



## TAFE Library Futures Seminar

### Workshop Topic 2:

*'How can we implement learning commons principles with little or no budget?'*

**Facilitator:** Zaana Howard

Three main areas that can be developed without spending a large budget:

- Use of space
- Creating community
- Staffing

#### **Space**

- Possible immediate improvement is to re-arrange existing furniture and shelving arrangements to create new spaces with new function.
- Use of movable screens for creating zones. This also increases the flexibility of use of the space, creating different functions at different times.

#### **Creating Community**

- Try to make the library a more interactive environment to engage students and staff. For example, at Kangan Batman in Broadmeadows they have installed a whiteboard with a theme for student comment.
- Ask students what they want in a library. Idea of using creative surveying to identify customer needs and wants. Use competitions to encourage customer feedback.
- Collaborate with other Institute departments on joint ventures. For example, arranging for hospitality students to provide afternoon tea in the library, event management students to organise an event to occur in the library, art and design students to exhibit in the library, marketing students to assist with the library marketing plan.

#### **Staffing**

- Flexible staff – willing to do different things
- Mobility – not rostered to a desk
- Necessity for trained librarians?
- Opportunities for students to provide peer support
- One integrated service desk?
- Review services and staff development as a result of finding out what students do in a library, and what they expect from a library and library staff

#### **Other**

- Potential for approaching retailers for corporate sponsorship. For example, electrical retailer for large tv screens for advertising and library news.