE RANGE (ALL)</th>
<th>COURSE ENROLMENTS 2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>14 years and less</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 – 19 years</td>
<td>9,462</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 – 24 years</td>
<td>5,561</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 – 29 years</td>
<td>2,848</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 – 39 years</td>
<td>4,452</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40 – 44 years</td>
<td>2,400</td>
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<tr>
<td>45 – 49 years</td>
<td>2,115</td>
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<tr>
<td>50 – 59 years</td>
<td>3,410</td>
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<tr>
<td>60 years and above</td>
<td>1,458</td>
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<tr>
<td>Age range total</td>
<td>31,786</td>
</tr>
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</table>

Enrolments by award level

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AWARD</th>
<th>COURSE ENROLMENTS FOR 2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diploma and above</td>
<td>2,337</td>
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<tr>
<td>Certificate IV</td>
<td>3,153</td>
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<tr>
<td>Certificate III</td>
<td>8,781</td>
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<tr>
<td>Certificate II</td>
<td>4,935</td>
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<tr>
<td>Certificate I</td>
<td>1,355</td>
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<tr>
<td>Short courses and other qualifications</td>
<td>11,188</td>
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<tr>
<td>TAFE Illawarra award total</td>
<td>31,786</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Enrolments by study area

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STUDY AREA</th>
<th>COURSE ENROLMENTS 2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Automotive, Transport and Maritime</td>
<td>1,415</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beauty and Hairdressing</td>
<td>628</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Building and Construction</td>
<td>2,575</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business and Administration</td>
<td>4,094</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communication and Media</td>
<td>3,314</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electrotechnology, Engineering and Manufacturing</td>
<td>4,948</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental, Horticulture, Rural, Mining and Animal Studies</td>
<td>2,111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Events, Tourism and Travel</td>
<td>577</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hospitality and Cookery</td>
<td>2,290</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Human Services (Community and Health)</td>
<td>3,630</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information Communication and Technology and Library Services</td>
<td>848</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Design, Fashion, Arts and Music</td>
<td>535</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pathways to Work and Study</td>
<td>3,462</td>
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<tr>
<td>Unspecified</td>
<td>1,359</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TAFE Illawarra study area total</td>
<td>31,786</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Work starts on new TAFE workshops

Construction has commenced on the $4.5 million upgrade of facilities at Cooma Campus. The project includes a purpose-built carpentry and joinery workshop, a new customer service centre, expanded student support facilities including a new virtual learning environment, landscaping and new car park.

The carpentry and joinery workshop was completed by mid-2014. The whole project is expected to be completed in September 2014.

TAFE NSW VLE learner analytics project

The Institute was successful in gaining funding through the TAFE e-Learning System (TeLS) to conduct a project in viable learner analytics tools and to trial their integration into our learning management system. Learner analytic tools are used to effectively interpret student engagement with technology enabled learning to aid improvement in student learning outcomes. These tools help teachers identify students that are at risk of not completing and allows strategies to be put in place to intervene and support these students.

Light at the end of the tunnel

Fifteen job seekers from the Illawarra area undertook training for entry level trainee positions in telecommunications with a focus on job opportunities with Fibre Optics Design and Construction Pty Ltd. The 12 day program included field trips. An important element of the training was language, literacy and numeracy support including workshop specific mentoring.

Signling of MOUs

The former Kenmore Hospital site at Goulburn is now a training ground for international students following a Memorandum of Understanding signed with TAFE Illawarra and the new owners of the facility. The agreement saw 15 Aged Care/English Language students from Sichuan University studying in Goulburn. Students lived on campus and studied at both Kenmore and Goulburn Campus.

National VET e-Learning Strategy Project – ‘Meat’ with Skype

This project was showcased at the 2013 National VET e-Learning Strategy event in Melbourne. The project introduced Skype technology to improve access to interactive communication with teachers, and provided peer support to over 100 TAFE Illawarra butchery students located in the ACT, Riverina and South Coast. The project was trialled in conjunction with online learning to provide students with access to resources online and mobile technology, increase teacher support and enable students to build learner networks.

iPad technology

The use of iPads by students with disabilities, particularly those with vision and communication impairment has proven to be cost effective, highly engaging, flexible and productive. A student with a major spinal cord injury completed his Certificate IV in Accounting and then enrolled in the Diploma of Accounting. The student used the iPad for assessments, accessing eBooks, participating in class activities and accessing online content. A non-verbal student with cerebral palsy also completed the Certificate II in Business Services using an iPad.

