

## How can Winetac better help your business?

As this quarterly update is going to print the process for planning activities for the 2004 /2005 financial year is well under way, with the CRCV Program 4 reference group meeting in April and the Winetac board in May, to finalise the program. Our aim is to maximise the benefit to industry through the outcomes of our learning and skill development strategies. This means undertaking nationally strategic activities that produce a real benefit to the grape and wine industry, and therefore to individual businesses.

I invite your input into this planning process. If your organisation has learning and skill development needs with which Winetac may be able to assist in the coming year, please contact me by phone or email. The more we can meet the needs of your business, the more likely it is that we are meeting the needs of the industry nationally.

We also welcome feedback on our quarterly updates. Is there other information that you would like included, or can we improve the advice that we provide? If so, please contact Emma or me and let us know.

As part of our ongoing support for enhanced commitment to a learning culture within the industry, we have recently completed a guide to training and assessment within the Australian grape and wine industry and also learning support materials for the wine industry training package. More details are included in this update.

Winetac is convening the first national meeting of tertiary education providers in April, to discuss the industry position paper on the development and delivery of industry related tertiary programs. It is pleasing that at this stage representatives from thirteen education providers will be attending. Our website will be updated with the outcomes after this significant meeting, or contact Sarah for further details.

**Peter Mansfield**  
**Executive Officer**

## NEWS

### Updated grape and wine industry training standards now in place

Vocational training providers in all states, except Western Australia, are now able to offer training and assessment in the updated grape and wine industry standards contained within the 2003 version Wine Sector Training Package. This training is available on a fee for service basis as well as via government subsidised traineeships.

The updated Training Package offers the grape and wine industry:

- Over 200 standards covering grape growing, cellar operations, laboratory, bottling and packaging and cellar door sales.
- Training in single standards or packaging standards to create a national qualification.
- A framework for in-house training and benchmarking.

For more information on the Training Package, contact Winetac or talk with a registered training organisation (RTO). For a listing of RTOs that train and deliver in this Training Package, contact Winetac or download the document *Training Providers – Vocational level* at <http://www.winetac.com.au/links.asp>

For more information on what traineeships are available, talk with an RTO or contact your state training authority (also available at <http://www.winetac.com.au/links.asp>)

### Tertiary education providers meeting scheduled to respond to industry training needs

A meeting of tertiary education providers has been scheduled for Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> April. The objectives of the meeting are to:

1. Seek a response from tertiary education providers to the grape and wine industry's position paper on the development and delivery of industry related tertiary programs.
2. Develop an action plan in response to industry requirements.

An industry reference committee is currently being established and will be in attendance at the meeting to articulate the findings of recent research and subsequent development of a position paper on this issue.

For more information on the meeting, or related issues, contact Sarah.

### PhD progress update

Winetac manages the PhD support and development program for the Cooperative Research Centre for Viticulture; Project 4.1 "Enhanced ability of PhD researchers". The three objectives of the project are;

- PhD researchers adding enhanced value to the CRCV and industry.
- Increased capacity of the CRCV to deliver industry research outcomes.
- Significant increase in the number of PhD qualified personnel working within the Australian wine industry.

Thirty five PhD's have commenced during the term of the CRCV. Four have completed, a further six are in the final stages of completion and submission, two have withdrawn and twenty three are in varying stages of their research. Of the ten who have completed or are near completion, six are currently working directly in industry or in industry-related research or educational positions. These figures are a significant improvement on previous PhD outcomes and demonstrate that the project is achieving its objectives.

Contact Peter if you would like more information on the CRCV PhD researchers or their research projects.

## PROGRESS UPDATES

### Objective 1: Long term industry representation for learning and skill development

#### Since December, we have;

- Profiled the new Winetac strategic plan and priorities in most industry journals.
- Completed the revised Winetac website.
- Presented the Winetac strategic plan and priorities to the SA Wine Industry Association.
- Contracted a consultant to develop effective evaluation of progress against Winetac strategic objectives.
- Submitted a proposal to the Winemakers' Federation regarding long term industry representation on learning and skill development.
- Continued dialogue with the Australian National Training Authority about industry representation on vocational education and training in the revised Industry Skill Council structure.

