The brand new Faculty Academy for the Scholarship of Education (FASE) is delighted to present a series of lunchtime seminars with the aim of disseminating good practice in education across the Faculty.

**Engineering Education and Threshold Concepts: Staff - Student Workshop**

**Tuesday 12th October 2010**  
12.00pm – 1.30pm  
Room G.11, Engineering - Civil and Mechanical Building

Threshold concepts have been described by many as a portal or gateway through which students can pass - and if they do, they come out the other side with new ways of seeing, and furthermore, new areas are opened up to them.

Other students may however, get stuck and are unable to pass through this gateway. They become disillusioned and often take up surface approaches to mimic what they see other students doing.

Threshold concepts have also been described as ‘troublesome’ because they may present an alien or ‘counter-intuitive’ way of thinking; they don’t make sense; or because they could be subversive.

Members of the UEC Education Committee, along with other interested students, attended a workshop last month to debate and discuss the existence of Threshold Concepts within their experience of engineering education at UWA. In this seminar, we hope to stimulate a staff-student dialogue based on the results of that debate.

The seminar will be facilitated by Sally Male, who is currently researching Threshold Concepts for an Australian Learning and Teaching Council (ALTC) funded project within the Faculty of Engineering, Computing and Mathematics.

**This lunchtime seminar will be led by**

Sally Male  
Sally is currently working on the Engineering Thresholds Project at UWA, supported by a grant from the Australian Learning and Teaching Council (ALTC).

Sally’s recent work is on Competencies of Engineering Graduates (http://www.ceg.ecm.uwa.edu.au). Results are cited in Dowling, Carew and Hadgraft’s textbook Engineering your Future (2010), now used by first year students at The University of Western Australia.

Sally has published in engineering education journals and national and international conferences. She has taught at both The University of Western Australia and Curtin University of Technology.

**Notes for participants**

Numbers are limited so please register your attendance to Rita Armstrong on 6488 3137 or by email at rita.armstrong@uwa.edu.au.

Light lunch and refreshments will be provided.

Registration confirms your attendance at the seminars. You must provide a minimum of two days notice for cancellation.

**Registration deadline**  
Friday, 8th October 2010

**Next Event: Women in Engineering**  
‘Women In Engineering’ lunchtime seminar on Tuesday 16th November 2010. Details on this seminar will follow shortly.