The first half of 2010 has seen some significant changes to the operations of the Western Adelaide Trade School for the Future. This has been a result of new structures in the DECS Western Adelaide region, as well as the formation of a new Operations Team. This new team consists of:

- Toni Andrew, Regional Senior Secondary Manager and Trade School for the Future Manager
- Chris Houltby, Apprenticeship Broker
- Vicki Bryant, Apprenticeship Broker
- Cherry Robinson, Industry Skills Manager
- Nick Kyriazis, ePathways Coordinator

Our work so far this year has focused on:

- Reviewing regional VET (Vocational Education and Training) programs, and development of new guidelines, operational and marketing procedures for 2011 programs
- Developing our website
- Working with young people in our schools to support job readiness skills, resume preparation and work experience
- Working with young people, parents/caregivers and local businesses to establish School-Based Apprenticeships
- Developing Industry Pathway Programs (IPPs) in schools in our region (particularly in the areas of Health and Community Services, Creative Industries, Electrotechnology, Business Services, Building and Construction and Automotive)
- Training teachers in eLearning technologies, including Moodle, video conferencing and Centra
- Supporting teachers to create online courses using Moodle
- Developing our Apprentice Ready Program

For more information about our activities, please visit our website:

www.wats.sa.edu.au
2011 Regional VET Programs

The aim of regional VET (Vocational Education and Training) programs is to provide students in western Adelaide schools with increased pathway options through the provision of a wide range of VET choices. Regional VET programs are hosted by schools in the western Adelaide suburbs and are available for students from other western Adelaide schools to enrol in.

Expressions of interest in 2011 programs are now open. Programs are available in the following areas:
- Automotive
- Construction
- Engineering
- Electrotechnology
- Health and Community Services
- Hospitality
- Information Technology, Media and Studio Recording
- Racing
- Retail and Tourism
- Sport and Recreation

Detailed information about programs available (as well as enrolment information) is available on our website: www.wats.sa.edu.au (click on Regional VET Programs).

School-Based Apprenticeships

School-Based Apprenticeships continuing to be a major success in our secondary schools!

The first semester of 2010 has seen an increase in interest and understanding of Australian School-Based Apprenticeships (ASBAs), resulting in more than 30 students commencing their careers through School-Based Apprenticeships and Traineeships across the western Adelaide cluster of schools. These commencements are predominantly in skill shortage areas, and the majority are at Certificate III level.

We continue to work with a range of students, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students, Flexible Learning Options (FLO) students and disengaged students. This eventuates to a one-on-one relationship with the student (and parent/caregiver) where we establish their requirements regarding skill development, employment and training in the industry they wish to pursue.

It is evident that levels of “work readiness” vary a great deal; therefore each student is supported with an individual approach. In most instances, students are provided with a checklist to assist them in their preparation for the school-to-work journey. This checklist contains tools and actions, such as vital information in the development of a resume, undertaking relevant work experience, industry aptitude tests and Occupational Health and Safety training. There are also further discussions on appropriate Vocational Education and Training (VET) programs as part of their schooling.

Relationships with local employers continue to strengthen as the knowledge of ASBAs increase. The benefits of employing a School-Based Apprentice are becoming more readily accepted as an alternative, flexible and cost-effective employment option amongst employers. Local employers in Engineering, Building and Construction, Transport and Logistics and Hospitality are some of the industries employing ASBAs this year.

A greater number of students have also commenced a School-Based Apprenticeship within a family connection or a friend’s business.

We intend to further develop School-Based Apprenticeship awareness by continuing to work closely with staff in our schools. This will also include planning options and strategies to develop flexible student timetable arrangements in line with the new SACE framework, and to support the flexibility that employers seek to meet the needs of their business.

Thank you for your support throughout semester 1, and we both look forward to working with you in the future.

Vicki Bryant and Chris Houltby
Apprenticeship Brokers
Our Apprentice Ready Program commenced this week (first week of term three). This program is an apprenticeship and traineeship preparation program (presented by Chris and Vicki, our Apprenticeship Brokers), aimed to improve student preparedness for undertaking a School-Based Apprenticeship across a range of careers, including Automotive, Hospitality, Childcare, Construction, Engineering and Office (Clerical).

The Apprentice Ready Program is also designed to assist students determine an employment pathway within an industry area of their interest, to aid with appropriate subject selection, including relevant VET programs. Students may also choose to be assessed in this program as SACE Stage 1 Workplace Practices (10 Credits).

