

Call for Expressions of Interest to prepare Good Practice Guides for Agriculture



The national Learning and Teaching Academic Standards Statement for Agriculture (AgLTAS Statement) was developed through an extensive consultation process involving academics, students and industry across Australia. It will facilitate the implementation of academic standards by the agriculture discipline community and inform curriculum design.

The Statement includes five key Threshold Learning Outcomes (TLOs) for bachelor degrees in agriculture: Understanding Agriculture; Knowledge of Agriculture; Inquiry and Problem Solving; Communication; and; Personal and Professional Responsibility. The agriculture TLOs describe what a pass-level graduate in agriculture or a related discipline will know, understand and be able to do upon graduation. The Australian Council for Deans of Agriculture endorsed the standards as a high-level statement of bachelor-level Threshold Learning Outcomes for the discipline. A copy of the standards is available at www.agltas.edu.au

Good Practice Guides provide academics/teachers with case studies of assessment and student learning outcomes that embed each TLO in the curriculum. We wish to commission the preparation of good practice guides for each overarching TLO. Funding has been provided by the Office for Learning and Teaching with the project needing to be completed by May 2016. Each guide will receive modest support of **\$5000** for authors to fund teaching relief and/or research assistance.

The Guides for the TLOs are envisaged to be succinct documents of approximately 15 to 20 pages in length, modelled on the Good Practice Guides already available for the disciplines of Law and Science (see <http://www.acds-tlcc.edu.au/science-threshold-learning-outcomes/using-the-science-tlos/>). Each Good Practice Guide should include:

- A concise literature review of current research and good practice (nationally and internationally, including the identification and brief analysis of, and links to, relevant resources) (approximately 5 – 10 A4 pages)
- A summary of key issues/learnings/outcomes synthesised from the literature review of national and international research and practice (approximately three A4 pages)
- Identification of areas in which further work is needed (approximately one A4 page)

Each Guide will feature as a chapter in a book, with each chapter to be made available online at www.agltas.edu.au and edited by Dr Tina Acuña (University of Tasmania) and Prof Amanda Able (The University of Adelaide).

The suggested timeframe for preparation of Good Practice Guides is shown in the table, below:

| Date | Task |
|---------------------------|--|
| Early-October 2015 | Successful EOIs informed |
| November 2015 | Outline of components to be included in guides completed |
| December 2015 | Development workshop |
| February 2016 | Drafts of Good Practice Guides due for feedback |
| March 2016 | Final versions of Good Practice Guides due |
| May 2016 | Launch at an appropriate Learning and Teaching Forum |

Expressions of Interest (Eoi) to prepare the Guides should be sent to Tina.Acuna@utas.edu.au by 14 September 2015. Joint applications are welcome. Eois should outline in 1 – 2 A4 pages: the Good Practice Guide to which the Eoi relates; qualifications and experience of the applicant, including a paragraph demonstrating the applicant's scholarship and teaching expertise in the topic area.