

## **Report on Academic Standards workshop at the ALTA Forum 2015**

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### **Summary and conclusions**

- ALTA participants agreed that there was a need for a detailed and up-to-date ICT academic standards statement
- Participants identified the major sub-disciplines of ICT going forward as Information Technology, Information Systems, Multimedia, Computer Science, Software Engineering, and Computer Engineering
  - For each of these sub-disciplines a set of threshold learning outcomes has started to be developed
- Participant input was gathered and incorporated into creating an up to date and future sensitive statement of the nature and extent of ICT
  - The next draft will be sent out to self-nominated ALTA members for review
- Participants engaged with defining the sorts of learning outcomes that students ought to be able to demonstrate in capstone and pre-capstone units
  - The exercise served to focus participants on the sorts of assessable skills and knowledge that capstone units in ICT might exemplify

This workshop engaged participants in the conversation about the need for a strong academic standards statement for ICT. As a group the shortcomings of the existing documents (ALTC LTAS project report, ACS documentation, SFIA, and curriculum descriptions) to inform a new academic standards statement were recognized. It was apparent that collaboration on developing standards was a key step in ensuring a usable solution. Participants were asked to self-nominate to contribute to the development of the new standards statement and to being part of a peer review of assessment network (PRAN) for the application of those standards to programs and units. 20 participants signed up to assist in developing and reviewing the next ICT academic standards draft. 10 participants nominated to take part in an ICT\_PRAN in the future.

An OLT seed grant application has been developed based on ALTA member inputs to develop and 'test' the draft academic standards.

It is apparent that this area of development will be of interest to ALTA participants into the future.