CAUTHE Newsletter September 2008

CAUTHE College of Fellows

The CAUTHE Executive would like to announce the creation of a CAUTHE College of Fellows. The group of eight inaugural Fellows are each individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the advancement of hospitality and tourism education and research, and more specifically, to the development of CAUTHE. The creation of the Fellowship and College marks a significant milestone in the development and maturation of CAUTHE, and much of this great achievement can be attributed to the hard work of the inaugural Fellows.

The inaugural Fellows and College members are in alphabetical order:

Stephen Craig-Smith, Jenny Davies, Larry Dwyer, Leo Jago, Brian King, Bob McKercher, Philip Pearce and Betty Weiler.

Leo Jago has been acclaimed as Foundation Chair of the College.

We look forward to investing our inaugural Fellows in February at the CAUTHE 2009 Conference in Fremantle.

These inaugural Fellows are automatically members of the CAUTHE Electoral College. Members of the Electoral College may each nominate one individual in any one year for consideration as a Fellow of CAUTHE. The Chair of the Electoral College will forward recommendations for the appointment of Fellows of CAUTHE to the CAUTHE Executive for ratification. An announcement of new Fellows will be made at each CAUTHE AGM.

The CAUTHE Executive and the College of Fellow would like to extend their thanks to Tony Nankervis for his tireless efforts in bringing the Fellowship and College to life.

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Reminder of Paper Deadline

The CAUTHE 2009 Call for Papers has been extended until Friday, September 19, 2008. This includes both extended abstract of 1000 words or full papers of 5000 words.

Looking forward to seeing you all in Freo.

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Council for Australian University Tourism and Hospitality Education Inc

Membership Renewal

Thankyou to all those who have paid for their membership over the recent weeks. Membership includes an improved on-line access to the *Journal of Hospitality and Tourism Management*. If you would like to join CAUTHE as a new member or have not yet received a renewal notice please contact Penny Jose -penny.jose@vu.edu.au



Successful Industry Forum

CAUTHE hosted an Industry Forum on Friday 22 August, 2008 and invited National Associations representatives of the Tourism and Hospitality sector to attend. The aim of the forum was to improve CAUTHE's engagement with other national bodies and to explore opportunities for research, support, and knowledge sharing.

The forum focused on university/industry engagement and industry ready graduates. Euan Robertson National Manager Research, Aviation & Education for the Tourism and Transport Forum (TTF) presented TTFs perspective on "how to improve engagement between university and industry". Helen Ayres from the University of Canberra reported on the findings from her PhD, which considered "tourism graduate career paths, employment and curriculum needs".

One of the key points which emerged was the need for those involved in curriculum design to work more closely with industry representatives to help bridge the gap between the two. Overwhelmingly industry representatives valued 'the soft skills' e.g. interpersonal skills and critical thinking. They were often confused about the contents of degree programs. According to Helen, "The skills and subjects are there, but we need to do better to let them know what is in our courses".

The Forum was well attended with the following organisations and universities being represented:

- AFTA Education and Training
- Aviation & Education for the Tourism and Transport Forum (TTF)
- Ecotourism Australia
- Exhibition and Event Association of Australasia
- Greece & Mediterranean
 Travel
- National Business Travel Association (NBTA) Asia Pacific
- Restaurant & Catering Australia

- Sun Island Tours
- Travel Corporation
- Auckland University of Technology
- Curtin University
- Griffith University
- Modul University, Vienna
- Monash University
- University of Canberra
- University of New South Wales
- University of Queensland
- University of Technology Sydney
- University of Western Sydney
- Victoria University

One of the issues that emerged from the session was the need for CAUTHE to become more proactive in liaising with industry. To this end we plan to nominate an industry liaison person to help CAUTHE develop this industry engagement. "...was the need for CAUTHE to become more proactive in liaising with industry."