Investing in the future

TAFE Illawarra has expanded its international business activity to include new projects in Vietnam and Kyrgyzstan. The Institute is also partnering with Guangzhou University of Education to provide an opportunity for students in Guangzhou who successfully complete the Diploma of Early Childhood Education to complete the Bachelor of Early Childhood Education and Care (Birth-5) at Shellharbour Campus.

Innovation and learning

iPad technology

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International activity

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Building partnerships – community and industry engagement

Industry mentors TAFE students
Names such as IMB, Novotel Northbeach, Peoplcare, Illawarra Women in Business, Bluejuice Events and Destination Wollongong were some of the Illawarra regional businesses who supported a group of second year Diploma of Events students from the Wollongong Campus. Business leaders mentored the students over a six month period giving them a golden opportunity to gain real, practical hands-on insights into event management.

Inaugural Illawarra Education Technology Conference
An inaugural free conference aimed at building a core of technology educators throughout the Illawarra region was conducted at the University of Wollongong’s Innovation Campus in December 2013. The conference was jointly conducted by TAFE Illawarra and University of Wollongong. The conference encouraged networking between educational technology users and addressed themes such as:

- Developing students’ digital literacy skills
- Preparing students to transition between educational sectors and/or employment
- Social inclusion and equity.

Cabins built for local council
Local students handed over the keys for three deluxe cabins to Lord Mayor Gordon Bradbury OAM, as part of a long running partnership between Wollongong City Council and TAFE Illawarra.

Through this project, 18 pre-apprenticeship students from TAFE Illawarra were given the opportunity to gain hands-on experience in carpentry and joinery by constructing demountable cabins, which are now located at Council’s Windang Tourist Park. Over the past 10 years TAFE Illawarra students have built 35 cabins for council tourist parks.

This model of providing pre-apprenticeship students with real life projects, enables them to gain the skills and experience required for their future careers. The pre-apprenticeship students undertake the same course as the trade apprentices and are highly successful in gaining apprenticeships locally.

RDA Illawarra partnership
TAFE Illawarra partnered with Regional Development Australia – Illawarra to deliver training under the Digital Enterprise Program. Training is being delivered to small-to-medium enterprises and not-for-profit organisations, including local cultural institutions, in how to maximise opportunities from greater digital engagement enabled by the National Broadband Network.

Information Technology staff will be conducting 50 workshops and seminars and 140 training/mentoring sessions for business owners.

Training program for local apprentices
More than 40 apprentices and 7 cadet engineers employed at BlueScope, Hunter Valley Training Company Illawarra, BHP Billiton, Peabody Energy and Xstrata took part in an eight week intensive training schedule to prepare them for the workplace. The mining apprentices took part in a further 14 week program specifically designed for underground coal mining in the local region. Apprentices and cadets are job ready when they commence onsite work with their new employers.

Graduating IPROWD students
Eleven students graduated from the Indigenous Police Recruitment Our Way Delivery (IPROWD) program at Nowra Campus in June 2013. Students completed the Certificate III in Vocational and Study Pathways to meet the entry requirements of the Associate Degree in Police Practice offered by Charles Sturt University at the NSW Police Academy in Goulburn.

The program is a collaboration between the NSW Police Force, TAFE NSW and the Australian Government.

Following the success of the initial program, a pilot IPROWD Schools project was developed. The project delivered the Certificate II in Government Services to students with the primary focus on preparing for the NSW Police Force. Students were also introduced to opportunities in education and government community services agencies.

Tradies Tune Up program
This program was a partnership with OzHelp and funded by the Department of Health and Ageing, conducted at Moruya, Nowra and Wollongong Campuses. The program monitored and checked on the health of students and aimed to equip students with knowledge and awareness of healthy living and lifestyle choices, provided information about resources and services available in the local area and advice on mental health, nutrition and alcohol consumption.
Eighteen pre-apprenticeship students from TAFE Illawarra were given the opportunity to gain hands-on experience by constructing demountable cabins.

