

ADAPTING AN EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM TO BETTER ENGAGE OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY STUDENTS

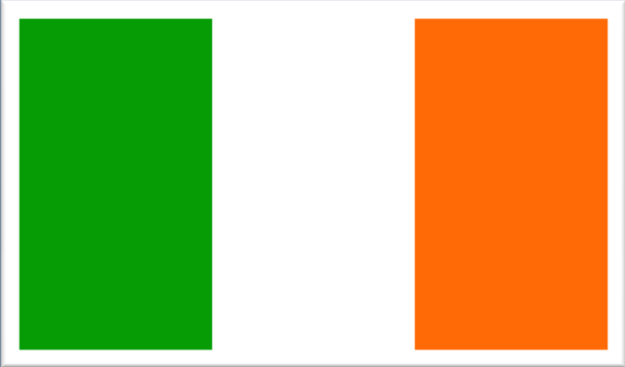
Susan Ryan & Joel Pilgrim

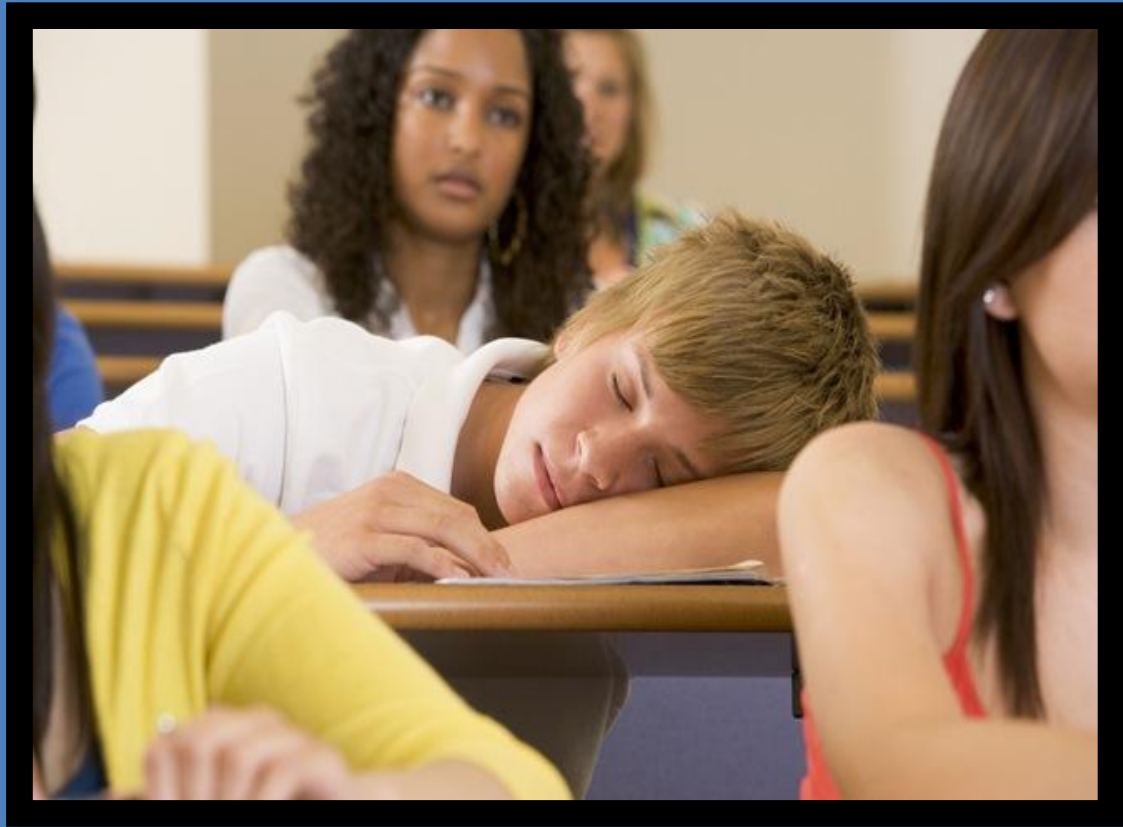
Caroline Hills, Kim Nguyen & Catherine Studdert

OUR PARALLEL STORIES



THE UNIVERSITY OF
NEWCASTLE
AUSTRALIA





WHAT WAS THE MATTER?

