

THE STELLAR PROGRAM



**“If you try your best you
can get into uni”**

Participant Year 7 Recipe for Success

Annual Report 2013

**Prepared by Southern Cross University Equity and Diversity Office on
behalf of the Clarence Valley Industry Education Forum**

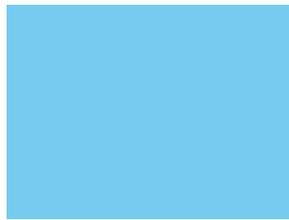


TABLE OF CONTENTS

2013 Summary of Achievements	3
Introduction	4
Clarence Valley Industry Education Forum	4
CVIEF Members	4
Goal and Objectives	5
Partner Schools	6
Program Structure	7
Annual Student Activity Themes	8
Details of 2013 Activities	9
Kids on Campus	9
Recipe for Success University Days	10
Family Information Events	11
2013 Program Attendance	11
Student Feedback	12
2014 Workplan Summary	13
Contact Details	14

Stellar 2013 Summary of Achievements

GOAL

Improve university participation rates of students living in the Clarence Valley

OBJECTIVES

Increase knowledge and understanding of higher education and career options

Build confidence and motivation towards higher education

Improve academic readiness for higher education

Partner with teachers, families, and community to assist students to reach their potential for higher education

Project Management

2013 ACHIEVEMENTS

1. Year 6/7 Kids on Campus - 50 MHS/YPS students
2. Year 7 Recipe for Success – 520 students
3. Website created
4. Promotional brochures created

83%
of students had
**INCREASED
CONFIDENCE
THAT THEY
COULD GO
TO UNI**

$\frac{9}{10}$ out of
10
students
**INCREASED
THEIR
KNOWLEDGE
OF
UNIVERSITY**

This objective was not addressed in 2013

1. Presented at three parent Information events – approximately 250 parents/carers
2. Website parent information

ENGAGED with 250
PARENTS/CARERS
IN FIRST 6 MONTHS OF OPERATION

1. Stellar Coordinator engaged
2. Successful funding submission. \$821k.
3. Website, Logo, promotional brochures
4. Monitoring undertaken
5. Stellar implementation group established (coordinator and DPs)
6. Stellar Steering Committee established

INTRODUCTION

Stellar is an initiative developed by the Clarence Valley Industry and Education Forum (CVIEF) that seeks to improve university participation rates of students living in the Clarence Valley.

2013 is the first partial year of operation with the Project Coordinator being engaged in April. This year was used to set up implementation and management systems and to trial several new initiatives aiming to engage students about the possibilities of university.

This report provides details of this first partial year of operation and an outline of 2014 activities.

The Clarence Valley Industry Education Forum

CVIEF was formed to improve educational outcomes for youth of the Clarence Valley. In recognition that individual organisations working alone cannot provide the whole of community approach needed to make lasting change, the CVIEF brings together diverse groups working toward a single purpose.

The CVIEF partners work together through a whole of community approach to supporting students to reach their goals. Stellar provides information and support to students, families, carers, school staff and community groups necessary for young people to aspire to university.

CVIEF have three inter-related programs to improve educational outcomes:

1. CareerLink – school-based traineeships and pathways to employment;
2. FreshStart – education and employment package for Indigenous students;
3. Stellar – supporting students to strive for and gain entry to higher education



The CVIEF partners

- . Southern Cross University
- . University of New England
- . TAFE NSW – North Coast Institute
- . NSW Department of Education & Communities – North Coast Region
- . Clarence Valley Council
- . Grafton High School
- . McAuley Catholic College
- . South Grafton High School
- . Maclean High School
- . Iduna School
- . Aboriginal Education Consultative Group
- . Community representative
- . Commonwealth Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet – Indigenous Affairs Group

Stellar Goal and Objectives

OBJECTIVE 1

Increase knowledge and understanding of higher education and career options.

OBJECTIVE 4

Partner with teachers, families and community to assist students to reach their potential for higher education.

GOAL

To improve university participation rates of students living in the Clarence Valley.

OBJECTIVE 2

Build confidence and motivation towards higher education.

OBJECTIVE 3

Improve academic readiness for higher education.



PARTNER SCHOOLS



SOUTH GRAFTON HIGH SCHOOL

South Grafton High School is a large, rural, comprehensive co-educational high school with over 1000 students, of which 130 identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander. The school is part of a dynamic Grafton Community of Schools that share resources, school development days, planning and policies.

GRAFTON HIGH SCHOOL

Grafton High School is a large comprehensive school community with approximately 1000 students of which 130 identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander. Grafton High School and South Grafton High School have aligned their timetables to facilitate sharing of a range of senior subjects.



MCAULEY CATHOLIC COLLEGE

McAuley Catholic College, Grafton, NSW is a 7 to 12 regional co-educational Catholic secondary college with approximately 600 students, of which 4% identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander. McAuley College enjoys close relationships with the local community and other local high schools.

MACLEAN HIGH SCHOOL

Maclean High School students come from a wide variety of socio-economic backgrounds. The curriculum, class structures and education programs are designed to accommodate diverse needs and interests. There are approximately 1200 students with 9% identifying as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander.



