

***Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Higher Education
Success Factors***

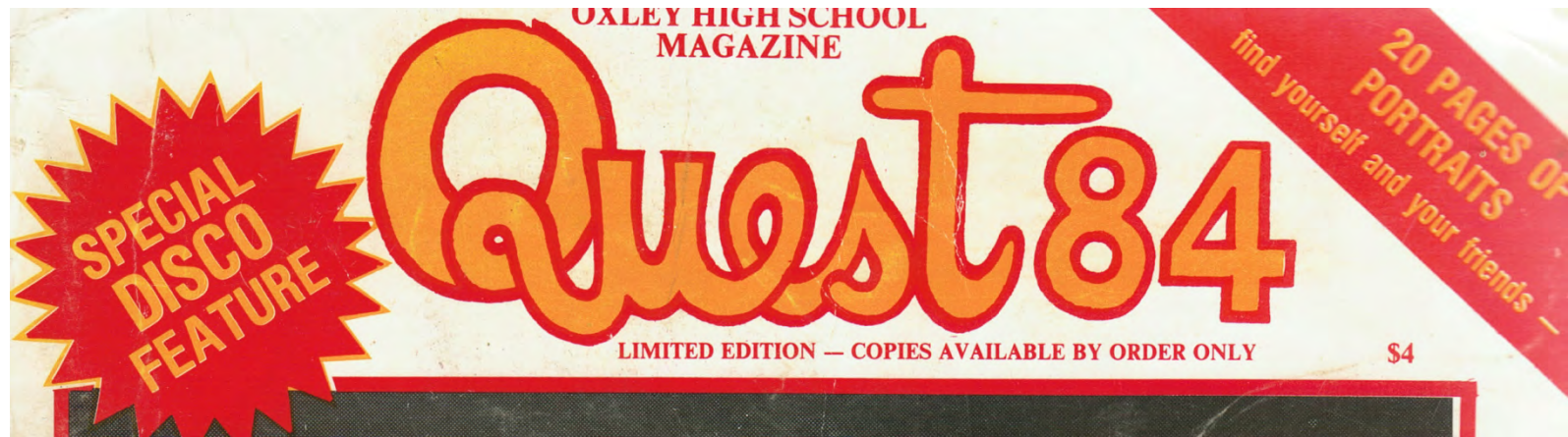
Thoughts and Considerations

Peter Radoll, PhD ANU

Assistant Professor (Senior Lecturer) in Information Systems
University of Canberra



UNIVERSITY OF
CANBERRA
AUSTRALIA'S CAPITAL UNIVERSITY



Some Advice
For the future
Do unto others
as you
would
be
done
by
them
Dave

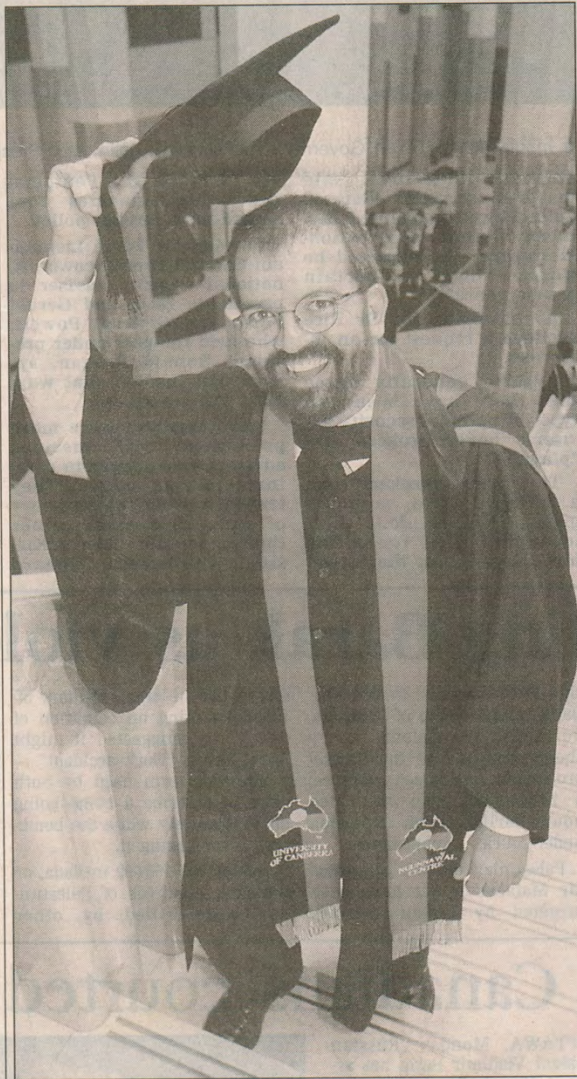
Seya Coon
good luck
from
Michael
(farry)