Delegations and study tours
Delegations and study tours from Korea, China and Indonesia visited the Institute in 2013 with their primary interest in:
- Joint delivery programs
- Vocational education and training system
- Training and assessment
- Training and assessment in engineering

Community relationships

TAFE Taster days
The Career Pathway Taster Program is a program offered to allow TAFE Illawarra and schools to partner allowing school students to receive an opportunity to experience education in the TAFE environment. Students ‘tasted’ a series of courses ranging from Metal Fabrication, Automotive, General Construction WHS Induction in NSW, Barista Coffee Making and Baking as well as Beauty, Digital Imaging and Childcare.

This program is one of 20 which ran in 2013 across the TAFE Illawarra region from Wollongong, Bega, Cooma, Queanbeyan, Goulburn and Moss Vale. In total over 300 students have been given the opportunity to sample a wide range of different vocational areas, gain skills and understand the different career options available and the pathways to achieve them.

Window to tertiary study on the South Coast
New opportunities have opened up for students who want to stay local and go to university but lack the entry requirements. For the first time TAFE Illawarra’s Moruya Campus offered a ‘pathways program’ developed in conjunction with the University of Wollongong. It provides training in academic writing, research and learning strategies. Upon successful completion of the course, students are eligible for entry into a variety of study areas including Arts, Commerce and Nursing at the University of Wollongong’s Batemans Bay Campus.

International Women’s Day with Trades and Technology
Head Teachers and teachers from the Metal Fabrication and Bricklaying sections at Wollongong Campus organised the annual International Women’s Day luncheon in March. The event was attended by 145 staff and students with presentations given by two staff members about International Women’s Day and women’s issues in today’s world of work.
Mitchell Croke was the ACT’s new Apprentice of the Year. The TAFE Illawarra student from Taralga was singled out for his excellence and dedication to the signwriting industry ahead of hundreds of ACT apprentices competing for the title. Mitchell represented the ACT at the Australian Training Awards in Perth.

Baking students from Wollongong Campus were awarded first place in the Bake Skills Australia National Teams competition at the 2013 Fine Food Fair in Sydney. Jessica Timpano and John Reminis created their award winning entry inspired from the curious creatures of Alice in Wonderland. Jessica and John also took out gold in the Great Australian Meat Pie competition and won Best Display of the competition.

For the second year in a row TAFE Illawarra students proved they have the best landscaping skills in the state after winning the 2013 TAFE NSW Landscaping Challenge at the Royal Easter Show. The TAFE NSW Challenge was the centrepiece of the ‘Great Aussie Backyard’ – a wide mix of great gardening ideas, exhibitions and leading gardening experts.

Following the theme ‘Big ideas, Small spaces’, students who were enrolled in the Certificate III in Landscaping at Yallah Campus were awarded first place in Landscape Construction and Landscape Design.
Eastern Creek. Jay was enrolled in the Certificate III in Automotive Vehicle Body at Wollongong Campus.

Kirra Parsons, Year 2 commercial cookery apprentice at Bega Campus was the gold medallist at the 2013 Hospitality Training Network Culinary competition held at Canberra Institute of Technology.

Ryan Bennett from Wollongong Campus took out the 2013 Apprentice of the Year – Fourth Year, at the 2013 Master Builders Association Awards held at Darling Harbour in November.

Local TVET – (TAFE while at School) students took out six of 11 categories in the Illawarra Schools Excellence in Vocational Education Awards. The awards, conducted by Workplace Learning Illawarra, recognise students completing the higher school certificate in 2013.

Warilla High TVET student, Jordan Field received the top accolade of 2013 VET Student of the Year award on top of her VET Student of the Year School Based Trainee – Education Support award. Jordan finished Year 12 with a Certificate III in Education Support as well as her HSC and has commenced a Bachelor of Education at the University of Wollongong.

