
To	Te Poari Whai Kounga Quality Alignment Board	From	Andrea Thumath Unitec Pathways College
Title	PAQC Chair's Quarterly Report	Date	2020/08/10

Overview

Since the previous PAQC work has been undertaken to secure representation on the committee from another School. The decision was made due to the large number of UPC Trades programmes to approach with the Head of School Trades and Services regarding representation from his school. The Head of School Lee Baglow has decided that he would like to join our PAQC and will join us at the next PAQC.

General Committee Health Check

Attendance is high and regular and all participants contribute to the meetings. We are currently working through a new standing committee meeting time and day due to some changes in working arrangements for a number of members.

We have a very committed Student Representative who is eager to contribute to the committee and looking forward to face to face meetings now they are back in Auckland, versus attending via Zoom.

We are currently working through a new standing committee meeting time and day due to some changes in working arrangements for a number of members.

The Chair will spend some time with our Student Representative now that they are physically back in Auckland to better support their understanding of the PAQC. As the students programme continued to deliver remotely until the end of Semester 1 the student was not in Auckland so has not physically been able to attend a meeting with the committee yet.

What support is required (actions required) and/or what issues need to be escalated to Quality Alignment Board | Te Poari Whai Kounga?

There are no current issues the committee wishes to escalate to Te Pouri Whai Kounga at this stage.

Progress against 3 (max.) key actions

Health Vocational Pathway redevelopment

In partnership with our partner secondary schools that were involved with the development of the original Pathways West programme, the decision has been made to remove the stand alone Psychology courses from the current suite of offerings. The courses have taken our young people away from the practical focus on exposure to the variety of health and community career pathways available to them and are deterring the students these courses were originally designed for.

Since the introduction of Achievement Standards we have seen students engaging in the programme that only wished to attend the courses, to contribute to the attainment of University Entrance as they were looking to study degrees in Psychology at other institutions. In agreement with our partners we have re designed these courses to include one Psychology unit and additional units more relevant to the range of health and community

career pathways that are available. Type 1 change memo to go to Te Korowai Kahurangi w/e 14/08/20.

Full set up and operation of Te Kākatai

Set up for current delivery is now completed. This includes:

- The addition of programming and coding software across all computer labs so we are able to deliver Computer Science when needed. No further resources are required for 2020 course delivery
- Safety checking and tagging of the gantry and chain block to support delivery of lifting and slinging – ceasing the practice of taking students to MIT to complete this activity
- Heating is now installed

2021 set up for new offerings is underway:

- Set up of small welding booth in preparation for Engineering with CAD delivery in 2021 – signed off with one final re calibration of machine required by manufacturers
- Investigation underway regarding installation of appropriate CAD software in Mac Lab

Additional work that may be required pending course numbers for 2021:

- Additional work benches for Automotive and Engineering

Discussions are also underway regarding the additional of an awning and fencing to the rear of the building to provide an extended footprint for build activity. The roof across the entirety of 108 is also due to be replaced over summer, during this activity our stairs will also be upgraded.

Priority Group Strategies

Process

/ See Me

Work continues across the full suite of UPC offerings to identify opportunities to embed Mātauranga Māori and Pacific content. All permanent UPC teaching, operations and leadership staff have undertaken Te Tipare and prior to the next PAQC report will have submitted their evidence for submission.

With the increasing numbers of young people attending our courses from our Kura Kaupapa (and an additional four Kura Kaupapa joining us from 2021) it is important that we are seeing this reflected across all of our offerings. Therefore the chair is currently working with the respective Heads of School where we have offerings to ensure staff in those areas are also undertaking the necessary development to support them in this space.

A full teaching team hui will be planned for the October break to bring everyone together to share best practice and support each other in our development.

Under 25s Success Strategy

Partnering continues between the learning and teaching and liaison team to ensure smooth transition of our young people from secondary school and kura into Unitec full time. This year a focussed effort has been put in place to connect the respective regional liaison to the cohorts containing young people from their schools and kura.

Outcomes

I See Me

We are beginning to see an increase in the use of Te Reo Māori and customs and Pacific languages and customs in the course content and learning and teaching environment. The team have made a commitment (and correct each other when we slip) to call Te Kākatai by its gifted name versus its number. They are supporting each other with pronunciation in general and proactively seeking knowledge and ways in which they can upskill themselves.

It is very apparent in Te Kākatai especially that the space and place has been created where our young people feel at home and can see themselves. Attendance across all of our courses is high, students turn up on time and are committed to their work. Students are so committed currently post Covid lockdown that we had one full cohort of Level 3 Carpentry students commit to 4 of 5 days of the first week of the holiday break to catch up on practical so that we do not have to push the course into early December, post seniors breaking up.

Under 25s Success Strategy

The strengthening of the connection with our liaison into our classrooms has seen a number of early transitions into Unitec (Semester 2) and also a number of early Semester 2 2021 applications for Unitec. We will continue this practice which has now become BAU across the team.

Risk management

Summary

The re development of Automotive Unit Standards expiring at the end of 2020, and the replacement of these within both Vocational Pathway and STAR curriculum is well underway. Work commenced on these during Covid lockdown and is progressing well. There is adequate time in our lecturer's schedules as some of our courses begin to wind up for the year for the re development to continue and ensure we are on track for 2021.

Improvements

A decision has been made to focus on a smaller set of standards than what our partners currently have access to and creating a final suite they are able to select from, rather than the historical practice that we have inherited which sees them being able to select from too wide of a selection of standards.

This means we are better able to maintain a concentrated set of standards going forward, most of which we would deliver ourselves on site as well, balancing our return on investment of any time put into re development.

Quality Reporting

Student Success

Grades and Completions

Health Level 2 and 3 Standards, and Mahi ā Toi Level 3 from Semester One have now been reported to our partners.

Moderation

Moderation plans

Moderation of Semester 1 courses has taken place. All others tracking to moderation plan, with a small number of courses that are being extend out due to Covid requiring an amendment to our Moderation plan.

Moderation outcomes

The PAQC is confident that the moderation that is occurring and that assessment is fair, valid and consistent. It is even more confident as four of the members of the PAQC (including the chair) were involved in the moderation of our Semester 1 courses personally. In any instances where moderators wish to get a second opinion, they have done so with a suitably appropriate peer to sense check their result.

Summary of any known issues and any mitigation plans

Nil known issues.

Student Evaluation of Courses

Summary of response rates for programmes

This year was the first time UPC students undertook Student Evaluations via the same system as all other Unitec students. We had a very low return rate of response for these that are not really worth reporting on.

We are instead looking to establish how better we can attain a sufficient rate of response for the surveys following the rest of our courses for 2020.

Summary of issues and improvement plans

A small number of issues were raised regarding quality of teaching during Covid in a few small areas, however we are confident that all measures were undertaken to deliver as well as we could under the circumstances. We are aware that some of the feedback came from our students who were also in the position of experiencing screen exhaustion from their secondary school work. And therefore were over 'online learning' in general.

Course Evaluation and Planning

Engagement

UPC lecturers have engaged well with the CEPs and understand the importance of this process. Support has been given to those that needed it by each other and the wider team have worked well together.

The chair would like to acknowledge the work undertaken by the UPC Operations Coordinator to support the wider team to ensure these were completed and any barriers to completion were mitigated.

Outcomes

The PAQC is confident that the CEPs across the wider suite of UPC courses are being

Stakeholder Engagement

Process

All UPC courses have and continue to be developed collaboratively and in consultation with our stakeholders: secondary schools, kura, the Ministry of Education and Unitec Schools.

Programmes overseen by the PAQC:

Unitec Pathways College Programme

SSTAR Programme