Peter
Hoping that '85
is a great year
- Even better than '84
Geoff Peet

My work journey started in
Tamworth then Taree



Former mechanic gets dream degree



Picture: MARTIN JONES

Former car mechanic Peter Radoll achieved his dream of gaining a university degree when he received his Bachelor of Information Technology during the University of Canberra's graduation ceremony yesterday. He gained his opportunity to go to university through the support of the Aboriginal Foundation Program.

- Graduated with Bachelor of Information Technology with a Major in Political Science in 2001 (UC)
- Cadetship with AIATSIS from 1997 – 2001
- Business Analyst at DIMIA 2001 - 2002
- Graduated with Master of Information Technology with Policy and E-Business Law studies in 2003 (UC)



ANU News
THE AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL UNIVERSITY

Search ANU News
Search
Advanced Search

Print eMail

Media Releases
2011 Graduates: Dr Peter Radoll
Monday 18 July 2011



MANNING RIVER Times

Home News Sport Opinion Weather Community Classifieds About
News - Local News - News - General - Doctor inspired by Dr Pat

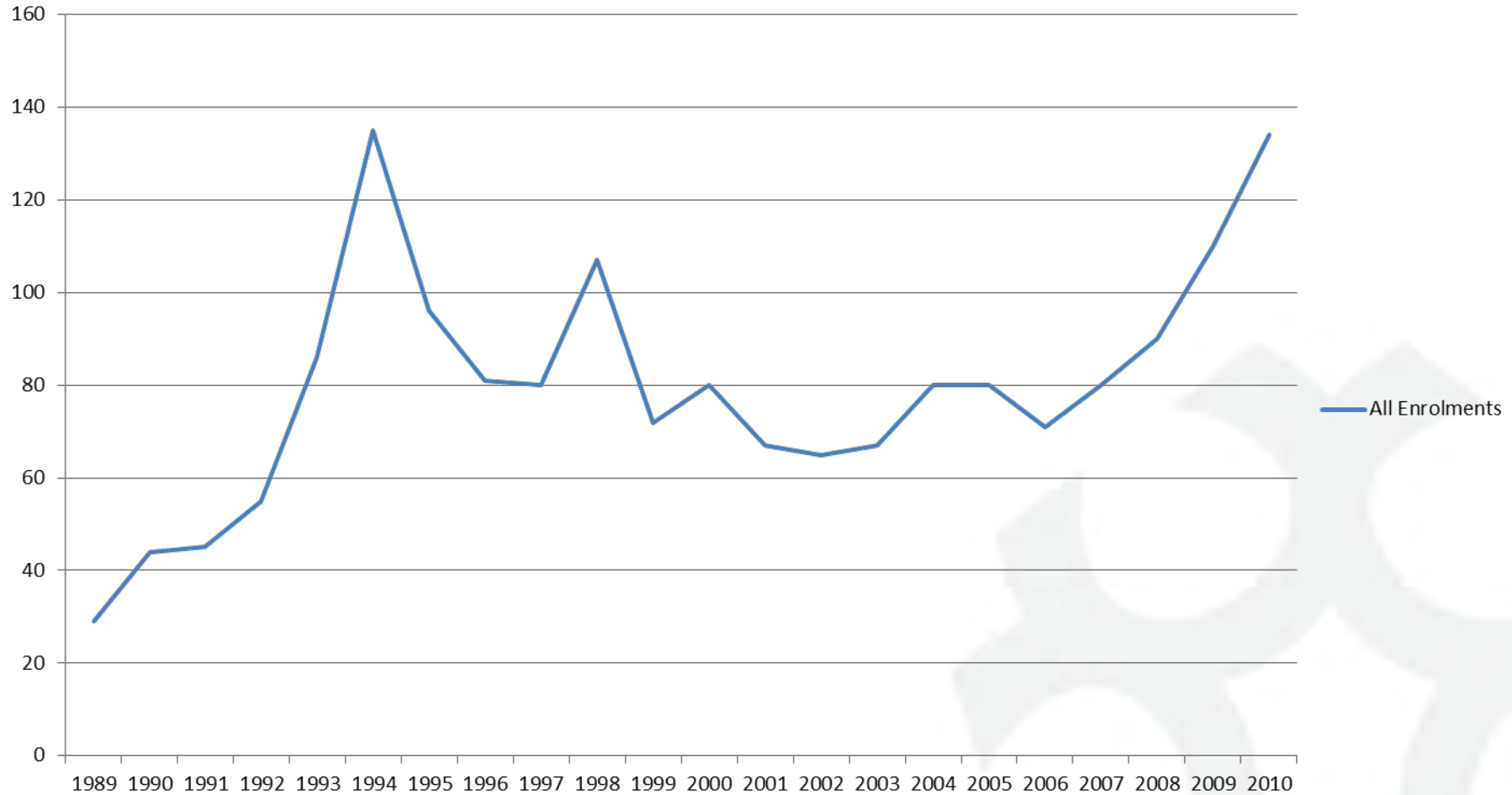


- Member of NIPAAC since 1998 and President 2003
- National Review – Senate
- Associate Lecturer in IS at ANU 2003 – 2006
- Director of Tjabal Indigenous Higher Education Centre 2007 - 2012
- Graduated in 2011 with PhD (ANU) in IS

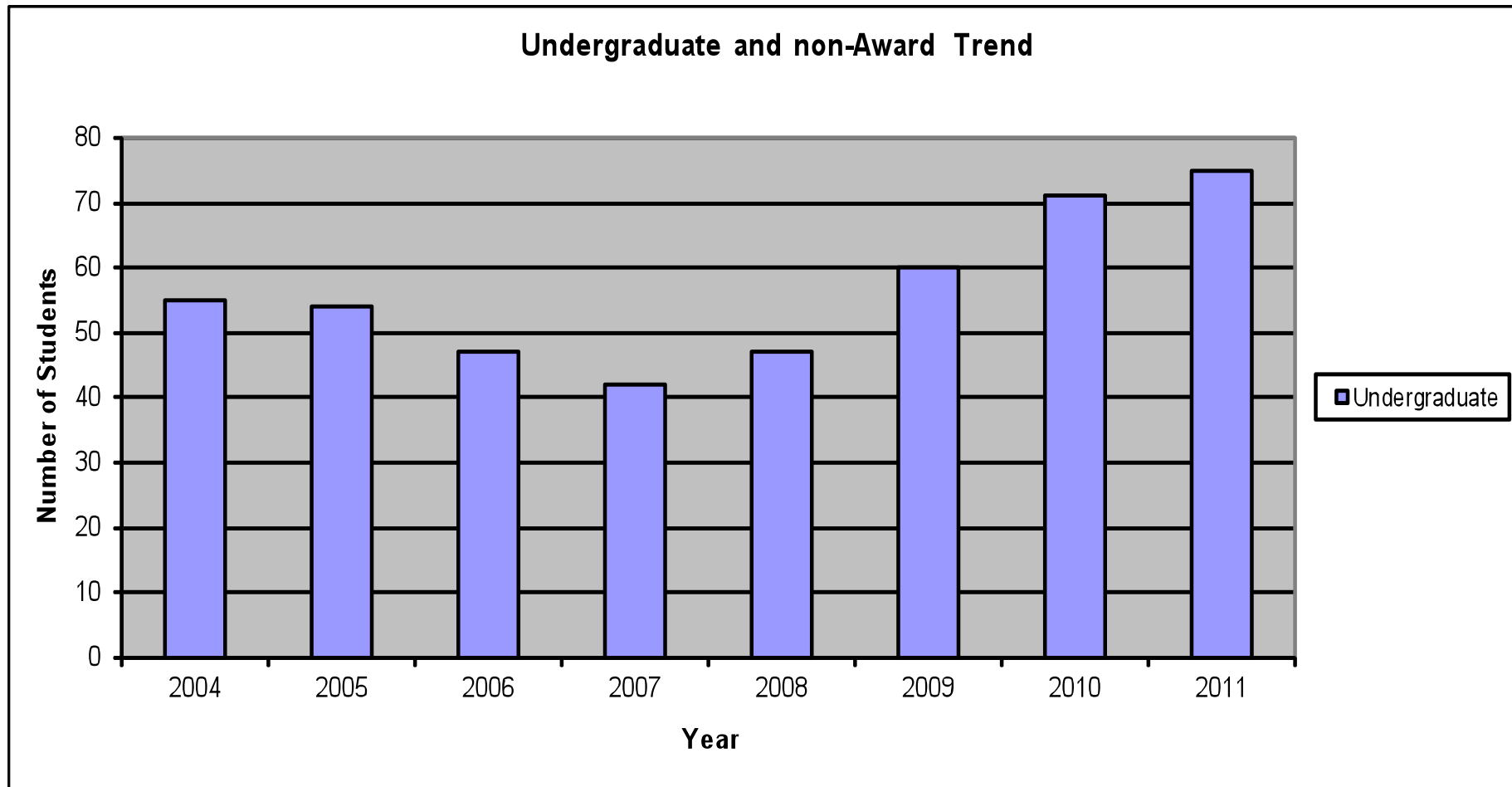
- 2001 and 2006 cuts to ABSTUDY had a heavy impact on Indigenous participation at universities (down 40+%)
- 2011 Census shows that there has been 40% increase in Indigenous participation at universities
- ACT Year 12 Completions rates have increased by 48% (remember 17 years old is the youngest you can leave school now)

