

## New CEO for Uni Hub Spencer Gulf

Uni Hub Spencer Gulf has reached a new milestone, appointing Anita Crisp as its new CEO.

The appointment comes at a time of significant growth, with the organisation gearing up for the new academic year, opening a new campus in Port Augusta and expanding the number of university degrees on offer.

Ms Crisp will split her time between Port Augusta and Port Pirie and comes to the role after six years as Executive Officer with the Spencer Gulf Cities Association, including a recent secondment supporting the Uni Hub as acting CEO.

Uni Hub Spencer Gulf chair, Brenton Vanstone said Ms Crisp's experience and qualifications were a great fit for the organisation.

"Through her role with Spencer Gulf Cities, Ms Crisp was instrumental in developing the Uni Hub concept in its early days and securing Federal funding to enable its establishment," he said.

"She has such a strong history with the Uni Hub and a very detailed understanding of just how important this initiative is, not only in providing better access to university, but also in developing the skilled workforce across our region.

"To now have her back within the organisation as the CEO is fantastic. It is a really exciting time for the Uni Hub."

Anita completed a Bachelor of Applied Science in Natural Resource Management at Roseworthy College and Graduate Diploma in Education at Adelaide University before returning to university study and completing a Master of Business Administration (MBA) by distance education at age 40.

Her experience echoes many country students who embark on online study.

"We have terrible internet service at home which made it difficult to access the compulsory online lectures," she recalls.

"There were also occasions where it would have been great to have a local tutor to provide a bit of reassurance that I was on the right track.

"In the end I enrolled in a couple of face-to-face subjects and had to drive to Adelaide every week for lectures. This was on top of working full time and having two school-aged kids at home.

"If a facility like Uni Hub had been available back then, it would have made life much easier."



**APPOINTMENT...Anita Crisp has been appointed as CEO of Uni Hub Spencer Gulf.**



## COVID-19 update

To help slow the spread of COVID-19 Uni Hub Spencer Gulf campuses have temporarily restricted face-to-face student and public access.

We did not make this decision lightly, however our priority is the health and well-being of our staff, students and community. Additional support arrangements are being put in place for students of our partner universities – CQU and Flinders University.

Supporting our students remains our key priority for Uni Hub Spencer Gulf. Students will receive regular contact with Uni Hub staff and are encouraged to contact the Uni Hub via phone or email when needed.

Staff are working hard behind the scenes to ensure that Uni Hub continues to offer supported, tertiary education in the Spencer Gulf region.

## Accolades for Uni Hub student

Uni Hub Spencer Gulf student Rebecca Balmer has been recognised for her outstanding level of achievement in her first year of study with a Letter of Merit from CQ University.

Rebecca received the letter from the School of Health, Medical and Applied Sciences Dean, Professor Michelle Bellingan. The letter recognised Rebecca's high level of commitment to her academic studies, where she received a High Distinction for Psychology for Everyday Life.

Rebecca said much of her success was due to the assistance provided by the Uni Hub, and the ability to study locally with a support network of family and friends.

"I actually went to uni in Adelaide back in 2012, but stopped because even though I was on campus, I felt like it just wasn't for me and the experience was made more difficult because I was away from family and friends," she said.

"So when the Uni Hub started up in Port Pirie last year and I found out what it was all about, I decided to give study another go. Being able to study at home with support from family, friends and the Uni Hub has made the experience much easier and enjoyable.

"Having the Uni Hub here means it is easy to access support and learning resources.

"I love the fact that as a student you always get emails and text messages from the Uni Hub to make sure you are okay and when you walk into the building everyone knows you by name."

**RIGHT...Port Pirie's Uni Hub Spencer Gulf student received a Letter of Merit from CQ University for her outstanding level of achievement in her first year of study.**



## O-Week activities across Uni Hub campuses



**There was a flurry of activity across the Port Pirie and Port Augusta campuses as the 2020 university year kicked off with o-week.**

**O-week provides new students with the opportunity to learn more about the Uni Hub and what to expect during their 2020 Uni year.**

**Pictured left was one of the Port Pirie o-week information sessions.**

**Pictured above were new Port Augusta students, from left, Sebastian McNamee, Elaine Moosha, Chloe Brusnahan, Emma-Jean Turner and Dianne Palani-Stahl.**