

From Assignment to Publication

A teaching and learning
research project

Dr Trevor Cullen

©Trevor Cullen

A work in progress

Any questions?

Context: Health Journalism

- Unit CMM3113 /4113 Created in 2002
- ECU is the only university in Australia to offer such a unit
- Covers journalistic skills, communication theories, common illnesses in Australia
- View handout

The Solaris Project

- Solaris Cancer Care Foundation started and run by Dr David Joske
- Based at Sir Charles Gardiner
- For people living with cancer
- Emphasis on exercise programs
- A dedicated gym - the Chemo club

Class assignment

- CMM3113 3rd assignment - Human interest feature
- Living with cancer - people sharing their story of how they live & cope
- Top 20 articles selected for a book
Helpful hints from the chemo club

The logistics

- interviews arranged by SCC
- Students can do stories for print (and broadcast)
- Two lectures - health features and then the human interest articles
- Marked and the top 20 selected
- For national publication in November

Engagement with wider community

- With Sir Charles
- SCC
- Paul Murray – Former editor the West
- Families of the patients
- WA Cancer Foundation
- Cancer centres and patients around the country

Research outcomes

- At least two research paper – one for journalism education – T&L
- How could this project impact/ challenge other units at ECU. Can we use certain units to engage with the wider community. That's the challenge –

Other projects for health journalism students

- 2009 - Hunter Institute for mental health
- 2010 ECU health promotion: Drug addiction

Combined universities for rural health

At Port Hedland - One month placement with aboriginal communities - 6 students this year 25 June - 22 July.

A work in progress

Any questions?