

February 2003 Quarterly Update

HIGHLIGHTS

- WINETAC website providing more value to industry
- Research and development funding boost
- Opportunity for input into national VET strategy
- Comprehensive training information coming soon
- PhD researchers and industry meet

Revised wine sector training package not yet available

WINETAC website – a wine industry education and training resource

Go to www.winetac.com.au for project updates, news, resource information, networking opportunities and useful links.

Past issues of our Quarterly Updates can be found within the News section. A new section containing the training information resources highlighted within this newsletter will be added in the near future.

CRCV program proposal 2003-2006 progresses

The CRCV Program 4 - *Education, training and professional development for sustainable industry* proposal for years 5-7 (June 2003 - June 2006) has been approved by the CRCV board and industry reference group. The program 4 proposal has been submitted to the Grape and Wine Research Development Corporation with all other program proposals for funding approval - an initial response is expected towards the end of February.

Viticulture research and development receives \$4.3 million funding boost

The Cooperative Research Centre for Viticulture (CRCV) has received a \$4.32 million funding boost to support the delivery of new technologies to grapegrowers. The funding will support nine projects in a \$12.4 million total package to develop the *Australian Viticultural Innovation Network*.

CRCV CEO Dr Jim Hardie said the network would create partnerships between the CRCV and small and medium enterprises from the viticultural supply sector to accelerate the development and delivery of new technologies to growers.

'Business needs and training solutions' - training information available soon

How can training contribute to my business outcomes?

What options do I have for skilling my employees so that they can perform the tasks required for my business to succeed?

What can I do to ensure that my training dollar is well spent?

A series of simple, clear yet comprehensive information sheets will soon be available covering everything from making the decision to incorporate training in your business to evaluating the outcomes of this training. The sheets will be available individually or as a 'pack'. They will be able to be downloaded from the WINETAC website (www.winetac.com.au) or obtained from WINETAC.

Contact Sarah on 08 8373 7090 or sarah@winetac.com.au to find out when they are available and how they may be of value to you.

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Project Updates

PhD researchers update - completions and new starters

Congratulations to Motiul Quader and Andrew Hall upon completion of their research and submission of their thesis. Offers have been made to 4 new researchers to commence PhD's, with 3 vacancies still remaining - for further information visit

<http://www.crcv.com.au/education/postgrad/positions.asp> or contact Peter on 08 8373 7090, peter@winetac.com.au

Wine industry insight for PhD researchers

Temple Bruer, Orlando and Bremerton provided an insight into their techniques and practices to 20 PhD researcher during a field trip last November. Peter Hayes (Southcorp) and Russell Johnston (Orlando) also met with the group to discuss career options beyond their PhD. The day was organised to enhance links between research and its application in industry, as well as providing researchers with an insight into some of the many career options in industry. Comments made by researchers at the end of the day were all positive and include

'Helps put our research into context, and also gives us a "face" to see who we're doing the research for.'

'I always feel that I learn so much more from meeting growers and winemakers and listening to their philosophies on why they run their vineyard/winery in a certain way then just reading about people in books and magazines.'

Thank you to everyone that made the day a success from start to finish.

Search for resources to support revised wine sector training package

Funds to develop resources (eg learner guides, trainer guides, assessment instruments) have not yet been sourced. If you are aware of any funding opportunities that may contribute to this development, please contact Peter or Sarah. Alternatively, your organisation may be in the process of developing resources for internal use that may be able to be considered for commercialisation.

Training providers work together to enhance training outcomes

A national meeting of training providers delivering the wine sector training package is currently being planned. The meeting's main focus will be to discuss the changes to the training package and how to implement these changes to achieve the best outcomes for the wine industry. For more information, or if you are an RTO interested in attending, contact Sarah.

Seasonal labour issues explored

Preliminary research into issues relating to the supply and skill level of seasonal wine industries workers has been completed. The findings, along with recommendations, will be presented to the CRCV Program 4 Reference Group at their next meeting. More detail regarding the findings can be obtained from Sarah.

Industry continues to benefit from Viticulture Research to Practice ® workshops

676 wine industry members participated in a total of 36 workshops from July to December 2002. Planning for the 2003/2004 season is underway - we will advise all details once finalised.

Resources

Doing assessment online

Conducting assessments online? Then visit *Doing assessment online* at <http://project.vetonline.vic.edu.au/letsdoit/2002/index.html> . Doing assessment online is a resource for building assessments for course delivery in the VET (Vocational Education and Training) sector. It is intended for teachers and online developers, and provides a guide to ready made assessments and tools, and an approach to building your own.

News in Brief

Wine Industry Training Package not yet approved

The approval and release of the revised Wine Industry Training Package has been delayed yet again because there are unresolved issues in NSW relating to the Training Package for one of the other food processing sectors (completely unrelated to wine).

Australian National Training Authority policy is that the Wine Industry Training Package is a component of the larger Food Processing Training Package and it cannot be approved independently of resolving the NSW issue.

State Ministers for Education and Training will next meet to consider approval of the Training Package on 7th March 2003. For more information contact Peter.

Have your say in the future development of vocational education and training in Australia

A national strategy for vocational education and training 2001-2010 is underway – the Australian National Training Authority (ANTA) invites input from all those with an interest in this issue. You can have your say by submitting your own response to ANTA, submitting comments to WINETAC for inclusion in our response, or by attending a regional forum (being held throughout Australia over the next couple of months). For more details, visit <http://www.anta.gov.au/dapStrategy.asp>

Recognition of prior learning (RPL) project status

The RPL project (managed by Southern Cross University) has now finalised its consultations and research, and is reporting to the Australian Qualifications Framework Advisory Board, which will consider the Final Report at its next meeting in February 2003. Further information about the outcome of those deliberations will be available after that time, or stay informed by visiting www.scu.edu.au/research/rpl/

WINETAC working with others towards achieving industry objectives

Recent activities in which WINETAC worked with other wine industry organisations include:

- Providing an update on education and training issues to the South Australian Wine and Brandy Industry Association employee relations seminar
- Contributing to the development of a South Australian workplace assessors network (cross industry)
- Providing an education and training perspective for the development of wine tourism as a member of the Tourism Training Australia wine tourism project steering committee
- Providing a response to the Australian Regional Winemakers Forum in relation to the education and training components of the recent Pathways to profitability for small and medium wineries report
- Providing a response to the Winemakers' Federation of Australia (WFA) in relation to the education and training components of the wine tourism activities planned for 2003
- Contribution to the Wine Industry National Environment Committee in relation to the education and training components of its strategy
- Input into the Winemakers' Federation of Australia's review of future directions for research and development
- Response to the Vineyard Association of Tasmania in relation to how WINETAC may support the implementation of the education and training components of the Tasmanian wine industry's 2002-2007 strategic plan

Questions and Answers

What financial incentives are available to support an apprentice or trainee in your business?

To find out more about financial incentives available in your state or territory, visit www.nacinfo.com.au or phone 1800 338 022.

Does an electronic version of a training package meet the requirements for a registered training organisation (RTO) to have the latest edition on hand?

The Australian Quality Training Framework standards require RTOs to have the latest edition of a training package on hand - the official ruling is that a CD-ROM does suffice, hard copy is not required.