



NSW / ACT Alumni & Community Relations SIG

Presented by Myfanwy Stanfield,
Jo Hutchens, Philippa Zingales &
Lyn Jarvis

Chat notes

network of
advancement
professionals

CHAT QUESTIONS FROM PARTICIPANTS

Philippa Inman : What did you ask your current students when you surveyed them?

St Paul's College : Is there a general view that alumni groups reduced communications impact in the 1990s when internet/email grew really fast? (Richard from St Paul's College, Syd Uni)

Debbie Elliott : Outside of future enrolments, what is it that you are hoping to achieve for your alumni through the alumni program? That is, the advantages for the alumni...

catherine.watts : Giving back - ours like to volunteer for career events, mentoring, etc.

Dawn Gordon : Would it be possible to find out from everyone if their Alumni pay a membership fee. If so how much and when do they pay it?

Katrina Corcoran : Our leaving graduates each year receive a paid Life Membership from the College and the Ex-Students' Committee.

catherine.watts : No, ours don't pay a membership.

Katrina Corcoran : Value is 1% of a Year 12 fees for that particular year

jacqui.raadsma : Ours (Central Coast Grammar School) don't pay a membership

Sandy Goddard : Canberra Grammar School does not charge a fee for alumni membership.

catherine.watts : But our Old Collegians Association do have paid membership option :-)

Sonia Brennan : We add the fee to the fees for every Year 7 student. It is optional but we only have a few families who question it each year. If students join after Yr 7, we add it to their first fee statement.

Philippa Inman : Brigidine college St Ives does not charge a fee

Hannah Atwell : What social media platforms are you all using and which ones are you finding are having good engagement/ success?

Georgia Hamon : We use Facebook, LinkedIn and our own Alumni Website (Georgia, Canberra Grammar School)

Shona Eichorn : PLC Armidale charges \$100 as an item on the last fee statement.

Georgia Hamon : We have found our social media engagement tripled when we started posting 'Throw back Thursday' photos - a fun way to engage and get people chatting/remembers in the comments.

catherine.watts : COVID has enabled us to engage with alumni more - they are running WebEx info sessions during exeat week on a range of subjects. This will open up huge opportunities in the future.

jacqui.raadsma : We use Facebook, Instagram, Linked in, and website (not specific alumni website), e-newsletters (Central Coast Gramma School)

Sonia Brennan : What interactive platform will you use Lyn?

catherine.watts : Assumption College Kilmore - FB, LinkedIn, website (dedicated - via Potentiality), email.

Shona Eichorn : Does any school have a structured Mentoring program?

Merryn Parks : Oxford Falls Grammar using ToucanTech ... we have signed up 60% of our Alumni we have an email address for!

jchapman2@newington.nsw.edu.au : Newington does have a structured mentoring

Katrina Corcoran : PLC, Pymble - we use Facebook (4 different ones - General page, Europe/UK, USA/Canada and Asia) and LinkedIn. Our most popular topics are WHERE ARE THEY NOW? articles highlighting a story on an ex-student with photos. Really interesting and very engaging

Georgia Hamon : Does anyone have any tips in getting Alum to let us know of their achievements?

Katrina Corcoran : PLC Pymble, we are launching our Mentoring program next week

Debbie Elliott : We are hoping to launch a mentoring program in 2021 (Rouse Hill Anglican College)

Sonia Brennan : Katrina, did you use a company to help with the Mentoring program?

Katrina Corcoran : Yes, Mondo Mentoring

Merryn Parks : Philippa what tool do you use for your walk through videos??

Katrina Corcoran : Love 'walk through videos' !!

Educate Plus : Educate Plus also uses Mondo Mentor or Mondo Revolution as they are called now. <https://www.educateplus.edu.au/professional-development/mentoring-program/> Log in to see its functionality and we can answer any questions about set up if required. tina@educateplus.edu.au

Katrina Corcoran : Philippa, could you share one with us??

Shona Eichorn : Thank you for the Mentoring options everyone.

Katrina Corcoran : How do you manage showing current students on these social media platforms?