ANU Trends for Indigenous Enrolments

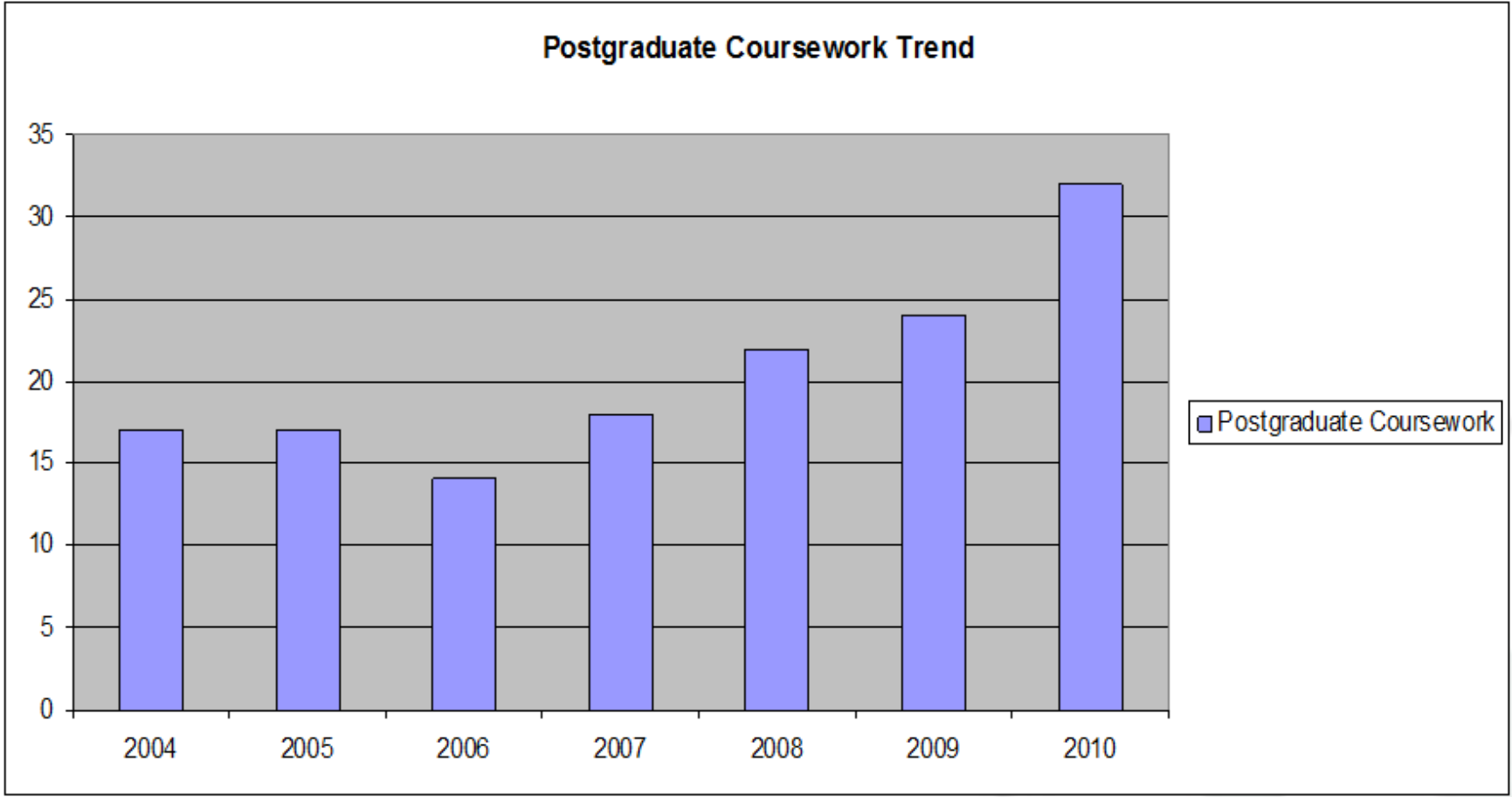
All Enrolments



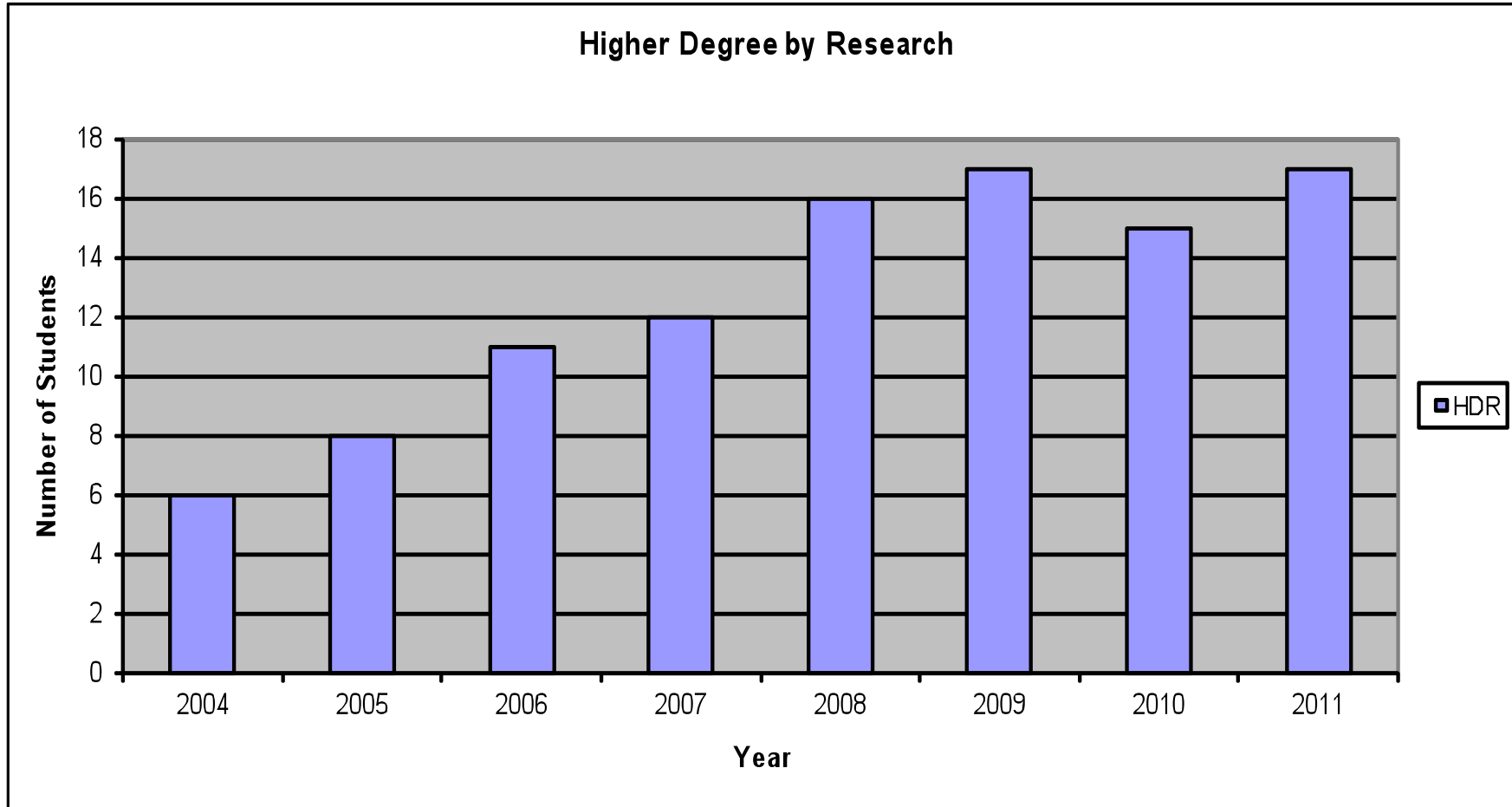
Trends at ANU



ANU Trends



ANU Trends



- There is a need to build higher expectations and this can be achieved in a number of ways
 - Build relationships with the local community
 - Boards, Committees, Coffee, Year 12 Dinner
 - Work with Indigenous Education Department in your local area
 - Set minimum entry level for Degrees (ATAR 70 at ANU), but ensure you have pathway programs at your university!
 - Ensure your UG students have a cadetship. This provides additional pressure/incentive to complete

Some strategies to consider

- Ensure they have access to ITAS - brief your ITAS tutors on ensuring that know where the library is and where the electronic resources can be found. Ensure that part of the program has some form of mentoring or capacity building.

