



## CASE 1: DEVELOPING AN INSTITUTIONAL APPROACH

The main campus for the university in this example is located in one of Australia's largest cities. The university enrolls a very high number of students, over 50% of whom are international, and runs a number of its courses transnationally. The university's institutional approach to English language assessment and development was rolled out over a period of three years (2008-2011) and is now in the implementation phase.

In summary, the institutional plan included:

- Overarching principles to underpin the university's philosophy and strategy
- Availability of English language screening assessment and encouragement of participation by students
- English language support and development to address the needs of EAL and other students
- Integration into academic programs of mechanisms to assess students' English language proficiency and communication skills
- Integration of English language proficiency and communication skills into the Graduate Attributes statements
- Use of existing expertise and resources across the key areas involved in student language development
- Implementation of a coordinated evidence-based approach to professional development for teaching staff
- Refinement of data collection mechanisms regarding English language proficiency, pathways and related data
- Review of the Language of Instruction Policy.

Item	Activity
1	Project established, led by the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Academic and endorsed by the Vice-Chancellor's Executive.
2	Project leader appointed.
3	Steering group formed for strategic guidance, and working party formed for 'on-the-ground' experience and expertise in English language issues.
4	Consultation undertaken with key stakeholders.
5	Risk assessment undertaken against the <i>Good Practice Principles for English Language Proficiency for International Students in Australian Universities</i> .
6	Project scoped: reach, context, profile, stakeholder perceptions, existing resource usage.
7	Framework developed, which included fundamental principles underpinning the approach, for endorsement and trial implementation.
	Range of pilot activities developed and undertaken in collaboration with specialist areas of the university to facilitate later evidence-based decision-making: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Online English language proficiency screening tool</li><li>• Online English support programs integrated into disciplinary units of study</li><li>• English language criteria integrated into assessment rubrics in disciplinary units of study</li><li>• Student access to a commercial online writing feedback service</li><li>• Development of dedicated online resources to support English language skills development</li><li>• Evaluation of an embedded academic and language literacies project in an offshore program</li><li>• Workshops for academic teaching staff on supporting English language development.</li></ul>
8	Pilot activities evaluated and reviewed.
9	Recommendations submitted through the university committee system for approval.
10	Project completed, with strategy and activities mainstreamed for ongoing implementation.