Georgia Hamon : We (at Canberra Grammar School) make sure we identify all students in any photos/videos and check if they have photo permissions before posting anything.

Katrina Corcoran : Thanks Georgia. Just wondering about these walk thru videos

catherine.watts : We have School Bench and know which students are a no go.

catherine.watts : Our students do a lot of the videos.

Katrina Corcoran : Philippa - do you have current students on your walk through videos? They happen so quickly that you wouldn't have time to ask permission

Katrina Corcoran : Thanks Philippa - Katrina, PLC Pymble

Sandy Goddard : You may wish to consider a Business Directory Service before launching into a mentoring programme. It is a softer way in engaging with your community and gives the alumni the opportunity to value add to their business. We have found the mentoring programme with our past students very challenging. It is an excellent concept, but requires doing your research and being well prepared before you launch. Happy to be contacted off-line. Sandy

kingram : How do you identify which Alumni to come back as speakers?

Merryn Parks : Good idea sandy business directory on my to do list

Philippa Inman : We have just launched a Business Directory at Brigidine College St Ives

Sonia Brennan : is there a specific program you use for the Business Directory?

Sonia Brennan : Lyn, how many people do you get turning up for these things?

Merryn Parks : Included in my platform there is a business directory. ToucanTech. Arden have launched their directory

Georgia Hamon : We embedded ours into our Website

Sonia Brennan : Thankyou

Philippa Inman : We created our own form and invited alumni to register a listing of their business and the directory can be accessed on our college website

Katrina Corcoran : PLC Pymble - we do every 5 years from 5 up to 70 year out

Sonia Brennan : And how many people in your team Lyn?

Susan Giacomelli : We have a welcome to alumnae evening for our 1 year out when we distribute their yearbook. Approx 60 % attend (Sue OLMC Parramatta)

Merryn Parks : We also do 1 year reunion ... its well attended. Very casual

Sandy Goddard : I have to excuse myself for another meeting. One thing we initiated was a lunch with the Year 12 leavers where we invite past students back x3 to give a brief reflection 5/7 minutes on life after school and to convey how they use or maintain their alumni connections. The key is to get engaging speakers. We then have a one year out reunion for those interested. This event is part sponsored by the School. Thanks everyone - great ideas and energy. Take care.

Dawn Gordon : Hume Grammar do the same as OLMC with our 1 year alumni. We do it in late Feb and give them the yearbook, a lifetime membership certificate and a lapel pin. Plus drinks and nibbles. We usually get 70%.

Sonia Brennan : Sheila, will you be able to capture this great information in the chat and send it through please?

Karen Bartram : JO how did you get the staff to come through you to communicate with alumni

ONEILL to Educate Plus(Privately) : Hi Sheila will you copy this chat box at the end of the meeting - some great discussion etc. Hope you are well. Lyn

catherine.watts : We've got an old collegian doing a session next week via webex who is in his 80s

Katrina Corcoran : Wow, sounds good Catherine

Educate Plus : Sonia, yes. Will also put the content in the chat up on the website along with the video download. Thanks

Sonia Newell : We have an annual Careers event for Year 11 & 12 students where presenters are all alumni - around 30 of them from still at uni to around 10 years out of school - it's all about the journey, not just the destination! Organised through our Career's Advisor and me

catherine.watts : Thank you everyone - very informative!

Merryn Parks : thanks for your time everyone!

Natasha Solczaniuk : Thank you so much!

Shona Eichorn : Thanks everyone. Great webinar!

Philippa Inman : Thank you very much- that was really great!

Juliet Chandler : thanks all!

Dawn Gordon : Thank you everyone

Katrina Corcoran : Fabulous webinar - thank you!

JGarment : Thanks everyone.

From Debbie Elliott : Thank you!

Georgia Hamon : Thanks so much, this was great :)

Alexis Kenny : Thank you! Great information and ideas!

Sonia Brennan : Amazing session!! Thanks so much everyone for sharing

Julie : Thanks everyone - great job!

j.edwards : Thank you

Susan Giacomelli : Thanks :)