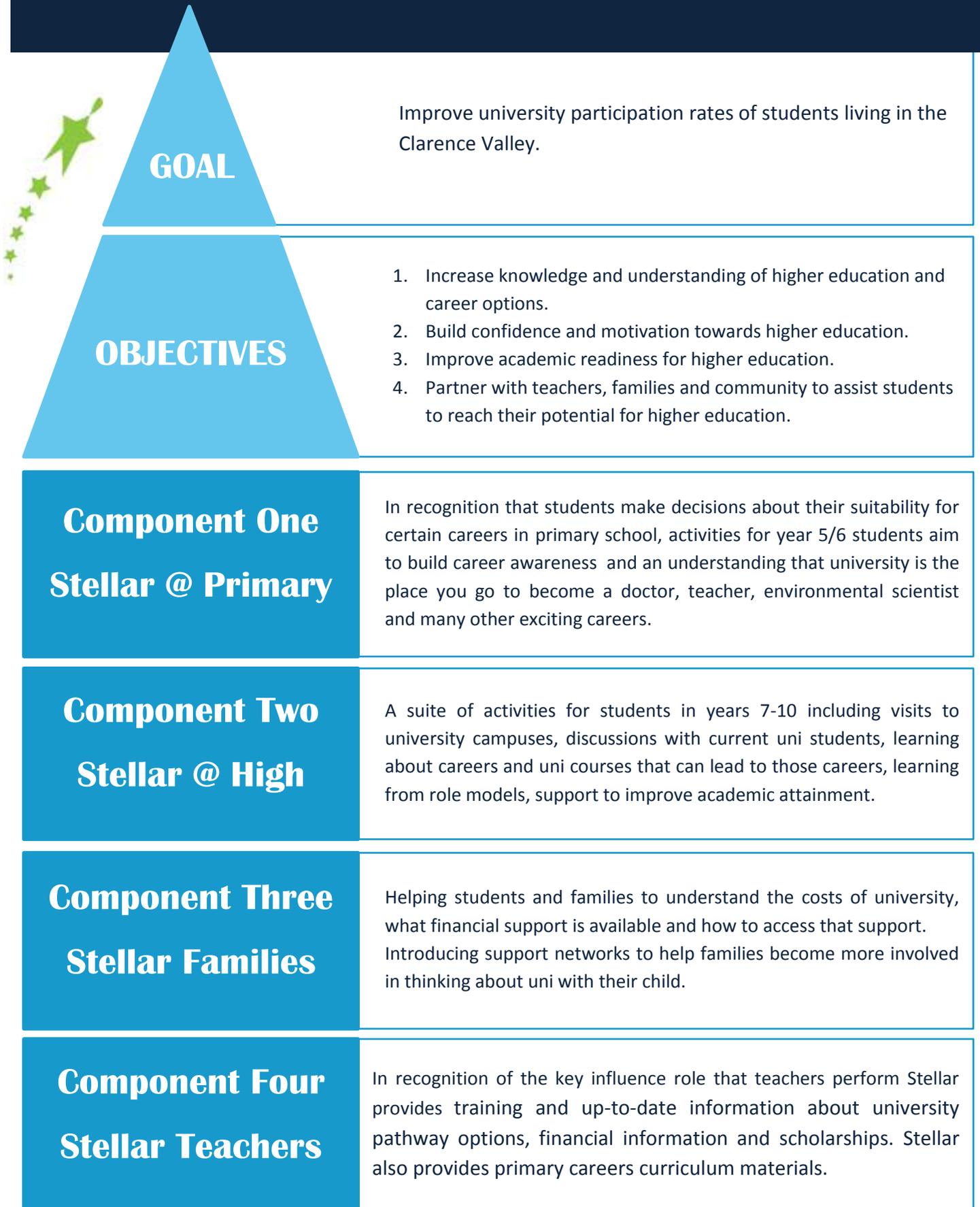
PRIMARY SCHOOLS

Initially in 2013 Yamba Primary School was included in the pilot activities because of their middle school partnership with Maclean High School. Additional primary schools will participate in the program in 2014-15.



PROGRAM STRUCTURE

The four Stellar Components are designed to lead to achievement of the goal and objectives.



ANNUAL STUDENT ACTIVITY THEMES

Stellar student activities (Components 1 and 2) focus around key annual themes which firstly introduce students to the concepts of university and careers and progressively build in detail and complexity as students develop their interests and maturity.

Year 6

Introduction to University
Widen knowledge of careers

Visit university campus
Careers unit of work
Careers day

Year 7

Recipe for Success at school and university
Meet university students

Recipe For Success University Day

Year 8

What's it like at university?
Widen knowledge of uni courses
Expand knowledge and interest in careers

Visit a university campus
Engage with role models

Year 9

Improved study skills
Pathways and scholarships
Courses and careers

Visit a university campus (UNE)
Get Into University Day at school
YourTutor study support

Year 10

Study skills
Focused courses and careers

YourTutor study support
Role models

DETAILS OF 2013 ACTIVITIES

Stellar Kids On Campus

3 September 2013

The first Stellar Kids On Campus was held in partnership with the SCU Coffs Harbour Student Association.