What do we know about the Higher Education Sector (personal reflections)

- In Australia we have Indigenous Leadership
 - DVC Indigenous
 - PVC Indigenous
 - Professors of Indigenous Studies
 - Academic Heads of Centres
 - General Staff Heads of Centres
- There is a lot of diversity in roles
- Seniority of the Indigenous leadership has no or very little correlation with the university's success in Indigenous education. It seems to be the personality of the leadership that is significant, not titles.

Strategies to consider

- Ensure you have policies that encourage support and lateral thinking, but also ensure that you have the right people
- Head of Centre with PhD is Key! Don't compromise on this!!!
 - Mentor
 - Navigate the university environment
 - Provide direction with career, academic pursuits, personal issues
 - Role Model
 - Students will admire the Head of Centre if they have a PhD

- Mentoring cannot be underestimated! It is a powerful tool in the success of Indigenous students
 - UG
 - ITAS
 - PGCW
 - Canvas to be ITAS tutors
 - HDR
 - Help navigate this difficult, lonely and strange world

- Examples of mentoring
 - personal experiences on both sides
 - Mentoree
 - Mentor
 - Raise expectations
 - UG, PGCW and HDR
 - Increasing number of students studying OS
 - 3 UG students heading to USA and UK as part of Aurora Project reconnaissance trip

Sum up

- University qualifications are important – don't compromise!
- Ensure you build a framework of support around your students at all levels UG, PGCW, HDR - don't forget policy to support all functions
- Strategically deploy mentors
 - Be selective who gets mentored as resources are limited and success is important
- We all can do something - if you are time poor contribute to a scholarship!

Thank you!