Pre-research phase

- My pearls
- They talked
- I listened



WE NEEDED TO DO SOMETHING

IMMEDIATE

- Student Committee
- Aims
- Objectives

MUCH SLOWER

- Research
- “Gen Y”
- Focus groups
- Questionnaires
- A series of studies

LITERATURE / RESEARCH ON “GEN Y”

INTERNAL EFFECTS

Parenting styles

Positivity - Choice

Helicopter parenting

Very confident

Relatively affluent

High achieving

EXTERNAL EFFECTS

Parent expectations

Secondary school
influences

Background social
influence

Films - TV
Social Media
Computer games

Sports

Travel

Boudreau, M. L. (2009). Is there a generation gap in occupational therapy? *Occupational Therapy Now*, 11(2), 16-18.

McCrindle, M. (2006). Bridging the Gap. Retrieved on Aug 5, 2010 from <http://www.mccrindle.com.au/monitor-secure.htm>.

Twenge, J. M. (2006). *Generation me*. New York: Free Press.

Twenge, J. M. (2009). Generational changes and their impact in the classroom: teaching Generation Me. *Medical Education* 43, 398-405.

FINDINGS

INTERNAL EFFECTS

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EXTERNAL EFFECTS

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Secondary school influences
Background social influence
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'GENERATION Y'

Confident but not realistic

Narcissistic
Generation 'ME'

Only Positives

High achievers

Want it all
work/study/travel/fun

Social media
constantly connected
circle of friends
sharing everything

Constantly stimulated

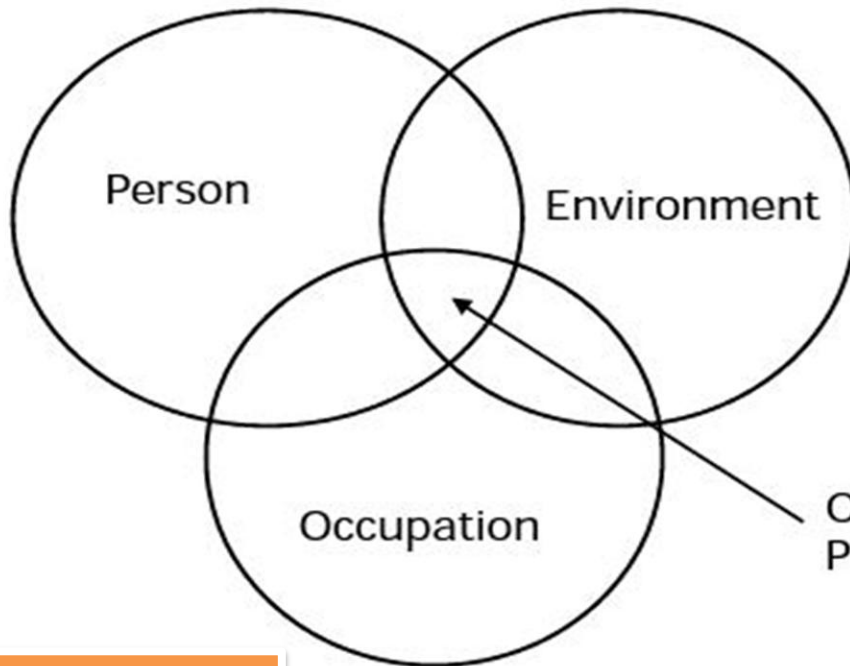
HOW THEY ARE

SOCIAL COMMENTATORS = McKay, H. (200?) Advance Australia Where?

POPULAR LITERATURE (Newspapers & magazines & TV programs)

ANECDOTES (From everywhere)

INTERVENTION APPROACH



PEO Model



STUDENT VOICES EVERYWHERE

- Practice Education Development Group
FACT SHEETS
- Program Advisory Committee
FEEDBACK
- Student / Staff Committee
AN IMMEDIATE AVENUE



Wood, J., Baghurst, T., Waugh, L., & Lancaster, J. (2008). Engaging Students in the Academic Advising Process *The Mentor: An Academic Advising Journal*. Retrieved from <http://www.psu.edu/dus/mentor/080903jw.htm>

STUDENT COMMITTEE

- Facebook
- Student communication



The screenshot shows a Facebook group page for 'OT Student's UoN'. At the top, there is a search bar and the user 'Joel Pilgrim' is logged in. The group name 'OT Student's UoN' is displayed with a profile picture and the text 'Open Group'. Below the name are options for 'Write Post', 'Add Photo', and 'Ask Question'. A text input field contains 'Write something...'. A post by 'Steph Johns' is visible, with the text 'don't suppose any 3rds yrs want a 2nd block placement who's in 1st? uni cancelled mine. taking a long shot...'. The post has 6 comments and is liked by 'Bec Tobin'. On the right side, there is a 'Members (185)' section with a grid of member photos and options for 'Add Friends to Group', 'Chat with Group', 'Create Doc', and 'Create Event'.