Activities that students will be involved in this term include:

- Team building
- Workplace communication
- Career investigation
- Industry fields of interest – job tasks, skills, workplace environment
- Occupational Health and Safety
- Apprenticeships and Traineeships
- Contracts of Training
- Employer expectations
- Industry aptitude assessments
- White Card course
- Equal Employment Opportunity
- Workplace literacy and numeracy
- Personal action planning
- Industry speakers
- Work experience
- ETSA “Cherry Picker” demonstration
- VET courses
- Resumes and self marketing
- Mock interviews
- Portfolio compilation
- End of program presentations

The Apprentice Ready Program involves Year 10 students from schools across the cluster who have shown an interest in a School-Based or full-time Apprenticeship, and would like to develop knowledge about apprenticeship and traineeship opportunities and skills employers seek. It is being held each Wednesday during term 3, in the Western Adelaide Trade School for the Future Work Skills Hub at Le Fevre High School.

During terms 1 and 2, teachers from the schools in our Trade School cluster have participated in training where they have been exposed to examples of eLearning, including Moodle, Centra, video conferencing and media manipulation tools. There has been great enthusiasm as a result of these training days, which has prompted a more in-depth after-school training program in Moodle, held in weeks 7-9 of term 2. Further eLearning training will also be available during terms 3 and 4.

Another part of my role is to support teachers to develop flexible curriculum using eLearning technology. I am available to support VET and IPP teachers in our cluster to develop eLearning materials, including Moodle courses.

For examples of Moodle online courses that have been developed by teachers throughout the state, please visit: http://dlb.sa.edu.au/tsftfmoodle/.

Nick Kyriazis
ePathways Coordinator
Industry Skills Program

What is the Industry Skills Program?
The Industry Skills Program is a key component of DECS’ contribution to the State Government’s School to Work Strategy. During 2010-2013 it:

- will develop curriculum designed to increase the number of young people in South Australia achieving higher level VET competencies in skills demand areas
- will integrate Trade Schools for the Future and Trade Training Centres in Schools through the creation of a ten year plan for each region
- will support high level VET Industry Pathways Programs (IPPs) to be developed as part of the new SACE to engage students in studies leading to Certificate III level training pathways.

What is an Industry Pathways Program (IPP)?

- It comprises an industry-endorsed set of learning strategies, career resources, and nationally accredited VET competencies and/or qualifications that articulate into apprenticeships, traineeships, further education or training, and direct employment.
- It provides credit towards a recognised qualification within the Australian Qualifications Framework.
- It is a secondary school vocational program that provides credit towards some or all of the following components of the SACE: subjects and courses, literacy, numeracy, Personal Learning Plan and Research Project.
- It will provide industry endorsement, quality assurance and standardisation of the VET programs offered as part of the SACE.

What IPPs are being developed in Western Adelaide Secondary Schools?
- Advanced Technologies/Defence Industries
- Allied Health
- Automotive
- Business Services
- Civil Construction
- Community Services
- Construction (Doorways to Construction – D2C)
- Digital Technologies
- Electrotechnology
- Metals and Engineering (Fabrication and Mechanical)
- Plumbing

Other IPPs will be developed as resources and opportunities allow.

Cherry Robinson
Industry Skills Manager
DECS Western Adelaide Region

The Western Adelaide Trade School for the Future provides access to learning that leads to jobs in engineering, building and construction, electrotechnology, health and community services, automotive, creative industries and other industry sectors in the region where there is a growing demand for skilled workers. Students are able to achieve their South Australian Certificate of Education (SACE) while learning skills and working toward industry-accredited qualifications.

The administrative hub, or Work Skills Centre for the Western Adelaide Trade School for the Future, is located at Le Fevre High School. ‘School to Work’ Apprenticeship Brokers based at the Work Skills Centre link students to training, traineeships and apprenticeships, including School-Based Apprenticeships and employment opportunities.

Schools in the Western Adelaide region also host regional VET (Vocational Education and Training) programs and Industry Pathway Programs, to provide students in western Adelaide schools with increased pathway options through the provision of a wide range of VET choices.

Member schools are:
- Adelaide High School
- Adelaide Secondary School of English
- Bowden Brompton Community School
- Enfield High School
- Findon High School
- Gepps Cross Girls High School
- Henley High School
- Le Fevre High School
- Ocean View B-12 College
- Seaton High School
- Underdale High School
- Woodville High School

Other DECS western Adelaide secondary schools who may also access the Western Adelaide Trade School for the Future include:
- Thebarton Senior College
- Warriappendi School
- William Light R-12 School