

PRIORITY PROJECTS 2006

PROJECT & TEAM DETAILS

<i>Project Title</i>	<i>Dancing Between Diversity and Consistency: Improving Assessment in Postgraduate Studies in Dance</i>
<i>Priority Area</i>	Academic standards and assessment practices in postgraduate studies: <i>Postgraduate Dance Studies in practice-based and written degrees (Fields of study: Humanities and the Arts)</i>
<i>Lead Institution</i>	Edith Cowan University (Dr Maggi Phillips; maggi.phillips@ecu.edu.au)
<i>Partner Institutions</i>	Queensland University of Technology and Deakin University in conjunction with the Tertiary Dance Council of Australia and Ausdance (Australian Dance Council)

PROJECT SUMMARY

What is the Project designed to achieve (ie. Outcome)? (50 words)

To refine a *code of assessment* for postgraduate research studies in dance in Australia, encompassing the two primary modes of investigation, written and practice-based theses, their distinctiveness and their potential interplay

The code will facilitate best practice in assessment for higher degree studies in dance and related creative arts' disciplines.

How will the project achieve this (ie. Method/approach)?(150 words)

The project aims to achieve the design of the code through

- **networks of consultation and collaborative research** wherein the three principal researchers (QUT, Deakin and WAAPA) will manage the project in conjunction with the Core Reference Group comprising of Tertiary Dance Council of Australia plus consultants. The information flow will circulate (1) to disciplinary specific channels and (2) to relevant experts within higher degree pedagogy;
- **analysis of examination reports** building on the work of Holbrook et al at SORTI (Newcastle);
- **survey of existing literature** (protocols, reports and research) **and perceptions** of personnel involved in examination processes;
- **focus groups** to encompass (1) higher degree authorities; examiners and supervisors; (2) past, present and current candidates; (3) dance artists.

Network channels; focus groups; a 'research' website off the *Ausdance* portal; digital educational materials and published articles in professional and academic presses will provide the multi-faceted foundations for the code's dissemination and implementation.

To assist in analysis and web searches please list key descriptors/ search words ie. Themes /Target Groups/ Disciplines addressed. For example: Multicultural, Deans, Biology,

Postgraduate dance assessment; practice-based research; theses examination; education and the arts' liaisons

For further information, please contact:

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