Six students, Amie-Lea Friend, Ben Mitku, Christopher Wiseman, Libby Robinson, Nicholas Craig and Simon Plumb from Goulburn Campus received scholarships from the Veolia Mulwaree Trust to assist with their studies. The Veolia Mulwaree Trust Fund assists students who have the drive, enthusiasm and determination to set out a path of discovery and has the power to change their world and the communities they live in.
Staff awards

Julie Simpson, Teacher of Information Technology at Wollongong West Campus was awarded a Minister’s Award for Excellence in Teaching. Julie’s collaborative and professional approach to the learning environment is a model of best practice as is the IT Moodle site that Julie developed.

Sarah Phyllis, Head Teacher Food, Beverage and Gaming at Wollongong Campus was accepted into the 2013 Sustainability Champions Scholarship program securing a place in the Vocational Graduate Certificate in Education and Training for Sustainability. The program is designed to support VET practitioners seeking to learn how to embed education for sustainability in their teaching and learning.

On behalf of the Aboriginal Education Training Unit, Patricia Ellis, Aboriginal Coordinator – Moruya Campus was presented with the Community Spirit Certificate in recognition of their contribution to Strong Community Partnerships. The certificate was presented by the Hon Andrew Constance MP, Member for Bega, Minister for Aging and Minister for Disability Services. The certificate was in recognition of the Aboriginal Education and Training Unit’s contribution to the Mogo Creek Project.

In July 2013, Jodie Edwards was named Worker of the Year at the Illawarra Regions NAIDOC Week dinner hosted by Wollongong City Council. Jodie has worked on cultural and heritage issues and training and employment through her role as Aboriginal Coordinator at TAFE Illawarra.

As a result of impressive accomplishments and contributions to the CISCO Networking Academy program, Carlo Colella, Teacher Electrotechnology and Information Technology at Wollongong Campus, was recognised as an Expert Level Instructor. This award recognises Carlo’s achievements as one of the top 10% of instructors globally.

The winner of the University of NSW College of Fine Arts Indigenous Professional Development Award was Warwick Keen, Teacher at Nowra Campus for his work, Colour Barcode (scan me I may be Aboriginal). The award included a residency at the College of Fine Arts (COFA) and a solo exhibition. The art work was on display at NSW Parliament House.

Citations

Twenty and 30 year citations acknowledging long and outstanding service to the Department of Education and Communities were presented to 25 staff.
Developing our people

VET Practitioners program

A large number of full time and part time teachers have undertaken an upgrade to their Certificate IV in Training and Assessment qualifications. As required by the National Skills Standards Council (NSSC) all practising teachers and assessors now hold the Certificate IV in Training and Assessment (TAE40110) as a minimum qualification, in addition to their industry experience and educational discipline qualifications.

The upgrade program commenced in 2012 with 100 successful completions. In 2013 a further 183 full time and 192 part time teaching staff enrolled in the program.

LearnFast: adaptive technology and learning

Technology is revolutionising learning and enhancing participation in vocational education. Teacher Consultants coordinated a LearnFast workshop for local educators from TAFE, high schools and the Catholic Education Office. The one day seminar showcased innovative and inclusive technology to enable staff to gain a better understanding of the ways that technology can overcome access barriers, enhance engagement and improve outcomes. The Text Help Read Write Gold software package is available on every TAFE Illawarra computer and provides advice about grammar and spelling, reads out loud and enables the user to select a colour that best suits their reading needs.

Improving cross cultural intelligence

TAFE Illawarra delivered a range of programs to improve cross cultural competence both internally and for our partners. Our aim is to attract and retain students form multicultural environments. Cultural Intelligence programs focussed on developing greater understanding of cultural differences and commonalities.

These skill are especially critical for teachers working with culturally diverse students and for managers overseeing staff from diverse backgrounds.

Mental health staff capability training

Teacher Consultants for students with disabilities delivered a range of short courses to assist staff develop the right support skills, improve learning outcomes for people experiencing mental health issues, increase awareness of good mental health and facilitate access to support services when things go wrong. Participation in education, employment and the social life of the community are fundamental elements of recovery.
Excellence in sustainability

Sustainability in the Kitchen

Gabrielle Frawley, Head Teacher Commercial Cookery, Wollongong Campus presented at the 31st NSW Environmental Education Conference. Gabrielle’s topic was ‘Sustainability in the Kitchen’.