Fifty students from Yamba Primary school and Maclean High School visited SCU Coffs Harbour campus.

Kids On Campus – Is targeted toward primary school students who would benefit from the opportunity to experience university 'first hand'. The program aims to familiarise students with a university campus and to broaden their knowledge of careers and university courses that can help reach those careers.

Kids On Campus activities included:

- An interactive experience at the National Marine Science Centre in which students learnt about local sea life, marine science careers and university courses
- Biology and health activities including anatomy, hygiene and resuscitation techniques
- Computer careers presentation and a hands-on introduction to programming using 'Alice' software
- Mock graduation providing that feeling of success and completion.

Kids on Campus also supports the school's efforts to facilitate a smooth year 6 to 7 transition from primary to high school.

98% of students better understand what it takes to get to uni.

9 out of 10 students increased their knowledge of possible uni courses

"I learnt that I really want to be a marine biologist."



Stellar Recipe For Success University Days

More than
7 out of 10
students are
more
interested
in going to uni.

520
students
participated

I learnt that
“Uni is for
anyone, no
matter
what.”



10-12 September.

Three Stellar University days were designed to reach as many year 7 students at the four high schools as possible.

520 students participated.

Grafton High School, South Grafton High School, McAuley College, Maclean High School and 25 students from Yamba Primary school all participated in these events.

The University Days aimed to increase knowledge and understanding of career options and the university courses that can help achieve those careers. Students also participated in activities to build confidence and motivation towards higher education. For example skills such as teamwork, mutual trust and support and resilience.

The events were facilitated by Rising Generations, an organisation specialising in facilitating leadership activities for primary and high school students.

Three SCU students and two UNE students made key presentations that demonstrated their path to university, their course, their career goals, and some challenges they overcame to get to university.

Family Information Events

24 July 2013 – Grafton HS and South Grafton HS Year 9 subject selection evening.

4 September 2013 – Maclean HS Year 9 subject selection evening.

200 Families of Year 8 students.

Year 8 students and parents/carers attend information evening/event for information about courses, careers and subject options to lead to these careers. The Stellar team made presentations to participants and also more detailed one to one discussions.

29 September 2013 – Indigenous family event “Our Kids, Their Future”

50 members of Indigenous families

This event was designed to facilitate a closer connection between families and their child’s schooling. In addition to the Stellar program presenters included Centrelink, High School staff and TAFE.

“The feedback from everyone about the night has been just fantastic.”

250
parents
and
carers



**2013
Program
Attendance**

520 Year 7
Recipe For
Success

50 Year 6/7
Kids on
Campus



250 Family
members

STELLAR 2014 WORKPLAN SUMMARY

In 2014 Stellar will scale up the 2013 pilot activities. Two additional staff will be engaged one at SCU and one at UNE. Family activities will be expanded as well as additional student cohorts. Activities will reach students in Year 6 to Year 10 across the Clarence Valley.

GOAL

Improve university participation rates of students living in the Clarence Valley

OBJECTIVES

Increase knowledge and understanding of higher education and career options

Build confidence and motivation towards higher education

Improve academic readiness for higher education

Partner with teachers, families, and community to assist students to reach their potential for higher education

Project Tasks

2014 OUTPUTS

1. Year 6/7 Kids on Campus - September
 - a. 200 students
 - b. MHS/YPS, MCC/St Marys & St Joeys
 - c. GHS/GPS, SGHS/SPS
2. Year 7 Recipe for Success – August
 - a. 500 students – all High Schools
3. Year 8 Experience Uni – July
 - a. 200 students – all High Schools
4. Year 8 Role model forums (3) – April, July, November - 240 students (20 each school)
5. Year 9 Recipe for Success – March
 - a. 500 students – all High Schools
 - b. Special event prior to Rising Gen finish
6. Year 10 Get Into Uni – June
 - a. 500 students – all High Schools
7. Stellar Award
8. Website expansion, Facebook page
9. Year 6 careers unit of work
10. Primary careers day
11. Careers in computing – to be developed

1. YourTutor Program
 - a. Year 9-12 online tutorial support

1. Parent Information evenings (2) - March
 - a. MHS
 - b. MCC, SGHS, GHS – combined
2. Stellar Marquee at 4 events
3. Website parent zone
4. Marketing – newsletters, newspapers, etc
5. Family mentors
6. Junior sport sponsorship?
7. Teachers on Campus
 - a. Several teachers from each school visit SCU campus – pathways, scholarships, SCU college, etc

1. Launch – March in conjunction with Recipe FS
2. M&E – Annual data collection
3. Reporting
4. Steering committee – executive

Program Coordinator

Troy Irwin

Equity & Diversity Office, Lismore campus

02 6626 3468 : troy.irwin@scu.edu.au

Head of Equity and Diversity

Rachel Callahan

Equity & Diversity Office, Lismore campus

02 66269110 : rachel.callahan@scu.edu.au

stellar.edu.au