

# Academic Integrity Standards – Policy and Practice: Discovering the views of students, staff and management.

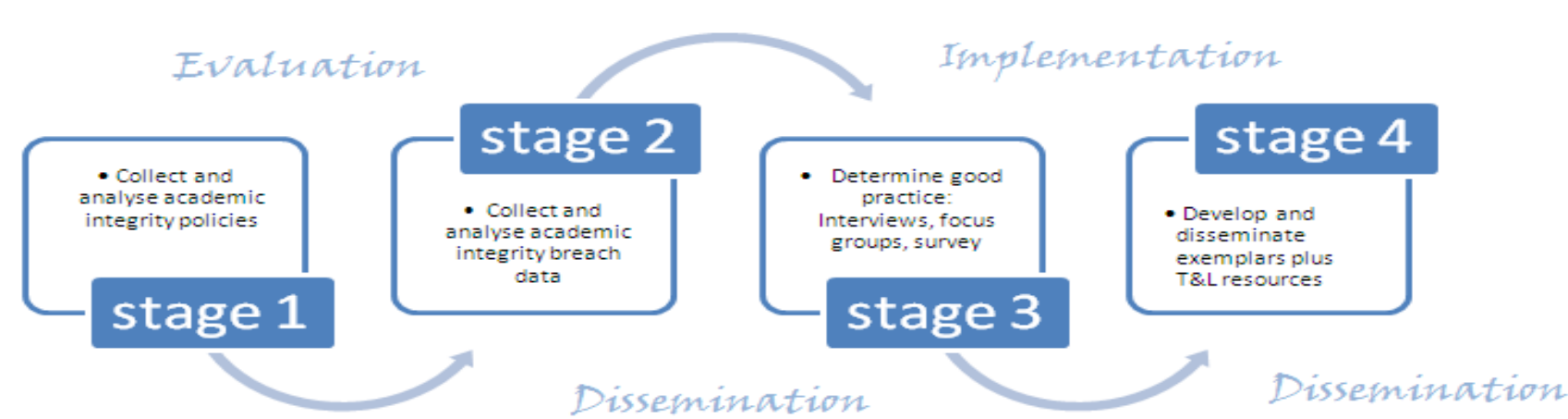
**Addressing Themes:** Connections for student success & Connecting with research

## PURPOSE OF PROJECT

**Promoting a shared understanding of academic integrity standards**

**Supporting improved alignment of academic integrity policies and their implementation**

## STAGES OF ALTC PROJECT



## RESEARCH QUESTIONS

1. What are Australian universities' policies and procedures for academic integrity breaches?
2. What responses to breaches of academic integrity are actually implemented in practice?
3. What is good practice in aligning academic integrity policy with teaching and learning strategies?
4. How could a culture of academic integrity be more effectively fostered?

## METHODOLOGY

- **review the academic integrity policies** of 39 Australian universities
- **seek student responses** to a range of academic integrity issues through an online survey
- **conduct focus groups with students and staff** along with interviews of academic integrity decision-makers
- **development of a conceptual framework for good practice** in relation to academic integrity policy, the successful dissemination of project outcomes

## OUTCOMES: OVERVIEW

Stage 1 Academic Integrity Policies of 39 Australian Universities were reviewed (Bretag et al 2011a, 2011b)  
 Stage 2 Academic Integrity breach data were found to be inconsistently collected (Wallace & Green, paper in preparation)  
 Stage 3 Focus Group and Interview data have been analysed (Bretag et al, paper under review); other papers in preparation  
 Stage 4 Preparation of Exemplar policies, Activities, Case Studies, and links to resources (based on data analysis)

## References:

- Bretag, T., Mahmud, S., East, J., Green, M., James, C., McGowan, U., Partridge, L., Walker, R. & Wallace, M. (2011a) Academic Integrity Standards: A Preliminary Analysis of the Academic Integrity Policies at Australian Universities. *Proceedings of AuQF 2011* pp. 48-53
- Bretag, T.; Mahmud, S.; Wallace, M.; Walker, R.; James, C.; Green, M.; East, J.; McGowan, U.; Partridge, L. (2011b) Core elements of exemplary academic integrity policy in Australian higher education. *International Journal for Educational Integrity*, vol.7 no. 2, pp. 3-12
- Bretag, T., Mahmud, S., Wallace, M., Walker, R., McGowan, U., East, J., Green, M., Partridge, L., James, C. (under review) 'Teach us how to do it properly!' An Australian academic integrity student survey.
- East, J. & McGowan, U (in preparation). Academic Integrity standards – Recommendations for good practice
- McGowan, U., Walker, R., & Wallace, M. (in preparation) Interpretations of educative approaches invoked in academic integrity policies in Australian universities
- Wallace, M & Green, M (in preparation) Illuminating issues surrounding the collection and use of Australian Universities' Student Academic Misconduct data
- Acknowledgment:** Support for this project has been provided by the Australian Learning and Teaching Council, an initiative of the Australian Government's Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations. The views expressed by this project and in this poster do not necessarily reflect the views of the Australian Learning and Teaching Council Ltd.

## OUTCOMES

**Survey of 39 Academic Universities' Academic Integrity policies**

**Access** easy to locate, read, concise, comprehensible

**Approach** Statement of purpose includes educative focus; Institutional commitment to academic integrity

**Responsibility** outlines responsibilities for ALL stakeholders.

**Detail** description of breaches, outcomes and processes

**Support** systems to enable implementation of the policy



**Core elements of exemplary academic integrity policy**

See Bretag et al (2011b)

## SUMMARY - A KEY FINDING:

There are signs in Australian Academic Integrity policies that some universities have included responsibilities for staff **to promote student learning of the broad range of academic integrity.**

It is this aspect that the project has used to develop a conceptual framework and resources for good practice

## RESOURCES

**Case studies** and PowerPoints for use by staff  
**Learning & Teaching Activities** for staff and students

These will be available on the APFEI website

<http://www.apfei.edu.au/>