Third Sector Reform Forum
a resounding success

Flinders University Vice-Chancellor Professor Michael Barber welcomed participants to the new Flinders University City Campus during a one day forum with Anglicare SA entitled ‘The Future of the Not-for-Profit Community Services Sector — Where to Next?’. Held on 25 February 2010 and organised by Professor Chris Miller (Flinders University) and Mr Simon Schrapel (Anglicare), the seminar attracted a significant number of not-for-profit, academic and government staff within South Australia.

Highlights included:

- a session by Productivity Commissioner Mr Robert Fitzgerald AM, entitled ‘Contemporary Issues and Challenges for the NFP Sector in Australia — Issues Arising from the Productivity Commission Inquiry’, and,
- Associate Professor Jo Baulderstone’s (Flinders University) session on ‘Key Stages and Developments in the Not-for-Profit Sector in SA and Australia’.

Facilitated discussion times attracted strong participation, as did break out groups in the afternoon.

Copies of collated information are available. Please email Belinda McCulloch at Anglicare or Anthony Hails at Flinders University (see contact details page 3).

Anglicare–Flinders University Steering Group restructure

Professor Andrew Parkin, Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) (Flinders University) is the new chair of the Anglicare SA – Flinders University Steering Committee. Professor Parkin takes over from Mr Simon Schrapel, who has moved from Anglicare SA to take up a new position as CEO of Uniting Care Wesley.

In his new capacity as Chair, Professor Parkin aims to “maintain the momentum attained during Simon Schrapel’s period as Chair and continue to enhance the Flinders-Anglicare partnership for the mutual benefit of both partners and their stakeholders.”

The steering committee thanks Simon Schrapel for his leadership and coordination of the Steering Committee. Simon’s position on the committee will be taken by Ms Helen Connolly.

We also farewell Anglicare Research Fellow Dr Peta Raftery from the Committee and thank her for her involvement, particularly in working with Dr Nicole Beaumont on the Research to Practice Forums. Dr Raftery’s replacement is yet to be announced.
Collaboration continues between Flinders University and Anglicare SA in the area of positive ageing, one of Anglicare’s key strategic directions, with the June announcement of funding of research through the Australian Council of Research for a project entitled *Day to day life of adults after age 85: The interplay of mood, engagement, cognition and health in the context of prior functioning*. Lead researchers are Professor Mary Luszcz and Dr Ruth Walker (Flinders University, School of Psychology). Along with Anglicare SA, other partners in the research include Helping Hand, ECH, SA Health, COTA, the Office for the Ageing and The Pennsylvania State University and The University of British Columbia.

This research is the latest stage of the ongoing Australian Longitudinal Study of Ageing (ALSA).

Congratulations to the research team on their funding over four years:
- **2010** $75,315.50
- **2011** $105,990.50
- **2012** $61,350.00
- **2013** $30,675.00

The research will offer considerable social benefits to the Australian community by providing a rare insight into how people over the age of 85 can continue to contribute actively to, and remain engaged with, society.

It will improve knowledge and understanding of productive ageing by examining how everyday cognition and mood vary depending on different situational contexts and daily activities. It will offer information on the challenges and opportunities experienced by this group of older adults.

- Anglicare has appointed Ms Anita McStay as Positive Ageing Officer in the Home & Community Care unit. Positive Ageing activities are being coordinated through this area of Anglicare.

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**Students take IT to the workplace**

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Flinders IT students Mathew Burgess and Raoul Magerano recently completed an industry placement at Anglicare SA for 15 weeks. Their task: to review Anglicare’s organisational intranet and design a new system.

Both Mathew and Raoul are enrolled in postgraduate IT studies after completing their Bachelor of Information Technology at Flinders University.

Anglicare’s intranet is critical for communication and information sharing among 1400 staff and 900+ volunteers over more than 40 sites throughout Adelaide.

The scope of their project with Anglicare included:
- Consultation and production of functional specifications (including decisions on information architecture for the site pages)
- Consultation and production of the intranet style guide, and
- Sharepoint development

Anglicare staff in both the IT area and Strategy & Research Dept

Matthew and Raoul were delighted that both Mathew and Raoul fitted so well into the Anglicare culture, adapting very well to the demands of a full time work environment and engaging with staff in a professional and supportive manner. Both also learnt to understand the challenges faced working in a support environment in a large community organisation.

The project required innovation and cost-effective solutions appropriate to Anglicare’s not-for-profit status.

Matthew and Raoul were able to identify adaptations to the current system while seeking other platforms and IT solutions that will ultimately assist to Anglicare redevelop its intranet with multiple communication processes.

This practical example of combining student industry placements with Anglicare’s very real need to redevelop the intranet is an excellent example of collaboration between our two institutions.
Forum on Evaluation

‘Evaluation for Better Practice’ was the latest Research to Practice Forum held at Flinders University, on 31 March 2010.

This forum, attended by a number of staff from both institutions, focussed on the usefulness of evaluation and how it is applied in the workplace.

Professor David Day (Deputy Vice Chancellor, Research) introduced the forum, which included presentations by Anglicare SA’s Manager of Strategy & Research, Sageran Naidoo, who presented an overview of evaluation within Anglicare.

Konrad Gawlik, Manager of Anglicare’s Family Support team spoke about specific examples of its application.

Professor Fran Baum, (Flinders University), Head of the Southgate Institute for Health, Society and Equity as well as Director of the SA Community Health Research Unit, also gave a presentation on the role and function of SACHRU.

The ‘Research to Practice’ Forums provide opportunities for both academic staff and students at Flinders University, as well as staff from Anglicare, to share their experiences at both the theoretical and practical level.

Stay tuned for the next seminar on… Gambling.

Anglicare restructure

Chief Executive Officer Dr Lynn Arnold is changing the structure of Anglicare SA, consolidating all program areas into a single operations department, headed by newly-appointed Chief Operating Officer Peter Wright.

Peter previously held the position of Executive Manager-Aged Care at Anglicare and now takes on the additional responsibilities of the former Families & Community Enterprise Services Dept, headed by Helen Connolly.

Helen becomes Director of the Strategy, Policy, Advocacy & Research Unit (SPAR), following the departure of Simon Schrapel.

Advocacy moves to SPAR from the Public Affairs & Media Bureau (PAMB) which now becomes the Communications Bureau under media manager Jenny Barrett. Former PAMB Manager Belinda McCulloch heads up a new unit in the CEO’s office, manager of Anglicare’s Strategic Alliances & External Relations (SAER).

Anglicare’s new Chief Operating Officer, Mr Peter Wright, is accountancy-trained and has worked with KPMG and Coopers & Lybrand. He holds three degrees including an MBA, and has worked in various sectors including disability, counselling, community development as well as aged care. Peter was previously CEO of a health service in regional Victoria before joining Anglicare SA nearly three years ago.

Peter has also sat on numerous boards including SCOSA and the SA Crohns & Colitis Association.