<http://www.facebook.com/#!/groups/196983733658923/>

STUDENT COMMITTEE

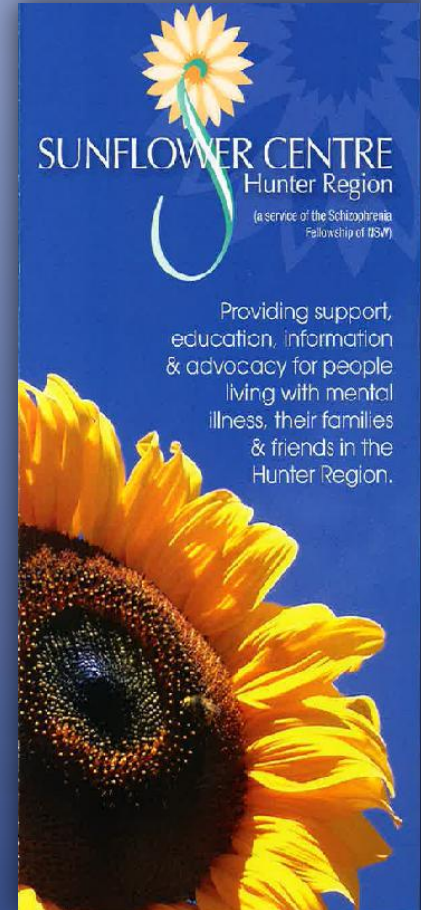
- Sports
- Adopting two local institutions
- Sausage sizzles



<http://myhanghunter.blogspot.com/>

STUDENT COMMITTEE

- Gigs
- Fund raising
- Prizes



SOMETHING FOR NEARLY EVERYONE

- Their program
- A program to be proud of
- Not there yet..
- Not all students member of Facebook
- Haven't touched everybody

Raines, C. (2002). Managing Millenials. Retrieved on Oct 21 2010 from
<http://www.generationsatwork.com/articles/millenials.htm>

ALTC AWARD

Student-Focused Website – First of its kind in the world in occupational therapy

Something for the students out on practice + their educators = REGISTRATION

- Animations to make it fun and interesting
- Diagrams of actual forms used in hospitals
- Videos of examples
- Stories
- Quizzes so that it is interactive
- Levels / blocking so that they can assess themselves & then get that validated
- Students featured in many of the scenarios



Jonas-Dwyer, D., & Pospisil, R. (2004). *The Millennial effect: Implications for academic development, transforming knowledge into wisdom*. Paper presented at the 27th HERDSA Annual Conference from

<http://www.herdsa.org.au/wp-content/uploads/conference/2004/papers/jonas-dwyer.pdf>

Oblinger, D. G., & Oblinger, J. L. (2005). Educating the net generation. In D. G. Oblinger & J. L. Oblinger (Eds.) Available from

<http://www.educause.edu/educatingthenetgen>

RESULT: ADAPTING THE CURRICULUM EDUCATIONAL CHANGES

- Breaking up course delivery
- Giving much more choice
- Allowing creativity to flourish
- Working with busy therapists (meaningful work)

HowGray, P. (2008). Placement Educators: Are you Ready for the Net-Ready Generation? *British Journal of Occupational Therapy*, 71(5), 175.

e, N., Strauss, W., & Nadler, R. (2008). Generations of Americans: a big picture look at the future of higher education. In D. E. Heller & M. B. d'Ambrosio (Eds.), *Generational shockwaves and the implications for higher education*. MA USA: Edward Elgar.

OTHER SUPPORTS

- Introduction of Buddy System
- Introduction of Male Support Group
- Introduced Peer Assisted Learning
- Started role-emerging placements = increased responsibility
- Promoted international exchanges = widening experiences

Working with the “F” word

THE "F" WORD

FUN



WHERE TO FROM HERE?

- Continue to make the courses more “realistic” and explicit
- Start presenting to local managers to use “Gen Y” skills better in practice
- Publishing our work & presenting it at professional fora

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 - <http://www.smartpassiveincome.com/are-people-talking-about-you-online-heres-what-you-need-to-know/>
 - http://www.123rf.com/stock-photo/announce_cartoon.html
 - <http://www.bearcats.net.au/2009%20Senor%20Award%20Winners.html>

TALKING HEADS

