

National Career Development Week 2010 at Curtin University (WA)



National Career Development Week was a huge success at Curtin University in Perth, Western Australia. Over 150 students and staff participate in a variety of events, workshops and activities throughout the week. The success of NCDW at Curtin was not without the support of faculty members, general staff and collaboration from the Curtin Careers Centre team. The Digital Media Unit at Curtin where a great support with writing a promotional article linked to the home page of the Curtin website as well as links from the home page to the outline of the week's events on the Curtin Careers website. Faculty members attended a "Meet the Careers Centre Team" sundowner for networking opportunities and to discuss how the Careers Centre can work closer with faculty and within course curriculum to develop career ready graduates.

Career development is essential for our students and linking it where possible to their course curriculum is an effective strategy to connect their course content knowledge to work-integrated-learning. Career development learning contextualises their course and WIL experiences. This allows them to make meaning for themselves in being able to develop a clearer vision of their preferred career future and how to best achieve and manage this throughout their lifespan.

National Career Development week has assisted the Curtin Careers Centre with further extending our relevance within the university and showcase that we strive to have innovative events, workshop and activities to engage students and staff in their career development and getting the life they love. It also assists with promoting new initiatives at the university, such as the "Careers in ... seminars" which we will also run in semester two due to the positive reception from students, guest speakers volunteering to be involved and faculty also wanting to be involved, by referring quest speakers.

Next year we are hoping to expand NCDW at Curtin to also include some events at our other campuses and also an employer event to further engage the Curtin community.