



Serving the Solomons

Overcoming structural and cultural factors

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Session outline

- Background
- Considerations
- Transition program
- Continuous support
- Challenges



Background

- Transition program
- Graduate Certificate in Business Administration
- 1 unit per semester
- 31 participants, mostly from the Inland Revenue Division

Considerations

➤ Structural

- Access to the Internet
- Access to learning resources

➤ Cultural

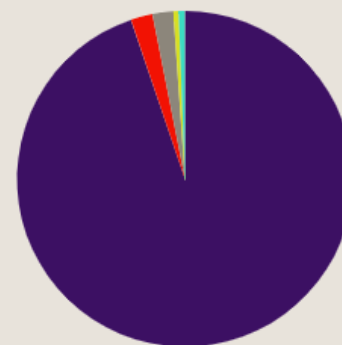
- Learning style

➤ Linguistic

- English language proficiency

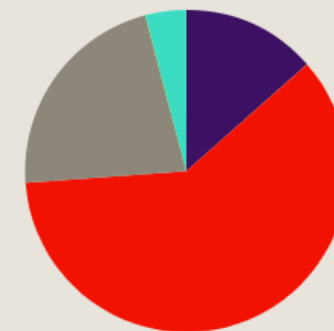
Self-identified official language proficiency

Solomon Island Pijin



● fluent
 ● moderate
 ● basic
● none
 ● no response

English



● fluent
 ● moderate
 ● basic
● none
 ● no response

Adapted from Leach, Scambary, Clarke, Feeny and Wallace (2013)

Transition program



How do I learn?

- interpersonal
- group discussion
- visuals/symbols
- mentors (trust)
- note-taking



What do I expect from university study?

- practical applications for my work
- new knowledge and skills
- challenges
- evidence-based
- assignment writing (related to my work?)
- readings



What makes me a successful student?

- never give up
- discipline
- asking questions
- talking to other students
- being committed/ managing my time
- reading

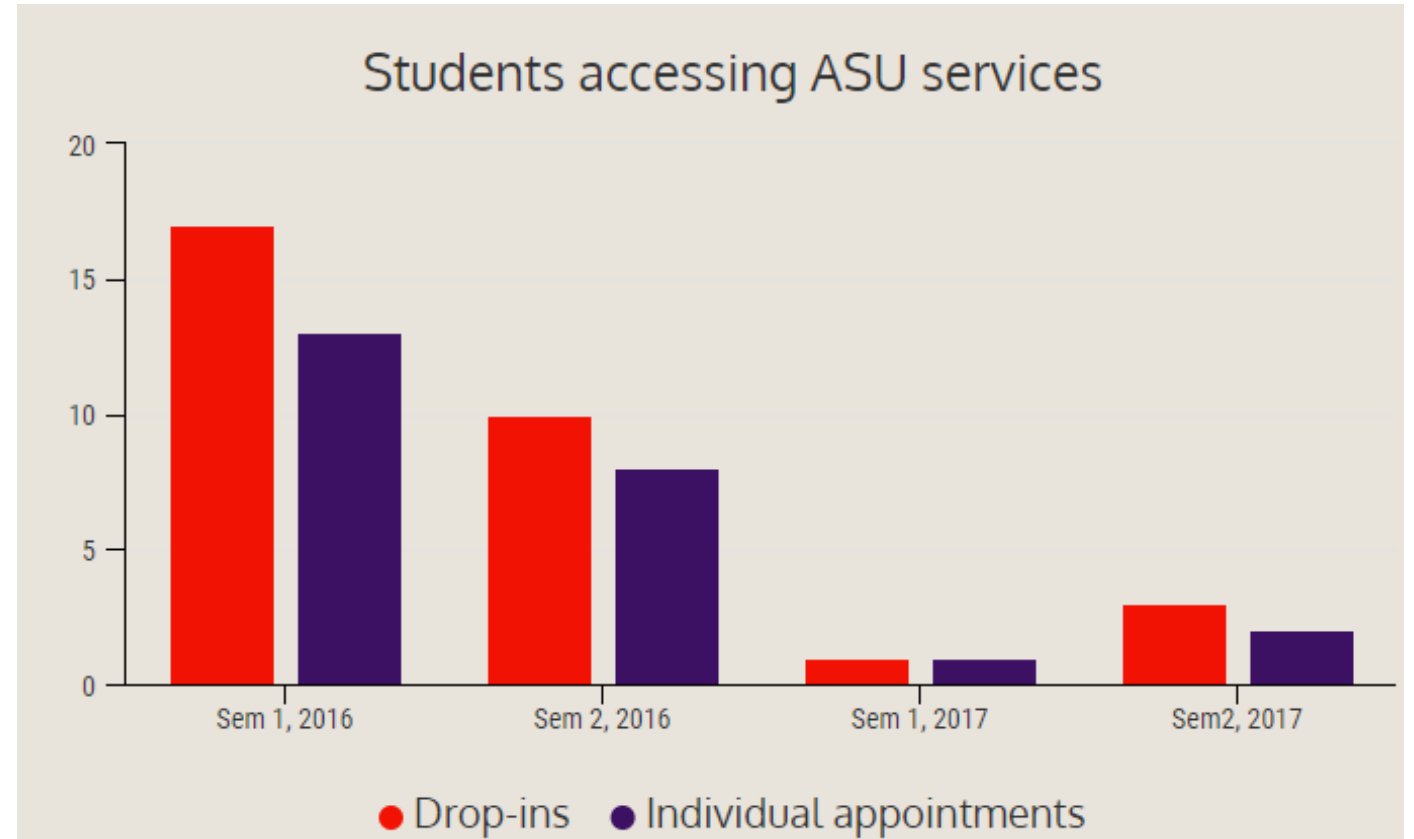
Continuous support

- Collaboration with Executive Education
- Group email
- Individual appointments

"Hi All,
My sincere thanks for your support, assistance and words of encouragement throughout the unit. Now am on the finishing line with great achievement in life (first time) for such academic studies like this - Graduate certificate. You so fabulous to me."

Challenges

- Mode of support
- Decline in student numbers
- Lack of cultural knowledge



(Briguglio & Watson, 2014; Lambridinis, 2016)

Conclusion

- Tailored university transition program
- Valuable lessons learned
- Need to consider mode of ongoing support



Any questions?

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