### Objective 2: Enhanced industry commitment to a learning culture

#### Since December, we have;

- Continued to provide advice and support to both industry and trainers regarding implementation of learning and skill development initiatives.
- Arranged a media release for industry journals focussing on the development of a learning culture.
- Released a guide to training and assessment in the Australian grape and wine industry.

### Objective 3: Enhanced resource allocation to learning and skill development in the Australian grape and wine industry

#### Since December, we have;

- Provided input into the Australian National Training Authority development of the national VET strategy for 2004-2010.
- Updated training provider listings at vocational and tertiary level.
- Arranged a meeting of national tertiary education providers in April to discuss industry requirements.
- Continued to manage the CRCV Research to Practice program, and the CRCV PhD support program.

### Objective 4: Improved understanding of skill gaps and industry learning requirements

#### Since December, we have;

- Undertaken research into future shifts in skill requirements. As data is non-conclusive, the findings will be shared with Australian Wine and Brandy Corporation with view to determining the most appropriate response and/or next step.
- Expanded the scope of our advisory services to include non-technical skill areas – this is reflected in more comprehensive training provider contact listings, the consideration of a wider range of competencies to be imported into the Wine Sector Training Package from other Training Packages, and continued discussions with the Winemakers' Federation of Australia's wine tourism representative in relation to resources and advice available to wine tourism operators from Winetac.
- Broad tertiary education needs have been identified and a link with tertiary providers established with view to ongoing identification and communication of industry needs.

## Objective 5: Influence Governments regarding grape and wine industry learning and skill development needs

### Since December, we have;

- Continued liaison with state training authorities regarding Training Package implementation – this process is now complete in all states except Western Australia.

## Objective 6: Improved relevance and responsiveness of learning and skill development solutions

### Since December, we have;

- Completed research in the tertiary education requirements of industry. A position paper reflecting the industry's tertiary program development and delivery needs has been written and communicated to tertiary providers nationally. A meeting has been scheduled for 13<sup>th</sup> April – an event at which industry and providers will meet and discuss ways to enhance programs in light of the requirements highlighted within the position paper- including improving relevance and responsiveness of courses.
- A response has been submitted to the Australian National Training Authority in relation to a higher level review of Training Packages – this review looked at the process of Training Package review, development and implementation. Winetac's response is aimed at enhancing the value of the Wine Sector (and other) Training Packages to the industry.
- Advice was provided to the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority for inclusion in a guide to implementing the Wine Sector Training Package within schools in Victoria.
- Cooperative Research Centre for Viticulture research program outputs are being transferred to practise via the education sector- a process of mapping the practices contained within the guide '*Producing quality grapes to winery specifications*' to competencies within the Wine Sector Training Package has commenced; and information regarding plant parasitic nematodes is being analysed with view to developing fact sheets/operating procedures where relevant to vineyard practice and management.

## Objective 7: Improved accessibility of learning and skill development solutions

### Since December, we have;

- Continued collaboration with State Training Authorities regarding the implementation of the revised Wine Sector Training Package- which is now available for use in all states except Western Australia.
- Finalised and released Learning Guides and Assessment Instruments to support training and assessment in the revised Wine Sector standards.
- Supporting a private provider application for funding to develop flexible training plan development tools.
- Met with the Australian Regional Winemakers Forum and the Winemakers Federation of Australia regarding tertiary program development and delivery requirements. The tertiary provider meeting outlined in Objective 6 will look at this issue.
- Continued to provide input into State and National draft policy and position papers, and to industry related training material development.
- Commenced processes for implementing minor updates and importing additional units into the Wine Sector Training Package.