In every commercial kitchen at the Wollongong Campus, apprentices participate in environmentally sustainable work practices from start to finish of every class to develop and embed lifelong workplace education and practices by behaviour change. All staff make sustainability everyone’s priority to contribute to achieving the global targets, respect and comply with Government policy and promote sustainable practices to our community through a more responsible hospitality culture.

Organics recycling at Wollongong Campus

The organics recycling program at Wollongong Campus is a great demonstration of the cooperation between campus, faculty and associated businesses. With the assistance of the hospitality staff, campus management and Illawarra TAFE Student Association (ITSA), organics are now being separated out at the canteen and hospitality school and diverted from landfill to a green waste recycling program. It has improved organics recycling by 7,000 kg since July 2012 and improved diversion from landfill by 3%.

World Environment Day

As part of the United Nations Environment Program’s World Environment Day, TAFE Illawarra hosted a series of ‘Think. Eat. Save. – Reduce your Foodprint’ videoconferences across the Institute. The theme encouraged people to become more aware of the environmental impact of the food choices they make.

Recycling plans for Tourism and Hospitality at Nowra

During 2013 the Tourism and Hospitality section at Nowra Campus built upon their strong commitment to environmental and social sustainability through a number of initiatives and practices.

A key initiative was the set-up of sustainable garden beds onsite to defray the costs of produce and reduce the carbon footprint of the section by reducing the reliance on transport of goods. The sustainable garden was built in conjunction with Slow Food Shoalhaven and the Nowra Correctional Facility. A range of herbs and vegetables have been harvested for use by commercial cookery students. The recycling of green waste into the section worm farms has resulted in reduced waste to landfill.

Non-recyclable plastic food containers have been gradually phased out in favour of containers made of biodegradable materials. Plastic drinking cups have also been replaced with those made of compostable and biodegradable materials.

The focus on sustainable practices by the Tourism and Hospitality section at Nowra Campus has resulted in opportunities for students to observe and engage in sustainable practices that can be replicated in their workplaces and community.
A new recycling program at Wollongong Campus has improved organics recycling by 7,000kg since July 2012 and improved diversion from landfill by 3%. 

Governance

Institute Director
Dianne Murray – MEd, BA, DipEd (Voc), M.A.I.C.D

Deputy Director, Director Strategy and Development
Lucy Arundell – BA, GDipInMgt
John Boss (May – December) – BTeach(VET), GCert(f&B)

Director Educational Services
John Boss – BTeach(VET), GCert (f&B)
Kathleen Iacurto (May – December) MBA, MMgt, BMath(Math&CompSc)

Faculty Director Trades and Technology
Marty Burgess – MEd, BA, DipEd, GCertMgtDev

Faculty Director Human Services, Tourism and Hospitality
Belinda Mackinnon – GDipomaAdultBasicEd, DipTeach, DipTAE

Faculty Director Business Arts and Information Technology
Craig Fowler - BEd, GDipBusAdm

Faculty Director General Education and Access Programs
Craig Fowler – BEd, GDipBusAdm

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Michael Malss – BSc

Regional Manager Human Resources
Kathleen Iacurto – MBA, MMgt, BMath(Math&CompSc)
Peter Feutrill (May - December) – GCertPublSectAdmin

Regional Manager Finance and Administration
Barry Stevenson – MCom, BCom, CPA

Regional Manager Assets and Properties
Kevin Anger – Clerk of Works

Manager Business Development
Margaret Revely (August - December) – BEd, DipTeach

Manager Equity Services
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Manager District Operations
– Northern
Daniela Pyper – GCertMgt, GCert(LeadWorkplace)

Manager District Operations 
– South Coast
Paul Goodwin – BEd, DipTeach

Manager District Operations 
– Highlands
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Manager Business Planning and Innovation
Rosemary Iesdale – MMgt, GCertMgt,

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Mark King – BCom(Acc), Asso 
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Manager Community and Corporate Relations
Bernadette Ioannou – DipTeach