Dear Colleague,

The flight to Hobart from Melbourne or Sydney is just long enough for some reflection and preparation for our workshop about learner profiles. This document is designed to help you think about the issues as you wait in departure lounges and descend into Hobart.

Question 1

What do we know about the students coming to university?

What do you know about the following six types of students starting their studies at your institution?

- Traditional school leaver
- Mature age student (over 30)
- Prior Vocational Education and Training (VET) experience student
- Student from overseas who is studying on campus
- Student studying at a distance
- Postgraduate student with no prior higher education experience

With reference to the following diagram: What do they come with? What do they need assistance with?

Elements of success at university (adapted from Lizzio & Wilson, 2009)
Question 2

At our institutions, how are we addressing the areas students need assistance with?

Question 3

Where has e-learning succeeded in addressing these areas?

Think about what your university does in relation to areas where students need assistance?

- What do you do?
- When in the student life cycle do you do it?
- How do you deliver it?
- Who takes responsibility?

Do you have an e-learning exemplar that addresses one of the areas of assistance common to many types of students?

Question 4

How do we expect the profile, skills and needs of students to change, taking into account issues such as the equity agenda?

What are the potential impacts on the six types of students, described in relation to question one?
What are potential gaps at your institution? What potential is there for e-learning environments to help?

Thinking about these issues and questions as you head towards ACODE 52 will help all of us in making the most of our workshop.

We look forward to working with you.

Kind regards,

Dr Gary Williams (on behalf of Dr Natalie Brown and Mr Nigel Ewan)