

Contact details

Kasia Quail
Manager, Deakin College

Dr Robyn Sheppard
Manager, Barton College

Residences
Division of Student Life

03 5227 1158
kasia@deakin.edu.au
robynsh@deakin.edu.au

**Geelong Campus**

We are delighted to report that most students this year have settled down very well and seem to be enjoying their time here both academically and socially.

The Semester to date**College Dinners**

Both Deakin College and Barton College held their formal college dinners in week three of the semester and everyone enjoyed a special meal prepared by the catering staff. The dinners were a great success and designed to welcome the students to their individual colleges. Students have also had the opportunity to attend unit functions and dinners organised by Unit RA's. These social gatherings are designed to allow the smaller group of students who live together in the same house to really bond.

Resi Sport

Sport plays a big part in resi life and we have already had our first mixed netball final which was appropriately contested by a team representing Deakin College versus a Barton College team. College pride is at stake so both the girls and the boys put in their best efforts. Deakin College won on this occasion however Barton are keen to avenge the loss as soon as possible.

Looking After Your Mates

As part of our orientation and education program, the first year students recently attended a session titled "Looking after our Mates". This was a joint presentation by VicRoads and the City of Greater Geelong, aimed at alerting young people to the dangers of drinking and driving. Topics covered were: the effect of alcohol on one's judgement and coordination; some statistics on alcohol related road trauma; standards drink measures; and responsibilities

we have as individuals to not put our own or others' lives at risk. The session was well received by our students and served as a timely reminder to them to consider the effects and repercussions that excessive consumption of alcohol can have.

Academic Mentors and Academic Support

Keeping in mind that obtaining a degree is the main reason for being at university, we are very excited to have introduced into residences this year a new approach to academically supporting our residents. Having studied the research in this area, which pointed to the fact that students are more likely to seek help and advice from their peer group, we have created 19 new leadership positions drawn from our student community, in the form of Academic Mentors.

Additionally we created a physical space – the Academic Centre – in the Barton Common Room which is manned three nights a week by the Academic Mentors for students to drop in and discuss any problems they may be experiencing. Our team of Academic Mentors have been trained to respond to students' academic concerns and are available for consultation on a 'drop in' basis, as well as organising more formal group sessions throughout the year at critical times. Although it is still early days we have been most heartened to see the number of students who are availing themselves of this excellent support service.

'Family' Day on Res

You will have received an invitation in the mail to our annual Family Day Lunch, to be held this year on Sunday, 4th May. We would love to see as many families as possible here on the day when you can take the time to see how your son or daughter has settled

in and maybe even stay to cheer them on in a round one of the Inter-College Football competition.

Important Dates for the Diary

- Sunday 4th May
Family Day Lunch

- Friday 30th May
Accommodation payment due
 - \$1,424.75, if paying by instalments

- 16th – 27th June
Exam period

- Saturday 28th June –
Sunday 20th July
Inter Semester break