## Objective 8: Improved quality performance of service providers

### Since December, we have;

- Met with the Australian Regional Winemakers Forum and the Winemakers Federation of Australia also regarding tertiary program quality assurance criteria. Quality mechanisms within tertiary programs will be discussed at the meeting outlined in Objective 6.
- Contacted organisers of the Australian University Quality Forum regarding opportunities to link with the Industry Reference Committee. Developing a submission for contribution to the next forum later this year.
- Responded to customer feedback about the support materials since their release, including the development of more specific copyright information and clarification of guide availability.
- Provided input into a review of the Australian Quality Training Framework via Business SA.

# RESOURCES

## Maintaining the currency of the Wine Sector Training Package

Ongoing maintenance of the Wine Sector Training Package is critical in ensuring it is relevant to current industry practice and responsive to industry's needs. The Training Package has a 'life' of 3 years, its next major review is scheduled for 2006.

Updates have already commenced, however, and industry input is welcomed on an ongoing basis – to provide feedback, contact Sarah or download the feedback form at <http://www.winetac.com.au/downloads/Training%20Package%20Feedback%20Form.pdf>

These updates include correcting typographical errors, updating evidence requirements within a unit, expanding the range of variables within a unit, importing units from other Training Packages and creating new units.

### On-line assessment resource

A website has been developed to help vocational education and training professionals plan, design and deliver on-line assessments. Visit [www.flexiblelearning.net.au/assessing](http://www.flexiblelearning.net.au/assessing) to access a range of templates, checklists, case studies and reports to enhance on-line assessments.

### Training Packages @ Work: Back 2 Basics publication now available on the web

A series of plain language articles produced by the team at Training Packages @ Work is now available as a free resource on the web, at [www.tpatwork.com/back2basics](http://www.tpatwork.com/back2basics)

These short articles are ideal as an introduction to the use of training packages, as a refresher or a quick reference for terms often used within the vocational education and training system. A couple of articles that may be of interest include:

### Training Packages-

<http://www.tpatwork.com/ViewArticle.asp?articleid=895>

A good overview explaining the need for training packages and the benefits of using them- including how they are developed and updated; what they consist of, and implementation guidelines.

### User Choice-

<http://www.tpatwork.com/ViewArticle.asp?articleid=900>

This explains the rights of clients under the User Choice Policy- 'clients' meaning both the employer and employee being trained. The user choice policy ensures that public funds are spent on training that best suits clients, as they are able to choose any training provider and negotiate training with them depending on their specific needs.

### Quick Guide to Essential Information-

<http://www.tpatwork.com/ViewArticle.asp?articleid=902>

This article gives website and contact details for National, State and Territory training authorities, and information and resource organisations.

You will need to register once only to be able to view these free articles.

## RESOURCES continued

### Support Materials now available for use with FDF03 Wine Sector Training Package

Learning guides and assessment instruments are available from Winetac to support training and assessment for the Wine Sector Training Package competencies. All core units and the majority of specialist units are covered, as well as some optional imported units from other training packages. (The nursery competencies in the wine grape growing stream do not have support materials available, nor do a number of competencies in the optional stream.)

We have a full listing of the units for which learning guides and assessment instruments are available on our website- please go to [www.winetac.com.au/supportmaterials.asp?Expand=1](http://www.winetac.com.au/supportmaterials.asp?Expand=1) There is also a list of relevant Industry Training Advisory Bodies and their contact details to check for available support materials for the imported units of competency not covered.

Further information, including an order form and price listing are available on the support materials page the Winetac website, [www.winetac.com.au](http://www.winetac.com.au) or call (08) 8373 7090 for a copy of any of these documents.

### Wish to change your subscription details?

If you would like to receive our Quarterly Update by post or email, or know of someone who does, please email [info@winetac.com.au](mailto:info@winetac.com.au), visit the 'your views' page of our website, or phone (08) 8373 7090.

6.



p: 08 8373 7090  
f: 08 8373 7091  
e: [info@winetac.com.au](mailto:info@winetac.com.au)  
w: [www.winetac.com.au](http://www.winetac.com.au)  
Level 1, 206 Greenhill Rd  
Eastwood SA 5063