Teaching smarter
Collaborations between content, language and learning experts in Engineering education

Siri Barrett-Lennard & Brad Stappenbelt

Today’s talk
Classroom support for international & equity students

Engagement  Discussion  Collaboration

Engagement

Academic challenge  Supportive classroom

Student base

UWA Survey of Student Engagement 2005
International students
Students with a language other than English at home

2003 – 73%
2004 – 67.5%
2005 – 66.7%

Generic skills: Written communication, team work, analysis, problem solving, planning, confidence
Discussion

Generic skills of undergraduates

Adequate?

Support?

Problematic?

Collaboration

Content experts: engineers
- Field & workplace knowledge
- Technical expertise
- Knowledge of tasks & approaches

Learning & language experts
- Knowledge of learning strategies
- Linguistic knowledge
- Knowledge of tertiary culture

Collaboration

- Lectures
- Assessment
- Tutorials
- Training
- Tips

Technical communication
English language competency
Communications stream
Teaching across cultures
Writing essentials

Student satisfaction & engagement improved: SURF & SPOT improved

English language competency scores: rose 25% in Communications Stream

International student progression rates improved: from 64% to 83%