English Australia MEDIA RELEASE



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English Australia launches *Guide to Best Practice in Managing Professional* Development in ELICOS

Today English Australia is launching its new *Guide to Best Practice in Managing Professional Development in ELICOS*, the latest in its suite of Best Practice Guides designed to support English Australia member colleges in working towards higher standards across all areas of their operations.

As the national peak body for the ELICOS sector in Australia, English Australia plays a strong leadership role in supporting the sector in engaging with best practice across a range of relevant areas.

Effective staff professional development has an enormous impact on the quality of the programs and services delivered to students, making this a priority area of focus for a sector seeking to achieve high levels of student satisfaction.

The *Guide to Best Practice in Managing Professional Development in ELICOS* showcases up-to-the-minute key features of successful continuing professional development programs that help to maximise staff engagement and buy-in. It also provides detailed case studies and examples from member colleges who have implemented innovative professional development frameworks, facilitating the sharing of industry expertise and inspiring the uptake of new ideas.

"The Guide is designed for ELICOS managers who would like to make sure that all their staff, regardless of their role within the organisation, have a flexible range of opportunities to learn and grow throughout their employment. It is especially relevant for Australian ELICOS colleges because it has been compiled in consultation with managers from English Australia member colleges and is written for the Australian context," says Sue Blundell, Executive Director of English Australia.

To support users of the Guide English Australia will be organising a range of supplementary events throughout 2015, which aim to generate conversation across the sector about professional development practices. These will include webinars, conference workshops and forums and Twitter chats.

The Guide is available free to English Australia member colleges. Other interested parties may contact the Secretariat to see if they are eligible to receive a copy: <u>easec@englishaustralia.com.au</u>

Further information about the Guide, and all English Australia's Best Practice Guides, can be found at: <u>http://www.englishaustralia.com.au/best-practice-guides</u>.

For more information about the supplementary events to support users of the Guide, visit English Australia's <u>events page</u>.

English Australia. Level 3, 162 Goulburn Street, Surry Hills NSW 2010 | PO Box 1437, Darlinghurst NSW 1300 AUSTRALIA T: + 61 2 9264 4700 | F: + 61 2 9264 4313 | easec@englishaustralia.com.au | www.englishaustralia.com.au English Australia is the national peak body for the English language sector of international education, and represents over 120 member colleges throughout Australia that provide quality English language programs to students and professionals from around the world. Over 80% of international students learning English in Australia choose to study with an English Australia member college. As an association, English Australia has a focus on: representing member colleges whose core business is English language teaching; delivering best practice support and expertise to member colleges; and providing the English language sector with global visionary leadership.

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